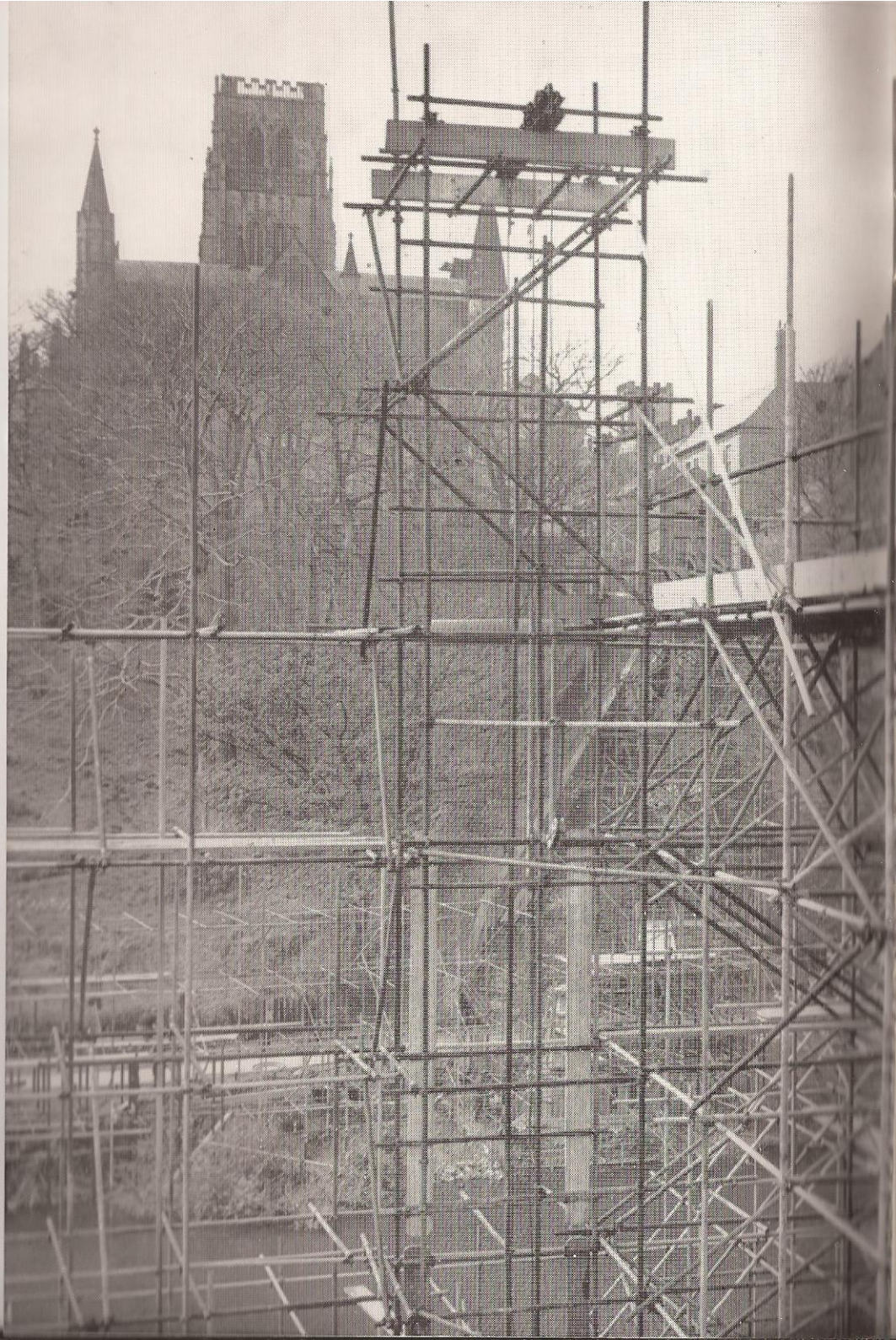


castellum

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THE DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

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THE MASTER'S LETTER

BY the time this is being read in print I expect we shall already be used to being a newly constituted University of Durham, independent of Newcastle, which is itself a separate University. During the past several years we have become accustomed — for the most part and except on Degree Day — to functioning and living as if Newcastle was quite “another place” and no concern of ours. Nevertheless the granting of new Charters for two independent constitutions is an historic event in the life of the University. There are those who have some regrets about the change although recognising its inevitability and even desirability from some points of view. As far as Durham is concerned we shall have our own Vice-Chancellor and other University officials and our own Senate and Faculties; otherwise most of the administrative and academic offices and bodies set up in the last constitution of 1937 continue, one of the few notable casualties being the Academic Board, the functions of which are now taken over by Senate. Some few activities are still to be carried on jointly with Newcastle, at least for the time being, including the Appointments Board and the O.T.C. But from now onwards Durham University is smaller than it was and bodies such as D.U.B.C. and D.U.R.F.C. will be of sizes and scales very different from those of recent times.

