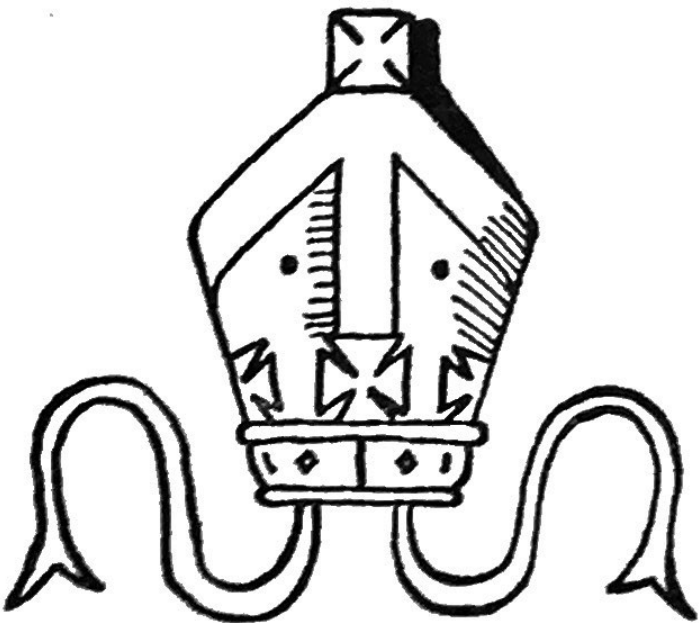


'65



# THE MITRE

VOL. 1 No. 5.

1965.

**The Magazine of St. Michael's School, Ingoldisthorpe.**

Editor: J. H. HESLOP.

Sub-Editors M. N. BOAK, M. GRAY.

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## THE EDITORIAL

'“The time has come,” the Walrus said.’ Alice in Wonderland. The time has indeed come for another edition of the *Mitre*, and I am very pleased to be editing it this year.

Unfortunately, “owing to circumstances beyond our control,” the price of the magazine, like many things this year, has been increased. However, we hope that this will soon be amended and the magazine will return to its full glory.

The co-operation of the school in the creation of this edition has been noticeable in the respect that the editorial staff were overwhelmed by the number of articles proffered for printing. Of course, it has been impossible to print all the material handed in, and so some will be disappointed at not seeing their names in print.

This year has seen the advent of the Labour Party's rise to power, the death of the greatest statesman of modern times, Sir Winston Spencer Churchill, and the fifth edition of the *Mitre*.

We hope that this great example of scholastic literature will be continued in years to come.

Jonathan H. Heslop (Editor).

## SENIOR PREFECTS

- X H. EAST. Entered summer '61; Head Boy Sept. '64; Red House Captain. School and Asst. Church organist. Captain of Cricket and Driving (in charge of school transport). Footballer, hockey and tennis player, athlete. G.C.E. successes: "A" level music; "O" level maths; R.K., Geog.; Eng.-Lit. **FRENCH.**
- A. LARTEY. Entered Sept. '61; Head Girl Sept. '64. 1st VII Netball '62. Tennis player. G.C.E. successes: "O" level R.K.
- M. GRAY. Entered Sept. '59; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Cadet Sergeant. Chorister. G.C.E. successes: "O" level History, Geography, R.K., Eng.-Lit., British Constitution, Eng.
- D. BACON. Entered summer '61; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Captain 1st XI football '64; V. Captain 1st XI cricket '65. Athlete and Hockey Player.
- J. DRING. Entered Sept. '57; Senior Prefect '63. Sacristan; Driver; Chorister; Footballer. G.C.E. successes: "O" level R.K.
- G. WEATHERILL. Entered Sept. '63; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. 1st XI Football; 1st XI Cricket; 1st XI Hockey '64. G.C.E. successes: "O" level Art.
- P. NAIRN. Entered Sept. '58; Senior Prefect '64. 1st VII Netball Captain '64; Tennis.
- S. CULLIN. Entered Sept. '59; Senior Prefect '64. 1st VII Netball '60; Tennis.
- P. SMETHURST. Entered Sept. '60; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Cadet Corporal, Cert "A"; County Colours for .22 shooting; Driver; Captain of Blue House.
- M. SMITH. Entered Sept. '61; Senior Prefect '64. 1st XI Football; Swimming '63 (King's Lynn Colours); Cadet, L/Cpl. Cert. "A"; Organiser (along with the headmaster) of Easter holiday in Switzerland.
- I. HENDERSON-BEGG. Entered Sept. '61; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Head of Dance Committee; Driver; Chorister. G.C.E. successes: "O" level Eng., Eng.-Lit., Geog., Maths., History, British Constitution, Economics. R.K.
- A. ADEBIYI. Entered Spring '58; House Prefect at Gresham House; Captain of Green House; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Driver; 1st XI Football, Cricket and Hockey; Athletics. G.C.E. successes: "O" level Hist., R.K., Eng.-Lit.

