CASTELLUM



No. 8

1955

DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

COMMITTEE

President and Chairman: Master of University College.

Vice-President: Lieut.-Col. A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve, M.C., M.A.

Hon. Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. J. Spedding, D.S.O., D.F.C., B.A. (1981-35), 103, Newbiggin Road, Ashington, Northumberland.

Ex-Officio:

The Senior Man in Residence.
The J.C.R. Representative.
The Vice-Master.

Elected Members:

John Hollier, B.A. (1951-54). Rev. T. H. Corden, M.A. (1931-37). John Robson, B.Sc. (1949-52). B. H. Scrivener, B.Sc. (1950-53). Rev. W. Purdon, B.A. (1921-24). R. M. Glendinning (1942-3, 1947-50).

Co-opted Members:

Rev. J. C. Wallis, D.S.C., M.A., L.Th. (Staff). Rev. G. R. Berriman, M.A.

Editor of Castellum:

Mr. D. Holbrook, B.A. (1948-51),

(Due to a change of address, communications to the Editor after the next month or so should be sent care of University College, Durham.)

THE MAGAZINE OF THE DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

1955

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, DURHAM

EDITORIAL

By a decision of the Annual General Meeting, this issue of Castellum carries with it a solemn warning to many of the owners of members' names in our list at the back. Those who have not paid any subscription in recent years are being given a last chance to make themselves into paying members, or no longer to be sent Castellum.

This decision was unavoidable, sooner or later. Castellum represents a major part of the Society's expenditure, for printing and postage, and to restrict its circulation to paid-up members has become a more and more necessary and obvious economy.

That is not to say however that the decision can have been made without regret by the more active members. We are an informal society, and the prime qualification, after all, is to be a past member of University College. Castellum gives news of old Castlemen as well as of Old Castlemen, knowing that this is the real range of its readers' interest. However, the Society, formed to centre and encourage this interest, needs money to carry on. Having allowed over the years for all possible reasonable lapses of memory and effort, it cannot be accused of undue "legalism" in deciding to send a final warning at this stage.

Some of the magazines, in any case, must be going to all intents and purposes into thin air — to addresses left long ago by members never heard of since. Some way has to be found of ending that sheer waste. For the rest who don't qualify for the Treasurer's most up-to-date list, we hope the warning enclosed will be a telling aid to memory. Perhaps, if it encourages them to send a subscription, they will enclose with their cheque (or preferably, banker's

order form), one or two recent biographical details, to give Castellum the kind of news it most likes to carry.

It remains only to thank all this year's contributors, especially the Master for his usual thorough letter, the College Chaplain for his article on the Norman Chapel, which will show many old Castlemen exactly what has happened to the old Keep entrance, and all those others, who, despite being at a distance rendering them safe from direct attack, by mere correspondence allowed themselves to be persuaded into writing and print.

THE MASTER'S LETTER

THE past year has not been marked by any notable, novel. or rare event as far as the Castle is concerned; no Jubilee or Coronation celebrations; no new buildings for the College started: just the usual changes inevitably associated with the flow of personalities through the College and University; new Freshmen coming up, old Castlemen going down; new faces at table, and the lack of some well-remembered ones too. Perhaps one of the wise reasons for having much of the College news chronicled not by the Master but by members of J.C.R. or by old Castlemen, is that they may well be more alert to notable events in a particular year. Master perhaps becomes relatively unobservant of things tending to be repeated annually, and even of the change in the membership of College as individuals come and go. I do not think this last is really the case however, and of course every year there are happenings and individuals one remembers vividly. Generally speaking when news of old Castlemen reaches me I find I can recall them. Certainly if I receive letters from any, I not only answer them but add them to all the material filed with each individual's papers in the College records. I shall always be glad to receive such letters and, with permission, I shall send items of interest from them to the Editor of Castellum, since I am convinced that they are very often interesting not only to me but to some other old Castlemen in our growing society. Sometimes, I must admit, I wish a photograph accompanied a letter as I find memory springs more readily in connection with a face than with a name. I have wondered whether

it would be a good thing to have a photograph of each Freshman filed away with his application form so that one can always refer to a face as well as a name.

Since I wrote my letter a year ago, not all events have been pleasant; tragedy first cast shadows over the Durham Colleges last summer in the shape of accidental deaths to Mr. E. H. U. de Groot, formerly Principal of St. Cuthbert's Society, and Miss J. M. Telfer, Lecturer in French, both by drowning in Cornwall. Following startlingly close in time was the accidental death by an inexplicable tall from a motor-cycle of Dr. W. E. Foster, whom many Castlemen will remember from the days of the R.A.F. Cadet Short Courses, or perhaps rather later as a Tutor in University College. A tragedy much later, in June, 1955, and even more directly in our midst, was the motor-cycle accident resulting in the death of T. E. Forman, a third year undergraduate well-known and greatly esteemed by the College. As with the other accidents the real cause remained unexplained; we could only mourn our loss and extend our sympathy to the bereaved. The College seems to have had rather more than its fair share too of nervous breakdowns among its members during the past year. There seems no common theme or cause, not even the obvious one of worry about impending examinations, as the incidence of the troubles was spread throughout the year in all three terms. While undergraduates throughout the country seem increasingly liable to such illness these days, it tends to occur " patchily" and so I am hoping that the Castle has now had its share for years to come.

In my last letter I mentioned the sanction obtained for the project of making a new servery and wash-up out of the old silver pantry and servants' sitting-room on the west side of the Hall. This has been completed, including the widened door-way into the middle of the Hall, and I do not think anyone could either dispute the resulting improvement in the facilities for serving meals, or suggest that the appearance of the Hall had suffered in the slightest. A secondary consequence, welcome to all who have meals in the Hall, is that there is slightly more seating room at lunch-time when, including College graduates and High Table, some 270 or 280 are served daily, with the result that over-crowding seriously threatened our comfort and dignity.

A minor alteration in the Hall has been the making of a platform in the Minstrels' Gallery where a piano is now kept permanently, so frequently is it needed for dance-bands for S.R.C. and other functions. The wine cellar has been doubled in size by having new wine racks made to fit into the unused space adjacent to the older cellar. With increased storage space, it has become feasible to allow members of Low Tables to purchase table wine more freely by the bottle or even by the glass.

A real shortage, which I continue to feel as Master, is that of single rooms and of improved furniture for existing rooms. Despite the desirability of improvements, rising costs for goods and services soon began to find an adverse reflection in the College accounts, and I felt compelled to ask the Council of the Durham Colleges to set up a special Committee to investigate the financial position and prospects of University College. I was convinced that under existing arrangements we would not find it possible to make ends meet, much less to find the money for the improvements I felt were essential. I am glad to say that the investigations of this Committee have resulted in our being given a far bigger annual grant from the Council, and with this and the increased Maintenance Fees. which all Colleges must introduce from January, 1956, it is hoped that University College can free itself from a perpetual deficit and can afford to effect positive improvements. A special non-recurrent grant from Council is to be used for decorating and improving the lighting in the staircase and passageways through the Junction to the Keep, and also to improve the bathroom and toilet facilities there. There is little doubt that the dinginess of the staircase and passageways, as well as the poor bathroom accommodation, deterred those who might otherwise have wanted to organise residential courses and schools in the Castle during the vacations.

The Castle, like all residential Colleges and hostels throughout the country these days, must, by hiring itself for residential courses and other functions, endeavour to obtain income to set against the continuing overhead expenses and wage bills incurred during the vacations. More than any other College in Durham, University College has very high overhead expenses, an inevitable consequence of living not merely in one but in two mediaeval castles seven miles apart, and in some four other separate outlying houses round

Palace Green too. In my opinion it is necessary to face these facts: either University College will be perpetually less "economic" than other more compact Colleges with more up-to-date buildings, and so will perpetually require subsidizing; or, on a long-term basis, significantly greater "economy" can be achieved only by having increased and improved premises closely grouped round Palace Green and giving up Lumley as a distance annexe of the College requiring, as it inevitably must, duplication of so much staff and so many facilities and amenities. So long as we have Lumley as an annexe however, I feel I ought to adhere to two principles as a matter of policy. First, I ought to keep down the number of lodgings for undergraduates so that a small minority shall have, in addition to one of their three years spent in Lumley, another year spent in lodgings. Secondly, it is right not merely to keep up but actively to try to improve the standard of amenities and accommodation at Lumley. The Vice-Master has put forward a plan for abolishing the "bedroom-cubicle" type of accommodation in some of the tower rooms at Lumley and making bed-sitting rooms in their place, without any decrease in the number of students accommodated. This scheme is to be put to Governing Body and the Vice-Master and I hope we may later receive Council's approval to proceed further with the idea. I hope none the less however that even if the grander schemes for re-modelling Bailey House, Cosin's Hall, and for building a new connecting wing between them have to take a lower place in priority than we would like, it may be possible to improve some rooms in Durham by minor building projects.