I doubt whether we are as yet used to the University Offices no longer being in North Bailey but in Old Elvet—in that piece of architecture many think so deplorable — the old Shire Hall. The Departments of Education, French, German and Spanish, awaiting the completion of the Arts Block in New Elvet, will be moving to Old Elvet into temporary accommodation and there will also be some shifts on the peninsula consequent on the moving of these Departments and of the administrative offices and on the re-building of Owengate. The Classics Department will move from South Bailey to 38 and 39 North Bailey; the Theology Department will take up more rooms in Saddler Street; the English Department and the History Department will expand into 45 and 46 North Bailey: and later the History Department will include 44 North Bailey, formerly the Women's Union. The women no longer need a separate Union, a resolution, after many vicissitudes, having been passed last session to admit them to “The Union” which will henceforward have women as well as men

members. I can imagine some head-shaking at this change on the part of any die-hard traditionalists there may be amongst members of the Castlemen's Society. Some others no doubt regard it as a sign of progress! The S.R.C. offices are leaving Owengate and moving to Old Elvet and there the existing Department of Social Studies, much increased in scope and numbers, is to occupy additional premises. The Philosophy Department and the Extra-Mural Department too are to expand in the additional properties in Old Elvet recently purchased for the University.

The high-level footbridge is taking shape as I write and its two sides are to be "swung" to meet (we hope!) over the middle of the river late in September. When the new S.R.C. building is completed on the site adjoining the bridge on the New Elvet side, one can imagine what a lot of pedestrian traffic there will be across the bridge and in Bow Lane which will clearly be a regular route between Palace Green and Elvet.

The last phase of building of Grey College has been completed and Grey is now the largest unit in Durham—340 strong—half as many again residential places as University College has, even including Lumley Castle. Hatfield College, with enlarged dining hall and kitchen and fully occupied Gatehouse, now accommodates within its precincts many more men than does University College in Durham. St. Mary's College new wing houses 100 women for the first time from October, the College thus having some 220 residents on the same site — nearly 100 more than we have. Although building operations are in progress, there is not as yet much to be seen of St. Aidan's College, the additional Chemistry and the Mathematics wing on the Science site and the new Science Library. Many new buildings for Bede College have however been finished and occupy a prominent place opposite the Race Course Playing Fields. The new Neville's Cross buildings have been occupied for some time and the additional premises of St. Hild's College are clearly at an advanced stage of completion. The top corner of Bow Lane now carries a rather high but, in my view, distinguished-looking brick building for St. Chad's, embodying a dining hall, kitchen and various residential and administrative rooms. The Bailey front of the building is distinctively curved and St. Chad's have recently re-surfaced their adjoining building which otherwise would clearly have contrasted badly with the new part.

It has been decided that the new College for men, plans for which have now been passed, will be called Van Mildert College, a name which seems to be approved of by most members of this College, recognising as they do that the Bishop who founded the University and gave up one of his Castles to found this College, should have his name commemorated in the University of Durham. In a sense he is the ecclesiastical counterpart of Earl Grey after whom Grey College is named and who, successfully shepherding the necessary Bill through Parliament, played an important part in starting the University. Incidentally I understand there is no question of our Van Mildert Club giving up its existence or name. Why should we not continue to have a Dining Club commemorating the founder in his former Castle and Palace ?

It should be mentioned that among buildings planned for the future is a large Engineering Department near the Science site; a "Life Sciences building" where Psychology and Biological subjects will be housed; and two additional Colleges. At first it was thought obvious that of these last two one should be for men and one for women. Then the suggestion was made that we should try a "mixed College" for both men and women and this has been taken seriously, at any rate to the extent of a Committee being formed to weigh up the Pros and Cons. I wish I could hear some of the views of old Castlemen on this ! A Student Health Service, with offices, and an examination and diagnostic centre under control of a University medical officer, is to be started in Old Elvet as soon as the complicated administrative arrangements can be made. Finally, Council has approved in principle the setting up of a Medical School in Durham if it can be blessed from high official quarters. This is very much in the political air rather than down to earth at this stage.

