1937-51

When Mr. Watt had applied for leave of absence at the end of 1936, in order to regain his health, Mr. T. A. Williams had been installed as Acting Headmaster. Following the Headmaster's sudden death the following January the appointment was made permanent, and T.A.W., after some twenty years, first as an assistant master and for most of the period as Senior Master, began his fourteen exacting and difficult years as Headmaster.

It is no disrespect to Mr. Watt to point out that in 1937 there was much need of reform at M.G.S. Discipline was often slack, academic standards were not as rigorous as they should have been, many current developments in educational thought and practice had passed unheeded. Mr. Watt in his later years, with serious illness bearing down on him and weary after twenty-five years of Headmastership, was not the man he had been. The time was indeed ripe for a younger and firmer Headmaster, with new ideas and enthusiasms, and yet one appreciative of the great good already deeply rooted in M.G.S. Such a man was T.A.W.

His years of office, however, though they brought the School many successes and much praiseworthy achievement, were a time of acute difficulties. Barely had he taken the measure of his task than School and nation were overcome by the horrors of the Second World War, and he and his depleted Staff were coping as best they could with a flood of evacuees, shortage of books and equipment, and all the vexations of war. It is to their great credit that they overcame these troubles to the extent of bringing to the School in 1941 its first County Major University Scholarship, in 1944 a new record number - twenty-seven - of School Certificates, and a consistent and impressive array of University places and other successes.

The difficulties did not vanish with the armistice, for the astringencies of wartime continued throughout the Forties and there were then to be accommodated all the changes and upheavals brought about by the 1944 Education Act and the other legislation of the new Welfare State. When Mr. Williams retired in 1951 he handed over a school very different from that which he inherited, a school in which every pupil had passed a selection test and was therefore a potential School Certificate candidate, a contrast indeed to the Grammar School of 'the Thirties,' where the majority of the pupils were still fee-paying, in which academic standards showed a much wider range, and in which far fewer pupils were intent on a career demanding academic qualifications.

If ever one man personified M.G.S. it is surely T.A.W. Quite apart from the success of his Headmastership the School owes much to his work as an extraordinarily active Assistant Master. Coming to the School in 1913 he quickly threw himself whole- heartedly into all its activities, in the classroom and on the sports field. He taught Science with flair and firm direction, he established the School's fine traditions for Football and Cricket, he founded its Scout troop, he participated in its concerts and entertainments, he organized School outings. But what the School gained from T.A.W. was far more than the sum of all his activities, as Head or as Assistant, it was the man himself, and this is the theme that runs throughout the many tributes paid to him on his retirement in 1951. His parting gift to the School was a handsome Bible, bearing on its flysheet the simple words: To M.G.S. from T.A.W.'

As his successor, Mr. Taylor, said at Speech Day, 1951:

> *"The inscription shows the essential humility of the man; the gift his Christianity.*"

T.A.W's colleague for thirty-two years, Mr. Barty, wrote of him in 'The Maltonian," in the course of an account of his many services to the School:

. . . Then came 1939. In spite of the ever increasing burdens his wonderful good humour and consideration for others still persisted . . . Through all the changes that life has brought he has remained my friend, but he will know that I write with sincerity on behalf of all my colleagues when I assure him of not only our admiration for his work but of our personal affection and wish him a long and happy life. Though he may have relinquished the cares of office, we know that he will continue to serve his fellows as unselfishly as he has always done...'

And indeed so it proved. Typically, T.A.W. continued to live close to the School that had been his life, and though the later years of his retirement were shadowed by serious illness, he never failed, when health allowed, to take the closest interest in the affairs of M.G.S., and in the lives of the hundreds of Maltonians he had known. His death in the autumn of 1964 was a grievous loss to all of us who have the School at heart.

The 1944 Education Act brought a change to the status of M.G.S. It recognised two main groups of Voluntary Schools, a category that included M.G.S. by virtue of the ancient Holgate foundation. The more privileged status, 'Voluntary Aided,' allowed two-thirds of the Governors to be Foundation Governors, the rest being nominated by the local Education Authority, and gave the Governors the power of appointing and dismissing teachers, together with the regulation of the School's religious teaching. For these privileges the Governors had to meet half the cost of all alterations to premises and of all external repairs - an impossible obligation in the case of M.G.S. The School was forced, therefore, to surrender some of its independence and accepted the alternative Voluntary Controlled status, allowing only seven of the twenty-one Governors to be Foundation Governors, the rest being appointed from local secular bodies as determined by the North and East Riding Education Authorities. The power of appointing and dismissing teachers also passed to the Authorities, though the Governors retain certain rights of consultation with regard to the appointment of the Headteacher, and have in practice continued to exercise, through the Headmaster, a considerable say in the appointment of assistant Staff. Religious teaching was now to be according to an agreed undenominational syllabus. Three other North Riding Grammar Schools - Lady Lumley's at Pickering, Northallerton Grammar School, and Sir William Turner's School, Redcar - also became controlled. Apart from the composition of the Governing Body and other privileges detailed above M.G.S. has the advantage over Maintained County Schools—in which full control is vested with the Local Authority - of an additional income from the property of the old endowment, a sum totalling about £80 a year, and the control of this is vested in the hands of specially appointed 'Endowment Governors.'