- C. MCMIRAM. Entered Sept. '59; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Captain 1st XI Hockey; 1st XI Football; 1st XI Cricket. G.C.E. successes: "O" level History, R.K., Eng., Eng.-Lit., Geog. Captain Yellow House and House Prefect at Brockhill; Games Secretary, Driver, Athletics Capt., Chorister.
- J. DARBY. Entered Sept. '63; Senior Prefect Sept. '64. Head of Film Team; Dance Committee; Driver; Athlete. G.C.E. successes: "O" level Maths., Eng.-Lit.
- J. SINCLAIR. Entered Sept. '61; Senior Prefect Dec. '64. 1st XI Hockey '64-65. Driver. G.C.E. successes: "O" Level Geog.
- D. JAKOBSSON. Entered Sept. '61. Senior Prefect Dec. '64. Driver. Chorister. G.C.E. successes: "O" Level Maths., Eng. Eng.-Lit. Geog.
- D. LEWIS. Entered Sept. '60. Senior Prefect June '65. 1st XI Hockey and Cricket '64-'65. Joint Head of Film Team. Asst. Head of Dance Committee. Chorister. Cadet: Cpl. Cert. "A."
- M. SHELLOCK. Entered Sept. '60. Senior Prefect June '65. 1st XI Football, Hockey and Cricket '64-'65. Athlete. Dance Committee. Asst. Head of Film Team. Chorister. Cadet: Cpl. Cert "A." G.C.E. successes: "O" Level Maths., Eng., Eng.-Lit., Geog.
- M. BOAK. Entered Nov. '62. Senior Prefect June '65. Asst. Head of Film Team. Dance Committee. School Groundsman. Sub.Editor of the "Mitre." G.C.E. successes "O" Level Eng.
- R. PRATT. Entered Sept. '62. Senior Prefect June '65. 1st XI Football '63-'65. 1st XI Cricket '65. Athlete. Driver.
- P. MOMBER. Entered Sept. '61. Senior Prefect June '65. Cadet Sgt. Cert "A." Shooting Colours .22 and .303 Bisley '64. G.C.E. successes: "O" Level French, Maths., Eng.-Lit., Economics, Geog., Hist., R.K.

## FOOTBALL REPORT 1964 - '65

This year's team has been a younger one than usual but in spite of this apparent setback, we have had some convincing wins.

For the first time for quite a while, we were beaten by our old rivals, Burebank, but we made up our loss by beating them twice later in the season.

I think perhaps the match against the Old Michaelians was one of the more memorable games. The Old Boys scored first and this upset our team at first but we regained courage, ours was a 7 - 2 victory.

The team was a little unsteady at the beginning of the season but settled down after a few changes.

The following are the boys who helped this team win so many victories:

C. McMiram, D. Bacon, R. Pratt, B. Thickett, A. Adebisi, I. Howe, G. Weatherill, M. Shellock, M. Smith, J. Owens, P. Williams, J. Haslett, B. Lartey and P. S. Sleight.

The House Matches were also exciting and the Yellow House took the cup as winners. In the first round, the Reds beat the Blues 5 - 2, and the Yellows, after a 1 - 1 draw, beat Greens 1 - 0. With the final came the defeat of the Reds and the victorious Yellows carried the cup by an 8 - 1 win.

