

“De Alenne of Sheep-ford Wendath
Withersoever They Willen”



THE SIBFORD MAGAZINE

☁ 1940 ☁

The Sibford Magazine

— Incorporating the SOSA Annual Report —

The journal of, and published annually by, the
Sibford Old Scholars' Association

THE LIGHT WITHIN

Before these words achieved their present form we several times believed we had the message they ought, albeit clumsily, to convey. And as many times the seed refused to flower. Our mind engrossed elsewhere, the search for the food of cultivation led to two lines borrowed from a spirited and resounding hymn: "We are not divided, All one body we. . . ." And then we knew that we had been shown the answer to our search. For ought not the spirit of Sibford to unite us now, with a unity greater because initially and apparently there is so much that might divide us? May not those called to the faith and vocation of pacifism unite truly with their fellows called to the faith and vocation of military intervention? They may do so if they know that each has sought by the aid of the light within, that each has put the same interpretation upon the major issue, that fundamentally all are one. And if in their reactions they follow divergent paths, shall either call the other wrong? For to him who has searched and who has suffered in the intensity of his search there comes a deep and abiding humility: a humility by whose transcendent power the still small voice may be heard with a clarity unattainable in the grosser moments of arrogant self-righteous proclamation. This is that true humility by which we may sense the course of the Divine spirit, flowing down through each differing human life, merging, in the ultimate fullness, as tributaries of a river, into the one and the common stream. God has many children and there are as many paths to Truth. Upon this crude and unfinished earth we are not able to know Truth in its absolute finality; we know only that the pursuit of Truth for its own sake is the highest aim of life, and that for a while that pursuit is a relative, personal thing whose path is pointed by the voice and the guide of the light within. To make us united we need a visionary humility, an infinite trust that our fellow seeks, even as we seek, the way to Truth. We must trust that he asks and that he follows; and that, questioning him, we question conscience too. Is it too high a thing to believe that the spirit that flows from Sibford shall reach that glorious, uniting plane?

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Most of the officers and committee have been carried over from the previous list. The only changes (including change of address) which have come to our notice are as follow :

Secretary : JAMES BAILY, Fernlea, Claverham, Somerset.

Treasurer : FRED E. GOUDGE, 162 Hilton Lane, Prestwich, Manchester.

Magazine Editor : LESLIE J. CROSS, c/o Pilsworth, 56 Parsons Street, Banbury, Oxon.

Magazine Distribution : LIONEL GEERING, Wickham Barn, College Lane, Hassocks, Sussex. [1940-41

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of this magazine, and the other is that we want your help. On the last Whitsun gathering, the SOSA made a loss of about £36, which was the chief reason why the move to do without a magazine began. And subscriptions have not been coming in with any marked degree of spontaneous rapidity. Will you back up the decision to give you this magazine by sending Jim Baily half a crown, so that this publication will not add to the heavy financial drain upon our funds? If each Old Scholar who receives this magazine will do that (if he has not already done so—and even if he has we don't think Jim will refuse a second helping!), the production of this magazine will have been justified on the financial as well as the psychological front.

WE ASK YOUR HELP IN THIS SMALL WAY. WILL YOU GIVE IT? If you can't send half a crown, please send what you can.

Have you felt that in times like these it has done you good to read of Sibford, of its people, of your old school friends? Has it brought you once again a sense of the secure and serene strength that flows from the deep peace of the Sibford you love? We trust that it has, and that you will feel—well, it's worth half a crown, after all!

Yours very sincerely,
LESLIE J. CROSS.

WHITSUN REUNION 1941

There will be a reunion at Sibford on Whit Sunday. Bring your own food—drink will be provided. Write immediately to James Baily, Fernlea, Claverham, Somerset, so that the amount of drink required can be estimated.