High on my personal priority list too, providing of course I can obtain the money for it, is the re-modelling of our kitchen and the installation of some up-to-date and efficient equipment and cooking ranges. It is galling to know that the modernised kitchens in Hatfield are so much better than ours, whereas so many more meals are turned out by the Castle kitchens, some of them for functions and special occasions when, in a culinary sense, we represent the whole Division. In terms of buildings, decorations and furniture then, plans exist, prospects are on the whole brighter and there seems little danger of our settling into complacency.

Material things are ultimately not the most important aspects of

a College however, though their neglect could be disastrous in the long run. Personalities and personal relationships mirror the real spirit of a residential College. In this respect I believe the Castle continues to flourish and-if you like-to be fortunate. I have been fortunate this year in having, chosen by the good sense of their colleagues in J.C.R., N. J. R. Willder and R. Burrow as Senior Man and Secretary of J.C.R. respectively. I should like here to express my thanks to them and my appreciation of the innumerable ways in which they have helped me during this past year. There are of course many others whose part in College affairs one has genuinely valued, but one cannot in an annual letter mention them all by name. Some relatively small but significant changes in the responsibilities of the College Tutors have been instituted this year, including new arrangements both for giving end-of-term Exeats and for meetings to discuss the academic progress of students. All seem to have met with a ready response and I think they have proved beneficial on the whole. Mr. N. E. Collinge, to my regret but with my complete understanding, decided that he wished to devote more time to his academic work and so wanted to resign from the College Tutorship which he had held with distinction for 5 years. I am glad to say that Mr. Collinge has consented to remain Secretary of the College Meeting of S.C.R., his Minutes for which often proved the most interesting part of the meeting. He is also continuing as Treasurer of the College Clubs, a most important office as far as J.C.R. is concerned. To the two vacancies among our Tutors then, Mr. J. C. Dewdney, Lecturer in Geography, and Mr. M. Derhalli, Lecturer in Arabic, have been appointed. Mr. Craig on the other hand will not be among our tutors for two years as he has been seconded for that period to a post in the Lebanon.

One major change in College organisation has come about following on the resignation as Censor and Tutor in Science of Dr. Jocelyn, who has been appointed to a Lectureship in Edinburgh University. He has our very good wishes for his future welfare and grateful thanks for all he has done for the College during his two years of office here. After a Committee of Governing Body had considered the matter carefully and had made recommendations to Council, the latter agreed to redesignate Mr. R. Thomson as Senior Tutor and to re-appoint him in this enhanced capacity. A parallel recommenda-

tion to which Council have also agreed is that a post of Bursar for a don should be created instead of that of the former Tutor in Science, and Mr. W. S. Robertson has been appointed to the post. Both Mr. Thomson and Mr. Robertson are also part-time Lecturers -in Psychology and Theology respectively. One of the arguments for this re-organisation of function as between College Officers is that, in a sense, I as a Master who was formerly Head of a Science Department, could take on some of the functions formerly carried out by Dr. Jocelyn as Tutor in Science. On the other hand, I felt it would be beneficial to the College to have a resident don as Bursar to take more responsibility that it has been feasible for me to take as Master for the details of the material side of College management. Let no one disparage the importance of attention to meals, the domestic staff, furniture and decoration on the one hand or of ensuring that expenditure is carried out within a pre-arranged budget on the other-all of these matters coming within the responsibility of our new Bursar.

We shall greatly miss the Reverend J. A. Emerton who has been appointed to a Lectureship in Hebrew in Cambridge; we owe him much for his unfailing helpfulness with the College Chapel and wish him well with his new responsibilities. Many or our own graduates have been successful not only in gaining research degrees but in obtaining notable appointments afterwards. Notes on some of these are to be found elsewhere in this issue of Castellum. Likewise, in extracts from the Durham University Gazette will be found items of interest regarding events in the Durham Division; of some of these

I should like to say a little more.

Two well-known figures in Durham, both well-loved and good friends of University College, died during the year. The first was Emeritus Professor P. J. Heawood affectionately known as "Pussy." Tributes to him have been paid in journals more official than this, but I should like to recall especially for Castlemen the fact that Professor Heawood was the indefatigable Secretary of the Durham Castle Preservation Fund. I believe it was as much due to Professor Heawood as to any other single person that the necessary money was raised and the Castle prevented by the skill of engineers from falling into the river in the nineteen thirties. It has been said of Professor Heawood that "in a very real sense Durham Castle is

his enduring monument;" how much therefore all of us are in debt to him; let us honour his memory. Later in the year we heard with sadness of the death of Dean Alington whose practical interest in the Castle was so marked during the years he was Dean in Durham and often a member of our Governing Body.

In "another place" the Hall of Hatfield College has had a large extension built on the side which used to house the old kitchen before the new one was built a year or two ago. A new floor too has been laid throughout the enlarged Hall. Perhaps one effect of these changes will be that Hatfield will be used for S.R.C. Dances in future; I often think it is a mixed blessing to Castlemen that all our Balls in Durham are held in the Castle Hall. At least I believe we should like to think that other Colleges had their share too.

Lecture Room 5 is no longer available for dances or lectures or indeed anything other than its new purpose as a large reading room for the University Library. It must be said that the room has been quite transformed and looks very handsome as a Library Reading Room. The gain in space and improved facilities in the library are undoubtedly of great benefit to the Colleges as a whole. We are somewhat dismayed to realise that the next extension to the University Library is likely to take place in our Fives Courts which we shall lose. This would indeed be a blow, so long have we been accustomed to enjoy the use of the Courts on the other side of the Fellows' Garden. On the other hand it is understood that, when the day comes that the space must be utilised for an ever-extending University Library, new Fives Courts will be built elsewhere so that the game can continue to be played in the Division. The fact that the new Fives Courts are bound to be down on the Playing Fields and therefore shared by other Colleges, means that the Castle loses something. Nevertheless we have traditionally been unselfish with our Fives Courts and have shared them with other Colleges in the We must face the fact that further expansion of many activities in the Division is bound to be outside the comfortable confines of the peninsula.

St. Aidan's Society has been given two houses in North Bailey, Nos. 24 and 26, now being transformed into residential quarters for members of St. Aidan's Society, including Common Rooms and Dining Rooms for the Society as a whole as well as rooms for the

Principal, Miss Scott, and a limited number of bed-sitting rooms for St. Aidan's women. This further move towards making the Division even more fully residential is surely welcome to all of us who believe that this should be the real objective and the distinctive characteristic of Durham.

Although the gap in North Bailey on the site of the former No. 43 still exists, building on it has just started and when completed it will house the History Department, the top floor being a flat of the married-quarters type for some member of the staff of the Division. The Oriental Studies Department has left South End House and moved into Elvet Hill, a large house in its own grounds off Peacock Lane leading to Potters Bank.

Again, as in 1954, we had a "treble farewell" dinner in the Castle Hall, held this year on June 27th, when official valedictory speeches to Professor Wagstaff, Professor Hood, and Miss Fergusson were delivered. Professor Wagstaff retires from the Chair of Physics after more than thirty years, but he will continue to live in Durham and we hope we shall continue to see him in the Castle. Professor Hood has decided to retire from the Chair of Political Theory and Institutions before the normal retiring age, but he too is not leaving Durham so we shall surely continue to enjoy the pleasure of his company and the benefit of the sagacious advice we have had from him for so many years as a member of our College Meeting and our Senior Common Room. Fergusson, after fifteen years as Principal of St. Mary's College, feeling she ought to return to her own country, has been appointed Principal Warden of Women's Hostels in Edinburgh University and leaves with our very good wishes. In due course we shall be able to extend a welcome to her successor Dr. E. M. Williamson. Meanwhile we have been able to welcome an old friend in new guise as Principal of St. Cuthbert's Society—the Rev. W. A. Whitehouse.

One of the sad events of the year has been the resignation of our Chairman of Council, Dr. M. P. Applebey, whose health has unfortunately been declining. For many years Dr. Applebey has shown never-failing assiduity in promoting the best interests of the Division, and he has certainly been a very good friend of the Castle. I am glad to say that he will not only continue to live in Durham, but also to attend meetings of Council.

