

A Not-So "Provincial Lady"

To capture the Drama Cup out of the entire Nore Command in the annual R. N. Drama Festival requires an acting performance of no mean calibre; to win it, as the "Ganges" Drama Group has just done for the second year in succession confirms an excellence which is exciting comment far beyond the confines of Shotley. Against the "big battalions" such as R.N.B. and R.N.H., Chatham, the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and others, the gallant little "Ganges" contingent should, in theory, stand little chance, but once again, they "pulled it off."

On the evening of Monday, 17th March, the play, "A Provincial Lady", by Ivan Turgenev, was put on for home consumption—a sort of "dummy run" prior to the Canteen Theatre, Chatham, performance later in the week. Despite the odd contretemps such as the rigging to disadvantage of the port curtain, thereby rendering Boy Sweet not only inaudible but also invisible for the first five minutes



"The Provincial Lady."

the play went with a swing and everyone enjoyed themselves hugely, the cast equally as much as the audience. Which is just as the author intended.

In the principal male parts we had an excellent Alexei Stupendev, the minor country town official who occasionally feels the worm within him stirring, if not exactly turning; this part was played with great gusto by Instr. Lieut. C. Roper. Equally effective was Instr. Lieut. A. M. McGregor's Count Lubin, who attempts with only partial success to mix sex with sciatica.

The minor male parts of Mischa, the young nephew, Apollo the half-witted house-boy, and the secretary to Count Lubin, were played respectively by Boy Sweet, Instr. Lieut. D. Mills and C.P.O. H. Potter. All three were uniformly excellent, and as the adjudicator pointed out forcefully in his final summing-up at Chatham, with so many fine plays to choose from, it's the performance of the small part players who finally sway the balance one way or another.

Two ladies completed the cast. Mrs. I. Clutterbuck played Daria, the provincial wife who cherishes ambitions of basking in the rarefied social atmosphere of St. Petersburg. This, the largest speaking part, demanded just the right mixture of coyness and purposefulness, and Mrs. Clutterbuck gave us both in full measure. Finally, there was Mrs. K. H. Patterson in the part of Vasilevna, the cook with an independent turn of mind; she, too, turned in an elegant performance in a not too elegant part. (By the way, whatever *did* become of that cauliflower?)

In every successful play there must be a "power behind the throne," a man in whose hands the paper puppets spring into life, animated and motivated by the stuff of everyday existence; this man is known as the producer. Here the producer was Surgeon-Lieut. (D) G. J. Boyd, who added greatly to his already considerable stature in that sphere. To Mr. Haxell and his staff go our thanks for the building of a most realistic "set", and to Instr. Lieut. R. Taylor for the tasteful "decor".

Yes, "A Provincial Lady" gave us a far-from-provincial performance.

K.P.H.

Somewhere Down by Falkland • •

Slack men choose the cities
And fatten at their ease;
They live a sort of half-a-life, But
 keen men choose the seas.

Some men serve a master
In hope of warmth and gold; I'
 ve made the sea my mistress;
 My love's austere and cold.

We'll make our love by Falkland
Where we'll meet some wintry time;
Her foam-flecked face I'll kiss there,
Her salt arms clasping mine.

I'll match myself against her In
one unending test;
And some night down by Falkland We'
 ll sleep our final rest.

With God I'll go to fortune,
The old life far behind,
The new life out before me:
 The sea has filled my mind.

J. V. LUCAS (175 Class).

Admiralty Housing

At last the Housing Estate begins to look like an estate and not a muddy battlefield. 32 houses are now occupied and 8 more are ready for occupation. Another group of 20 should be complete in 2 month's time.

The present tenants have a lot to put up with—muddy conditions all around, a lot of it gets brought into the houses, and at times mother must imagine she could plant carrots in the kitchen. And, of course, there is the other side—little Mary will leave her footprints for posterity in a freshly laid concrete path, whilst the number of paw marks would lead one to suppose that Shotley was a dog's home!



"Great Harlings."

However, by the end of the Summer term, the whole estate should be virtually completed.

