

The Southern Cross



VOL. 5

No. 1

Produced by the Newspaper Club, under the Patronage of MR. GEORGE

Student Editor: B. LUNNEY

Sub-Editors: F. LEVY, W. LYNE

Editorial . . .

Welcome to this edition of "Southern Cross," your own school newspaper. For it really to carry out its proper function, therefore, we need news. The members of the Newspaper Club generally do a good job, but they are so few that many items of personal interest do not reach us, and these items are the real news of the school. If something funny or interesting occurs to you or someone you know in the school or connected with the school, let us know so that we can pass it on to the whole school. They will be interested too. At the moment, most of these interesting snippets of information rarely get beyond a small group or, at most, a class. If we receive your co-operation in this, we can promise you the most interesting newspaper you will ever read. See what

you can tell us for the next edition.

Our design for this issue was submitted by Paul Tonkin of Fourth Year. Its beauty lies in its simplicity. Congratulations, Paul. If you are interested in good money, submit a design yourself for next issue. As you can see, there is nothing really difficult about it, and the chance of a £2/2/- prize for the work of an hour or so is well worth while.

Only one letter to the Editor this time. Some of the articles in this issue should provoke a few comments. Comment on paper and we will be glad to put your letter in print. Remember, too, items for this year's "Panorama" will be accepted at any time. Best wishes for the coming term.

—THE NEWSPAPER CLUB.

Wedding Bells

To add more of a joyous mood to the Christmas season Mr. Medley went to a wedding; only this time he ended up with the bride. Anyway, Mr. Medley and the former Miss Carolyn Wilson are reported to be very happy.

The young newly-weds were married with all due ceremony in Canberra on the 11th January, 1964. We were told that Mrs. Medley was, before her marriage, a trained nurse, so this year we should see a very healthy Mr. Medley. The Medleys have joined high society in choosing Turramurra as their new home.

The 11th of January must have been a good day for weddings, for it was also this day that Mr. Moffat (Sports Master) and Miss Frances Weber arranged for their marriage. The couple were married at the Chatswood Baptist Church and enjoyed a very agreeable honeymoon at Terrigal, near The Entrance. The couple are now living in the North Shore suburb of East Roseville.

Another item for Epping High's History Book.

This is the second occasion on which two teachers

of our school have married each other. The first time some of you will remember was when Miss Mason (Latin and French) married Mr. Woodfield (French and German) in January, 1962.

This time it was the nuptials of Mr. Manwaring (Science Department) and Miss Exley, who, as Mrs. Barton's replacement in the Language Department, was only with us for just under six weeks, but in that time endeared herself to all.

The couple were married at Cootamundra Church of England on the 23rd January, 1964. As it was only about five days before school recommenced, their honeymoon was spent motoring slowly back to Sydney. Their new home is at Lidcombe.

To these three newly-weds we offer our sincere congratulations and wish them a life of joy and happiness together.

What we are now wondering is if any of the few single teachers remaining caught bouquets, branding them as the next on the list! We do hear rumours about Mr. Hearn.

Leaving Certificate Results, 1963

Epping, again, last year had a very successful Leaving Certificate Class with four boys in the "top 200" in the State:



JOHN MONFRIES
Maximum Pass
(See article, "The Australian National University.")

John Connell, Roger Hillman, John Monfries and Geoff Robertson.

John Connell was the dux of 1963, coming 18th in the State, and gained a valuable Shell Scholarship.

Some individual achievements also deserve credit. Geoff Robertson did extremely well, coming 2nd in the State in History; John Connell came 5th in Chemistry; Michael Mills 5th in French and Terry Costello 14th in Economics. John Monfries (pictured) became our first student to gain three first class honours and is now doing Asian Studies at the Australian National University, under a scholarship. His subjects include several oriental languages.

Last year's results include 22 first class honours which was 5 more than in 1962. They were gained in 9 different subjects compared with the 5 the previous year, the new subjects being English, History, German and French. The most successful class was 5A French with 20 A's, (including 4 H(1) and 2 H(2)), and 7B's out of a class of 27.

Commonwealth Scholarships — 25.

Teachers' College Scholarships — 26.

FIFTH YEAR—1963

Below is an almost complete list of what is happening to our ex-Fifth Years. The information has generally been obtained by rather devious means, so that if any discrepancies exist we beg the pardon of the young men concerned. We are always interested in our ex-students and any information we can obtain about them will be gratefully acknowledged.