We wish him better health and long life among us in the Durham to which he has so freely given so much of himself for many years. Our new Chairman of Council is Dr. E. F. Collingwood and we look forward with every confidence to his interest in the Castle and its affairs. We are delighted to have him as a visiting member of our Senior Common Room. He has already been most influential in Council's decision to make a special grant to the Castle for the improvements to the Keep and Junction.

Our examination results have been most gratifying this year. We had no great number of "Firsts" but again a very high number of "II(i)s" and extremely few failures! Quite evidently we can no longer presume on a few extra places each year because of examination failures. As for the sporting record, it has on the whole been a very good year indeed as will be seen from the reports on the various clubs elsewhere in this issue. I am glad to report that a special grant from Council has enabled us to carry out a complete repair to the roof of our boathouse, which has been sadly in need of attention for some time. The revived custom of having sporting trophies set out in the Gallery at the end of the Hall during dinner has resulted in a most impressive display. Many a visitor to High Table has been almost incredulous that they could all have been won by Castle.

There is not much wrong with the College which can win so many trophies, gain so many First and Second Class Honours Degrees, provide the President of the Union, the President of S.R.C. and generally have its members playing such prominent parts in almost every kind of Divisional activity — scholarly, artistic, scientific, musical, dramatic—practically all the facets of the crowded life of the Durham Colleges in fact. There is apathy in comparatively few avenues and I believe even these are changing too. We have some physical causes for difficulties; our Chaplain mentioned some of them at the Reunion Dinner in April, and clearly met with understanding among his audience. But the spirit of yet another Castle Reunion was in itself an earnest that we have an underlying strength of purpose and a loyalty to the Castle sufficient to solve our problems. We can all play our parts, in College and after College, in ensuring that this shall always be so.

KINGS OF THE CASTLE

THIS year's Reunion Dinner was much enlivened by the reminiscences of the Rev. R. French, who proposed the toast "The Master and University College." Mr. French, who resided at Castle from 1906-10, gave an outline of the University College in his own time, and of the Masters who ruled then and in later times.

In 1906, he said, a remarkable triumvirate presided over the College and its destinies. First there was The Master, Dr. Henry Gee (afterwards Dean of Gloucester) irreverently known as "The Gazeeka." He was very tall and possessed of an abnormally long neck. Of him was written a dogerell ballad:

If I were the Gazeeka, I would, I would, I'd sit on the Castle wall so hard
And show myself at a penny a yard,
I would, I would, if I were The Gazeeka.

The Bursar was W. K. Hilton (his portrait hangs in "Hall" on the right hand side of the fireplace), quite a martinet but the kindliest of men. He was commonly known as "Agag" because, like an Amalekite king of old, he "walked delicately."

Then there was "Bobbie" Lowe (later to receive a Doctorate and in the First World War to command a Battalion in the D.L.I.). "Bobbie" was a Leander Colours man and taught generations of Castlemen how to row and helped them to win the "Senate" for ten years in succession.

In those days the Castle was only about fifty strong, and almost entirely composed of "theologs," but in 1910 it had won, and held, excepting the rugger cup, almost every trophy there was to be won.

Dr. Gee was succeeded as Master by Dr. Ellershaw, who bore rule during the difficult years of the First World War and shortly afterwards when the College went through a rather lean patch.

Then came Dr. Howe, a brilliant scholar and first Latinist of his year at Oxford. He was the kindliest of men, a superlatively good host and one to whom the Colleges and the Castle owed a great deal.

Mr. French brought his story to the present day with references to Lieut.-Col. A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve's wise guidance of the

College through difficult years of University expansion, and the still new reign of Mr. Slater, already, he said, a proved friend of the Old Castlemen's Society.

REUNION, 1955

THIS year's reunion attendance of 89 members was believed to be a record, and, as indicated above, the toast was proposed most ably and interestingly at the dinner by the Rev. R. French. The reply was by the College Chaplain, the Rev. J. C. Wallis, who is a member of the Society and Committee. He said that as an ex-Hatfield man he regarded it as a great honour to be asked to make the reply. He mentioned some of the College's present difficulties, including the especial difficulty of its being under so many different roofs, and the difficulty of Senior Common Room members getting to know very many of the College's greatly increased membership.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Fifty new members a year are needed from Castlemen going down if the Society is to be financially sound, the Annual General Meeting was told by the Treasurer. The number of Student members is satisfactory, but not a very good proportion of them are continuing their membership of the Society after they have gone down. Everyone going down between 1950 and 1954 had received a circular about the Society, said the Treasurer. There were now 71 life members, 116 members paying by Banker's Order, and 21 members paying by annual subscription. The Committee had decided that everyone who had not paid a subscription in the last three years should receive a note telling them the Society could no longer continue to send them Castellum, the note to be sent with the 1955 issue.

The Treasurer said it had not been possible to invest £100 in aid of the Society's funds in a building society (as the last general meeting had decided) because the membership position had made it impossible to afford this,

The Treasurer also pointed out that the 1954 Castellum had cost £10 more than previously, mainly because of extra photographs.

During discussion from the floor, it was suggested the magazine might be cyclostyled or produced in other duplicated form. Members generally preferred the present magazine style and a motion that "the Editor be allowed to exercise his discretion and that the extra expense was justified," was carried.

It was unanimously decided to grant £25 to the Committee of Captains.

In discussion of the Treasurer's Report, Mr. T. L. Goodfellow asked for double entry book-keeping in the Society's accounts. He said the Society was losing about £40 a year, and it was undesirable the Society should wait until it was insolvent before doing anything about it. Members had decided they did not want to reduce expenditure, therefore the subscription must be raised to 15s.

It was pointed out that higher subscriptions would mean new Banker's Order forms. No motion was made to alter the subscription.

The Chaplain suggested he might be allowed to ask Freshmen to join the Society, but several members thought they might be inclined to join against their will, and this would be bad for the society.

A motion was approved accepting the accounts as presented, noting that the Society was losing £40 a year.

It was agreed that the Secretary-Treasurer be empowered to propose a small charge for members attending the Re-union, should the Society's finances warrant it.

Elections

Mr. J. Spedding was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

The Rev. T. H. Corden was re-elected as Representative on the College's Governing Body.

Mr. John Robson and Mr. John Hollier were elected to the committee to replace retiring members Mr. G. T. Halstead and the Rev. F. S. Chase.

It was decided to carry on with the custom of alternate Friday and Saturday dates for the Re-union Dinner. The next Re-union was to be arranged for Friday, April 26th, 1956.

At a Committee meeting after the Annual Dinner the Rev. J. C. Wallis and the Rev. G. R. Berriman were co-opted as members of the Committee for the ensuing year.

THE NORMAN CHAPEL

THE Norman Chapel is one of the earliest and most complete pieces of early Norman work in the country; it can be dated with a fair degree of certainty to within a few years of 1072. Architecturally it is one of the most striking monuments in the North of England.

Castlemen of the pre-1950 generation will recall the dismal and dilapidated appearance of the Norman Chapel when it was used not only as a passage-way to the Keep and a means of access to the J.C.R., but, on occasions, as a cloak room, cycle shed and general store room.

The accompanying photographs will serve to remind older Castlemen of the sad state of the Norman Chapel in their day and to give them some idea of the dignity and the beauty of the restored building.

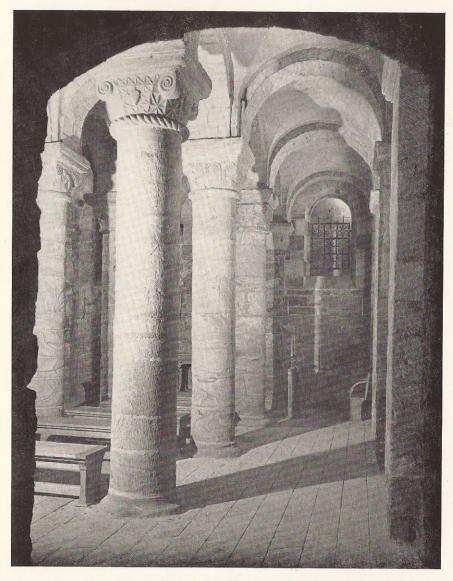
Although the restoration of the Norman Chapel was completed in 1953 and although various references to the progress of the restoration have been made from time to time in the Master's letters, no description has yet been given in *Castellum* of the full extent of the work carried out.