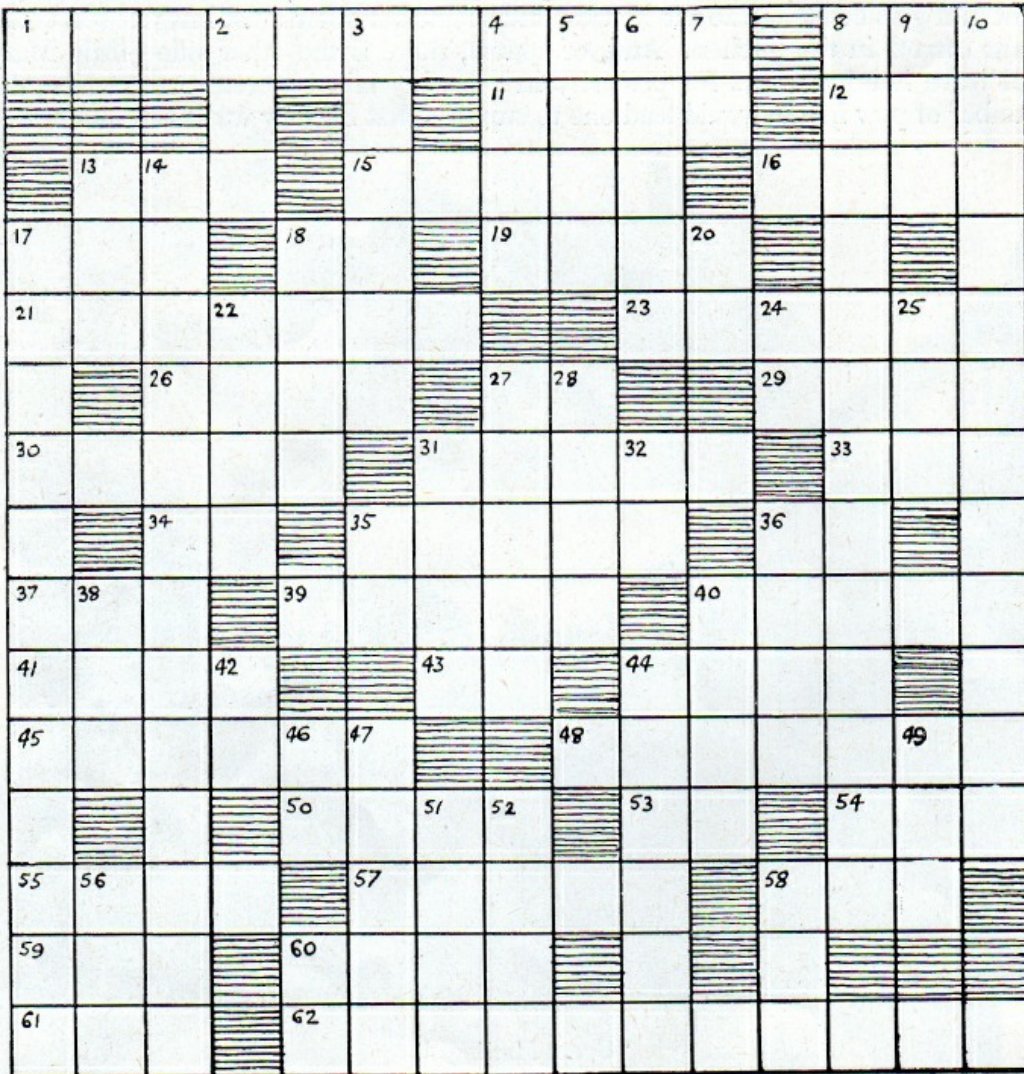
The accompanying photograph looking Eastwards along Great Harlings, shows those houses now occupied. The grass verge adjacent to the footpath will be turfed soon and the roadway finished in tarmacadam.

The latest news about the Officers' Married quarters is that tenders will be called at a very early date; construction should therefore commence before next winter!

L. S. B. SIMEON,

Officer in charge of Works, East Anglia District.

Shotley Prize Crossword



Name

Mess.....

Four half-crowns will be given to the senders of the first four correct solutions opened on Wednesday, 7th May, 1952.

