

MILTON NEWS

Wednesday 7th. February 1979

No. 267

Notes from the Headmaster

The annual General Meeting of the Parent Teacher Association takes place in the Beit Memorial Hall. One of the major functions of the meeting is to elect parents to the Executive of the P.T.A. but, thanks to a wonderful group of people who have volunteered their services, we will not need to call on anyone at short notice. We will have several vital topics to discuss at this meeting so I hope that all parents who have their son's welfare at heart will attend so as to participate as fully as possible.

Now that examination results have been received and the dust has settled, we are able to work properly once more and every boy should be fully occupied. Homework (at least 4 subjects per night) should take, even the form one boy, at least an hour and a half per day and of course, the form 4 or form 6 pupil should expect to spend at least 2½ hours per day on prep. If your son is not spending that amount of time on prep, he is not doing his job and will not make the requisite progress.

The first six weekly reports will be issued in 3 to 4 weeks time, thus all pupils will be involved in a great deal of testing in the next few weeks and should make adequate preparations.

As mentioned at the sundowner for parents new to the school this term, all form one pupils will be given aptitude tests in a few days time so that we will have more information about them and therefore be in a better position to judge whether they are working to potential or not.

Interview with Mr. Love, member of Old Miltonians' Committee.

Mr. Love attended Milton from 1939 to 1945 and has been an Old Miltonian since then; he has been on the Old Miltonian committee since 1947.

When asked if Milton had changed much, he said that structurally there have been great changes, but Milton boys are still the best! He also said that in his days boys were beaten if they stepped out of line (by both teachers and prefects) and said that this was a good thing if done reasonably.

When asked if he remembered any unusual events when he was at school, Mr. Love recollected that many male teachers went to fight in the 2nd. World War and female teachers were brought in for the first time; the senior boys thought that they could get away with anything, but he said they were soon put right by the teachers. Mr. Love also said that the competition between Milton and Plumtree was as great today, if not greater, but Milton seemed academically stronger.

Mr. Love also talked about the Old Miltonians' Sports Club and its connection with Milton. He said that any boy who had attended either Milton Junior or Senior was eligible to be an Old Miltonian, but unfortunately the club had to be opened to the public mainly owing to lack of support from old boys. However, the club does play a part in school life as it offers its sporting facilities to Milton.

Mr. Love said that boys that have just left Milton have benefits when they join the club in that they only have to pay a \$5 membership fee as opposed to the usual \$10, 50 entrance fee and \$25 sporting fee. He also added that the committee was open to true Old Miltonians. Mr. Love concluded that the prime object of the club is to get Old Miltonians together.

R.H.

Topic

The term for most of the school is now well under way. The sixth form is knuckling down to hard work and even the new boys have lost their strangeness.

This year I feel that communication and unity exists throughout the range of boys of all ages at the school. Milton offers scope for self expression within the school. Students gain pride and confidence by organising their own activities whether they be debating, work in the libraries or their house activities.

The school's theme this year is discipline. This theme is apt and we should co-operate in the interests of our own educational development and to promote the continuation of the school's tradition.

All of us at Milton feel some degree of pride in being part of a great school. I feel that everyone should become involved in school activities, particularly this year. A deep involvement is of mutual benefit to both the boy and the school. This year it is imperative that we should work and play hard.

Finally, please remember that you may express your views in the Milton News. The more of your content that this paper contains, the more interesting it will be to you.

C.G.

Review of a Book newly released in the Milton Library

Available in the VIth. form library:

Avalanche Express By Colin Forbes

This book sees Colin Forbes at his best. It is full of excitement, suspense, mystery, murder and sudden death, ingredients which all make good reading. The plot, which is explained at the early chapters of the book, is well thought out and keeps the reader guessing right

through the book. It involves the guarding of a top KGB agent who has defected to the West and who carries very valuable information. This particular agent must be closely guarded to avoid assassination by agents sent out from the Soviet Union. The book records his journey from Holland to America, a journey of suspense and full of hazards. If you enjoy an action packed thriller, this book is for you.

J.P.

Careers

With scores of boys having seen the headmaster last week to decide on a course of subjects to be studied in the VIth. form, following the arrival of the public examination results, this seems to be an appropriate time to consider the problem of choosing a career.

Ten or twelve years ago it was comparatively easy to follow ones nose through an educational institution and then find a job to match the qualifications. This is most certainly no longer so. In the last ten years old jobs categories have been sub-divided into a host of other jobs and the list of new jobs in the many fields is staggering. It is not just that there are so many jobs to choose from these days, the problem is that each and every one of all these jobs has a specific educational requirement. Today you must match your education to some employment goal. You must decide upon a job and choose the subjects to match.

My message is really to those who have the opportunity to avoid making the mistake of choosing favourite subjects or those that appear to be the easiest. It is a great benefit of this school that pupils are no longer asked to make subject choices in the form 2 and 3 area. The subject choice problem falls into the post O level years and hence all of you now into the O level course, should be settling on a career now; dont wait for results and then try to decide.

Choose a career and match your subjects to it. You will find that your subjects then have significance - they are leading you to a job.