The 1944 Act introduced the important principle of Secondary Education for all. Previously Secondary Education had been conceived as that provided at a grammar school, for which scholarships could be won or fees could be paid. In 1944 numbers at M.G.S. totalled a hundred and eighty-two, of whom half were receiving scholarships. The remainder paid fees, which stood at twelve guineas a year, together with the cost of text-books, which were about thirty shillings a year. All entrants, however, did have to sit an entrance examination, quite apart from the Scholarship examination, so that a certain basic standard of attainment was assured. But by no means all applicants for fee-paying places could be admitted; in 1944 admission was refused to half the applicants on account of lack of space and staff. Those not

able to obtain Secondary Education, by fees or scholarship, had to be content with Elementary Education, provided by local senior or all-age schools until the age of fourteen.

But by the 1944 Act Secondary Education, in various forms, was to be made available to all children. The grammar schools were to provide an education with an academic emphasis, for those successful in an examination taken at the age of ten or eleven. Thus in 1945 all First-Formers entering Malton G.S. had passed this examination. Other form of Secondary Education were technical and 'modem', but until a modern school could be built in Malton late in 'the Fifties' all children not attending the Grammar School remained at the old elementary schools.

It was the responsibility of each Local Education Authority to decide how to provide its children with these three forms of Secondary Education. The North Riding, in some of its rural areas, developed bilateral schools, with the grammar and modern streams housed side by side in the same building; this was the case at Pickering, Thirsk and Easingwold, and was proposed for Malton. But after much controversy and discussion among the Governors, it was decided to preserve the Grammar School intact and at some future date to build anew modem school on a nearby sue. This was possible in the case of Malton because the pupils from the East Riding were sufficient to give it a two-stream intake, considered to be the minimum size to make a secondary school justifiable economically.

The School's numbers during these years were usually about a hundred and seventy. There was a slight rise towards the end of the period, as more pupils stayed on for Sixth Form courses, a trend followed by grammar schools all over the country, reflecting a widespread and growing demand for higher education. During the early years of the war the School had to accommodate some two hundred evacuees, from Middlesbrough and Hull, and dealt with the problem by means of two shifts of pupils, one in the morning, the other in the afternoon.

The buildings long campaigned for by Mr. Watt, the erection of which had commenced in 1936, did not, ironically, come into use until after his death. They were officially opened by Sir William Worsley on September 30th, 1937. These extensions gave the School new cloakrooms and changing rooms, at the northern ends of the two wings of the original building, and the quadrangle was closed, as had been the intention of the architect in 1911, by the erection of a spacious and well equipped Science Laboratory, to replace the inadequate facilities in Room 5. This Laboratory was on the site of the hut, which was now moved to a site just north of the main buildings, where it remained until 1959, as combined Gymnasium and Dining Room. The enlarged playing fields, purchased in 1935, did not come into use until 1939, nor did the new Tennis courts along Middlecave Road.

These new buildings were the only ones to be erected during Mr. Williams' time of office. And in spite of the increased accommodation they provided, over crowding remained a constant problem. In 1949 the Headmaster wrote:

'Some of our larger forms present us with the problem of putting, if not a quart, at least a pint and a quarter, into a pint pot.'

Wartime, however, did bring some changes to the School's outward appearance, if only by way of the anti-splinter netting on the windows, and at times the School field was not in its best condition, for we read in 'The Maltonian' that 'the outfield was knee-deep in grass,' no fuel being available for the mower!

The war, as in all schools, brought staffing problems, and much part-time help had to be obtained locally, as from the Rev. P. H. Worman. A fair measure of continuity was, however, provided, for as well as the Headmaster both Mr. Barty and Mr. Rolls were at their posts throughout the period. Mr. Barty remained in charge of History, Geography and Music, as he had been since 1919, and Mr. Rolls taught Games and P.E. to the boys, and English to the whole School, asuming charge of that subject in 1946. The death of Mr. Watt necessitated several Staff changes. Miss Rachel Ashcroft, B.A., direct from Leeds University, had been appointed to teach a number of subjects, principally Latin and English, during Mr. Watt's leave of absence, and she was able to remain at M.G.S. until April 1938, when Miss Lucy Taylor, M.A. of Edinburgh University, was appointed to teach Latin and Sixth Form English. Miss Taylor came with teaching experience at Malvern and at St. Margaret's School, Folmont, and when she left in 1946 it was to become a Senior Lecturer at Salisbury Diocesan Training College. From 1940 until her departure she was Senior Mistress. Miss Taylor was a teacher of wide outlook and many enthusiasms, she had great energy and was willing to place herself generously at the service of the School. Mr. Rolls has written of her:

Miss Taylor was surely one of the most talented members of Staff we have ever had at M.G.S. Very widely read, and cultured in the best sense of the word, she could do everything: we remember some exquisite verse she wrote for "The Maltonian" and some very talented paintings she once showed us. We also remember her brave VI Form English production of Hamlet with Keith Towse as the Prince, Jean Moon as Laertes, and Andrew Barton as the First Grave-digger. That production certainly had its moments, but Miss Taylor took it all in her stride.'