Good luck to all in their new occupations!

ANGEL, L. W.—Surveying—Jr. Gowlland M.I.S. and Associates, Pennant Hills. Part-time Uni. N.S.W.
BADGER, N. G.—Surveying—N.S.W. Uni.
BALFOUR, R. G.—Clerk—W. J. Treloar & Son. Matric. at Meadowbank Tech.
BARHAM, A. J.—Civil Engineering, N.S.W. Univ.
BARKER, A. M.—T.A.A.
BATES, A. M.—Commerce. Part-time Univ. N.S.W.
BELL, D. C.—Part-time Univ. N.S.W.—DeHavilland.
BELL, T. J.—Sydney Univ.
BERRIMAN, D. L.—Science. Sydney Univ.
BOTT, G. J.—Civil Engineering. Sydney Univ.

BROWN, K. R.—David Fell & Co., Chartered Accountancy, M.B.C.

BUNING, P. J. J.—Chemistry, Union Carbide.

CADE, O. G.—Chartered Accountancy, Meadowbank Tech. College.

CAMPBELL, I. S.—Clerk, Railways.

CHARGE, R. L.—Accountancy.

CHARLES, C. J.—Rheem, Fitting and Turning.

CHRISTEY, G.—Travel Section, C.B.A. Bank.

CONNELL, J. P.—Science, Sydney Univ.

COOKE, F. G.—Arts, Sydney Univ.

COOPER, R. J.—Science, Melbourne Univ.

COSTELLO, T. H.—Economics, Syd. University.

COX, M. E.—Physiotherapy, Sydney Univ.

DANCE, R. A.—Agricultural Science, Sydney Univ.

DARLING, P. G.—Engineering, Sydney Univ.

DRUITT, R. H.—Assisting Valuer, Valuer General's Dept.

ELLIOTT, I. E. H.—Overseas.

FEWCHUK, D. S.—Mechanical Engineering, N.S.W. Univ.

FINN, K. J.—City Insurance Office.

FORTESCUE, N. R.—Accountancy, Water Board.

FOWLER, B. C.—A.N.Z. Bank.

FRANCIS, J. K.—Leaving Certificate at M.B.C.

GARLAND, B. A.—Duntroon Military College.

GODING, P. T.—P.E. Teacher, Newington College.

GORDON, P. G.—Economics, Sydney Univ.

GOUGH, E. M.—Managing Property at Bowral.

GREEN, R. G.—Chartered Accountancy, L. B. Wallace and Son.

GRONO, A. M.—Models Engineering, Tech.

HAMILTON, B.—Arnotts, Production Engineering, Tech.

HANDLER, L. G.—Arts - Law, Sydney Univ.

HANNA, R.—Surveying, Part-time N.S.W. Univ., J. R. Gowlland M.I.S. and Associates, Pennant Hills.

HARRIS, D. S.—Accountancy, M.B.C., Yarwood Vane and Co.

HARWOOD, H. J.—Music, Teachers' College—Conservatorium.

HENDERSON, K. B.—Law Clerk, Law Office.

HENSON, G. B.—Estate Agent, Leaving Certificate at Night.

HERRING, P. L.—Agricultural Science, Sydney Univ.

HILLMAN, R.—Arts, Sydney Univ.

IRVING, K. S.—Teachers' College.

JAMES, R. F.—Drafting, Architecture at night.

KLUGER, R. R.—Medicine, Sydney Univ.

LAMONT, I. D.—Survey Drafting, Lands Dept.

LINCOLN, I. D.—Computer Programmer, I.R.C.

LOWE, P. J.—T.E.I. Electrical Engineering, North Syd. Tech.

McCARTHY, T. H.—Public Service—Clerk, Repat., Concord.

McCARTNEY, J. D.—Engineering, Sydney Univ.

McDOUGALL, P. S.—Accountancy—Leaving Certificate at night, Meadowbank Tech.