D. Bacon, Capt. of Football.

\* \* \*

### St. Michael's School 1st XI Football

|                                |    |    |    | Scores: season '64/'65 |       |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|------------------------|-------|
|                                |    |    |    | For                    | Agst. |
| Downham Market G.S.            | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 1†    |
| King's Lynn G.S.               | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 3     |
| Burebank*                      | .. | .. | .. | 4                      | 7     |
| Burebank                       | .. | .. | .. | 4                      | 2†    |
| Sherrardswood                  | .. | .. | .. | 6                      | 3†    |
| Young Conservatives            | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 7     |
| Hammonds G.S., Swaffham*       | .. | .. | .. | 1                      | 8     |
| Fakenham G.S.*                 | .. | .. | .. | 0                      | 6     |
| Hunstanton Young Conservatives | .. | .. | .. | 2                      | 6     |
| Old Boys                       | .. | .. | .. | 7                      | 2†    |
| Fakenham G.S.                  | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 1†    |
| Hammonds G.S., Swaffham        | .. | .. | .. | 4                      | 2†    |
| Burebank                       | .. | .. | .. | 6                      | 3†    |
| Hunstanton Young Conservatives | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 4     |
| Burebank*                      | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 3     |
| Sherrardswood*                 | .. | .. | .. | 3                      | 2†    |

\*Denotes away games †Games won.

## DRIVING REPORT

Seven years ago the school's transport consisted of one double-decker and three smaller vehicles. During the past few years, three double-deckers and various smaller buses and cars have made a necessary addition to the "fleet."

Since the last edition of the *Mitre*, the headmaster's Mini-Minor and the old Hillman Husky have been replaced by a new Hillman Minx with dual-control—for the benefit of the "L" drivers.

Although the school year began with only four drivers, the number has now increased to ten. They are as follows:

A. Adebisi, J. Darby, J. Dring, H. East, I. Henderson-Begg, J. Sinclair, P. Smethurst, R. Pratt, C. McMiram, D. Jakobsson.

H. East VI.

## HOCKEY 1964 - '65

The hockey season this year met with considerable success. Of the matches played, only one was lost—to the Old Michaelians.

Many members of the team played in the 1st XI for the first time and therefore the team was a comparatively inexperienced one. J. Sinclair and I. Pennington played strong and purposeful games in defence, whilst B. Thickett made a strong and skilful centre-forward.

The team was well balanced and usually moved swiftly into the attack but there were moments when the advantage was lost and our opponents used this mistake to their advantage.

Next year the team will be ready for fixtures, for they will have had the experience of playing in the 1st XI. The team will mature and, I hope, gain many victories. Those who made up this team were:

F. Moattar, D. Lewis, J. Haslett, I. Pennington, J. Sinclair, G. Weatherill, R. Wiseman, C. McMiram, M. Shellock, I. Howe, B. Thickett.

C. McMiram, VI (Hockey Capt.)

## THE UNDERTAKER

A slim, gaunt, figure,  
Unsmiling, staring coldly  
Ahead, dressed in black,  
A dark cape flowing  
From his hunched shoulders.  
He doesn't speak, he simply  
Glides down the alley,  
Like a phantom on the wings  
Of the wind of death,  
Seeking the cold comforts of the grave.

M. Jackson, Vb.

## THE CADET REPORT

This year the cadets have done well by getting everyone through the Part I examination.

We have also, for the second time, won the King's Cup. This is a cup awarded to the unit whose attendance has been most regular. There has also been a cup given for the best Marksman in the Company. This will be given not necessarily to the cadet who is the best shot with a rifle, but to the cadet who, after a certain passage of time, has the best average marks of the Company. He will also have to be the cadet who has made the best progress.

This year, for the first time, two cadets, Sgt. A. Duke and Company Quartermaster Sgt. M. Gray, went to Germany with the British Forces and, according to all accounts, they had a marvellous time. While they were in Germany the cadets all had a route march, and the cadets from the Third Battalion came first.

The team that went to Bisley this year had a stroke of bad luck, on the day they were going to shoot, fog descended and blanketed the area, so they had to abandon the competition.

So far this year we have had no weekend camps as the weather has been unsuitable. Neither have we had any "exercises" that is, playing soldiers and firing blanks. Although this sounds dangerous, it is not, as a "blank" does not contain any sort of projectile.

In general, the standard in cadet attendance and behaviour has been good all the year and I hope that this standard is maintained in the years to come.

Cadet Sergeant I. Hammond.