Put your solution in a sealed envelope and leave it in the Senior Chaplain's letter box when you come back from leave.

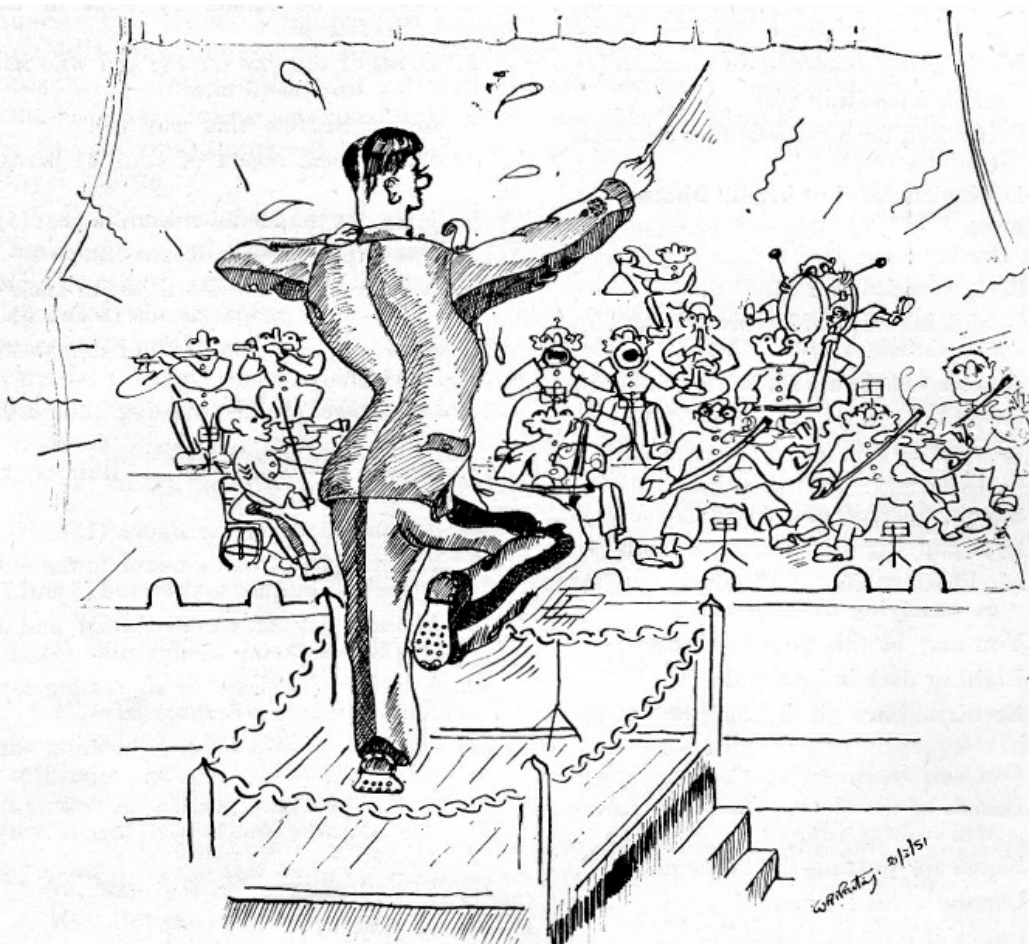
CLUES ACROSS.