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- McKENZIE, R.—Arts (Teachers' College Scholarship), Sydney Univ.
MASON, B. R.—Physical Education, Teachers' College.
MILLS, M. D.—Arts, Sydney Univ.
MITCHELL, R. P.—Actuary Course, Sydney Univ.
MONAGHAN, P. J.—Mechanical Engineering, part-time Water Board.
MONFRIES, J. E.—Asian Studies, Aust. Nat. Univ.
MONSEN, J.—C.S.R.
MUDGE, K. R.—Economics, Sydney Univ.
NOLLER, B. N.—Applied Chemistry, part-time, N.S.W. University.
OGDEN, R.—Teachers' College.
OLSON, W. G.—Arts, Sydney Univ.
OSBORNE, J. F.—Medicine, Sydney Univ.
OTTAWA, R. A.—Union Carbide, Chemical Engineering, part-time N.S.W. Univ.
OUTHRED, H. R.—Engineering, Sydney Univ.
POLLARD, A.—Architecture, N.S.W. Univ.
RALPH, D. N.—Engineering, Sydney Univ.
RAWLING, B. C.—Bank Officer, C.B.C., Gladesville—Accountancy, Bankers' Institute.
RICHARDS, G. N.—Architecture.
RICHMOND, C. A.—Survey Drafting, Water Board.
ROBERTSON, G. R.—Arts - Law, Sydney Univ.
ROSSITER, S. G.—Leaving Certificate, Melbourne.
RUSS, G.—Sydney Univ.
RUSSELL, G. M.—Police Cadet Corps.
SAWERS, A. W.—Salesman, Stacks.
SEYMOUR, K. J.—Physical Education, Teachers' Col.
SHARPHAM, E. P. L.—Physical Education, Teachers' College.
SHAW, M. A.—Arts, N.S.W. Univ.
SHERRING, P. G.—Planning Office, Warburton Frankie.
SINCLAIR, R. G.—Agricultural Science, Sydney Univ.
SINDEL, P. J.—Engineering, Sydney Univ.
SMALLWOOD, G. J.—Draftsman, Ryde Council.
SMART, J. V.—Science, Sydney Univ.
SMITH, G. C.—Science, Sydney Univ.
SOUTHWELL, I.—Allied Food Mills, Food Technology, part-time N.S.W. Univ.
SPRAGGON, P. W.—Science, Sydney Univ.
STIMSON, P. H.—Arts - Law, Sydney Univ.
STURGES, W. D.—C.B.C., Accountancy, Tech.
THOMSON, P. J.—Accountancy.
VAN EPEN, K. N.—Clerk, M.L.C., Accountancy, North Sydney Tech.
WALKER, G. N.—Chartered Accountancy.
WALKER, K. L.—Law.
WARD, D. A.—Insurance.
WEATHERALL, D. J.—Trainee Junior Executive, Qantas.
WEST, L. B.—Architecture, Sydney Univ.
WHITE, R. K.—C.S.R. Applied Chemistry, part-time N.S.W. Univ.
WHITELEY, R. J.—Science (Teachers' College Scholarship), Sydney Univ.
WILSON, R. I.—Electrical Engineering, N.S.W. Univ.

* * *

What about those big, bullying seniors who love to indulge in junior ball games! Back to childhood?

NEW STAFF

"The Southern Cross" wishes to welcome to the ranks the following new members of staff, and extends its best wishes for their happiness in our school.

Dr. Lorenz (University of Kiel, Germany), Mr. Elson (Asquith H.S.), Mr. Webb (East Hills H.S.), Mr. Casey (Drummoyne), Mr. Day (Maitland), Mr. Dempsey (Sydney University), Mr. Devlin (James Ruse), Mr. Evans (Geelong), Mr. Littler (James Ruse), Mr. McCaffrey (Telopea), Mr. Marchevsky (Teachers' College), and Mr. Richardson (Macquarie).

To the Editor

Dear Sir,

By this time last year I was busily attending meetings of our Students' Representative Council; but this year what am I doing—nothing. Fellow students, this is your school, so why aren't you interested in running it. I don't know how many nominations Mr. Flynn has had for the Council, but I don't think it's many—I know mine's there, but not any others. Last year the Council did many things for the good of the school; they got the Cadet Corps going, stirred up the local Councils into making a pathway to Epping Station, and even helped in the changing of the school uniform (for the better) for the seniors. So boys, surely there are some of you interested in joining the S.R.C., at least enough to satisfy the small numbers required, and let's see if perhaps next term we can get the Council going again for the betterment of your school. Remember, it's for your benefit, nobody else's!