In September 1937 Mr. K. Beverley, B.Sc., of Manchester University, joined the Staff, to be in charge of the Science teaching now that Mr. Williams was busy with general school administration. He also found himself having to teach some Mathematics, Mr. Brewin having left the previous July for a post at Walsall G.S. Mr. Beverley was soon busy organizing the new Laboratory, but found time to give Mr. Barty considerable assistance with the School's Music. His post was a difficult one to fill when he left for the Forces in 1940. There were several temporary appointments including Mr. Brundret and Miss Tinker, but much of the burden of the School's Science must have fallen upon Mr. Williams. Mr. Beverley returned in 1946 but left three years later for Macclesfield Grammar School and was replaced by an Old Maltonian, Mr. Kenneth Smith (1935-42), an old pupil of Mr. Beverley's, who had taken his B.Sc. at Sheffield University and had subsequently taught at Richmond Grammar School. He in his turn left in 1951, the same time as the Headmaster's retirement, for Appleby Grammar School in Westmoreland.

Miss Orr, who was in charge of French and also Senior Mistress at the time of Mr. Watt's death, left the Staff in 1940 for the happiest of reasons, her marriage to the Headmaster. In the midst of the anxieties of war this event brought great joy to the many Maltonians who had shared something of Mr. Williams' grief at the death of his first wife, always so popular a figure at School functions and this joy was greater still when in later years the School heard of the arrival first of a son, John, and later of a daughter, Angela. Mrs. Williams was able to return to teaching French at M.G.S. in 1947. In the interval the position had been filled by two teachers, first by Miss Lamin, B.A., who came from Bell's Grammar School at Coleford, Gloucestershire, and then from 1945 to 1947 by Miss Derbyshire, who had just obtained First Class Honours in French at Leeds University ;she left in 1947 to take up a University Research Scholarship in Paris.

A number of teachers, mostly taking Arts' subjects with junior forms, assisted at M.G.S. during the war, but this post was first put on a permanent footing by Miss Helena Lumsden, B.A., of Durham University, who joined the Staff in 1945. She left in 1948, and was replaced by Miss Audrey Howarth, B.A., of Liverpool University. Miss Howarth, as well as her able teaching and her help with School plays, did fine work re-establishing the School Guides in the post-war years. In 1947, to take Miss Taylor's Latin and to assist Mr. Barty with History and Geography, Mr. G. Bratt, B.A., who had been a pupil at M.G.S. from 1925-26, before attending Leeds Grammar School, joined the Staff, after some years teaching in Leeds and a spell of Army Service. Miss Fraser, except for two periods of sickness, taught Art throughout this whole period, and Girls' P.E. and Games also until 1942, when it was arranged that the School should share a trained P.E. mistress with Lady Lumley's School, Pickering. The appointment went first to Miss Doreen Frankland, direct from the Chelsea College of Physical Education, and in 1946, after Miss Frankland's move to Penrith Grammar School, to Miss M. Taylor, from Anstey College. She left in 1950, and in the following year Miss Dorothy Stavely, of Nottingham Training College, was appointed.

Mr. Walter Metcalfe, who divided his time after 1911 teaching Woodwork at Whitby and Malton, retired in 1939. He is one of that grand company of devoted servants, including T.A.W., A.B., Miss Douthett and the Barkers, who have made M.G.S. the splendid School it is by reason of a lifetime's service. It is such men as he, content to spend all or most of their careers in one post, that provide the focus for the affections of successive generations of old scholars, thus making the School more than a place of instruction but enabling it to be a living community. Though he was only a part-time teacher, for most of his time travelling to Malton two days a week, Walter Metcalf is at the root of the traditions of M.G.S. Mr. Rolls, who knew him first as a teacher, then as colleague, writes of Mr. Metcalf:

"Mecca" was a fine craftsman well known for his wood carving. He carved by hand the lectern that is still used at Assembly. It is a lovely piece of worii. He built, with some expert and much blundering assistance, our first Pavilion and Changing-Rooms. . . . WHh "Mecca" there was nonsense in plenty, though somehow or other he usually came out on top in the end. Even more than Miss Douthett "Mecca" is a legendary figure among those who were at M.G.S. in the Twenties and Thirties. Perhaps his finest hour was the School trip to the Wembley Exhibition. None who were there will ever forget the thunderous applause and repeated shouts of "Encore!" that followed his vocal renderings of "Quibble's Cocoa".'