Finally, I would like to point out that the careers room is open every afternoon (except Friday) between 2 and 3 o'clock. Pupils are not making full use of this vital centre of information. Every pupil in the school (even form 1's)-should be using it frequently. For the benefit of the Vith. formers the careers room is open during the morning too. Some vital study periods could be used profitably in this room.

Interview with Mr. Annandale

Mr. Annandale was educated at Guinea Fowl School and attended the University of Rhodesia for 4 years to gain a B.A. degree and teaching diploma. During his final year as a student, he was a duty master in Rhodes House at Prince Edward School.

Asked whether he thought that being young helped one to understand the mentality of scholars, Mr Annandale replied that being young does have positive advantages. For example, one is very much aware of what motivates young people and one can sense what their particular problems and outlooks may be. Of course, despite age, working with young people all day keeps one in touch with their feelings about many things. He believes that there are problems and advantages in teaching both seniors and juniors, but that it is more relaxing to teach juniors, who do not have to face public exams. It is a big responsibility to get boys through public exams and they always look to the teacher as the key. When they pass, the effort is well worth it though!

As schools these days don't have a rigidly disciplined outlook, Mr. Annandale thinks that at times standards do fall. On the whole though, he believes that there is a significant core of mature and responsible seniors at all schools and that it is their example that people tend to follow.

When asked if he thought that the standard of discipline was higher or lower at Prince Edward, he replied that both Milton and P.E. are schools with long traditions and discipline has been a feature in the two. He could honestly say that both have a pretty high standard without being too rigid.

He believes that, as a specific group, boarders are more spirited and he would agree that this is a result of living together. They learn to share the same ideals and problems, and this is what builds spirit.

Asked whether he hated school, believing that he would never want to teach, he replied firmly in the negative. He added that there were obviously bad moments but he found school an enjoyable and enlightening experience, once he had begun to appreciate what a good school aims to do for one. He believes that to be a good teacher one needs to be patient, understanding and appreciative of pupils' problems.

At this stage of his career teaching takes up a lot of his time. People often fail to realise all the backroom work that goes into every lesson and sporting activity. One's field of operations is very wide. Of course the pressure is always there, but with experience one learns how to cope with it.

When asked if he had any pearls of wisdom to offer to schoolboys, he quoted with apologies to J.F.K. "Ask not what your school can do for you, but what you can do for your school".

David Fox.

From an essay on Napoleon III :

"Narrow, dirty streets were replaced by clean, wide
boulevards.....!!!"

Staff XI remain unbeaten

The staff cricket team retained their unbeaten record when they took the field against the U13A's on Wednesday.

Mr. Hawkins won the toss and elected to field. Finch and Rix opened the U13's batting and both lost their wickets quickly - possibly owing to nerves rather than the excellence of the staff bowlers! They had achieved their aim however, and given their colleagues sufficient time to weigh up the staff fielders before coming to the crease. With this vital information they were able to exploit staff weaknesses and they built up a very respectable total of 85 all out. B. O'Callaghan overcame several blows to the body in reaching a very creditable 22 and Pattison played well for his 19 runs.

Although a little nervous about their total, the U13's were confident that with only 45 minutes of time left, the staff had no hope of a win. Mr. Bing and Mr. Gracie opened the batting for the staff. Mr. Gracie fell to a good ball from Finch and Mr. Harlen suffered the same fate a few balls later - he was heard to mutter something about the difference in weight between a driver and a cricket bat. Mr. Annandale came in next, but Finch, with the help of the umpire, managed to put him back in the pavilion; we can compliment him however on the outstanding way in which he took his guard. Mr. Swales joined Mr. Bing and the scoreboard began to tick along merrily - unfortunately time was doing the same! With the score on 52 Mr. Bing was bowled by Whyte after making 41 runs. Mr. Bain joined Mr. Swales and saw the game through to stumps. Mr. Swales scored 15 not out and Mr. Bain 11.

The result was a draw. The U13's should be pleased with their performance and the staff should practise their catching before the next game!

Statistics U13: 85 all out Pattison 22, O'Callaghan 19; Mr. Swales 2 for 10,

Mr. Bowyer 3 for 10,
Mr. Hawkins 2 for 16 and
Mr. Bing 2 for 11)

Staff 74 for 4 (Mr. Bing 41, Mr. Swales
15 n.o.
Finch 3 for 21)

* * * * *

1st. XI Cricket

On Saturday Milton's 1st. team played a side Old Miltonians side. Viljoen won the toss and elected to bat and Milton were soon in trouble, after they lost viljoen cheaply. However, the middle order batsmen stuck to their task and some fine batting by DeVilliers (42) and Gibb (45 n.o.) saw Milton reach a respectable total of 170.

The O.M.'s openers were dismissed by some fine bowling from Pettican. The new batsmen tore the Milton bowling apart however, and at 143 for 3, O.M.'s seemed to have the game well under control. Kettle and Smith however, kept the run rate down and some fine bowling by Smith saw O.M.'s tumble from 143 for 3 to 169 for 8 and with two wickets in hand, they passed Milton's score, smith taking 4 for 30

A.V.

* * * * *

From a letter of enquiry about renting a caravan :
" I would require a sanitary bloke nearby!!"

* * * * *