—Wondering?

(5th Year).

LIBRARY

Business has been brisk in the school library this year, with books being borrowed at a rate hitherto not experienced. Each month has set a record for borrowing. February's was a record figure of 1,881, the previous highest total being 1,671 for March, 1960. March borrowing exceeded this to achieve a phenomenal figure of 2,084, only to be exceeded again by April's total of 2,988, a difficult figure to surpass. Although it is disappointing that the 3,000 barrier was not reached, yet, like the 4-minute mile, it is still possible. See what can be done during the remainder of this year, not only to achieve the 3,000 plus per month, but also to topple the 1963 annual figure of 11,322. It is pleasing to see that so much reading has been done. Good work, boys, and keep it up!

* * *

We did hear of one staff member and class getting very pally, and crying on each other's shoulder. The teacher summed it all up thus: "We're all unfortunate. You're stuck with me, and I'm stuck with you."

Literature Prizes

As students who were at the school last year know, Literature prizes were offered for the best piece of Prose and the best piece of Poetry to appear in "Panorama." Needless to say, a great deal of material was submitted and not all of it could be published, but the editor did endeavour to present the best possible cross-section of work from all stages of the school. This is necessary, or "Panorama" would (or should) simply present the literary efforts of the Senior boys with very few juniors able to compete with the seniors' added maturity and experience. However, since the whole school was represented, and since the judging of entries took into account the age and class of the authors, every one of the contributors had an equal chance of collecting an award. Congratulations are merited therefore on very fine efforts by Stephen Leason (Prose) and Robert Dengate (Poetry), of 4th and 2nd Year respectively, for earning the two prizes.

The competition will be open again for this year's edition of "Panorama," and it is hoped that an even greater amount of material will be available so that a magazine of even higher quality will reflect properly the efforts and abilities of you, the students.

YOU can help in two ways: Firstly attempt to win a prize yourself by submitting your best possible work, perhaps the most carefully written and revised piece of work you have done this year. But it must be your best and this always requires real effort, no matter who you are or what you are doing. Secondly, encourage others in your class to submit entries too, so that your class, of which you should be so proud, will be represented in the school magazine, even if it is not represented by you personally.

It is a great pity that no entries at all were received from some classes last year. This should never happen, and when it does, it reflects very badly on you, too, because you are a part of that class. If you want to be proud of your school and yourself, it is up to you to do your little bit. A car cannot run properly unless every tiny part is doing its job as well as it can. Neither can a school give proper service and pride to you, unless you, "the little bits," all contribute your share.

THE S. R. C.

In a letter to the Editor in this edition of "Southern Cross," a 5th Year student ("Wondering") has indicated another way in which the little "bits and pieces" of the school are not doing all that is expected of them.

Two years ago a far-sighted band of enthusiasts conceived the idea of a Students' Representative Council, which was to work for the interests of the boys in the school. Needless to say, teenagers' problems and interests and desires are some times (!) at variance with those of adults. And, believe it or not, sometimes adults

have only to be told about these things to do everything in their power to help out. Sometimes the very existence of these things is not even suspected by adults. Students can grumble about the inability of the staff and administration to "do something," but how can they do anything if, to them, such a problem does not yet exist. This then was to be the main function of the S.R.C., to act as the bridge through which both the adult and the teenage world could gain some contact for the benefit of both. Look at the record of the S.R.C. and it is only too clear how successful it has been.

This year, however, a rather strange situation has developed. Third Year has nominated and elected its representatives, 5 of them. Fourth Year has nominated for 7 representative positions, but the election is yet to take place. This is held up waiting for Fifth Year to supply nominations for ten positions. Less than one boy in ten is required, but where is he? Ten positions are open because Fifth Year is supposed to contain the leaders of the school, but where are they? So often Seniors are heard to complain about numerous things that do not quite meet with their approval. If they really have any grounds for complaint let them use the S.R.C. After all, this is the purpose for which it was designed. But this would then require their support! Surely it is not asking too much for them to help themselves.

PREFECTS -- 1964

On Thursday, 6th February, eighteen prefects were inducted into office for the year. The prefects and the other candidates were nominated by the boys of Fourth and Fifth Years, and were elected by the Third, Fourth and Fifth Years. As is usual with the prefects' elections, Mr. McGregor had the right to veto, but so high was the standard of nominations that he did not have to exercise his right.

