



REPORT *of the* HEADMASTER
to the BOARD OF TRUSTEES



ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL
MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE



1943-44

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October 19, 1944

SOMEONE has coined the expression "the drag period" in regard to the War, meaning that phase between the onset of fighting and the final thrust to victory. "The drag period" in war is a long, hard pull, full of difficulties and setbacks; but it may lead up to the successful finish.

In many ways the past school year of 1943-44 represented a "drag period" in the history of St. Andrew's. We had the problem of assimilating 60 new boys, seven of whom entered after the year had started. To help us absorb these new boys we had a Sixth Form which at one time consisted of only eleven boys. In the middle of the year there was a considerable turnover of teaching and administrative personnel. And the many problems of wartime operation had to be met again and again, with a resulting drain of time and energy.

Considering all this, the general machinery of the School ran with remarkable smoothness, and there was much progress made in the School's chief business, the development and training of youth. A great deal of very effective work was done, the results of which can be seen clearly as a new school year begins.

For the meeting of difficulties and overcoming of handicaps it is impossible to pay high enough tribute to the Faculty, Staff and boys. Among the student body the Praefects and other Fifth and Sixth Formers deserve special mention, since a small number of older boys had to be spread thin to cover the ground of the School's leadership.

In January Messrs. Schoonover and Voorhees took commissions in the Navy, and his father's death and other circumstances made it desirable for Mr. Cameron to take a long overdue half-year sabbatical. To replace Ensign Schoonover we reorganized the Office, dividing the work between Miss Dano, as Financial Secretary, and Mrs. Schmolze, as Executive Secretary. This has been a very happy and efficient arrangement, and between them these two ladies have kept the Office operating in fine order.

Mr. Cameron's classes were taken over by Mr. Homer Economos, a graduate of Bard College and Columbia University, who had been teaching English at Millville, N. J., High School. Mr. Economos also coached the Wrestling Team and sponsored the *Cardinal*. Lt. Voorhees' classes and his part in the Job System were taken over by Mr. John Campbell, a Colgate and Cornell graduate, who had been teaching at Scranton-Keystone Junior College. We were most fortunate to get such able and congenial replacements in the middle of the year.

The three men who left us for a while occupied positions of considerable responsibility and leadership in the life of the School. Their many duties, including

the Choir, the movie program, and the coaching of Junior Crew and Baseball, besides those mentioned above, were undertaken willingly and ably by other members of the Faculty and Staff. The headship of the Job System devolved on Mr. Hawkins, the movie program was handled by Mr. Sunbury, and Mr. Morris and Miss Welton took over the Choir. Mr. Economos coached Junior Baseball.

The School now has seven members of its Faculty on leave of absence while serving in the Armed Forces, and it has been a pleasure to welcome all of them back at one time or another during the year. We are looking forward to the time when they will be back to stay.

In May, Mrs. Frederick King, our brave and patient British guest, returned to Oxford with her sons Clive and Peter. This month her daughters Audrey and Hilary and her niece Hazel Holyoak are to sail for home. The King family had been with us since 1940, and we shall miss them all. They have helped to forge a strong bond between their country and ours, and a stronger bond than ever between Oxford University and this School.

During the past summer, Mr. Tonks, head of our Science Department, and a fine teacher of Biology and General Science, accepted a position on the Faculty of Phillips Exeter Academy. Mr. Tonks had taught at St. Andrew's for nine years, had managed the School Bank, had been in charge of swimming and sailing in recent years, and had coached Junior Basketball. He, Mrs. Tonks and their daughter Marilyn have been very popular members of the School family, and will be

greatly missed. In August a son, Philip Estabrook, was born to them.

We have been most fortunate in securing the services of Dr. Hugh E. Potts, II, a Kent and Rutgers graduate, who did post-graduate work and taught at New York University, for the position vacated by Mr. Tonks. Dr. Potts and his charming wife and daughter are occupying the Apartment on the Sixth Form corridor, while the Flemings have moved to the Annex.

Other additions to the School family are: John Scott Johnston, born November 3, 1943, in Brazil to Lt. (j.g.) and Mrs. John Johnston, the latter our former Assistant Nurse; and Susannah Bathurst Hagerty, born December 1, 1943, in Wilmington to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hagerty.

Mr. Campbell is to be congratulated on having married Miss Dorothy Clancy during the summer, and this bridal couple is now occupying the suite on the Fifth Form Corridor vacated by the Schmolzes, who are now living in the Hutton house, on the point.

Improvements in the School plant and grounds have been:

1. The building of partitions in the two large dormitory rooms in the Gymnasium, now housing Fourth Formers, so that these boys have semi-private double rooms; and the furnishing of the Tower Room in the Gymnasium to house three Sixth Formers who assist Mr. Economos in supervising the Gymnasium dwellers.