## THE CHOIR

During the past year the choir has been extremely active. The standard of performance has improved with each engagement the choir has attended and just recently the tremendous programme of Easter music has given our choristers a chance to prove their worth.

These Easter services at the beginning of the summer term consisted of a number of carol services in Heacham and Ingoldisthorpe and an evening performance in connection with Christian Aid Week at Hunstanton.

Every year the choir makes its customary journey to London to sing Melanesian Mission's festival. However, the service this year will be in the holidays and consequently the choir will not be able to attend.

Early in the school year the choir and a portion of the senior school were present at a service in Norwich Cathedral which was followed by a performance of "Son et Lumière." This performance was narrated by a mythical stonemason who lived on a scaffold by the spire and was supposedly "too busy to die" and portrayed the history of the Cathedral.

This summer term the choir paid a visit to Gedney, in Lincolnshire, a small village with a large church. The congregation was, as a certain person stated, "enthralled at the quality of the singing" and showed their appreciation by giving about £14 to the collection. The church would probably have been fuller had there been no fog which deterred many who might have come.

As I said at the beginning, the choir have had a good, high standard of performance and show every sign of maintaining it.

J. Dring, Va.

## FIRST AID

During the lent term this year a number of the school attended a course of lectures on first aid. This course was held at the Dersingham Police Station on Thursday nights, the theoretical side of things being handled by a local G.P. and the practical by expert hands.

On Wednesday, March 24th, the long awaited examination took place (with some rather unexpected results for some people). However, out of those who took the examination only four failed to reach the standard set by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and we hope that next year they will be more fortunate.

Those who did pass were:

S. Robinson, Div. I; R. Laming, Div. I; C. Winter, Preceptors; B. Nelson, Preceptors; C. Kemish, Preceptors; R. Wiseman, Vc.; R. Robinson, Vc.; G. Wilson, Vc.; P. Willis, Vb.; H. Fennell, Vb.; C. Pike, Va.; J. Heslop, Va.; I. Henderson-Begg, VI.

## WORLD RECORD

It has been computed that in three years one pair of rabbits could multiply to 13,718,000.

*(Footnote: Do lettuces breed too?)*



## DRAMATICS (Retrospect)

Last year under the leadership of Mr. C. R. M. White, a portion of the school presented an adapted version of Lionel Bart's "Oliver."

After many setbacks and gruelling hours of rehearsal the finished product was excellently performed by all concerned in the Women's Institute Hall in Heacham, on the nights of 16th, 17th, 18th of July, 1964.

Fagin was portrayed very well by Mr. C. R. M. White, the role of Oliver was excellently portrayed by Stephen Mounsey and the part of The Artful Dodger was boisterously acted by Charles Bishop. The musical accompaniment was supplied by Harold East on piano and Charles McMiram on the drums.

After three successful performances at the end of the summer term, there were extracts performed at the school concert the following term.

The original cast was as follows:

|                                 |    |    |    |    |    |   |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| Oliver Twist                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | STEPHEN MOUNSEY   |
| Fagin                           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Mr. C. R. M. WHITE  |
| The Artful Dodger               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | CHARLES BISHOP  |
| Bumble, The Beadle              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | IAN HENDERSON-BEGG  |
| Mr. Sowerberrie, The Undertaker | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | JONATHAN HESLOP   |
| Nancy                           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | MISS M. BONE  |
| Bill Sykes                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | KIA ASHRAFZADEH   |
| Bet                             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | SUSAN EAST ✕  |
| Mr. Brownlow                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | SIMON HYDE  |
| Maid                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | HILARY FENNELL  |
| Boys' Chorus                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | A. WORT, A. DIGBY, C. DOCKER, C. BISHOP, A. CATT.         |
| Londoners                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | E. CLARKE, S. LEE, M. REYNOLDS, J. HESLOP<br>J. HABERMASS |
| Noah Claypole                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | JOSEPH HABERMASS  |
| Charles Dickens (Narrator)      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | DAVID JAKOBSSON   |

## THE DYING YEAR

A few withered leaves still cling to the poplars  
Defying the might of the wild North wind  
Which howls and eddies round the houses,  
Otherwise, the trees are bare.  
Their fine plumage descends like a snowstorm  
Whipping around in a myriad gale.  
Golden snowflakes whirling mad waltzes  
Signify the dying year.