He was replaced by a full-time teacher, Mr. G. Mudge, with varied teaching experience in the Lake District, who taught not only Woodwork but also some Mathematics, English and Games.

The post of Domestic Science Mistress saw many changes. Among those appointed to succeed Miss Cornforth, who left in 1938, were the Misses Low, Wrigley, Barker and Kenmir, culminating in the appointment of Miss Booth in 1949.

It can be fairly said that of all the Staff changes that occurred at M.G.S. during these years none occasioned more regret, to those who went and to those who stayed, than that of December 1947, when Mr. and Mrs. George Barker, caretakers, helpers and friends of the School since the pioneering days of 1912, entered upon their well merited retirement. George about the Games field, Mrs. Barker distributing dinners in the Domestic Science Room or preparing gorgeous fare for the Christmas parties, these, like so much else the Barkers said and did, are high amongst the recollections of all Maltonians at School during this long

period. George's retirement, alas, was not a very long one; he died in the Autumn of 1955, and Mr. Rolls, who had known him from the viewpoint of both schoolboy and schoolmaster, wrote in 'The Maltonian' a most moving tribute, which we give in full:

'It is with real humility in the knowledge that we are bound to do him less than justice that on behalf of M.G.S. we pay our last tribute to George Barker. Perhaps it is a sign that we ourselves are growing older that, as we think of George, some lines of "As Yon Like It" come to mind: "0, good old man, thou art not for the fashion of these times!" Be that as it may, however, all of us who knew him were proud of George. We were proud of him because of the beauty he gave us in oar fiields and gardens and because we knew very well that there was no one like him. To us he was ageless. Others would and must change, but not Geoige. Because of his deafness Geoige had to live a great deal within himself, bnt he 'was always, we think, a happy man, happy m the work he loved and in his friendship with so many yonng people. As we write, we can see again that roguish twinkle in his eye and feel that jog of his elbow as he made sore we did not miss the humour of some situation. There is nothing much more we can say. George gave much to the School and much of what he gave remains in the fields on which he worked and in the memories of us for whom he was so integral a part of (he M.G.S. we knew and loved.. .'

Mrs. Barker, happily, is still with us, she has two grandchildren at M.G.S. and retains her warm interest in the School and its affairs. It is a special joy to all Maltonians that Teddy Barker, Old Maltonian son of George and Gertrude, is now among the most distinguished of the School's old scholars. Mr. and Mrs. A. Dowding, fresh from war service, were the new occupants of Number 61 Newbiggin.

Schooldays at M.G.S. during this period, under the firm but benevolent rule of Mr. Williams, were reputedly pleasant ones— as pleasant, that is, as schooldays could be anywhere with the fears and economies of wartime, and the austerities of post-war recovery. Discipline, it would seem, was more rigid than under the earlier regime. Mr. Williams, the most just and kindly of Headmasters, had little tolerance for rowdy or anti-social behaviour, but his personality was such that it needed only the infrequent use of his cane to bring the unruly to heel. Steady work, he believed, was the essential business of a grammar school, though he could play as hard—and as skilfully—as the next man when the occasion demanded. Yet ,the intimate, friendly atmosphere of a country grammar school lost nothing on account of this firmer authority and direction

The School's academic record, achieved in the face of wartime astringencies and uncertainties, bears ample testimony to the wise administration of the Headmaster and to the hard work of his assistant Staff. There was a marked improvement in the School Certificate results. The number of passes—which involved a pass in six subjects, including English Language—ranged from fourteen to twenty-seven, and during the Forties this gave the School an average of 22.4 passes a year, compared with 12.8 during the previous decade. With never more than just over thirty pupils taking the examination, and for most of the period many of these being fee-paying, these are creditable figures. There was a comparable improvement in the results in Higher School Certificate, thirty-eight pupils being successful between 1940 and 1950. 1941 was the best year, with six successful candidates. University County Scholarships were awarded on the results of this examination by the two Local Authorities, and the first of these went to lan Mackinnon (1935-41) in 1941. In 1951 a new system of examinations, the General Certificate of Education, was substituted for the old School and Higher School Certificates. The pass mark in each subject, both at 'Ordinary' and

'Advanced' levels, was a little higher than previously, but there were no regulations as to the number of subjects to be taken or at what levels, so that pupils could take only the subjects in which they were most likely to be successful. In 1951 thirty-two pupils obtained an '0' level certificate and eight obtained one, two or three subjects at 'A' level.

Eighteen Maltonians entered University during these years, though for the boys this was often delayed until they had completed their war service. As previously, Leeds University attracted the greatest number: Colin Beck (1940-43), Keith Dent (1937-43), Jean Atkinson (1939-46), Jean Moon (1940-46), 'Bunny' Farnell (193542) and Brian Dennison (1936-42). Gordon Welsh (1936-42) also went to Leeds but after obtaining his first degree at Exeter University. Philip Brown (1937-42) and Sheila Coates (1941-48) were accepted at Manchester, Vincent Cable (1936-42) and Michael Wrangham (1941-48) at Durham, Peter Brigham (1940-42) at Liverpool, and Ken Smith (1935-42) at Sheffield. Finally, a strong contingent went north of the border, Pamela Gray (1938-44) to Glasgow, and Edith Thompson (1937-43), lan Mackinnon (193541), Sheila Pratt (1943-50), and lan Berry (1937-43) to Edinburgh.