THE EDITOR EXPLAINS

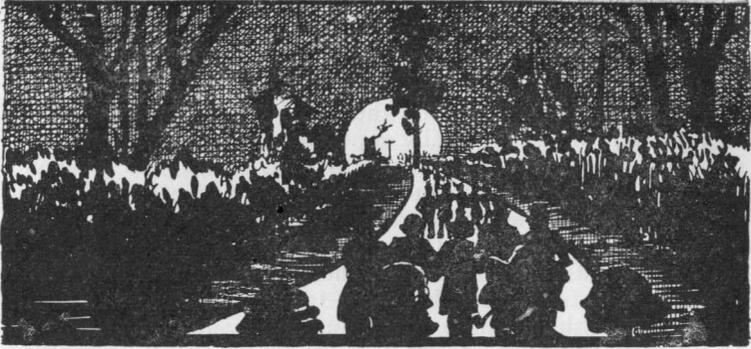
DEAR OLD SCHOLARS,

When Easter 1941 was on the verge of offering its daffodils, we received from the officially appointed editor word that he was training to be an officer in the Army and that, try as he would, Sibford and the Army wouldn't mix. Would we, he wanted to know, take on the job of producing some sort of news sheet in place of the usual full-sized magazine?

We sympathized with Leslie Thomas, to such an extent that we agreed to try, although, owing to a combination of events, we knew we should have little opportunity of giving it much attention. The result, squeezed in between an office in town, nocturnal fire watches, moving from one home to another, and moving finally to Banbury, is now before you. Quite ungraciously, perhaps, we cannot bring ourselves to apologize for the many general shortcomings we know it evinces, but we do feel that a word of explanation as to its form and its late appearance is probably desirable. Leslie Thomas asks us to apologize for the fact that he took on the job of editor at Whitsun in a weak moment, feeling that perhaps he ought not to have done so, and that since then he has been unable to get down to the job. Secretary Jim Baily says he approached a number of Old Scholars but could not find a substitute. Leslie Thomas before Easter, and we felt that if we agreed to do the job we ought to do it fairly quickly. We felt hopelessly out of touch and very hesitant, knowing that we should not be able to do it justice. But we capitulated. Waiting for Leslie to post us the matter he had collected (the raw material of much of the following pages came from him), we sought advice as to expenditure. Upon its receipt we got some estimates, and a miniature magazine began to take shape in our mind. Then from Secretary Jim came a postcard that succeeded in confusing us not a little. For, said Jim, there was not to be any magazine at all, but just a few sheets of foolscap duplicated from a typewritten stencil. Well, we thought it over, and we felt very strongly that to do that would be a psychological mistake. And we knew also that a number of subscriptions had been collected for 1940 from Old Scholars who would get nothing for their money if they didn't get a magazine. There were, too, some smaller points . . . and the more we thought it over the less we liked it. And so some more letters and some personal contacts were designed to put forward our conviction that Old Scholars deserved and ought to have a decently printed magazine in miniature, and that it could be done if we wanted to do it; and finally came the decision to go ahead. And here it is. . . .

You are probably saying: Why so many intimate details? Well, one reason is that we want to explain the how and the why

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HERE, haphazardly as they come, are items garnered from many quarters. First, from overseas :—E. P. Lakeman (80 in May) of Haleyville, Alabama, recently gave up publishing his newspaper *The Advertiser-Journal*. Sends notes to Leslie Baily for centenary book. Writes, "Proud indeed that old Sibford has blossomed into such a fine school". Henry Dearden (1894-1900) of Philadelphia, writes to say he met Frances Kennedy (housekeeper at Sibford about 1920), now living in Pa. Suggests a pictorial map of Sibford, to help those not knowing modern place-names. Harold Dixon (Alberta), enjoyed OSA mags and apologizes for his letter-writing—"one lone letter round about 1914 is my sole effort"! Left Sibford in 1911—recalls picnics at Elm when three or four boys would crawl up the inside of one branch. Sends painting of himself ("The Moke") and the Elm. Now running horticultural business with his brother Ernest. Recalls "attic" shared with Leslie Calcraft, Willy Bennett, Hammond Fassam and Charlie Bull. "Ham", he writes, "might remember when he saw a large rat on my bed . . . and when he informed me of the fact I passed the visitor on to him by a well-directed kick. It took refuge under his bed and he in mine . . ." Rose Tindall (Refuge Cove, British Columbia) was run over by two-ton truck three years ago, broke most of her bones, but sounds as chirpy as ever. "Thrilled" by signed p.c. from 1938 Whit gathering. Hopes the reunions will go on. "I can't imagine Sibford without those Whitsun gatherings, and Mr. and Mrs. Harrod and family in the midst." Ethel Barber (Opossum Bay, Tasmania), says brother Alan's wanderlust has been finally cured by three boys and two girls. Now she and husband running book and stamp shop—retired from their small farm. Alan Barber (N.S.W.) says, "I am camped on the banks of beautiful Lake Macquarie cleaning up a track of land which I hope to turn into a poultry farm and market garden. As it is bitterly cold at