Jonathan Heslop, Va.



OLIVER



THE ARTFUL DODGER

## THE DANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 1964-65

After the formation of the new committee in October, socials were held in Heacham Church Hall every fortnight during the two winter terms. A combination of record players and tape recorders provided the music, operated by "J.D.," assisted by Michael Shellock and Maurice Boak. Full use was made of old equipment and a lighting screen made the previous year was fitted with coloured bulbs to produce soft lighting. During the year two other similar screens were constructed, so that at every dance the lighting system was different.

On the 5th of December the last dance of the term took place at Ingoldisthorpe. This was attended by members of the King's Lynn High School and the King's Lynn convent, besides senior members of the school, members of the staff and guests from the local villages. A unique lighting system provided soft lights for dancing, the music being provided by Mr. Townsend. This was a great success and concluded the dances for that term.

The following term there were again socials every fortnight, following the tradition of the previous term. On February the 6th a Parish party was organised by the committee at which "Group X" performed. Later on in the term another end of term dance was held at Ingoldisthorpe. For the second time Mr. Fennel, of Ingoldisthorpe, was M.C., to whom we are indebted for his services. Owing to unforeseeable circumstances this dance was almost prevented from commencing, but I must thank my deputy head of the committee for helping me to avert this disaster. I must also thank John Dring for providing the necessary transport and refreshments.

During the summer term socials were projected at less frequent intervals than before, a feat not attempted previously, and at the time of this article going to print a final dance of the school year was being planned.

The general verdict is that the socials during the past year have been very successful with the emphasis on originality. The dancing has consisted of old time and modern and a surprising number of people joined in, including several people from outside the school, and a great deal of fun was had by everybody.

This year's dance committee was headed by Ian R. Henderson-Begg, with deputy head, Dermot Lewis, along with Maurice Boak, Michael Shellock and James Darby ("J.D."). This team got additional enjoyment out of preparing the socials, running them and clearing up afterwards.

Ian R. Henderson-Begg, VI.

## FILM TEAM REPORT

During the past two terms of film shows our old projector became steadily worse until early in 1965 it finally gave up the ghost. The Headmaster then kindly bought the school a new, automatic threading projector. The film team welcomed this new machine as it meant that a film show could be enjoyed without any breakdowns.

Continuous film shows, using both projectors, were tried and were quite successful, but this can no longer continue for the sound receiving mechanism in the old projector is now completely useless, therefore we can only use one projector as before. The old projector still has its uses, it can be used for silent films as well as teaching the "subs" to use the projector and how to thread a projector manually.

I do not propose to give a list of the films that we have had in the last two terms but just titles of, and comments on, a few of them from a few members of the school.

"On The Beat," 'hilarious in parts,' 'very funny,' 'Norman Wisdom at his best.'

"The Legions Last Patrol," 'realistic,' 'real sense of a war,' 'a lot of excitement.'

"The Fast Lady," I 'thought the old Bentley was fabulous,' 'very enjoyable.'

"The Commancheros," 'one of the best films this term,' 'a little far fetched in places.'

"Heavens Above," 'a change to see the clergy in space,' 'some scenes are true of everyday life.'

The film team for the past two terms has consisted of:

James Darby, Dermot Lewis (Heads); Maurice Boak, Michael Shellock (Asst. Heads); Thomas Eckersley. Those who assist us and are known by the name "subs": Michael Smith, Alastair Duke, Ian Hammond and Ian Henderson-Begg.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people for all they have done towards getting a film show ready each and every week during term time. I would also like to thank, on behalf of the film team, those masters who so kindly drove the team and equipment about when we had no boy drivers.

Maurice Boak (Asst. Head).

## THE SWISS HOLIDAY

On the third of April, a party of sixteen boys and five girls set out for Switzerland with Mr. Pott.

We went across the Channel from Dover to Ostend and then through Belgium, Luxembourg and France, to Basle in Switzerland.

We then proceeded through Switzerland, through the St. Gothard Pass to Lugano, where we stayed in a youth hostel called "The Jugendherberge." Upon arrival we had a meal after which the majority stayed in to rest.