The purpose of the restoration was to prevent further decay and unnecessary wear and tear of the chapel and generally to make good past neglect; to provide a new access to the Keep and to the J.C.R. so as to render it unnecessary for the Chapel to be used any longer as a thoroughfare.

The work of restoration, which cost about £10,000, was made possible by a bequest to the Durham Colleges under the will of the late Mr. John Wilson Lowthian, which the Council of the Durham Colleges earmarked for the Restoration Fund; by a generous gift from the Pilgrim Trust, and by various donations.

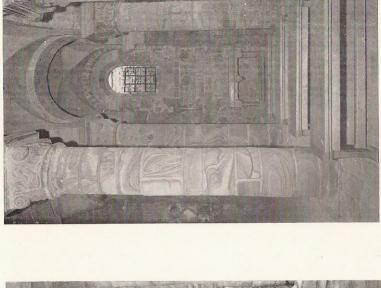
Messrs. Seely and Paget, 41, Cloth Fair, London, E.C.1, were

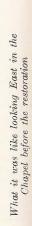
THE OLD WAY TO THE KEEP



This is the South aisle of the restored Chapel. At the far end is where the steps to the keep used to begin

Photographs by kind permission of the Durham County Advertiser





The same scene after the restoration

the architects; the contractors were Messrs. George Gradon and Son, North Road, Durham. All plans for the work were first submitted to the Royal Fine Art Commission and the Society for the Protec-

tion of Ancient Buildings, for their approval.

One of the main problems which presented itself was the appalling dampness of the whole building. This was largely responsible for the disintegration of the sandstone walls and columns and the Basaltic stones of the floor. The floor is 15-16 feet below the level of the ground outside, the North Terrace, and consequently the floor and the north wall were very damp indeed.

Some means had to be found of treating the decayed stonework and of preserving and repairing the ancient floor, thought to be

of the same date as the building itself.

The stonework throughout has been cleaned and treated, and the unusually rich natural colouring of the local sandstone columns

can now be fully appreciated.

The decoration of the capitals of these pillars forms one of the best examples in the country of early Norman ornamentation and represents the type of decoration often called the Norman-Saxon overlap. A thick covering of lime-whiting on these carved capitals has probably been responsible for their exceptionally fine state of preservation, now revealed by the removal of this lime-whiting.

The pavement of stone blocks of rhomboid form whose jointing gives the appearance of herring-bone work has been taken up, reversed and relaid at a level which reveals the bases of the pillars. The north aisle and some of the south aisle have been paved with

new stones.

Hot water pipes running under the floor now provide heat adequate to damp-proof the floor and warm it, to keep the columns dry, and to guard the soft sandstone from further atmospheric assaults, as well as to warm those who worship.

The two steps at the east end, thought to have been inserted at some date after the building of the Chapel, have been removed and

a small dais made to take an altar of the Laudian type.

The next problem was to find an alternative route from the Courtyard to the Keep and to the J.R.C. This was solved by excavating a passage under the Tunstall Chapel to connect with

the Keep stairs and to provide an entrance to the J.C.R. on the right of the fireplace.

When the Castle was handed over by the Bishop to the University the regrettable mistake was made of constructing a passage and staircase through the east end of the south aisle to the new Keep, which had been rebuilt to house undergraduates. This entrance to the Keep stairs has now been built up, as has the former entrance to the J.C.R. in the middle of the south wall so that the Chapel is now no longer a mere passage-way.

In the east wall were the remains of two of the three original windows. These at the time of building were open to an eastward light, but they were obstructed with the raising of the Mound and the enlargement of the Keep and its abutments, and the natural light was lost. The third opening in the eastern end of the south ailse has been restored in the built-up wall; the back of these apertures has been tidied up and they have been fitted with iron grilles and concealed lighting. Additional light is provided most satisfactorily and unostentatiously by electric lights set in small embrasures in the walls. The lighting of the Chapel serves to illuminate most successfully what is perhaps the most remarkable feature of the Chapel, the richly ornamented capitals.

During the restoration work a doorway was uncovered in the north wall of the Chapel. Why there should have been an entrance to the Chapel on the most vulnerable side of the Castle, the side facing Scotland, remains a mystery, but the fact that in the aperture behind the doorway lay a heap of limestone chippings, at the bottom of which was found one of the complete cylindrical stones used in the construction of the pillars, suggests that this north wall may have been part of fortifications constructed before the Norman Chapel was built.

The strong dignified oak furniture, consisting of an altar, five benches and two prayer desks, was the gift of the Warden of the Durham Colleges in commemoration of the R.A.F. Cadets who fell in the late war. It was made by Robert Thompson, of Kilburn, Yorkshire. Simple pewter candlesticks are set on niches along the east wall and on the prie-dieux. A plaque on the south wall is inscribed:

IN HONOUR OF THE CADETS OF DURHAM UNIVERSITY AIR SQUADRON WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR THIS CHAPEL WAS FURNISHED

A.D. MCMLII

The Norman Chapel has for some 400 years been alienated from its original purpose. Apart from the many other uses to which it has been put in the past it has been, and of course will continue to be, what generations of undergraduates will remember the Castle guides monotonously proclaiming it to be: "the oldest part of the Castle." Castlemen will be thankful to know that today the Norman Chapel is no longer a mere thoroughfare, nor just a show-place, but that it is being used once more for the purpose for which it was originally built and the purpose for which it was recently restored: the worship of God. The limited seating and indeed the size of the Chapel itself preclude its use by large congregations, but it is at present being used for celebrations of Holy Communion on Saints' Days for members of both Hatfield and University College.

An inscribed stone at the entrance to the Chapel reads:

THIS CHAPEL

was Restored for the Service of God
through the generosity of
John Wilson Lowthian
and of the Pilgrim Trust

A.D. MCMLII

"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts."

J.C.W.

THE UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM GAZETTE

24th June, 1954

Faculty of Education

From January, 1955, courses for the degree of Master of Education will run from January to December, instead of from October to June, as at present. **Ritson Bequest**

Council have allocated part of the Ritson Bequest, received from the estate of Mr. F. W. Ritson, former Treasurer of both the Durham Colleges and the University of Durham, as an endowment for the purchase of books on military history. The development of this section of the Library has also been assisted by the gift of over one hundred volumes from Lieut.-Col. A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve.

9th December, 1954

Professors and Readers

Senate have conferred the title of Emeritus Professor upon Professor C. C. Abbott. Professor Abbott retired from the Chair of English in the Durham Colleges in September, 1954.

Buildings

Work is expected to begin shortly on the erection of an underground seismograph room at the Observatory. It is included in the Minor Works Programme for the current year.

Other Divisional News

The new edition of the *Illustrated Brochure of the Durham Colleges* has been published. It is to be sold at a price of 2/6. Copies may be obtained from the Secretary to the Durham Colleges, 38, North Bailey, Durham.

List of Graduates

A new edition of the list of graduates of the University, with historical lists of officers and professors has recently been published by the University Office. It contains a complete list of graduates up to May, 1954. Copies may be consulted in the libraries of either Division, or in any of the University or Divisional Offices.

11th March, 1955

Chairmanship of Council

At their meeting on 1st February, 1955, Council received with deep regret the resignation of Dr. M. P. Applebey from the Chairmanship of Council, for reasons of health.

Dr. E. F. Collingwood was elected Chairman of Council for three years from 1st February, 1955.

10th May, 1955

The W. E. Foster Prize in Plant Physiology

Council have accepted with gratitude an offer from Mrs. B. H. Foster to found a Botany Prize in memory of her husband, the late Dr. W. E. Foster. The prize will be known as "The W. E. Foster Prize in Plant Physiology," and it will be awarded annually to a Durham student whose work in plant physiology or biochemistry has been of high quality.

CHAPLAIN'S NOTES

ORDINATIONS

William Armstrong (1950), ordained Priest by the Lord Bishop of Durham in his Cathedral Church on Trinity Sunday, 1955. He is serving in the parish of St. Cuthbert, Hebburn.

Ronald Corker (1950), ordained Priest by the Lord Bishop of Durham in his Cathedral Church on Trinity Sunday, 1955. He is serving as assistant to the Reverend Gordon Berriman in the parish of Whitworth cum Spennymoor.

Bernard Mather (1947), made Deacon by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle in his Cathedral Church on Trinity Sunday, 1955; to serve in the parish of St. Luke, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

J.C.W.