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night just now, I had a huge fire going, and was lying down listening to my battery set to a piece called 'Scrapbook for 1900', when the announcer said—'and now I will take you over to Oxfordshire, to the old village of Sibford Ferris'. This made me sit up! When Fred Green and Joshua Lamb were introduced to the mike, I at once got my pen and started to write before I delayed again. . . . OS Magazine often very late—one copy followed me to New Zealand *via* the Pacific Islands, New Guinea, Singapore, and caught up with me in Sydney . . . another overtook me in Brazil . . . and another in Finland. Greetings to J.T.H. and M.T.H., to Thorpe, Roland Herbert and OSs of 1917 period." Maud Lambeth (Natal) writes of her husband's death (Thomas Lambeth), and referred to his undying affection for Sibford and Sibford friends. Enclosed sub. And asks for OS Magazine to be sent to her, as to her husband.

From nearer home :—Chas. Brady has "reduced age to 63 and applied to join the Parachute Potters, so I may be Private Brady soon"! Phyllis Woodall, Ministry of Health officer at Stourbridge, bumped into by Stanley Clayfield, also at Stourbridge. A CO, he was sacked by company with which he worked for twelve years, including two years as secretary. His brother, a teacher in a Birmingham school, also sacked because he is a CO. Kenneth Smith, working with the PPU and is a CO. Brian Wright has given up his pacifist views and has joined up. Derryck Hill was with FAU in Finland. In January 1939 drove with another Sibford OS through England, Norway, Sweden, and Finland, until they reached their base, when Harris left to do his job as mechanic with the Unit. Hill one of the only two men in the Unit who drove through Scandinavia without ditching his vehicle. Drove in terrible conditions. Helped evacuate Finn refugees after the peace, Unit transported about 5,000 of them. Then helped in Norway with the British Army, and got away at Namsos. Was machine-gunned by Russian planes, drove over frozen rivers and ice-covered mountain passes. Married Phyllis Carn (Sibford schoolchum) at Eastbourne, not long after his return from Finland. Other OSs in FAU are :—Christopher Marland, John Little, Eric Storey, Ian Hedger and Eric Hipsley. Another was Norman Booth, who was killed while serving with the Unit in a London hospital. He died instantaneously from a bomb splinter during a daylight raid. Quiet and unassuming, possessing "truth and honour, freedom and courtesy", Norman formed part of the real background of the FAU. Most of his work was at rest centres. Leslie Thomas, training to be an officer in the Army, joined the Royal Artillery at the end of last summer, "after spending most of my BBC period in the Overseas News Service (my real job was Public Relations Officer for Ulster, then W. of England)—

and after failing to get in the RAF (flying). After training in Dorset, I spent two months with a heavy Ack-Ack battery in London, and I am now being trained as an officer in Berkshire. I loathe the lack of privacy, but there's bits of gold hidden in the dross of Army life—many bits, in fact; and I have a new respect for my brother, the Common Man". Goes on:—"All of you have been wondering when you would see your OS Magazine, which I was to have produced, and while you have been wondering, nothing has been done. Army barrack rooms and dark cold huts on gun sites are not the proper place for editing a magazine of Sibford."