There were three main outings on which we all went together, one to Belinzona and Lugano where we climbed a mountain. Another on the lake where we spent the morning in Pontatresy which is half Italian, the afternoon was spent at a Swiss model village which had miniature railways, mountains and buildings. The third outing was spent climbing Mt. Lema, which is about four thousand feet high and in climbing Mt. San-Salvador.

We were in Switzerland for ten days; on the return journey we left Lugano at about four o'clock, some Italians who were friendly with us came to see us off. We arrived in Basle and found that we had two hours to wait, and so a group went round the city and had a meal in a small cafe. France was crossed during the night then the Cross Channel Ferry was caught about midday. At Folkestone we went through the customs without mishap and boarded the train for London, where the party split up for their own homes. Those returning to Heacham were met by the mini-bus at the station at about nine-thirty.

The party consisted of:

Michael Smith, Antonia Parke, Hilary Fennel, Christopher Pike, Stephanie Cullin, Antony Walton, Ian Gourley, Philip Skerrit, Beverly Anderson, Robin Shorey, Michael Jackson, Susan Vere-Stead, Firouz Moatter, Ian Hammond, Jonathan Parsons, Vicar Iqbal, Reginald Pratt, Glyn Wilson, Patrick Sleight, Peter Williams, Raphael Barrera.

Michael Smith, Va.

### THE CITY OF THE DEAD

All is still, no footsteps echo  
In the narrow streets.  
All is still, no sound is heard  
In the market. No call  
Of the merchant selling his wares.  
Nothing moves, nothing,  
Save the wind blowing in the streets.  
The dark alleys  
And the public places are still,  
All is bare—no life at all.

Michael Jackson, Vb.

## THE FARM CHILDREN

Warm, wet days,  
Deep, dark puddles,  
Big, black boots  
Splashing over stubble.  
Would it were a fine day,  
Water would not bubble.

Soaked, sopping, sneezing,  
We run home from school.  
Should we take the short cut?  
Oh! we feel such fools.  
Fancy playing such a trick we shout to the sky,  
Then we see the farmhouse drawing nigh.

Big bowls of steaming broth,  
Large hunks of bread,  
A story then a good-night kiss  
And then off to bed.

Hilary Fennell, Vb.

## THE SNOW COMES TO TOWN

Red roofs, red pots, aerals like spiders' legs  
Thrust up into the snowy grey,  
And make a refuge for the birds  
To weather out the freezing storm.  
Whilst down below in slushy street  
We humans walk with halting step away from cars.  
We walk oblivious to that world,  
The world of pots and slates and aerals  
Where slowly downy, silent snow  
Descends and covers pots and tiles upon  
The turrets of civilisation.

J. Heslop, Va.

## THE WESTMINSTER MYSTERY

There are over two thousand people at work in the palace of Westminster, better known as the Houses of Parliament. The total floor area is 547,000 sq. ft. However, there is acute overcrowding. (It is a well known fact that the house of commons only seats half the total number of M.Ps.)

A recent survey shows these figures:

|                           |   |                 |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Commons and Staff         | = | 108,554 sq. ft. |
| Lords and Staff           | = | 48,170 „ „      |
| Ministers and Whigs       | = | 93,000 „ „      |
| Ministry of Works         | = | 27,745 „ „      |
| Clerks (Police, etc.)     | = | 23,625 „ „      |
| Speaker and Staff         | = | 10,536 „ „      |
| Lord Chancellor and Staff | = | 15,569 „ „      |
| Palace servants           | = | 6,861 „ „       |
| Lord Chamberlain          | = | 3,862 „ „       |
| G.P.O.                    | = | 5,734 „ „       |
| Press                     | = | 19,204 „ „      |
|                           |   | <hr/>           |
| Total floor area used     | = | 352,860 „ „     |
| Corridors (approx.)       | = | 125,000 „ „     |
|                           |   | <hr/>           |
| Total                     | = | 477,860 „ „     |

But the total area covered by the Palace of Westminster is 547,000 sq. ft.!

$$\begin{array}{r} 547,000 \\ - 477,860 \\ \hline = 96,140 \text{ sq. ft.} \end{array}$$

Therefore there are 96,140 sq. ft. unaccounted for! Enough space for the average three bedroomed house about eighty times.

(Definition: Statistics—a group of figures looking for an argument.)