The Induction Ceremony started with the prefects taking their oath of office, led by the School Captain for 1964, David Daines. A letter was then read by the Prefect Master for this year, Mr. Anderson (Economics Department). This letter was sent by Mr. Wyndham in answer to a prefect's inquiry as to what his duties should be.

The Captain, David Daines, was then presented to the Headmaster, and the Captain presented Gary Southwell, Vice-Captain, and this year's team of prefects who are: John Abernethy, Jock Brodie, Peter Brown, Michael Duncan, Chris Evans, Glenn Funnell, Terry Forsythe, Andrew Grecian, Peter Heazlewood, Bruce Illidge, Ray Jenkins, Francis Levy, Ian Lincoln, Graham Nicholas, Brian Tieste and Derek To.

We wish this group of prefects every success in their year of office and I am sure that the prefects would appreciate any help we can give them and, through them, the school. They are your representatives. Work with them at all times.

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

This article was sent to us by one of our old boys—John Monfries. John last year gained a maximum pass in the Leaving Certificate and was awarded a special prize at Epping's Speech night in mid-March. John is at present at the Australian National University in Canberra, and tells us in the article what he has seen and experienced in University life during the short time he has been there.

"The Australian National University consists of the (post-graduate) Institute of Advanced Studies and the (Undergraduate) School of General Studies. The buildings of the latter are all situated along University Avenue. There are buildings for Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Arts (the Haydon-Allen Building), and there is a large library building. A Zoology building is under construction, an Oriental Studies building is planned, and two more halls of residence will be built.

"University Avenue itself is lined with poplars, well-watered gardens . . . and large patches of bare, brown earth where all kinds of noisy, dusty machines are busy grading, levelling, excavating and earth-shifting. Orientation Week at the University consisted largely of a bewildering time for new first year students ('freshers'), and a riotous time for second and third year students, who come along simply to inspect all the new first-year girls ('freshettes')—and to drink! However, the freshers soon settled in, though the 'Orientation Week' arrangements did not seem to include them.

"At the end of University Avenue is my place of residence, Bruce Hall, which is run by a Warden (Mr. W. Packard), a Deputy Warden (Dr. Bruce Kent) and a number of Sub-Wardens. In his speech welcoming all the incoming students, Mr. Packard impressed on us the importance of quietness in the Hall, especially at night. He said, 'We don't mind if you're wicked, as long as you're quiet. If you can get drunk **silently**, we don't mind that, either.'

"Dr. Kent reminds me of Mr. Medley. He has the same kind of voice, and is a keen Rugby Union coach. I don't know whether he too objects to Rhubarb!

"The accommodation at Bruce Hall is surprisingly comfortable, and the food is extremely good. There are in the Hall 220 students, male and female, and there are 25 women students about a mile away in Bruce Hall Annexe. Every one is extremely friendly—in fact, I haven't yet met anyone whom I wholeheartedly dislike!—and there are no 'initiation ceremonies.'

"At Bruce Hall, we have the boys who came 2nd and 7th in the New South Wales L.C. last year; the boy who came top in Tasmania; two or three Chinese students from Malaya; a student from Nigeria; a boy who has lived half his life in the Middle East and a 37-year-old Pole, who is studying law.

"My Oriental Studies course, consisting of Bahasa Indonesia and Malay (one subject—not two!), Oriental Civilization, French and General Linguistics, is develop-

ing very well. All my lecturers are helpful, some are dull, one is amusing, and one is an extremely good teacher. Such a collection is more or less to be expected. The relative smallness of every lecture group here is a great advantage, however.

"I am extremely enthusiastic about the life here, and I hope to see a few Epping boys at Bruce Hall next year, and I would like to wish Epping High the best of luck this year!"

We thank John very much for his enlightening article about a relatively new University, and we would, I am sure, like to give him our best wishes in his Studies this year.

From Our Roving Reporter —

Sydney University

The other night I had a pleasant discussion with one of last year's Fifth Years—Geoff Robertson—who is now becoming one of our country's intellectuals, a Sydney University Student.