Teaching continued to attract many Maltonians, and over thirty were admitted to Training Colleges, not including those who went on to Emergency Training Colleges from the Forces. Geographically, the Maltonians ranged widely, taking in Yorkshire Colleges at Leeds, Hull, York, Bradford, Doncaster, Sheffield and Bingley, as well as colleges at Loughborough, Chorley, Derby, Lincoln, Clacton, Worcester, Sunderland—and various establishments at London. Pupils also left school for places as diverse as Scarborough and Leeds Art Colleges, the London Polytechnic, Leeds College of Technology, and Coiwyn Bay Wireless College.

An exact record of the careers taken up by pupils leaving school is difficult to come by, on account of the interference of war service, but during the Forties we have records of sixty-four pupils taking up clerical posts, most frequently in banks, the Post Office, and on the railways, of sixteen pupils entering upon apprenticeships, ranging from pharmacy to hairdressing and woodcarving, of eighteen girls going directly into nursing and others doing likewise after a spell at home, and of thirteen pupils entering commercial colleges or some form of business training. Thirty-one leavers worked on local farms and seventeen joined local businesses. Numbers entering the professions, other than by way of College or University, remained small—and the Police Force and the Merchant Navy attracted fewer than in previous years.

The non-academic life of M.G.S. was in part restricted by the exigencies of war, yet not to the extent that might be imagined. Several activities were, of course, the direct outcome of the war: senior boys joined local Cadet and A.T.C. groups and both boys and girls toiled on the land during the summer holidays. All pupils helped in the drive for National Savings and in knitting clothes and making toys for refugees and children in the bomb shelters. And in among these good works the normal School Games and Societies were pursued with whatever facilities remained available.

The School's Football experienced its usual mixed fortunes during this period. Just over half the matches played were won; season 1941-42 is typical with ten matches played and six of them won. Some seasons brought a poor record, as did 1945-46, with only four wins for the First XI as against eight defeats. There were two particularly fine seasons. In 1937-38 the First XI, captained by Billy Snowball (1932-38) was renowned, according to 'The Maltonian,' for 'speed, brains, accurate passing and tackling,' and was only beaten once. And in 1948-49 the First XI, captained by Eddie Crawshaw (1942-48) and with little Terry Dyson (1946-52)

in the forward line, was undefeated over thirteen fixtures, with ten wins and three draws, including 7-1 victories over Nunthorpe and Pickering. Mr. Rolls, Captain of another fine side, that of 1925-26, gave this assessment of the team:

'At its best it has played delightful football, the forwards especially showing good ball control and passing intelligently along the ground.'

The Intermediate XI of that season also did well, winning all seven of their matches.

The School's Cricket during this period seems to have been successful, though only moderately so. The 1944 season brought the best results, with five wins from seven matches; 1941 was the worst year, with only two wins and one draw from the same number of fixtures. There were more matches after the war, between seven and twelve each season, and the wins just about cancel out the losses. Yet the School's reputation for Yorkshire's summer game remained high, with a large O.M. contingent in the strong Malton XI, skippered for many years by Mr. Rolls, and with Vie Wilson now a prominent member of the County Team. The School had abundant talent—in 1949 the Yorkshire School's Coach, Mr. Wilf Barber, said of the juniors that he had not seen six better of their age in the Riding. But confidence seemed often lacking in First XI matches, prompting Mr. Rolls to remark in his review of the 1950 season:

'Frankly, what our batsmen needed last year, and what batsmen need every year, in every class of cricket, is self-confidence and the will to win...'

The Girls' Games during these years seem to have fared less happily. In Hockey, Netball and Tennis few external matches were played in wartime and though there was some increase after the war results were generally disappointing. Some years, however, brought better things, for example the 1948 First Tennis VI won five of its seven matches and in 1950 the Netball Team had three wins from five matches. The best Hockey side was that of 1947-48, captained by Jean Welden (1940-48), which won six and drew one of its seven matches. That season the School even produced a Second XI, though it lost its only match!

Other games played at School during these years were Basketball—there were House matches from 1947—and Rounders, with a School side playing its first match in 1945. House competitions, keenly fought and enthusiastically watched, were played in all games, the best performances coming from Willoughby, who won the Netball Cup six times, and from Carlisle, who won the Football Trophy five times. Carlisle were even more successful in the Athletic Sports, which they won seven times, against twice by Willoughby and once by Holgate. There were periodic swimming expeditions to Norton Baths.