T. B. POLLARD

[It was possible in our last issue to include only a brief paragraph giving the news of the death of T. B. Pollard (1904-07), well known as an athletic during his residence in Castle. Captain R. R. Oakley (1904-07) very kindly sent an obituary notice, which we print below, knowing that it will be of great interest.]

THOMAS Barnes Pollard made such a mark on the life of the College during the years of his residence and an indelible impression on my mind that I cannot let his death pass unnoticed.

The came up to the Castle from Durham School in the October term of 1904. He had been a King's Scholar at the school and an outstanding member of the XV when the school had one of the best public school Rugger sides in England. He was also in the Cricket XI. He gained a scholarship to the University and read Classics.

It was not long before he won his "Palatinate" for Rugby, playing full-back for the Varsity at a time when there were two internationals and several County "caps" in the side. Many will remember those long torpedo kicks of his into touch and his sure handling of the ball. On occasions he played for Durham City, no mean club in those days.

He was Captain of the Varsity tennis six and at fives he had no peer. I can well remember his father—a fine old country gentleman—saying to me as we watched his son play, "I would rather see Tom get his 'Palatinate' than take a First in Classics," and that is exactly what happened; although quite a sound classical scholar he had to be contented with 3rd Class Honours. He graduated in 1907 and took his M.A. in 1912.

It was his personal influence in the Castle, however, that will be best remembered by his contemporaries. Shy and reserved, he yet set an example to all of us of "character" in its best sense. He put his whole being into everything he did, work or play, and was a splendid leader. Some will remember his words to the Junior Common Room when he became Senior Man, lashing yet encouraging, urging the men to put their backs into sport and bring back the "pots" to the Castle Hall. He had his wilder moments, as some of us can remember, but these were in the earlier days, a safety valve to his reserve.

After going down from the Castle he taught at Skipton and Waniston schools and in 1913 became Principal of the Preparatory Department of Carlisle Grammar School. In 1915 he joined the Public Schools Training Battalions and was gazetted to the 4th Durham Light Infantry, and finally joined the Army Gymnasium Staff. In 1918 he was promoted Captain and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery on the field, being severely wounded in the leg and losing the sight of one eye.

After the war he returned to Carlisle Grammar School and for

twenty-four years was the School's games master and P.T. instructor. During these years he was the "Mr. Chips" of Carlisle School. On the occasion of his death it was said of him in the Carlisle Press:

"Reserved and rather shy, he had nevertheless a deep hold on all his pupils and this was due not only to his experience and prowess, but also to his kindness and unremitting concern for their interests and welfare. It was typical of him that he was one of the first to espouse the system of high and low standards in athletics, which does so much to encourage the less physically gifted. To him the school owes the introduction of baseball and interform competitions which have helped him to make P.T. for many a pupil the most popular feature in the curriculum.

It was with a great sense of loss that the school said goodbye to him in 1945, but those who went to see him at Linstock were always sure of a cordial welcome from the stalwart figure whom they usually found in his garden, as straight and fit and bronzed as ever.

He will be seen there no more, but he will long remain in the memory of all at the Grammar School as a fine example of the old fashioned type of schoolmaster—strong, simple and straightforward, upholding tradition and mellowing with the years."

It is forty-six years since I saw him, but his memory and example live with me still. R.I.P.

RICHARD R. OAKLEY.

THE LOWE LIBRARY

THE Lowe Memorial Library flourishes to an embarrassing extent; there is little available space for more shelves in the present room and it is now a distinct possibility that we shall have to move some sections of the library to a room on Hall Stairs. This is due to an increased grant and to the fact that in the last two and a half years we have received over 500 books from various donors, who include Lieut.-Col. A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve, Dr. M. P. Applebey, the Reverend J. Jenkins-Jones and the University

Library, and by bequests from the libraries of the late Canon E. Pace, the late Reverend A. E. Sidebotham of St. Helen's, I.O.W., and the late Professor W. Todd, through his son-in-law the now late Dr. W. E. Forster.

The present policy is to build up the science side of the library equal to the arts side, without of course neglecting the latter.

The Lumley Library is now under the direct control of the College Librarian, and we are concentrating on making this a good reference library rather than a source of text books.

We are still pleased to receive gifts of useful and interesting books as we are keen to build sound libraries in Durham and at Lumley.

J.V.W.

SERVICE LIFE IN MALAYA

from J. L. STODDART

Serving with 93 Field Battery, R.A.

THE present emergency in Malaya, which was first declared in mid-1948, is drawing gradually to an end. I say gradually with good reason, for the only possible tactics which can be practically applied in this country are, by their very nature, slow in producing results.

Four-fifths of the Malay peninsula is covered by dense jungle or tidal swamp which provides a vast "haystack" in which to hide an estimated population of four thousand Communist terrorists.

Over ninety per cent of the terrorists (or bandits as they are more frequently called), are Chinese immigrants who have failed to earn a legitimate living in a country where jobs are scarce and wages low. In consequence they are easy converts to the cause of the Malayan People's Liberation Army, which is the title adopted by the now exiled Malayan Communist Party.

The party line is still dictated by Peking and it is there also that all major decisions on policy are reached, a case in point being the recent amnesty declared in the Federation. At the outset the Malayan people were warned that no eflux of terrorists from the jungle could be expected immediately upon the declaration of an amnesty. Time would have to be allowed for a decision to be

reached at "High Command" and also for this decision to be disseminated amongst the active members of the organisation.

Turning to the organisation of the terrorist movement in Malaya itself, one can conveniently divide it into two parts.

Firstly the Liberation Army proper, which is organised on a platoon basis, each sub-unit consisting of approximately fifty men. These units operate in deep jungle alternating their periods of aggression with time employed in the cultivation of food. Food restriction is one of the principal methods employed by the Security Forces in the fight against the terrorist and the normal system is to institute a rationing scheme, whereby each person may draw food for his family requirements on a daily basis. In addition, all tinned goods are pierced and people leaving towns and villages in a restricted area are required to submit to police searches.

This topic touches on the fringe of the activities of the second part of the movement which is known as Min Yuen, "The people's organisation." This term is used to cover the activities of Communist sympathisers in passing on food, drugs, ammunition and vital information about the movements of troops. Here we have another weak spot in the terrorist system, for it requires intermediaries or couriers to remain in fringe jungle and make occasional sorties into the open where they are frequently picked up by the Security Forces.

The British Infantry together with Malayan volunteer and Commonwealth forces patrol the deep jungle, following up reports of movements observed from the air or deduced from patterns of recent activity. At dawn the terrorist deserts his camp, returning to it late in the evening, providing he has seen nothing in the vicinity to arouse his suspicions. Camps which are found by patrolling Infantry are destroyed by Artillery which is directed on to the target by air observation. In this particular task the writer has now been engaged for the past eleven months. An alternative role played by the gunners, in which they are supported by squadrons of the Commonwealth Air Force, is of a harassing nature. Essentially this can be summed up as "round-the-clock" bombardment of selected areas with the object of keeping the terrorist on the move, thus denying him sleep and possibly

driving him into ambushes laid around the perimeter of the target area. It might be added that the gentlemen at the giving end are also denied a lot of sleep!

The system employed of ridding Malaya of the Communist menace could be said to be analagous to land reclamation in the Zuider Zee. Instead of fencing off a portion of submerged land and draining it of water, we cordon off an area of swamp or jungle and pursue operations until such times as it is completely cleared of terrorist activity and can be declared a "white" or safe area.

This policy has already rid large areas of Malaya of the Communist menace and there is little doubt that it will do likewise for the whole country if persevered with. It requires a great deal of patience on the part of the Malay who often undergoes much inconvenience and restriction. However, this patience and willingness to co-operate has been amply demonstrated in the past and no doubt will continue to be evident in the future. Let us hope it meets with the reward it so richly deserves, namely a freedom from Communist oppression and an opportunity to attain full self-government with the Commonwealth.

FORM A/2 HAS A WAKAMBA

Many old Castlemen will remember Josiah Wambua from Kenya, who was at Castle for four years from 1948. He was of an exceptionally cheerful disposition, and made many friends in Castle. His subsequent history has been remarkable, as the article by David Walker below reveals. Reprinted by kind permission of the News Chronicle, in whose columns it appeared on 9th February, it tells a story which will be of great interest to those who knew him and others. Wambua owes his successes in a country far from his home to his own personality and ability, but his friends who read it may be able to feel their friendship at Durham helped.