Our Parliamentary Correspondent.



## THE OLD MICHELIAN ASSOCIATION

### The Committee

*President:* The Headmaster (Ex officio).

*Hon. Chaplain:* The Rev. D. W. Ratcliff (1951-1957) (Ex officio).

*Hon. Chairman:* C. A. Wallington (1955-1959).

*Hon. Secretary:* P. F. Yarker (1956-1961).

*Hon. Treasurer:* B. C. Gunner (1958-1963).

P. Clowser (1945-1955)

J. Stainsby (1946-1955)

J. King (1951-1957)

Miss P. Vawser (1952-1960)

G. Lake (1949-1954)

G. Wood (1949-1955)

\* \* \*

This is only the second appearance in *The Mitre* of any contribution from the Old Michelian Association, as last year we only included one short article this can really be claimed as the first "Old Michelian Section."

In this age when it is fashionable to be "off beat," "anti-establishment" and decry anything which is not "swinging," "Tradition," it would seem, is a "dirty" word. We are going to be unfashionable and hope that this may be the first of a tradition of Old Michelian Sections in *The Mitre*.

We differ from other "Old Boy" Associations in the fact that we have no subsidiary clubs, due mainly to the size of the Association and the distances between our members.

Therefore we are unable to include in this section numerous and lengthy reports on many obscure sports and activities as is customary to other School Magazines.

What we are going to include are articles about jobs which are, or have been done by members. We hope that these will interest not only Old Michelians who know the authors but also Michelians who will be leaving school in the near future and are looking for a career. We hope also that parents and friends of the school will be interested in some of the divers tasks performed by Old Michelians.

### The Association

The Association continues to flourish, last year's Reunion was claimed by many as the most successful yet. An addition to the programme was coffee with the staff on Saturday morning; an unqualified success! We were very lucky to welcome in our midst the Rev. R. Tatlock, who preached at The Eucharist on Sunday. Mr. Tatlock taught for some years at St. Michael's.

Due to increased numbers and rising costs the Committee has had to do some hard rethinking of the Reunion with especial reference to the



Dinner Dance which we hold at The Manor Hotel. However, we hope that this year the Reunion will be an even greater success than last year's.

All those Michelians leaving school this year are being sent invitations to join the O.M.A. If there are any past students who do not belong to the Association, or any present pupils who are leaving and do not get an introductory letter and would like to join please write to The Secretary.

P. F. Yarker, Esq.,  
106, Woodland Way,  
West Wickham,  
Kent.

Subscription is 7/6 per year or 30/- for five years. Michelians leaving school this year are given membership for the remaining part of the year on the condition that they pay next year's subscription before 1st October this year.

## **SERVICE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS IN CYPRUS**

M. BARNES

On 22nd December, 1963, myself and some twenty other ranks of my own unit arrived back from an exercise after three months in Cyprus. Together with the remainder of the Company, we proceeded on Christmas leave; not for long though! On the evening of 31st December telegrams recalling everyone were received. Trouble in Cyprus . . . "16 Parachute Group" (my unit) was to be flown out immediately. This was a rude interruption indeed for all the New Year's Eve parties and Hogmanay rites.

Our advance party which included myself and two other members from our light aid detachment, took off from R.A.F. Lyneham in a Britannia in the very cold hours of 3rd January. The remainder of the Company followed about 12 hours later. Landing at Akrotiri, we were moved at once to a camp in the Chekelia Sovereign Base area. It was very cold and the conditions of the camp were decidedly unpleasant. Despite this, we were all in typical high spirits and set about purposefully erecting tents and drawing vehicles from the emergency stock pile.

On 6th January we became part of the Nicosia Truce Force and moved to our new location in Nicosia. This camp left much to be desired as it was the end of the rainy season and no matter how carefully one moved one could not avoid being plastered with mud. Our sudden occupation of this camp caused much inconvenience to the local canine population as it had become the home of every stray dog in the area. Together with the deluge and dogs, we also had to compete with winds which were almost of hurricane force and they tended to blow away tents and equipment if they were not securely fastened down. Had it not been for the quick thinking of one of our N.C.O.'s who ran a Scammel over the end of our semi-airborne tent it would have been lost to the goats on Troodos Mountain.