Geoff was not busy when I rang him. In fact he had just finished playing a game of table tennis with his brother and was just about to start editing an article for the next issue of the "Uni." paper—"Honi Soit." Being sub-editor of the paper he is kept busy with many articles, "a number of which aren't printed" (Shades of "Southern Cross"). One of the first things he said was, "I didn't think they'd let me near the place again," referring to Speech Night at which he gave his impressions of "Finished." But his education hasn't finished yet. He realises it is just starting.

Geoff had a lot to say about university, so I took notes and let him speak. Firstly, to sum up his impressions, "It's Wonderful!"

He went on: "There isn't really a difference between university and school life, but if you want to fail, university life opens up a new dimension—it opens new outlets; on the whole it becomes what you want it to be. It can be a completely new experience, a more personal place. There's not as much teacher-pupil relationship as in school. University doesn't take care of you; you take care of yourself; it depends on what you want to make it, a school or something else. The horizons are so much larger, so much more exciting, so much wider; there are an immense number of societies and groups of activities, almost 100 in all; the set-up is much different.

"On the personal side, there are many outlets which aren't present at school—The presence of women, coloured students and people of all ages, must tend to broaden your outlook. It makes you feel conscious that you don't have to conform to any code; there's no school uniform! You now become important and have a new place of life; you're a free agent; you're your own master and you're conscious of this.

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"At university you think on two levels. Firstly there is the intellectual level; the level of education becomes much more complicated with the many extra-curricular subjects. On the personal side you have another level—you're not a school boy any more; you're free to do, within limits, what you like; you have many more liberties. You're not even conscious of being a school boy any more; you feel like an adult and begin to feel conscious of being an adult without any adult problems; you're not constrained by the clock." He concluded, "Well, that's about all I can think of at present except that I remember this time last year when I was furiously studying for my half-yearly."

"You are so right," I said to myself as I put down the phone and, with a sigh, turned back to my textbook-laden table.

An Evening With Shakespeare

Rain was about. It was cold, too. The temptation to remain at home was very great indeed. But it was Shakespeare Night in the Hall and the capacity crowd of hardy souls who attended were well rewarded, not only by the exciting participation of our guest artists, Messrs. Owen Weingott and Wallace Cooper, but also by the vast band of boys who took active part in a difficult programme ranging from the tragic and sinister to the light-hearted and amusing. All connected with the night are deserving of the greatest credit.

An innovation for our play nights was an attempt to reproduce Shakespeare's own theatre, firstly by the construction of an unchanging Shakespearean setting and secondly by the absence of any curtain except to indicate the closing of the first and second halves of the programme. Additional "props" were brought on stage in full view of the audience. All this gave continuity to the night, saved the time and boredom of looking at closed curtains while drastic scene changes were carried on, and enabled the audience to "on their imaginations work" and feel some of the atmosphere of the English theatre of three and a half centuries ago. Rather drastic, one might imagine, for a modern audience! But judging by this audience's reaction and subsequent comments, a most successful experiment.

Congratulations, again, to one and all.

The Drama Group

This is the most recently formed club within the school. It has been formed for only one term and this has proved to be a very successful one. A drama group is one which the school has long needed and Mr. McGregor was very pleased when he learnt that one was to be formed, especially as he had been discussing the idea previously with Mr. Edwards. At the inaugural meeting of the club it was proposed to have three office-bearers and accordingly they were elected.

Director—Brendon Lunney.

Secretary—Alex Bennie.

Treasurer—Tony Petley.

Mr. Edwards is the teacher in charge, but so as to limit his control (not his influence) in the running of the club, he decided to put himself down as an ordinary member. Mr. Manwaring is also a member and we are very glad to have their assistance so that we can ask their opinion in uncertain matters. At present our members are only 32, and though this may seem small, it represents by far the greatest membership of any club in the school.

Several of the members, especially the older ones, participated in the play "Pyramus and Thisbe," from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," on Tuesday, 21st April. Our performance was part of a function organised to commemorate Shakespeare's 400th anniversary, "An Evening with Shakespeare." A number of other interesting performances were seen on this night.

The club also arranged to put on a display featuring photos of Shakespeare and characters in his plays as acted in productions from Stratford-on-Avon. These were sent to us by courtesy of various British organisations operating in Sydney: The British Council, The British Information Service, The British Travel Association. This display was under the capable supervision of Murray Scott. This evening also included a twenty minute film on Act 1 of Henry V. Some of our members went to see the avant garde stage production of Henry V in the Tent Theatre at Rushcutter's Bay. This experience compensated for the Young Elizabethan's production of "Macbeth," which we saw earlier in the term at school.