2. The completion and lining of our fourth football field, which was begun three years ago and only this

year has had firm enough turf to be used. This field extends out beyond the Varsity field and on a line with it. The new field is used by the Junior Varsity Squad, leaving the two Six-man fields to the Junior and Senior Six-man squads.

Termites were found in the Annex and Superintendent's House. A number of wooden beams had been attacked in both houses, and window sills had been eaten out. The Building and Finance Committees authorized the Terminix Company to treat these two buildings, and this was done at a cost of \$1202. Terminix service will cover these buildings for the future at a small yearly cost.

The Maintenance Department has been short-handed all year, and Mr. Cooper and his men have had to work with even greater devotion and versatility than usual to keep the Plant in good order. We feel that they have done a fine job, and that this is evidenced in the condition of the buildings and grounds, and in the fact that the inspectors' reports on such equipment as boilers, transformers and other machinery showed every single item to be in perfect operating order.

Miss Callaway has continued to produce food miracles on a large scale. This year her kitchen force has remained pretty well stabilized, and with the addition of M. and Mme. Camille Chauvet, who came to us after arriving from France, it has been a very effective team indeed.

Mr. and Mrs. Heater ran the laundry in fine style, in a year when many laundries were in despair. Mrs. Heater has a group of hand-picked women working in

her department, and several of them remained during the summer to wash walls and keep the buildings clean. This year Mr. Heater is doing other work, but Mrs. Heater continues to run the Housekeeping Department.

For the second year Miss Agnes Nelson was Head Nurse, and this year she was ably assisted by Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Johnston having joined her husband in Brazil. Considering that several schools had to close this year because of the flu, we had a very healthy year. There were 12 cases of grippe, all mild, 14 of influenza, two of chicken pox and one of German measles. There were 127 surgical cases, most of them small cuts, blisters and sprains. The total number of cases treated was 332, compared to 444 in 1942-43. The number of patients admitted to the Infirmary was 56, the same as last year. The number of office visits was somewhat smaller than last year.

The gains in weight were as follows: 34 boys gained between 1 and 5 pounds; 37 between 5 and 10; 25 between 10 and 15; 14 between 15 and 20, and one between 20 and 25.

Miss Nelson's cheerful and conscientious supervision of the School's health, and her skill and sympathy as a nurse, won her the affection and confidence of everyone. She and Mrs. Fleming made a fine team. Miss Nelson has left us for the Woodberry Forest School, and Mrs. Fleming is unable to undertake any strenuous duties for the time being. The School is most grateful to both these ladies.

This September Miss Miller returned from her two years' leave of absence with the Red Cross in Honolulu

and as Head Nurse at St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, N. J. She has resumed her duties with her characteristic energy and interest in all phases of the School's life, and has taken over the Choir, with Miss Welton and Mr. Morris, a sphere in which she has been active since the first year of the School. Mrs. Campbell is Assistant Nurse this year, and is doing a most acceptable piece of work.

The Class that graduated in June 1944 are now occupied as follows:

In the Army	2
In the Navy	3
Navy V-12	2
Marine Corps	1
College	3
Waiting to be called by the Army.....	2

We began the School year of 1943-44 with 129 boys, and ended it with 125. Six boys were expelled during the year, three withdrawn at our recommendation and two on their parents' initiative. The distribution by states was as follows: For the first time Maryland led with 28 boys, Pennsylvania was second with 27, and there were 17 from New York, 12 from New Jersey, 10 from Delaware, 8 from the District of Columbia, 4 each from Georgia and Florida, 3 each from Connecticut and Virginia, 2 from Kentucky, and 1 each from West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Louisiana, West Virginia and England.

The above figures on expulsions and withdrawals testify to the difficulties experienced in the field of discipline. The tense atmosphere of wartime and the

large number of new boys contributed to this situation. Mr. Holder and the Disciplinary Committee spent a great deal of time and work on it, but unfortunately it was impossible to avoid a number of drastic penalties.

After careful study of our smoking rules, the Faculty have decided to allow sixteen year old boys in forms below the Fifth to exercise the same smoking privilege as the Fifth Form. Special rooms will be designated where these boys may smoke.

Our scholastic program proceeded as usual. The course in Military Science, taught jointly by the Headmaster, Mr. Tonks and Mr. Cooper, continued, but will be modified for the current year, with more emphasis on Infantry training and tactics, and less on Aeronautics.

Mr. and Mrs. Sunbury carried on the Remedial Reading program with great benefit to a group of boys who needed this work, and Mr. Schmolze's Current Events for the older Forms should be mentioned as important and valuable.