The activities of both Guides and Scouts were much restricted by the War. The Scouts ceased to function from 1941 to 1943, and the Guides had to abandon their camping and existed for a time without a Captain. But as the war ended Scouting was resumed— there were three patrols in 1944—and the Guides increased their activities. Some activities were held jointly, for instance a camp fire night in 1946, and each Company held camps locally and further afield, as the 1950 Scout Camp near Millom. Both Companies had change of leadership, but by the late Forties Mr. Bratt was Chief Scoutmaster—Mr. Rolls having done the job for many years—and Miss Howarth was Guide Captain. Both groups were in touch with their parent

organizations, for instance in 1947 Diana Kirkwood represented the area in the International Scout and Guide Folk Dance Festival, and in 1950 a letter from the M.G.S. Troop on Thinking Day was on the front page of "The Guide.'

The School Orchestra attained a high standard of performance in the years before the war. An ambitious concert was given in 1939, with Haydn's 'Toy Symphony' as the main work. In that same year a School Dance Band was formed and a Recorder Group of twenty pupils was established. The Orchestra was revived after the war, and appeared regularly at Speech Days with occasional concerts and entertainments to the Parents' Guild. The Recorder Group was re-established in 1947. A Choir functioned with variable enthusiasm; we read in 1945 of participation in a Festival of the Yorkshire Rural Communities. Further musical activities, organized for short periods, were folk dancing and gramophone recitals. The versatility of the School's Music, as it developed after the war, can be seen by the programmes of the School concerts, for example that of March 1950 in the Malton Assembly Rooms, which included a number of instrumental items, 'executed,' we are told, 'with extreme gusto if not faultless technique,' together with a cantata, 'John Gilpin,' sung by Form Four, and a Bach chorale, 'Awake Thou Wintry Earth,' supported by several songs, and some items of choral and individual verse speaking. The standard of verse speaking in the School was good, and in 1950 Margaret Holliday (1946-53) reached the final of a Yorkshire 'spoken word' competition.

There was no organized dramatic activity until 1947, when Form IV presented 'The Grand Chain's Diamond' as part of the Easter concert. In the following year a Senior School Drama Group was formed by Mr. Rolls. Play readings were held and in December the first production, of three one act plays, was presented on a minute but skilfully designed stage in the School Hall. These were enormously successful; much enthusiasm was aroused, from audiences as well as from the casts; and the next July they were followed by a production of 'As You Like If on the outdoor stage, and in 1950 by 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.' In February there was another production indoors, this time of Shaw's 'Arms and the Man,' which is reputed to have reached an excellent standard, both of production and of acting.

Various other societies flourished at M.G.S. for shorter or longer periods. Most successful was 'Le Cercle Francais,' for discussions and readings in French, started by Miss Derbyshire in 1945, and later revived by Mrs. Williams. We note also the Sixth Form Discussion Group of 1944, and an advanced gymnastic agility class, formed in the same year.

An innovation of Mr. Williams' was the annual School Speech Day, held each Autumn Term in the Assembly Rooms, though the event was in abeyance during the war years. A number of distinguished speakers visited the School to present the prizes, including Lord Halifax in 1950, and Lord Zetland in 1948. Rather more ominously. Inspectors visited the School on a number of occasions—but we read of their 'good reports' in 1940! A variety of School visits were ogranized from time to time, mostly locally to plays and concerts at Leeds, York and Scarborough. In 1946 a large party spent a fortnight in Holland. Visitors to the School included dramatic groups, for example the Osiris Players who performed 'Maebeth' in 1946, and speakers on diverse topics, as when Dr. Ghose spoke on India in 1948.

The importance of the School Library remained high at M.G.S., in spite of its cramped quarters. In 1942 a hundred and ninety books were borrowed weekly. A considerable addition to the Library stock came in the late Forties, when it was decided ihat part of the O.M.A. War Memorial Fund should be for Library books, and most of this sum was used to purchase an

'Encyclopedia Britannica,' together with other expensive books beyond the reach of normal funds.

'The Maltonian' continued to appear three times a year until 1948, when the cost of printing enforced a reduction to two issues a year. Throughout these years the O.M.A. section is large and informative, packed with news of O.M.s from all over the world, particularly those in the Armed Forces. The war, it would seem, was a spur to letter writing, and, as commonly in times of stress and anxiety, encouraged old pupils to be loyal to their School. The cover was changed in 1947 to a simple design by Miss Fraser, bearing only the School Crest and its Latin motto.

The Parents' Guild was another important innovation by Mr. Williams. The inaugral meeting was held on October 12th, 1937, when a constitution was adopted, and the following objectives were set down as the Guild's aims:

(a) To form a bond between the home and the School.
(b) To consider together subjects which are of interest to all who have to deal with children.
(c) To promote or assist in any activities conducive to extending the interest of influence of the School.
(d) To work together for the benefit of the School in various projects which may arise.