Lionel Geering (imprisoned as a CO in the last war) is doing useful jobs for War Vics as well as carrying on most of his other activities. The Geering family has taken a house in Shipston-on-Stour. Connie Mold (Bournemouth) works in a WVS canteen. Richard Lamb secured a scholarship at the Henry Ford Institute of Agricultural Engineering at Boreham, near Chelmsford, and went on there from Ackworth in the autumn. John Alexander was pilot of a fighter plane and had to bale out over Kent. He had a narrow escape and was badly burned, but landed safely and after a few weeks in hospital came to Sibford to convalesce and stayed five weeks with his wife at the Orchards. Desmond Hobson is also in the RAF, a pilot instructor, teaching fighter pilots. George Hobson, his brother, is also joining the RAF. Tom Butler got complete exemption as a CO. James Butler was given agricultural work. Geoffrey Jones is a bank clerk at Manchester—has signed as a CO. His sister Margaret Jones is a teacher at Sibford. Doris Wetherall is working at an evacuation home and holding down her husband's job as well. He is in ARP in Westminster. Eric Parkin, two terms at Sidcot as student teacher, is a CO, and has been doing work for evacuees' welfare.

Sibford Gower Meeting House is used as a day school for an evacuated school from Bow, London (thirty-five children). The Mission Room is a living place for two families from Poplar.

Boys and girls and staff of Sibford School have done a lot of work in repairing cottages and village hall at Sutton-under-Brailles for evacuees to live in. Wooden bedsteads were made in the School workshops and a cradle was made for a baby. John Coxon, an accountant, was exempted on condition of doing agriculture. Raymond Barclay, a CO, is doing voluntary work taking cocoa to people in Birmingham air raid shelters; 2,400 cups are distributed every night. David Hughes did 3,000 miles cycle trip round Europe, returning just before war started; is a CO. Stanley Mapp, a CO, exempted on condition of doing agriculture (is on the land in Somerset). Merlin Phillips, who was welfare worker at a big factory, was exempted on condition he did agriculture, is on a farm in Cornwall. Geoffrey Phillips

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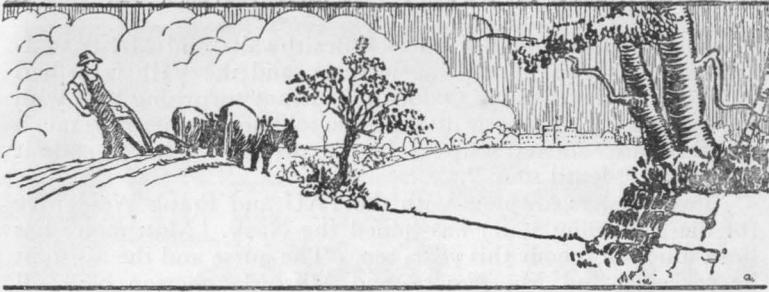
is at the PPU Community Farm, Langham, Essex. Harry Goudge is traveller for a boot firm. Gerald Ham is teacher at an open-air school at Bristol. His brother Derek is in the RAF (a rigger). Fred Noakes was rear-gunner in a bomber ; reported missing. Eric Quinton has been back on business at Birmingham from Durban, S. Africa. Roy Parsons is working in an aircraft factory ; Elsie Taylor, in office of London and Manchester Insurance Co. ; Edith Worrall, assistant secretary at Sibford School ; Helga Stoecker, assistant housekeeper in a school ; Oina Paterson, nursing at Stratford-on-Avon Hospital ; Ruth Osborn, in an Insurance Co. office ; Monica Knight, Peggy Yeoman and Pamela Dairy, orthopædic nursing ; Ishbel Whitaker, intending to take up radiology ; Madeleine Knight, dispensing in hospital ; April Fearon, in a nurses' school ; Franz Rosen, in a leather handbag factory ; Tim Pye, articulated to a borough engineer and surveyor ; Thos. Loewenstein, studying physics at Glasgow University ; Gordon Robinson, cinema operator. Bernard Lamb is still farming at Sibford, and is in the Observer Corps at a post near Sibford (also Fred Lamb). Joshua Lamb at 84 years of age broadcast again in "Everybody's Scrapbook" on September 12th. Fred Green has also broadcast in the Scrapbook series. Wilfred Green is now in the Royal Armoured Corps. Noah Biggs has a secretarial job at the BBC. John Dumpleton is doing secretarial work for the Chemical Society, and is giving voluntary help to the probation officer at St. Albans. Peter Lloyd, Gerald Lamb and Gerhard Dannenberg are farming. Richard Eaves is engineering. Ivy Broadhurst, assistant organizer, YWCA, Exeter. Janet Chattin is a library assistant. Norman Myall, on parents' mushroom farm. Ralph Godwin is banking. Ida Goose is studying domestic subjects. Sally Walker has recovered from her illness and celebrated her 84th birthday—good health ! Tom Swann is in the Canadian Army in England. Betty Swann, incendiary through roof at Thames Ditton. Francis (Dolly) Thompson still in the Research Department at the Gramophone Co., probably on Government work, but as close as an oyster. Frank Phillips at Hoover's in die-casting department. Howard Champion—Army Pay Corps. Ruby Clark has a blue-eyed baby daughter named Janet. John Smith and wife in Scapa. John Hughes had a bad accident on his bike. Recuperated on his uncle's farm in Essex. L. (Skimp) Stoneham, in Orkneys. A. P. C. Smith is L/Bdr., hoping to join Officers' Training Camp. George Law is managing a department of "Radio Rentals" at Richmond. Margaret Perry is helping at Inval St. Hilary School, Haslemere. Fred Sheldon has again been laid up, this time in Woodlands Hospital, Birmingham. Ronald Kennedy obtained unconditional exemption. Mabel Harrod has been made President of the Godalming BWTA. James T. Harrod