ON July 20 of last year there was a crash, hitherto unrecorded between a motor-cycle and a large van at Romford, Essex.

The incident gave rise to a sequence of events, trivial enough in

themselves, but almost certainly unique and well worth noting.

As soon as the news became known the 42 young girls in geography Form A/2 of Heath Park Secondary School, Romford, spontaneously opened a fund from their private purses to ensure that the rider of the motor-cycle received fruit and flowers daily at the hospital to which he had been taken.

They further instituted a rota system of their own devising under which the patient received at least one letter or postcard every morning from some member of the class.

Not only the girls, but their parents and other citizens of Romford, queued to visit the injured man, defying and violating a hospital rule limiting visitors to two a day.

The injured man was not a crooner, nor in any way connected with film or stage. He was Josiah M. Wambua, a member of the Wakamba tribe in Kenya, who, so far as he knows, is the only East African teacher to ply his profession in an English school. Now back at work as geography master, he points out, good humouredly, that he is nothing more than a White Settler in reverse. I wish that some of the White Settlers could see him.

As a Wakamba teaching English girls in England he is a living symbol of everything that extremists must detest, from Westminster, through Kenya, to the Cape.

"I was born in Kangundo village, Mackakos District," he explained. "I went first to Government School there, then to Alliance School, Kikuyu, near Nairobi. In 1948 I came to Britain on a Kenya Government scholarship and took my degree at Durham University. After that I wanted to take a diploma in education at Oxford, but the Kenya Government said 'No.'"

"So what happened?"

"I took the diploma. By this time I'd forfeited my free passage back to Kenya, but paid my way at Oxford by canning peas in the summer vac. After three months' training at Southfields Grammar School, Oxford, I saw an advertisement in *The Times Educational Supplement* and answered it. When I saw that everyone else applying for the post was white I shook from head to foot. I thought I'd had it."

To everybody's credit the Black Settler was appointed. "They made me feel at home here from the start," said Mr. Wambua.

Neither at Oxford nor at Romford has he ever experienced "colour trouble." In October of last year his wife came out from Kenya to join him and now works at a Romford hospital learning English ways and trying to master an alien climate colder and keener than he or she has ever known.

Mr. Wambua plays down his own astonishing story: that of the first Wakamba, the first East African native to teach the white young in their own land.

Earlier in the day Miss Samuel, headmistress of this school with

600 girls, had taken me to see him take his class.

"Now then," he was telling them, "we want to learn all about the West Indies so that we can understand and follow Princess Margaret's tour. What is the capital of Jamaica?" Half a dozen hands shot up.

A large coloured map of the West Indies, drawn by Mr. Wambua, hung on the wall over the blackboard, and small traced maps were on each girl's desk. The maps took in neighbouring areas, such as Cuba. "What is a republic?" asked Mr. Wambua.

"Sir! Oh, sir! Please, sir!"

Coloured chalks were issued. "You'll see," said Mr. Wambua, "that some of the islands are marked (Br.) and some are marked (Fr.). I want you to colour the British ones red and the French ones blue. Republics," he added, "should be brown." At the bidding of a Wakamba, 42 young English girls bent over the maps and started marking out Britain's remaining possessions in the West Indies.

Mr. Wambua's prospects remain in the future indefinite. One day, perhaps, he may return to his native Kenya and carry on his teaching there. He is one of those to whom teaching is not a job but a vocation. But don't run away with the idea that this cheerful young symbol of everything that is meant by tolerance and understanding between races is some kind of long-haired visionary detached from reality. At 31, Mr. Wambua is a realist still.

"Every Tuesday night," he said, "I go to a night class." There was a moment of diffidence as he fingered one of his scars from last year's crash into a van.

"I am learning," he said, "motor mechanics."

STILL TRAVELLING

The Rev. L. R. Wilson (1927-28) sent his subscription this year from Kuching, Sarawak, where he is now Vicar of the Cathedral Church. He was previously in Malaya.

The Very Rev. W. R. Beck (1906-09) sent his apologies for not being able to attend the Reunion, as he was having a spell of treatment in hospital.

Mr. G. G. Jarmain (1906-09) was unable to come because of ill-health.

ONLY SHELL HAS LEVICK

Brian Levick, Senior Man in 1951, has gone to Brazil with Shell Brazil Ltd., in Rio de Janeiro.

Peter Dimond (1947) is now a House Master at Crewkerne School, Somerset.

Daniel O'Connor (1951) now serving in 30 H.A.A. Regt. R.A., B.A.O.R., with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. He has been accepted as a candidate for ordination and hopes to start his training at Cuddesdon Theological College in October, 1956.

The reason for the Editor's hastily appended note to his address inside the cover, made at the time of going to press, is that he is leaving the *Manchester Evening News* for a post with Imperial Chemical Industries at Billingham, in Durham. Accommodation being the problem it is, he expects for a time to be "of no fixed address."

THE NEW DYNASTS

Castle Treaties with St. Aidan's Society furthered by new important alliance

With the greatest appropriateness a "Floreat Castellum" was one of the features of the wedding of Keith Nodding (1949-53), former secretary of the J.C.R., to Jean Periam, former Senior Woman of St. Aidan's Society. The wedding was at Hale Barns, near Altrincham, Cheshire, and Castle representation was strong.

Best man was Brian Scrivener, Senior Man in 1952-53, who read out the congratulatory telegrams in a manner which will long be remembered by all who were there; and also there were Harold Evans (1949-52), Derek Holbrook (1948-51) and Geoffrey Clare (1949-52). To complete the Durham "picture" established by the day's chief protagonists, three of these Castlemen were present with wives who were also former members of St. Aidan's Society. and the fourth with a wife from Neville's Cross College.

J.C.R. REPORT

A LL the delights of the year 1954-55 were put in shadow by a tragedy that occurred at the end of the Summer Term when a member of the College died as the result of a motor-cycle accident; that member, Ned Forman, had good humour that endeared him to everyone who knew him. The College lost a member of sterling qualities, and one of its most enthusiastic workers.

The outstanding achievement of the year was Mr. Neville Willder's successful joint handling of two most taxing duties—as Senior Man of Castle, on the one hand, and President of the Durham Colleges Union Society, on the other. It was inevitable that, with such a leader, the College's many functions should be unqualified successes.

There was the usual succession of entertainments, which make University life seem so much like a huge social event to the un-

knowing Freshmen; Fresher's Coffee, Castle Informal Dance, Freshers' Debate, and the Christmas Dinner, which, though it kept to type and contained not one iota of the magic associated with Christmas, was a good meal made even more palatable by the presence in Hall of two past Castlemen, Stuart Rhodes and Michael Fossett. Mr. Fossett performed the unique feat of proposing a toast at the Dinner and actually making himself heard.

Despite objections to the idea of Rag Week from some quarters and much discussion on the Rag in most junior common rooms, a Rag was held. The one function which did come to a timely end was Mischief Night which, in the past few years, had been deteriorating rapidly.

The year's J.C.R. meetings were marked by an extreme slickness, some of them lasting no longer than fifteen minutes, and one felt grateful to the Chairman for his efficient handling of sometimes talkative Castlemen. Nothing, however, could stop the J.C.R. where discussion on the cost of Castle uniform was involved. After a great deal of discussion and investigation, it was established that Gray's was the only firm that could be dealt with conveniently. The Saturday evening formal meal came to a rather bitter end, and was replaced by a high tea; this change was designed to leave the evening free for work!

Outstanding event in the last term was the scaling of the Castle Hall outer wall by the Senior Man and Secretary, both clad in night attire, at 5 a.m.. with the object of saving the Castle from flooding. It is a strange story, far too strange to print, though I will gladly recount it to any Old Castleman personally. There was, of course, the usual Castle Day, a great success as always. The idea of having an opening ceremony and a definite moment in time when Castle Day began (with a bang and a flash of photographers' flash powder) was a masterly one.

It would be amiss not to mention again here the name of Neville Willder. He found the pulse of the J.C.R. and, in a year of really hard and selfless work, made it beat regularly and smoothly. We are all deeply grateful to him.

RONALD BURROW.

LUMLEY REPORT

THE year at Lumley was outstanding in many respects. For the first time for some years the third year group at Lumley was made up almost entirely of gentlemen who, having spent the second year there, had elected to return. Drawn, perhaps, by memories of Lumley's air of gay abandon, they were not disappointed in

their hopes of a memorable final year.