From the outset the Guild was very active, holding monthly meetings, and at the outbreak of war had eighty-six members. Activities were suspended during the war years, though a weekly sewing group continued to meet until 1943, providing goods for the Red Cross. The Guild was refounded in 1945, and functioned vigorously throughout the succeeding years. Talks included a number on travel, including a report on the School trip to Holland, and some more specifically on education, for example, on education in the U.S.A., and on the 1944 Act by the Secretary for Education for the North Riding. The Guild also made excursions, for example to Joseph Rowntrees' School, York, and organized social evenings, for example Whist and Beetle Drives.

Like the Guild, the O.M.A. suspended some of its activities during the war years, but occasional reunions, and the A.G.M., were held throughout and we read of one hundred and forty-five subscribing members in 1942. This figure rose impressively - a hundred and eighty-five in 1944, two hundred and eight in 1945 - and this continued after the war, to a peak of two hundred and ninety-six in 1949. Much energy was given to fund raising, during the war for a Prisoner of War Fund, and afterwards to the War Memorial Fund, the latter totalling £120 in 1947. The Association continued to give service to the School, though the Cricket and Tennis Awards had to be suspended for the war years. Reunions were held periodically but not with the regularity of the pre-war years.

The final section of this chapter, that taking note of the fortunes of Old Maltonians who left School during the late 'Thirties' and 'the Forties', should surely begin with some account of the School's contribution, through its old scholars, to the War. But the difficulty of such surveys remains, even here, for it is impossible to do justice to all who served; only a few can be mentioned, together with those who gave their lives.

A large number of Maltonians served in the Fighting Forces and the Merchant Navy, and many others on the Home Front. Several were commissioned, Donald Robson (1921-27) rising to the rank of Major, while brother Eric (1929-36) became a Staff Captain, and both the

Lupton boys, John (1924-32) and Mark (1923-26) were commissioned as pilots. Twelve are known to have been prisoners of war, and there may be others, while twenty Maltonians — nineteen Old Boys and a former member of Staff — gave their lives in the great struggle.

The member of Staff was Miss Marion Edwards (1911-17), the School's first Senior Mistress, who was killed in a London air raid while on A.R.P. duty. Most of the Old Boys who died were in the Royal Air Force - Geoffrey Ash (1929-35), William Goodwill (1930-33), John HoUington (1933-33), Edgar Hopperton (1931-36) - a rear gunner who failed to return from the R-A.F's first leaflet raid of Berlin - Billy Hudson (1921-29), Owen Laverack (1925-31) shot down on a meteorological flight, John Lupton (1924-32), Mark Lupton (1923-26), killed in an air crash. Pat Mitchell (193336), and Jack Theasby (1928-34). The losses of the Merchant Navy at sea claimed Donald Canham (1933-36) and Louis Glynn (191924), while Godfrey Mennell (1917-23) and Harold Barlow (192331), both of the Royal Navy, also perished at sea, the latter going down with his ship during the chase of the Bismark. Of those in the Army, Alee Dale (1926-28), who fell at Tobruk, Sidney Brisby (1927-30), and Arthur Calvert (1927-31) were killed.

This sad chronicle of Old Maltonians can fittingly be followed by a record of those Maltonians known to have won special distinctions. Captain Eric Wilson (1913-14), R.N., in command of the Hospital Ship 'Newfoundland' when it sank at Salerno, was awarded the M.B.E., an O.B.E. went to 'Wilf Wise (1928-33), for many years a P.O.W., the D.F.C. to Acting Flight/Lieutenant Robert Cooper (1929-35), and the Military Medal to John Frank-ish (1937-42). Denis Rawes (1933-36) and Bill Fish (1928-33) were both mentioned in Dispatches.

Maltonians, however, have won their honours in peace no less than in war, and the account of the generation of 1937-51 can appropriately begin with Joyce Hicks (1938-46), awarded an M.B.E. in 1962 for her work with deaf children in Malaya. After a Training College course and special training for teaching the deaf at Manchester University Joyce went out to Malaya to establish the first Malayan School for the Deaf at Penang. As the service for the deaf expanded in Malaya she became its Director. Other Maltonians have shared this eagerness to help the disabled, for example Audrey Hoggard (1935-41), teaching at Henshaw's School for the Blind at Manchester, Sheila Coates (1941-48), who has taught the deaf at both Middlesbrough and Liverpool, and John Henderson (1939-44), teaching at Eiton Pastures E.S.N. School near Driffield. As in previous years teachers of all types abound. From the Universities we can instance 'Bunny' Famell (1935-43), who taught in Somerset and Liverpool, and is now a Physics Lecturer at St. Catherine's Training College, Liverpool; Vincent Cable (1936-44), Senior History Master at Stockton-on-Tees Grammar School; and Keith Dent (1937-43), at Ainwick Grammar School, Northumberland. Aubrey Wood (1935-41) started out working in a brewery but he obtained a Second Class Honours Degree in English by studying externally, and is now teaching at Whitby. From the Training Colleges, there are, among others, Eric Posthill (1939-46), Physical Education teacher at Goole Grammar School; 'Mel' Crawshaw (1942-49), teaching Woodwork at Malton County Modern School; Diana Laverack (1944-50), now Mrs. Denning, teaching Domestic Science in Huntingdonshire; Peter Beecroft (1939-45), Headmaster of a Primary School in Beverley; and Andrew Barton (1940-47), and his wife Diana Kirkwood (1941-48), both teaching in Stevenage.