has been appointed on the Committee of the Blue Idol Guest House, near Horsham, and a manager of the Friends' Elementary School, Coolham, near Horsham. Gulie Grimes (Harrod) has a son named Christopher James.

Excitement last term when RAF machine tried to make a forced landing on the playing field, touched down, saw the goalposts in the way, and took off again.

Reg Barber has completed his RAF training and has been posted as a radio instructor, rank of corporal. Barry Naylor (social service at Appellate Tribunal) is going to work in South Wales, left Sibford at Easter. His wife (Miss Macpherson) will continue teaching. Isabella McCullum married Ivor G. Roberts. Harold D. Priestman married Marjorie Brown. H. Trevor Lloyd gained the degree of Ph.D. of Clark University, Massachusetts. Stanley Russell is exempted to do gardening. Jack Edwards (Oxford) is to do full time farming. James Edwards (Godalming) in hospital work at Dover. John H. Dale married Muriel E. Westacott. Wilfred Pollard still running paint manufacturing business with father, staff much depleted. Owen Reynolds (CO) in AFS. Arnold Kaye living at Welwyn with brother Edward P., who is very active in social and Quaker work there. Howard Rose sees the war close up as fire chief. Roland Herbert and other Sibford people are busily engaged in evacuation work in connection with War Vics. Leslie Carn (wife and offspring at Sibford village) is CO and still working and doing ambulance work at Eastbourne. Brother Hugh, who has been active for PPU and foreign refugee organization, also a CO. The Brown twins doing work party jobs for War Vics. Florence Lee still at Friends House on the staff. Also at Friends House is OS of the Robert Oddie-James Harrod change-over period, Florence Dent, who is in charge of the general enquiry office for the Friends Service Council, also does reception office routine for War Vics, and is on the London Committee of the War Vics. Finally, the person inveigled into becoming your editor is a CO also with War Vics, for some time at Friends House. Previously had left journalism (just in time to avoid being kicked out!) to work with the first Quaker evacuation scheme of this war, set up at Uxbridge FMH day after first London blitz. He and his wife are now wardens of War Vics relief centres in Banbury.