Under the guidance of Bob Winn, the Senior Man's Rep., Lumley affairs prospered in many ways. First mention must be given to the conspicuous success of the Lumley dances. The Epiphany Term dance was held for the first time in the Garter Room. The surroundings added a certain dignity to the proceedings which had been notably absent from the Michaelmas Term dance! Lumley Day was again marked by fine weather and will be remembered by all for the delightful entertainment staged by a group of first year men, inspired by Messrs. Moss and Hipkins.

Once again Lumley carried off the firkin of beer awarded on Rag Day to the college with the highest collection per head. A vigorous committee ably led by Terry Lupton, was responsible for

this success.

In all our ventures we were grateful for the friendly guidance and help of Dr. and Mrs. Prowse (and cats) who were tireless in their enthusiasm—and tolerance.

P.R.G.

BOAT CLUB

This year the fortunes of the club have followed a pattern very similar to that of last; once again we started badly, yet finished

most successfully.

Three graduate oarsmen have been available, two gaining places in the Senate boat, and this has helped to keep up the numbers of the club and counteract the lack of freshmen oarsmen last year. Again this year a number of the novices were second year men. It is a great pity that freshmen cannot decide to start rowing immediately; such a late start precludes full development of an oarsman since only two years are available.

The Senate crew developed rather differently as a result of the

visit to Henley of our coach, Mr. W. Burdus, where he was impressed by the continental-cum-R.A.F. style. Whatever one's opinions on the merits of the shorter stroke, undoubtedly the change put new life into the crew and it probably became the fastest, though perhaps not the prettiest, Castle Senate boat seen for some years.

However, bad luck dogged us constantly in the Michaelmas term. In the preliminary round of the Senate race, King's, despite two Palatinates as their stern pair, were handsomely beaten, much to the surprise of many bankside pundits. The river flooded for finals day and it had to be postponed. Our crew at the peak of form had lost its "edge" by the next week, and in a disastrous race rowed on "hard arch" side with the course unbuoyed, deadheated with Cuthbert's. The re-row was lost after an obstruction caused by a novice crew.

Our novices fared little better. The best crew lost a man with influenza the day before the races, yet despite that they reached the semi-final and lost by only a length to the eventual winners.

In the Epiphany term races, the Graduates' crews, for we had two this year, both rowed quite well, yet the better crew, the same that won the Mayor's Plate at Durham Regatta the previous summer, failed to rise to the occasion and lost to the winners by half a length. The Lowe pair and the Pickard crews were equally unsuccessful.

York Spring Regatta remained our only hope and here indeed the Boat Club upheld its name. An eight, with Dr. H. Brown, one of our coaches, at six, was entered as Durham Castle B.C. and after beating Agecroft R.C. gave the University crew a tremendous race, losing by a quarter length after leading by a few feet at half way. Comment overheard on the river bank after the race: "If they hadn't overtrained, Castle would have won." It was the crew's third outing!

In the summer term three fours were active, one of junior and the others of maiden status, while B. K. Welch rowed in a successful University four coached by Bill Burdus. A. C. Buckley and Hugh Brown continued the Durham Castle B.C. tradition as a pair. The College fours raced well at Tyne and York regattas, but brought back no trophies.

During the first day at Durham Regatta the better maiden crew, a veritable blood and guts four, won the Mayor's Plate. A coach's nightmare, somehow they contrived to move their boat remarkably fast. On the second day the junior crew vindicated themselves and won the Lady Anne Lambton Plate. That evening eleven Castlemen collected "pots," an event without precedent in the College's rowing performances at Durham Regatta.

The following morning the second crew rowed off the effects of the previous evening's Boat Club dinner in excellent fashion to bring home the Clinker Division trophy in the College's Head of

the River.

Next year there should be no shortage of experienced oarsmen. Only one Boat Club member is going down. Our good friends and hard working coaches, "Bill" and "Hugh," will still be with us; all thanks to them for the hours put in this year; may they lead to success in the coming season. Castle for Senate, 1956?

B. K. Welch, Captain.

ATHLETICS CLUB

1955 proved the best year in Castle athletics since the war. The team-building efforts of the 1954 captain, John Stoddart, began to prove their worth, because these stalwarts plus a good selection of freshmen gave Castle an evenly balanced team.

We did not win the trophy, but were only four points behind

Bede in the final placings, scoring 52 points to their 56.

Once again we dominated the track events. Forster won both mile and 3 miles in new record times. The freshmen Hughes and Gourlay took the 880 and 440 respectively, but our sprinting, weakened by the departure of George Ward was disappointing.

In the field we gained successes in the long jump (Harrison) and high jump (Penny), while it was encouraging to see the improvement in our Javelin and Discus throwers. The team events, however, were the key to Castle's success, winning two relays and the ug of war.

The June Week relays proved an overwhelming victory for the college, Bede being vanquished easily. We scored successes in two

relays and the 2 mile team race, won by Forster in a new record time of 9 mins. 42 secs.

This summer the team spirit and general enthusiasm has worked wonders, and the keenness augurs well for the next Durham Colleges sports meeting.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

This year saw a soccer team which initially had many weaknesses, but which finally developed into a strong and well balanced team: strong enough indeed to win the Soccer Trophy which has been in the hands of Bede College for so long. After a lucky 3-2 win against Hatfield in the first game, the team reorganised itself and went on to defeat Chad's 11-0. Bede held us to 3-3 draw in very muddy conditions but John's fell easily, 14-0. Having dropped one point already Castle had to defeat an unbeaten Cuthbert's side to win the Trophy. This match was by far the best of the season, both in spirit and in skill. Castle soon had the edge and went on to win 3-0, to complete a highly successful season.

Throughout the season the half-back line played consistently well and constructively. The full-backs tackled quite soundly throughout but their kicking was sometimes lacking under heavy conditions. The forward line was swift and often effective in attack but frequently errratic. During the season the side scored 36 goals, of which C. D. Smith scored 16, against 6 goals.

C. D. Smith played quite regularly for the Varsity eleven and Castle provided five regular players for Durham Colleges' first eleven.

RUGBY CLUB

With a large number of last year's successful side still in residence, and the arrival of several useful freshers it seemed that the club would easily retain the rugby trophy this season. What was already accomplished in theory, however, proved very difficult in practice and we actually finished below both Bede and Hatfield.

John's, Chad's and Cuthbert's were comparatively easy victims but a hard struggle against Hatfield resulted in yet another draw.

Two considerably weakened teams faced each other in the Bede match and by losing this we also lost the trophy, for Hatfield

defeated Bede the following day.

Despite its moderate record the club can be proud of its individual performers, among whom G. T. Reay, R. A. Peel, R. A. Bradley and R. Hayter were awarded Palatinates as members of the Universities Athletic Union winning Varsity side, and George Reay in addition represented U.A.U. on several occasions.

Club colours were awarded to J. Lesquerena, R. A. Peel and R.D.E.

D. Hart.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

The activities of University College Literary and Debating

Society during the year followed the usual pattern.

The Freshers' Debate, held in Lumley on October 11th, was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, and not least by the Freshmen, who took a very active part. The main speakers for the motion that "This House would never dream of it" were Mr. B. V. Moss and Mr. E. G. Hunt, and they were opposed by Mr. P. E. Allen and Mr. P. J. Oliver. Talents ranging from athletic and aeronautical to musical and semi-musical were brought forth to delight the house. The attendance was approximately 140, of whom 248 voted for the motion and 248 against, with 248 abstentions. The motion was subsequently declared lost.

The Visitors' Night Debate was held in the Great Hall of Castle on October 18th, 1954. The motion for debate was: "This House

believes in the importance of being earnest."

The proposer was Father Denis Fahy from Ushaw College, seconded by Mr. D. Holbrook, editor of Castellum. The opposition was led by the Rev. R. P. MacDonald, Rector of St. Maryle-Bow, Durham, seconded by Mr. R. Marsden, Senior Classics Master at Durham School. Visitors showed no hesitation in joining in the debate after the main speeches. The motion was carried by 35 votes; 55 votes for the motion, 20 against and 5 abstentions.

The interest of Castlemen in the Visitors' Night Debate seems to have decreased rapidly over the past few years and consideration is being given to the possibility of holding next year's debate

in the Union Debating Hall with informal dress.

An attempt to develop the Society and to hold more meetings was defeated by lack of enthusiasm. An informal meeting called with a view to discussing censorship was attended only by the four main speakers, the President and the Secretary. The committee later decided to await a more favourable time before arranging any meetings beyond the two traditional debates at the beginning of the year.