In our athletic program, the Varsity teams had young and relatively inexperienced material, and we did not expect to win championships. Our Tennis team was undefeated, however, in a season curtailed by bad weather, and our Eight gave a good account of itself, coming in second against the Navy Plebs and in the Stotesbury Cup race and the Interscholastics. Our teams give us good promise for the future, and there was the usual high percentage of participation in organized sport among boys of all ages.

For the first time in our history a School team was coached by someone outside the Faculty. Mr. Louis

Mandes, whose masons laid the stone of our buildings, came to our rescue this spring, when Mr. Hagerty's health did not permit him to coach, and turned out a very fair baseball team. Mr. Mandes won the admiration and affection of everyone on the squad, and we are more than grateful to him for coming "over into Macedonia" and helping us.

The program of recreation, under Mr. Wilson's leadership, was particularly pleasant and worthwhile. The School play was "The Canterville Ghost." The usual dances were held in the Winter and Spring Terms. The Band and Dance Band achieved the standard of excellence we have come to associate with Mr. Barron's instruction, and the Dance Band played several outside engagements.

The religious program proceeded as usual, and as usual it is hard to evaluate those deep and fundamental developments which are the most important part of it. There was closer cooperation between the School and St. Anne's Parish, their Sunday Schools holding joint sessions at St. Andrew's all spring. On one of the Rogation Days the School joined the Parish in a lovely outdoor evening service in Old St. Anne's Churchyard. School was in session during Holy Week. The Chaplain gave the Good Friday meditations on the Words from the Cross, and Mr. Hawkins preached the Easter message.

Two very successful conferences were held at the School the weekend before it opened this fall, one for the laity and the other for the Clergy of the Diocese. The School also acted as host to a group of enlisted

men from Fort du Pont earlier in the summer, and to the young people of West Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, on Labor Day.

The Richard David Cooper Memorial has been completed by De Long and De Long, and is ready for installation in the Chapel. This Altar Shelf will form a beautiful background for our Font, and is a fine example of the art of that veteran wood carver, Thorsten Sigstedt, who has already greatly enriched our Chapel by his work.

The Library now contains 5692 books in the main section and 739 in the Reserve Library. The circulation of books during the year was 1511, an average of more than ten books per boy. The Library Club, Council and Staff were active under Miss Welton's leadership, and deserve much of the credit for keeping the Library running smoothly. Miss Welton estimates that boys did about 1000 hours of work for the Library during the year. Library instruction was given again to all boys in need of it. The School's collection of phonograph records has been catalogued and placed in the Library Office.

One of the most delightful and helpful features of the year was a two-day visit by the Founder. Dr. du Pont visited classes, athletic periods, meetings of committees, Chapel services and social gatherings. His incisive and very encouraging report testifies to his keen interest in the School and his insight into its goals and techniques.

The School received a number of gifts during the year, including large amounts of stock from the Founder, from the Donor, Mrs. Irene du Pont, and

from Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Ford, for the Malcolm Ford Scholarship. The Founder also gave money for some redecoration of the Headmaster's House. Dr. and Mrs. Carl Davis gave us money for the new edition of the Hymnal, in memory of their son Carl Horace Davis, and his widow made it possible for us to replace most of our Prayer Books. Miss Nelson gave us the Swedish flag and Mr. Economos the Greek flag for the Chapel. Mr. Halsted Layton presented the School with two good riding horses, with saddles and bridles. Miss Louise Hanahan gave a fine set of Dickens to the Library. Many people contributed generously to the Richard David Cooper Memorial, the cost of which has been subscribed and paid in full.

One of the largest and most rewarding tasks of the Headmaster in wartime is keeping in touch with the hundreds of St. Andreans on battle fronts all over the world. As Alumni Secretary, Miss Welton has been of immeasurable help to both the Headmaster and the *Cardinal* in keeping in touch with our old boys.

The greatest strain of the year has been not from within the School itself but from the sad news of those Alumni who have made the supreme sacrifice. Ten of our approximately 250 old boys in the Armed Forces have laid down their lives. Four more are missing in action, and three are prisoners of war in Germany.

Since the last Report of the Headmaster to the Trustees the following casualties have occurred among our Alumni:

Lt. Arthur Stanley Brown-Serman, U.S.M.C.R., St. Andrew's School 1940, killed at San Diego, Calif., in an airplane accident.

Lt. Joseph Trippe Whitaker, A.U.S., St. Andrew's School 1940, killed at Camp Mackall, N. C., in an airplane accident.

Lt. Donald Murray, A.U.S., St. Andrew's School 1942, killed in Italy in a motorcycle accident.