LEFT OUT.—Old Scholars may regret the omission of the statutory features. When he passed the job on to us, Leslie Thomas (elected Editor last Whitsun) wrote as follows: "The account of the week-end, Howard Quinton's Presidential address on 'Art and Music', and Derryck Hill's fascinating account of his trip to Finland with the FAU, I concluded would have to be left out. With them is an analysis of cricket records worked out by Bernard Blunsom and left out for the same reason."



MENTAL SOUP

The School year report from Arthur Johnstone is as follows :

The impact of war upon the schools of Europe has been disastrous. Education has been curtailed, smothered or given that evil twist which makes the future so dark and unpredictable. We at Sibford have been extraordinarily fortunate : undisturbed, we have gone on quietly with our work. And what a happy year it has been ! So many were the applications for admission that we have had to place pupils in Friends' houses in the village and we had the still further record of 183 pupils in the School. We hated having to arrange for the darkening of our beautiful light building. It was a most difficult task but by January we had managed it. School work has gone with a swing and provided many fresh records. Here it is in scrapbook form : twenty-four entered for School Certificate and twenty-two passed ; two silvers, seventeen bronzes and five intermediates were secured in the Royal Life Saving examination ; more than 1,600 birds were ringed in the year ; about 2,000 library books were borrowed each term ; in the last cricket match of the season, Eaves took six wickets with six balls ; the Hallow-e'en parties and the picnics to Whichford and Edgehill were delightful times for all ; in the great frost, snow was piled eight feet high in the field and for one meal bread had to be strictly rationed.

Rationing ! Feeding a household of our size is no joke these days, and I feel that I don't want to see any more forms-intricate about food ! But we do pretty well. Last year we drank over six thousand gallons of milk, and from our own orchards ate four thousand pounds of apples and pears ; we tucked into over a ton of treacle, and somebody made more than half a ton of marmalade.

We went four times to Stratford and saw " As You Like It ", " The Merchant of Venice ", " Hamlet " and " She Stoops to Conquer ". The Pilgrim Players gave us a delightful performance of " Tobias and the Angel " in our own School, Frederick Woodhouse, Hubert Foss and Mr. and Mrs. Bennett gave us

MENTAL SOUP

splendid recitals, and J. Frederick Braithwaite and Mr. Bassett-Loweke gave most interesting lectures, and the VIth form had an excellent day touring Oxford. It is not surprising that with all this activity one of our little people told her mother how much she liked our "mental soup"—I am really sorry to have to admit she meant "lentil soup".

Two masters are now with the FAU and Frank Woolgrove (of the gardening staff) has joined the Navy. Matrimony has been much in the air this year, too. The nurse and the assistant housekeeper and Mr. Naylor and Miss Macpherson have all scorned Mr. Punch's famous advice.

Additional notes added later to Mr. Johnstone's report are as follow :

We have purchased the old playing field largely out of money found by the J. B. Braithwaite Memorial Fund, and it is to be called the "J. B. Braithwaite Field".

Holly House has also been bought, but the Herberts are staying there in part of the house. The rest is being turned into accommodation for girls and staff. The School will be able to take more pupils and Holly House will also bring in girls who have been sleeping in the village. The number of scholars in School will then be 197, including day scholars. "Quality Street", the play in the autumn term, was a big success. Costumes, scenery, and everything else was made in School, and the play was given three times—once for the School, and two houses (free) for the village. The places of Mr. Prior and Mr. Darlington (FAU) have been temporarily taken by Sidney Todd and F. Eric Clegg. Eleven out of the thirteen teaching members of the staff are members of Society of Friends—unique in Friends' schools. David and Annie Stevens, caretakers of The Hill for ten years, have left, and were given presentations. Their places were taken by Mr. and Mrs. E. Grey, of Birmingham, parents of an Old Scholar. During the autumn term the girls made presents for children in Bow School, which is using the lower Meeting House. Parents were invited to let their children stay at school for the Christmas holiday : eight stayed, but with children of the staff and visiting parents in the village, there were forty at the parties held on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. The staff took turns to look after them.

[Old Scholars will read the above report with more than general interest. In the midst of war, its news of events of a refreshing and evolutionary character is indeed a "mental soup" of the most stimulating variety.—ED.]