D. S. WILSON.

BOXING CLUB

The Boxing this year has been exceedingly vigorous, and we can look back over the season with a sense of satisfaction. Membership was assorted, one might almost say novel, for in addition to the regular members, Paul Dunkley (captain), Brian Littlewood (secretary), John Peck, Don Harrison, Jack Dobson and Paul Parker (St. Cuthbert's Society), various gentlemen have appeared from time to time to shed excessive poundage or relieve the elemental passions. Mr. Atkin trained regularly, Mr. Derhali occasionally, and even the Boat Club submitted itself once to a Sunday morning session. Throughout the Michaelmas and Epiphany terms the Club met twice weekly in the Lower Institute Gallery for training and sparring, so there has been plenty of activity.

We were handicapped by lack of a gymnasium—as are most other sportsmen in the Colleges—and by lack of a Durham Colleges Boxing Club. It was with great reluctance that the club decided against boxing a match this year; but it seemed clear that in the first two terms the standard of boxing was insufficiently high, while, under the pressure of finals, there was no time at the end of the year. Even so, much progress was made. We were visited twice by an ex-professional from Chester-le-Street, and he quickly pepped up individual performances. Moreover, the range of equipment has been extended and is quite adequate for our present strength.

There is danger of the club becoming extinct next year from lack of support: all our regular members were third year. After the heartening start this would be a pity.

PAUL H. DUNKLEY.

BADMINTON CLUB

The College Badminton Club had a particularly useful and full season. The difficulties in Durham about courts, and the fact that there does not exist a Colleges Club which would help to boost membership in individual colleges, are the main reasons for the comparative lack of enthusiasm for this sport. The attitude of the U.C. Badminton Club has this year been that unless we broadened the whole scope of our policy we should be allowing this apathy to grow. Thus we played eight fixtures this year, compared with last year's three, and next year we hope to do even better. Of this eight, six have been won and two lost. Our opponents have been Durham School, Bede College, St. Hild's College, St. John's College and the Newcastle Division of the University. The Newcastle Division is, in fact, the semi-official University team, and our first (away) match with them provided us with a somewhat harrowing experience, for it was only when we arrived in Newcastle that we discovered that the team we were to play had not been beaten by any University or league team for the past four years. Moreover the team included three Malayan players (traditionally the Malayans are the greatest badminton players in the world) and one county second team player. We can only in fairness say that we were routed. For the return match they very sensibly sent us their second team and we were able to give them a much more even fight.

I. R. BUREAU.

FENCING CLUB

College fencing during the past year has been greatly weakened by the loss of experienced team members, and inter-collegiate matches have been difficult to arrange. Nevertheless the club has gained some very valuable and promising first year men, and Castle fencing should meet with its old success in the near future, having perhaps the fastest and most stylish fencers in the Durham Colleges.

The senior members of the club have met with considerable success during the year. P. D. Chippendale was awarded a half-Palatinate and was runner-up in both the sabre and épée in the Varsity Championships, while J. Bureau, next year's captain, was runner-up in the Varsity Junior Foil Championship.

In the Colbeck Cup Competition, the Castle team were unfortunate to lose their captain, Chippendale, to the clutches of the County Hospital at a very early stage of the match. The rest of the team fought valiantly, however, and although they could not retain the cup, were placed a good second to Hatfield. B. Norwood is to be congratulated on a particularly good display of match tactics during this competition, and he and J. Bureau are awarded College Colours for their fine efforts.

P. D. CHIPPENDALE, Captain.

READ AND WEED CLUB

The variety of subjects individually selected as topics for discussion at club meetings goes far to deny the assertion that the 20th century student over-specialises and that his interests are limited to the subject on which he is examined. Certainly this year the titles of papers read at Read and Weed Club meetings gave ample evidence of a more than single-subject interest.

In the Michaelmas Term, Mr. T. L. Goodfellow delivered a paper on "The English Middle Classes." The next meeting was a Visitors' Night. The guest speaker was Dr. Dudley Wilson, who spoke on "The Forces of Flux and Stability in 16th Century Thought and Literature." The paper was both erudite and ably delivered, and Dr. Wilson's keen insight into this subject provided a firm foundation for discussion.

The last meeting of the Michaelmas Term was devoted to Mr. J. W. Nicholls' paper "Juvenile Delinquency."

For the first Epiphany Term meeting Mr. J. D. McLachlan gave a paper on "Primitive Art and its Social Milieu." The subject was that of art in primitive racial societies, not that of those later schools known at the Primitives. Mr. McLachlan outlined the difficulties in understanding social and racial factors where visual capacities and experiences differed radically from those of the sophisticated 20th century.

The annual club dinner was held in the Senate Room, when the guests were Professor Clifford Leech, Dr. Randolph Quirk and Dr. Dudley Wilson. Mr. R. Burrows' paper, "Mediaeval, Renaissance and Reformation Music," which included some excellent recordings, ended a most successful term.

Two papers were delivered in the final term of the academic year —Mr. N. J. R. Willder's "Aspects of Humour" and Mr. J. R. Bureau's "Music: a Layman's Interpretation."

Mr. Willder provided some readings which enlivened the meeting and which displayed the strongly marked differences existing throughout the range of English humour.

J. R. BUREAU.

HOCKEY CLUB

The Hockey Club, with the arrival of several promising freshmen to add to the already established backbone of a strong team, once again, and for the fourth consecutive year, won the Hockey Cup. St. Cuthbert's were beaten 1-0 in a very hard fought game played in appalling conditions with the pitch turned into a quagmire soon after the start by a heavy thunderstorm. Hatfield were beaten 3-2; Castle playing with ten men from a minute after the start when one of Hatfield's club swinging "rugger-hockey" players cut open F. Dowson's eyebrow. The hardest match was against Bede; the result was a draw 1-1 after a very fast and even game. We beat St. Chad's 12-1 and St. John's 8-0, and in both these matches our captain D. J. Day, scored a double hat-trick; remarkable contributions to a very successful season.

LAWN TENNIS

A service return from one of the Bede second pair which landed deep into the net brought cheers from the Castle team and victory for the College Lawn Tennis Club in the Senior Trophy final.

The cup, thus returned to familiar surroundings after a reluctant twelve months in Hatfield, was won only after exciting struggles in two of the rounds.

The first tie, against the holders, was a severe test for the whole team: Clark and Robinson; Barnes and Davis; Batley and D. Dixon. Trailing 1-2 after the initial matches, Castle rallied magnificently, levelling at three all and finally running out winners by 5-3.

Chads, our semi-final opponents, gave us some excellent practice in smashing. Castle beat Bede 5-3 in the final, inflicting upon them

their first defeat of the year and gaining sweet revenge for the 1954 match.

A number of friendly games were played in the course of the season, giving match practice to those unable to gain places in the Trophy team.

At the end of the season the Committee of Captains recognised the Club's fine record by ratifying full Colours to the whole team.

In view of the fact that both Ted Batley and Peter Dixon were freshmen, this decision was doubly pleasing.

Castle were well represented in Durham College L.T.C., of whom John Clark is now captain, with Pete Dixon secretary.

Denis Barnes was elected Castle captain for the coming season. Colours—Full re-award: J. Clark. Full awards: D. Barnes, E. Batley, N. Davis, P. Dixon, P. Robinson.

JOHN L. CLARK, Captain.

DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st March, 1955

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Audited and found correct,
21st April, 1955.

J. C. R. FITZGERALD-LOMBARD.

College Officers, 1954-55

Mr. L. Slater, M.A.

Master

Dr. W. A. Prowse, B.SC., PH.D.

Vice-Master

Mr. R. Thomson, M.A.

Senior Tutor.

The Rev. J. C. Wallis, D.S.C., M.A., L.TH.

Chaplain.

Dr. J. V. Whitworth, M.SC., PH.D.

Lowe Librarian.

College Tutors

Dr. K. R. Ashby, B.A., PH.D.

Mr. M. Derhalli.

Mr. A. O. L. Atkin, M.A.

Dr. J. A. Chalmers,

Mr. D. Bargrave-Weaver, M.A.

B.SC., M.A., PH.D.

Mr. J. C. Dewdney.

Mr. A. Doyle, M.A.

THE 1956 REUNION

The date of the next reunion will be Friday, 26th April, 1956. Members are welcomed at the College on any or all of the three nights, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Accommodation is provided free by the College for any two of these nights. The annual general meeting and dinner will be held on Friday evening. Notifications, with forms for replies, will be sent out by the secretary.