Q.M. 3/c Malcolm Ford, U.S.N.R., St. Andrew's School 1942, killed in the explosion of the U.S.S. Turner.

Pvt. Thomas Marvel Gooden III, A.U.S., St. Andrew's School 1942, killed in a dormitory fire at the University of Maine, where he was a member of the A.S.T.P.

The following have been reported missing in submarine action:

Lt. John Norvin Compton, Jr., U.S.N.R., St. Andrew's School 1936.

Lt. George Estabrook Brown, Jr., U.S.N.R., St. Andrew's School 1937.

The following have been reported missing in air action over Germany:

Wing Commander Malcolm Crocker, D.F.C., R.A.F., St. Andrew's School 1935.

Lt. William Woodthorp Reade, U.S.A.A.F., St. Andrew's School 1939.

The following are Prisoners of War in Germany:

Flight Officer William Robert Fox, U.S.A.A.F., St. Andrew's School 1936, shot down off the coast of Italy.

Lt. Burdette Shields Wright, Jr., U.S.A.A.F., St. Andrew's School 1939, shot down over Germany.

The following have been wounded or injured:

Lt. Lawrence Johnson, Jr., A.U.S., St. Andrew's School 1939, wounded in France, near the eye and later in the heel. Lt. Johnson received the Purple Heart and the Silver Star.

Sgt. Arthur B. Dodge, A.U.S., St. Andrew's School 1941,
wounded in Italy.

Pfc. Theodore Burton, III, A.U.S., St. Andrew's School
1942, injured both legs falling over a cliff, after which
he captured three Germans single-handed on his way
back to his base.

The Malcolm Ford Scholarship, won for the year
1944-45 by Beauveau Borie Nalle, 1945, is a fine tribute
to an extremely popular Alumnus, who was conspicuous
for his good nature, athletic ability, sportsmanship and
leadership, and whose tragic death was a hard blow to
us all. The wording of the announcement of this
scholarship is as follows:

The Headmaster announces the
MALCOLM FORD SCHOLARSHIP
to be

Awarded Yearly to a Boy Who
Exemplifies the Qualities of
Leadership, Sportsmanship,
Friendliness and a Cheerful Spirit

• • •

This Scholarship is the Gift of
MR. AND MRS. SHERMAN FORD
in Memory of
Q.M. 3/c MALCOLM FORD, SAS '42

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The MALCOLM FORD SCHOLARSHIP will be awarded at Commence-
ment for the following School Year. The Winner will receive a
Certificate. The income from the Endowment of the Scholarship
will be applied either to the tuition of the Winner, or, in the case
of a boy whose parents are able to pay the full tuition, to making
it possible for another boy to attend St. Andrew's, whose parents
are unable to pay the full tuition.

The School year 1944-45 has opened auspiciously with 132 boys, our record enrolment. Our roster of employees is better filled than last year, partly because of a slight drift of workers back from war industry. The football team has started off with a tie and a victory, and the spirit of the School is generally excellent.

With S.S. Troopers still fighting it out for every last pile of rubble in Aachen, it may seem too soon to think about the School's post-war plans. It may be well, however, to list the projects and problems which should be considered for the years immediately ahead, when once hostilities cease. To the Headmaster these seem to be:

1. The completion of the Main Building by the addition of the wing over the present Auditorium, including a large Study Hall, two corridors of rooms for Fourth Formers, and a new Library and Auditorium. Architect's studies are already on hand for this project.

2. The building of additional houses for masters and other employees. It seems most desirable to have a large percentage of our employees living on or near the School property. The problems of maintenance, house-keeping and transportation would be greatly eased by such an arrangement.

3. The reorganization of the departments of the Faculty and Staff, after the return of the employees now on leave of absence in the Armed Forces, so that the School's administration and operation can be put on an adequate long term basis.

4. The increase of the enrolment to the proposed limit of 140 boys, and the elimination of the Gymnasium as living quarters for boys.

5. Comprehensive study of the possibility of the School's installing and operating its own power plant.

6. Financial planning to stabilize the yearly cost of operation, and to raise the income from tuitions to the point where they carry the cost of operation with appropriate help from the income of the Foundation. (The cost per boy this year has been slightly over \$1200.)

7. Additions and replacements to the present planting of the School grounds.

8. Careful study of the curriculum, and revision of it in accordance with the needs of the post-war world.

It will be a fascinating and rewarding task to evaluate our resources and accomplishments so far, and to chart our course for the future. May God Who has so richly blessed St. Andrew's these past fourteen years continue to pour His blessings upon us; and may we use them worthily.

Respectfully submitted,

WALDEN PELL, II

Headmaster