1. A popular interval between Spring and Summer (6 and 5).
8. Method of purchase in the Canteen (3).
11. French friendship (4).
12. Prefix Ben for a colossal film spectacle (3).
13. Droitwich yes, but hardly Shotley (3).
15. Advice to the fidgetty spectator in front (2 and 3).
16. Early Greek letter (4).
17. Useful in soup and whistles, and for non-lethal weapons (3).
18. Almost obsolete nowadays with AM (2).
19. To have plenty (4).
21. Province in Greece (7).
23. Spook, aperitif or fuel (6).
26. Eyes popping out with expectation (4)
27. Modified version of 17 down, but just as terrifying to some (2).
29. You may be this time next year (4).
30. Light or dark in local pubs (5).
31. Seems to blow all day long at Shotley (5).
33. Our side in Korea (3).
34. Initials of the old Red to White Rose area railway (2).
35. Noted for putting the kettle on (5).
36. Capone to his friends (2).
37. Imperial type of Order (3).
39. A current cutter trouble (5).
40. May be taken or lost on the Bridge (5)
41. Often preceded by pride (4).
43. A fancy kind of ship (2).
44. Noon over the Channel (4).
45. This sort of conditions provides fun for some, pedal lapses for others (6)
48. Housing without foundations, but quite serviceable (7).
50. Double up the first for an admirable welfare society (4).
53. One of the institutions at Portland (2).
54. First of a long line of ladies (3).
55. Dead ones are of most account at the Races (4).
57. Continental Monday (5).
58. The source of most metals (3).
59. When you hope to get there (3).
60. Leave it as it was (4).
61. Old man of the sheep family (3).
62. These would get left behind without some encouragement (11).

CLUES DOWN.

2. Said to be issued by boat in the Service (3).
3. Dress of the day for the girl who had fox trouble (3 and 3).
4. Active Service this way (4).
5. Perhaps the object of your 11 across (4).
6. They put the 20 down into his seat (5).
7. The Stokers' Ops. Room (2).
8. It is said that the Lord loveth such a one, most people do too (8 and 5).
9. Sickening decision for a batsman to hear (3).
10. Last stage of this training course (5 and 7).
13. Tennis equivalent of a Rubber at Bridge (3).
14. A four sided regular figure (13).
17. You might call him a terror to the evil workers but not to the good (5 and 7)
18. Ancient city of North Africa and a precious metal weight unit (4).
20. A civilian legislator or something less innocuous in Service life (2).
22. Attribute shared by one duckling and two sisters (4).
24. Looks like First Class upside down (2).
25. His surname might well begin with Mac (3).
27. Several of these up the mast (5).
28. Eye chatter to the girls (4).
31. Cause of all the trouble at "Ganges" (4).
32. Lower half of 22 (2).
35. One of our activities here (2).
36. Opera by Verdi (4).
38. More than one of these in every port (3)
40. Polite address to a company of elders (4).
42. Next title after Able (2).
44. Chess or biological process (6).
46. In the bowels of a big ship (2).
47. Winston made a deal here with Joe (5).
49. Old fashioned greeting (3).
51. There's a Ministry of this and Power (4).
52. Definitely hostile (4).
56. A later Greek letter (3).
58. Implement familiar on the pier (3). 60. Man or his craft below (2).

Orchestral Concert



PROGRAMME

The Spirit of Pageantry ...					<i>Fletcher</i>
Selections from "H.M.S. Pinafore"					<i>Sullivan</i>
Piano Solos by Instr. Lieut. D. I. Colwell.					
March ...	...	...	...	...	<i>Schubert</i>
Scherzo	...	...	...	...	<i>Schubert</i>
Legend	...	...	...	...	<i>Robert Docker</i>
			(with the Orchestra).		
Wine, Woman and Song ...	...	...	...	...	<i>Strauss</i>
Excerpts from the Ballet "The Swan Lake" ...	...	...	...	...	<i>Tchaikovsky</i>
Songs with the Orchestra.					
Miss Sheila Potter, Soprano.					
"O my Beloved Father" ...	...	...	...	...	<i>Puccini</i>
"I Heard a Robin Singing"	...	...	...	...	<i>Conrad Leonard</i>
"When You Come Home"	...	...	...	...	<i>W. H. Squire</i>
Selections from the Opera "Merrie England."					

The Concert was held in the Careers Room on 11th March and our first thanks must go to the Senior Chaplain who allowed us to unrig his temporary Chapel in order to have it.

This was again a very pleasant, well balanced programme, such as Bandmaster Butler has led us to expect. As one very distinguished officer was heard to remark, "It contains all my favourite tunes." It was certainly fully appreciated by the audience, small though it was. We have two things to blame for the lack of numbers, a sudden fog which came down in the afternoon, and the orders for Boys' dress which had not been altered to suit the Summer Routine which had come into force the day before. However, those who did turn up seemed thoroughly to enjoy it.