(Note: See criticism of "Macbeth" in this edition. Ed.)

In one of our later meetings we appointed a stage manager, John Bennett, who supervised the backstage production of "Pyramus and Thisbe" and will continue to do so in future productions.

It was proposed that the group put on a Night of Theatre of its own. The proposed play for this night was "The Canterville Ghost," and it will be some time in late August that the production be entered in some of the arts' festivals competitions which are put on around Sydney.

Accordingly several of the members visited "The Ensemble Theatre" on Saturday, 18th April, and saw its production of "The Canterville Ghost." This was enjoyed by all but it was agreed that the script and production would have to be adapted to our proscenium presentation of the play. Mr. Edwards, Mr. Manwaring and some of the older members have undertaken this task and the production should begin early next term.

Epping Rotarians invited two of our members as representatives of the school to come to one of their youth dinners. The Rotarians wanted to aid the school in some way and it was proposed that as the school hall needed some new lighting it might take this form, and with luck, work on this new and much needed project should begin around June. The new lighting equipment should greatly increase the production possibilities and quality of the hall.

The group is always looking for more people interested in joining the club and these new members will be welcomed at the meeting.

Macbeth

In the early part of the term our school was visited by the Blackfriars Company of the Young Elizabethan Players; they performed this year's set Shakespeare text, "Macbeth." At least last year's production of "The Tempest" gave "a good demonstration of the relationship between the works of Shakespeare and their stage production." However, this company, apparently unconscious of the wonderful opportunities offered, here failed to give that vital understanding, that necessary link, between the printed and performed Shakespeare. He himself never paid much attention to the scripts (a number of which he probably never fully set down, as he both produced and acted in his own plays), for he believed the essence was in the staged effect and this, after all, was the ideal behind the formation of the Young Elizabethan Company. But here, they have failed.

In his programme note, the producer, John Trevor, asks the audience to listen carefully so that they can aid the players in giving a clear and definite performance. If the boys could have heard what was being said they would no doubt have listened to it. Within fifteen minutes of the curtain going up, the actors had lost their audience and the audience had lost its interest. What troubles is that these boys wanted to see this play, they were looking forward to it; and what happens, they were disappointed and so turned off Shakespeare.

However, Peter Whitford deserves his Hector. Taking the title role, there were moments when one felt that he really lived with his characterisation and believed what he was saying. More's the pity, these moments were all too few. But the thing that focused attention on his scenes was the fact that he could be **heard!** He was the only member of the company of whom this can be said. He warmed to his task for as the play progressed he became more and more interesting, clear and audible. Tony Crerar, with free style and lythe movement, gave his Banquo a young, modern appearance, devoid of any over-playing, a fault which seemed to dominate the rest of the company. But, like the others, the dialogue went astray after his first introduction speech, which was not only well presented but interesting. These two were the only ones to rise above the general mediocrity of the playing.

The most dissatisfying portrayal was that of Laura James as Lady Macbeth. I had expected a higher degree of characterisation with such an important role, but at times she seemed to sag and at one stage became almost ludicrous. The witches' scenes, which are undoubtedly some of Shakespeare's greatest, meant nothing, for I could hardly hear a word that was said even though this ghostly, inhuman dialogue is what the boys need to get them really fascinated. Although the idea of having them as one writhing, spectral mass, under cover of a cloth, was good, it too went by the board because the audience never grasped the full import of what was going on. I thought the costume—a simple tartan plaid across the shoulder, plain white shirt and black trousers—was very effective.

Shakespeare was originally performed on an open stage in the afternoon, the only lighting used being natural. However, if this can be improved upon and made either more interesting or exciting, by all means do it. But the producer, knowing that most halls in which he would play cannot be darkened sufficiently, shouldn't have tried to use this effect which was destroyed by stray rays of light creeping in through the aluminium shutters.

A higher standard of production and performance should not only be expected from but attained by these young professionals.

Iolanthe

This year Cheltenham Girls' High has asked us to help them in their production of the Gilbert and Sullivan musical, Iolanthe, which tells about a Fairy who marries the Lord Chancellor and the subsequent troubles that are encountered by their son Strephon, who is fairy down to his waist but is mortal to his legs.