Several Old Maltonians have won University distinctions, both non-academic, as 'Bunny' Famell (1935-43), Vice-President of the Leeds University Union; and scholastic, as in 1943,

when lan Berry (1937-43), reading Architecture at Edinburgh, won the prize for the best First Year student; and Philip Brown (1937-42) at Manchester University, won the Gissing Memorial Prize in English Literature. Gordon Walsh (1936-42) had a distinguished career whilst doing research at Leeds University, winning both the Parkinson Scholarship and the Brodetzsky Prize. After a period in the aircraft industry he became a lecturer at Bradford Institute of Technology, and in 1963 was appointed Assistant Lecturer in Mathematics at the newly founded University of York.

Another fine University career, which led to high responsibilities in the world of international finance, was that of lan MacKinnon (1935-41). At Edinburgh University he was elected Prizeman and Scholar in Political Economy in 1943. After four years in the Army, when he was commissioned in the Royal Horse Artillery, becoming a Captain in 1946, he went up to Balliol College, Oxford, to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics, thus becoming the first Maltonian to study at our most ancient University. He took a First Class Degree, arare achievement at that University and in that Faculty—and then spent a year at Harvard University in the U.S.A. For many years he was on the Staff of the World Bank at New York, and he is now with an industrial firm in Bombay, of which he was last year appointed Assistant Managing Director. In 1960 he had the special honour of being the first O.M. to present prizes at an M.G.S. Speech Day.

Of those O-M.s in the professions lan Berry (1937-43) is an architect at the Ministry of Works in London, Derek Edwards (1938-44) is a research chemist in a steel works, Trevor Smith (1941-44) is a chartered accountant in York. Many Malton girls have done well in nursing—we think of Nancy Bowes (1940-44), once a Sister in Malton Hospital, and of the many qualified S.R.Ns. Of less commonplace careers we have Peter Horsley (1939-44), a meteorological official at the Air Ministry; Don Errington (193943), Y.H.A. Regional Secretary at Birmingham; Colin Beck (194043) in the Patent Office in London; Greta Wardle (1942-48), now a trained museum curator; Ken Pattison (1943-47) Education Officer with Rolls Royce at Derby; Michael Wrangham (1941-48), who until a recent tragic death was a high level technician with Sanders-Roe, and who had spent some years researching on the Woomera Rocket Range, Australia; Wilfred Tweedle (1943-48), an inspector at a factory that manufactures atomic equipment; Maureen Ash (1942-49), now Mrs. Ingram, for some years with the Board of Trade in London, and then, after marriage, with the United Kingdom Trade Commission in West Pakistan; and John Crowther (1937-44), a technician employed until recently at Reed's Paper Mills, near Maidstone.

Several Maltonians have made thir careers in the Forces, such as Denis Cole (1943-46), who worked his way to Sandhurst from the ranks; Michael Vasey (1940-46), who won a commission to Cranwell from an R.A.F. apprentices' school, and later obtained a Durham B.Sc.; and Jim Saeggar (1941-47), an officer of the Royal Navy. We know of only one policeman from this generation, Peter Blanchard (1938-44), of the Scarborough Force.

Many Maltonians have remained in the home district, as Elsie Maude (1938-43), running a Scarborough hording house, and Richard Sawdon (1940-47), farming in the East Riding. But others, as did many of their M.G.S. predecessors, have adventured far across the seas. Some have gone out to the Commonwealth countries as permanent emigrants, for instance MoUie Coverdale (1938-43), who left with her husband for New South Wales in 1958; Jean Moon (1940-46), whose husband is in the Canadian Navy; and Harold Ramsden (1944-50), who is teaching in Tasmania. Others have gone overseas for shorter periods, and are now settled once more in Britain, for instance Wilfred Tweedle (1936-43), who planted bananas in the

Cameroons; Robert Hind (1942-49), who spent some years in Canada as teacher and journalist; Sheila Pratt (1943-50), a Personnel Manager first in Oxford and then in Montreal; Mary Charters (1943-49), who taught backward children in Uganda; and Doreen Stonehouse (1937-42), who went nursing in East Africa.

A final paragraph can perhaps go to those 'half-breed O.Ms, who left M.G.S. for other schools, but whose careers remain of interest to the School. We think here of Boyd Barty (1940-43), M.A., Edinburgh, now town planner for the Greater London Council; of Margaret Suddaby (1936-40), who took a First Class Degree at the University of Wales; and of Harold Vasey (1936-38), who qualified as a Veterinary Surgeon at Edinburgh University.