I do not know (or do I), whether to thank Instr. Lieut. Colwell more for his polished playing or for the really delightful songstress he found for us. She looked as nice as her singing and that was very pleasant indeed. You, who were there, will be glad to hear that she was sent a large bunch of flowers to show our appreciation of her efforts.

Memo. to the Bandmaster, Miss Potter's address must be put among the Band Fund assets, not for audit, but so that future generations may enjoy her singing.

Before we turn on to the next article, let us remember the rank and file of the band who have all the hard work and none of the limelight, and thank them for their part in a very successful evening.

M.F.S.B.

One of the Roving Kind

i've got barnacles on mi brane
and seaweed in mi hair instead
of blood, brine fills each veign
and parrot-like i swear.

like teased out rope, to grow a
beered i've never seased to hanker,
and now to topiarise it weird like a
rusty rampant anchor.

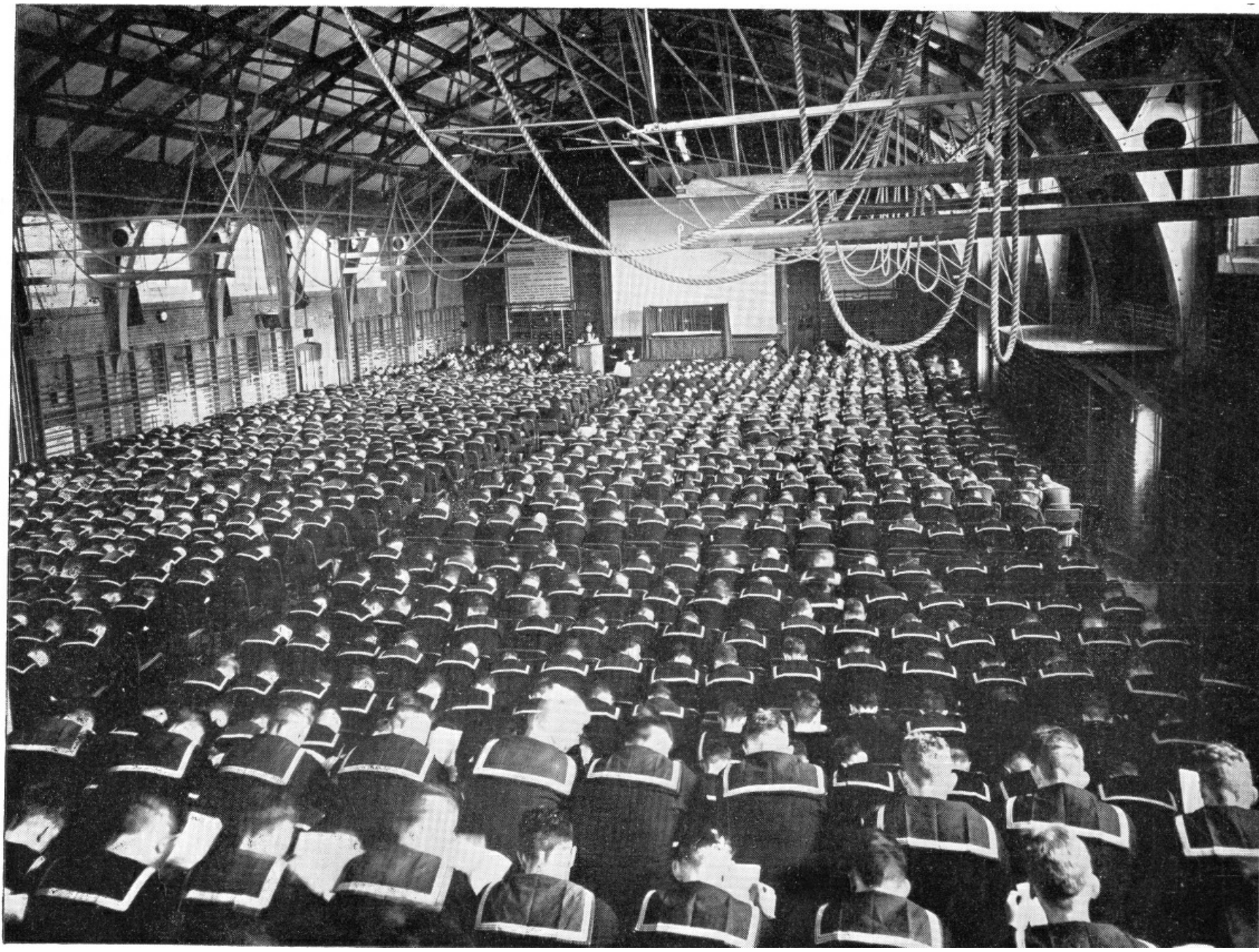
on both mi pheet i've soles and eels
and winkles where were muscels. i
think i must bee up the creek
bilgewater for corpuscles.