* * *

Boys from Epping who are playing lead parts are: Strephon, Richard Moore; Lord Chancellor, Brendon Lunney; Lord Tolloller, Gregory Prior; Lord of Mountararat, Frank Levy; and Private Willis, Graham Baldie.

There are also some twenty lords, counts, etc., to be found from among Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Years.

As with "Away to Ballarat" last year, the organisers this end are Mr. Shirley and Mr. Jenkins. Good luck to the cast.

Did you hear about the Fifth Year student who said to a group of his confreres: "I am like a ship surrounded by a sea of idiots."

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There is a current rumour that the latest trend overseas (and in 3rd Year area) is a new version of "branding"—with a cricket ball. We also hear that still a different kind of "branding" usually follows.

* * *

Beatlemania raised its ugly head at the Swimming Carnival, we recall, but has not been seen since. Has it dyed out? Or have the Beatles returned to the surf?

* * *

Particular bushes around certain areas of the grounds are under constant surveillance by the "Fire Brigade." Is it because where there's smoke there's fire? Or vice-versa?

School Swimming

Epping has not yet achieved in swimming the heights that have been reached in other sports, but this season the standard has much improved. Below are the results of the school carnival, held once more in the famous Ryde Pool.

OPEN

Freestyle—

440 yds.—G. Funnell (H.).
220 yds.—A. White (H.).
110 yds.—A. White (H.).
55 yds.—A. White (H.).

Breaststroke—

110 yds.—D. Daines (T.).

Backstroke—

110 yds.—V. Hall (T.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—J. Abernethy (D.).

Relay—

Harris.

Champion—A. White.

16 YEARS

Freestyle—

440 yds.—A. Bennie (D.).
220 yds.—M. Scott (T.).
110 yds.—A. Bennie (D.).
55 yds.—C. Baker (T.).

Breaststroke—

110 yds.—M. Scott (T.).

Backstroke—

110 yds.—R. Allen (D.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—C. Baker (T.).
Champions—M. Scott and A. Bennie.

15 YEARS

Freestyle—

440 yds.—J. Bailey (D.).
220 yds.—R. Andrews (D.).
110 yds.—R. Andrews (D.).
55 yds.—R. Andrews (D.).

Breaststroke—

55 yds.—T. Cracknell (D.).

Backstroke—

55 yds.—R. Andrews (D.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—J. Bailey (D.).

Relay—

Darvall.

Champion—R. Andrews.

14 YEARS

Freestyle—

220 yds.—A. Parsons (M.).
110 yds.—A. Parsons (M.).
55 yds.—S. Berriman (D.).

Breaststroke—

55 yds.—P. Charles (D.).

Backstroke—

55 yds.—P. Cooke (D.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—R. Davies (D.).

Relay—

Midson.

Champion—A. Parsons.

13 YEARS

Freestyle—

220 yds.—G. Debus (D.).
110 yds.—G. Debus (D.).
55 yds.—G. Debus (D.).

Breaststroke—

55 yds.—G. Debus (D.).

Backstroke—

55 yds.—G. Debus (D.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—G. Debus (D.).
Champion—G. Debus.

12 YEARS

Freestyle—

220 yds.—R. Seltin (T.).
110 yds.—R. Seltin (T.).
55 yds.—C. Silvester (T.).

Breaststroke—

55 yds.—D. Hinwood (H.).

Backstroke—

55 yds.—C. Silvester (T.).

Butterfly—

55 yds.—R. Seltin (T.).

Relay—

Midson..

Champion—R. Seltin (T.).

CHAMPION HOUSE—DARVALL

The Team for the Zone Carnival from these results was really keen. The boys trained exceptionally hard for three full weeks and, as a result, scored three times as many points as their counterparts of last year. The really bright spot was the winning of the team point score by our 12 years' section. Congratulations to

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Selton, Den Besten, Silvester, McCann, Cracknell and Hinwood, all of First Form.

Gary Debus is our outstanding prospect, breaking the Zone 13 years' 50 metres Backstroke record with a swim of 36.9 seconds. To top this he went on to gain 2nd place in the C.H.S. Swimming Carnival with an even better time of 35.3 seconds. Well done, Gary.