THE ACCOUNTS.—Fred E. Goudge writes : "You may exclude publication of the statement of accounts—that is really waste of space, as most people are not interested. But will you ask people to send their subs. if possible, to keep us solvent? I shall not be able to circularize members in wartime."



AROUND AND ABOUT

Leslie Baily is experiencing the thrills of nomadic existence. Some of his wanderings are described in his contribution to a touring letter which the London branch has set in motion among twelve of its members.

He writes on official notepaper "as a sign of poverty, not swank", his personal belongings having been packed up so that he might "accompany a detachment of this extraordinary Corporation on yet another of its 'secret' moves to 'somewhere in England' in order to foil the enemy". "Since October 1939", he says, "I have worked in seven or eight offices in various parts of the country, broadcasting from parish halls, ex-cinemas and provincial BBC studios, and residing in town in a billet which was comfortable but became rather tiresome, as the family on whom I was inflicted by the Government had made no progress mentally, physically or morally since 1899 . . . and I'm now off again to our new hide-out. The whole of North Wales is agog at our secret coming. . . ."

"It also has been an unexpected novelty to use as an office such places as in peacetime functioned as hotel bedrooms (with h. and c.), a public school headmaster's house, and a ladies' cloakroom! All these diversions have been necessary to provide the British public and our listeners abroad with a continuous broadcasting service, come what may."

Leslie's experiences are in essence duplicated in the lives of many Old Scholars now in the Forces, in the FAU, in "War Vics" and other wartime organizations. When the history of the OSA comes to be written, this period will undoubtedly stand out as a time of considerable expansion of general community awareness.

Incidentally, the block above has a topical as well as a retrospective interest, in that the world-famous character bowing to the passing pageant has lately completed a circle of his own wanderings. How many OS's recall the year and the occasion Howard Quinton's drawing depicts?

OS MARCHES ON

In the course of the years we have had occasion to record the periodic ascendances of many Old Scholars, but none has climbed so rapidly toward the top of the ladder of commercial and "city" success as Henry J. Randall.

On the 2nd of May of last year Charles E. Brady, Henry Lawrance and Arnold Kaye were invited by Henry Randall to a city luncheon at the Hall of the Haberdashers' Company in Gresham Street in the City of London, in celebration of his election as Master of the Aldersgate Ward Club. The Lord Mayor attended and also the Sheriffs. "The luncheon", reports Arnold, "was such as one expects in the tradition of London civic hospitality. The speeches were excellent and 150 London men will recall it as a memorable occasion."

On the 30th of December the Hall (containing oak panelling, oil paintings, banners, coats of arms, marble staircase, and stained glass windows) was a smouldering ruin: the City fire blitz of the previous night had wiped out the scene of Henry's celebration. With due reverence, however, the bombs had deferred to Henry's own particular office, thus demonstrating that it takes something more than a blitz to stop Sibford's city success!

SIBFORD CENTENARY HISTORY

Next year the School will celebrate its hundred years. The first scholars entered the new Quaker school at Sibford in January 1842. This centenary represents in the School a great activity touching and guiding the lives of thousands of people, many experiments in education, many lasting friendships, much expansion in buildings, in teaching methods, and in the number of scholars, which has risen from the handful of 1842 to close on 200 to-day.

Plans had been laid by a joint committee of the SOSA and the School Committee for the marking of the centenary by some adequate celebration at Whitsuntide and at General Meeting next year, and also by the publication of a Centenary History. To what extent it will be possible to bring these plans to fruition will depend on the course of the war. At present, work on the preparation of the Centenary History has been brought to a standstill owing to the wartime duties of its editor, Leslie Baily, and others who were helping in the preparation of the book. Many Old Scholars and others had sent to the editor their reminiscences of life at Sibford, with documents and photographs of historic interest. Some of these were displayed at a small exhibition at Sibford last Whitsuntide. They have all been lodged now in the safe keeping of Arthur Johnstone until such time as editorial work can be resumed. In the meantime, anyone who has such notes and documents should send them to Arthur Johnstone.