fifteen hairs on a dead man's chest
Yo ho twice and a bottle of rhumb.
whatever direction i go west i long
for a blonde belle-dumb.

O shenandoah, Lord nelson,
gnoah, did you ever sing sea
shanties ? i'll pipe the horn when I'
m ashore a naughtical cervantes.

a heart of oak and head to match
on the doggerel bank i crews,
here's one for the rowed and drown the hatch,
for i've got the navy blues.

D. MILLS.



Church Notes

Dear Readers,

A dictatorial Editor demands these notes while we are still in the thick of the term, and when Easter Leave, not until after the Feast this year, seems quite remote. Your correspondent has therefore to blend history with prophecy, and hope that no falsehood will be uttered.

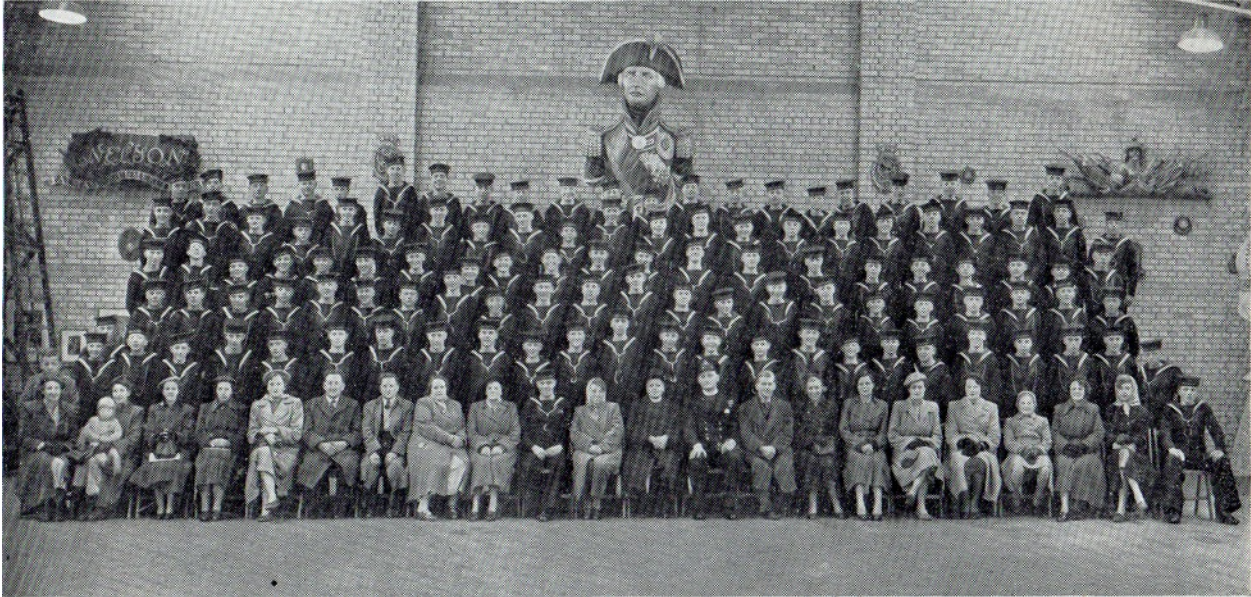
We started the machine again in the dark days of January, and now that there are definite signs of Spring, it really hasn't been a bad winter at all. We suffered a



The Chaplain of the Fleet.

great sadness on the news of the King's death and are still observing official mourning. We commemorated His late Majesty in the Chapel with a solemn Requiem on the day of burial, and held a memorial service in the Gymnasium on the same day.

The Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich gave Confirmation in February; the Bishop of Dunwich will confirm the Second Course on March 31st.



Confirmation, 18th February.

The Chaplain of the Fleet visited the Establishment for the week-end of March 23rd, for Communion at 8 and Morning Service after Divisions. This was Archdeacon Coulshaw's last visit, as he is to retire in May and be relieved by the Reverend Noel Chamberlain. Archdeacon Coulshaw was Chaplain of "Ganges" in the early 1930s.

The Choir and Servers spent half a day in Ipswich in March as their Outing for the term.

The Chapel has been completely re-decorated during the month of March, and looks very spic and span. Its New Look is the result of more than minimum interest by the Works Department, the Barrackmaster's Department and the Electrical Department.

During March we have used the Careers Room as a Chapel on Sundays, and a room in the Old Seamanship Block for the weekday early Service. Communions have been consistently good, numbering over a thousand each month.

The temporary Chapel arrangements have hindered the maintenance of evening services, choir practice and servers' training, but we should be able to do something suitable in the direction of an evening service during Holy Week. We are to meet for half-an-hour's Service on Good Friday in the Gymnasium.

The boys will be coming home in Easter Week for three weeks' rest and refreshment. Mothers, don't spoil them, and see that they give a hand about the house; some of them are quite useful at it, and we have to start all over again here on the 6th of May, although with the prospect of better weather and the pleasantest term of the year.

This term's photographs with Church Notes illustrate the memorial service in the Gymnasium on the day of the King's funeral, and will give you an idea of what Sunday Morning Service looks like; the other is a Confirmation group showing the candidates with the Bishop, and their witnesses, some of whom travel a long distance to support their kinsmen at this ancient ceremony.

A pleasant holiday to my congregation, and good wishes to the Parents and friends of Shotley.

Yours sincerely,

B. R. BEASLEY.

Roman Catholic Notes

Dear Fathers and Mothers,

The King is dead. We heard the news from our Captain and at once we joined the nation in its mourning. Sandringham became a magnet, drawing to itself messages of sympathy and loyalty from every part of the earth.

From Rome, Our Holy Father sent this personal message:—"We hasten to extend to Your Majesty, to the members of the Royal Family and to the entire Nation our profound sympathy on the death of His Majesty King George VI. We shall keep him in prayerful remembrance while invoking, as solace in your bereavement, Divine comfort and strength in abundant measure."

Her Majesty replied:—"I am deeply touched by Your Holiness's kind message. Please be assured that I truly value your sympathy."

When the late King reviewed the Edinburgh Sea Cadets, one of our boys—Leading Boy Lonie—had the privilege of speaking with His Majesty.

May I ask your prayers for Boy John Francis Sullivan. He had a stroke on Saturday, 8th March, and is still dangerously sick in the London Hospital. His father was lost in the "Hood."

You are most welcome to visit H.M.S. "Ganges" at any time, but especially on Thursday, 5th June, 1952, to see the Review in honour of the Queen's Birthday.

On 'Holy Saturday a Franciscan Father from East Bergholt will help in the hearing of confessions in order that we all may receive on Easter Morn "Our Risen Lord" in Holy Communion.

A Very Happy Easter!

Yours truly,

FATHER DOUGHERTY.

Church of Scotland and Free Churches' Notes

As I sit writing this the only sign of Spring is in the step of the boys who are doubling around the small parade ground beneath my window, and there isn't much spring in that! There is also, of course, the faraway look in the eyes of the boys who pass to and fro. That may be due to the Spring, but is more probably due to "dreams of leave."



Visit of Dr. L. E. Cooke and Rev. O. Roebuck, O.B.E.,

With the re-awakening of nature at this season the thoughts of Christians everywhere turn to Easter—not because it is a holiday, but because it is a Holy Day. Easter is a time of joy and thanksgiving when we remember the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death. It is our assurance that we do not worship Someone who died a long time ago, but Someone who is alive for evermore, Someone who is our constant Companion along life's way. Until the realisation