As far as University College is concerned, and following on directly from my last letter, I should first like to mention the continuing success of the Undercroft as a room in daily use by J.C.R. The bar there has been greatly used and I believe skilfully run by members of J.C.R., devoted to their responsibilities and not simply to their wares. I am told that the bar receipts at the Union have fallen and those in the Castle risen to a degree causing concern in the Union and ambition in the J.C.R. By this last I mean that some would seem to hope that profits from the bar can transform the financing

of J.C.R. activities. I hope that cupidity will not flourish at the expense of discretion to the point when I feel I must exercise restraint on purchases and sales myself, instead of leaving it to the good sense of the J.C.R. Bar Committee men. Having the Thorp Club Room at the end of the Norman Gallery has been greatly appreciated by the graduate section of J.C.R. I understand.

Among other minor changes in our accommodation has been the provision of a toilet in a room off the Sick Bay (made out of two cupboards in adjoining rooms) together with a wash-basin. It is more comfortable and convenient than it used to be even to be sick in the Castle these days. A modest growth in both office space and staff has become essential to carry the administrative load and the increased financial responsibility which I mention later in this letter. At my request the Estates Committee instructed the Clerk of Works to use his direct labour force to break through a thick wall at the end of the office passage and to move and re-erect partition walls in the Caterer's office, thus converting the sewing room behind it into a small but essential waiting room. The Caterer's office was thereby made slightly smaller but more convenient in shape, while the former waiting room became an extra office for a junior accounts clerk.

The Armorial Bearings visible from the Castle Courtyard were re-painted during the course of the Long Vacation of 1962. In their bright new colours the Arms, whether on stone or on the lead rain-water pipes, are striking and gay and by general consent a most effective and pleasing improvement to the Courtyard. Some of the unnecessary chimney-pot excrescences on the roofs of the Castle, both on the Keep and elsewhere, are being gradually removed, again improving the appearance of the Castle.

The most important building question of the year was that of the projected new building, designed by Mr. Pace, for the site adjoining the Barbican. There was a complex series of discussions in Governing Body, Buildings Committees and in Council itself. While there was little criticism of Mr. Pace's design as such, there was considerable opposition to any building being put on that site adjoining the Castle. Eventually Council decided not to include the project in the building programme for the next few years. From the point of view of the College community this is one other respect in which

we continue to suffer from the occupancy of a building of such special character. Yet some Old Castlemen will perhaps feel relieved that they may never have to see a modern building cheek by jowl with the Castle.

With the "Barbican Scheme" moribund there must be some new thoughts about University College expansion and the solution to the long-term problem of Lumley. Such thinking can be expected to include the use of accommodation in North Bailey freed when the new St. Aidan's College begins to be occupied. Other ideas worth investigation in this connection are: use of the former "Suttons Auction Rooms" site in Saddler Street; re-building on the Saddler Street Lecture Rooms site (the former Advertiser Printing Works) when the new Arts Building in New Elvet provides alternative lecture room space; and perhaps changing the priority for re-developing the Cosin's Hall site. We look forward however to the re-building of Owengate this year and expect that by October 1964 we shall have, in addition to another Common Room there, some three dozen rooms, each including a wash-basin, a feature increasingly regarded as normal in new buildings devised for collegiate purposes.

We are losing an unprecedentedly high proportion of our resident Senior Common Room members in 1963. Dr. House leaves us for a lectureship in Oxford to our great regret but carrying our very best wishes and thanks for all that he has done as a tutor and a resident member of High Table. Mr. Hall, the Lowe Librarian, is to be married in the Long Vacation and will be living out of College henceforth. Dr. Emeleus is to spend two out of three terms of the 1963/64 session in Chicago—one term on sabbatical leave and another term on secondment. Mr. A. J. Boyle leaves us for a lectureship at Birmingham and to him too we offer our thanks for his past services as well as good wishes for the future. Mr. Thrush has obtained private accommodation in Durham and will no longer be with us in College though we are happy that he will continue a member of our Senior Common Room whom we hope to see at High Table not infrequently. Dr. and Mrs. Hayman are leaving Lumley for Liverpool where Dr. Hayman has obtained a lectureship in Physics. They go with all the good wishes appropriate to a Castleman who has spent both his undergraduate and research career to the doctorate stage, prior to obtaining a University post elsewhere. That is a total

of five former Senior members going out of College residence altogether and one who will not be with us for two terms out of the next three. Of the resident Senior Members only Dr. Doyle remains in his former rooms in Bailey House. We are pleased that Dr. Long, married in the Long Vacation, will continue to live with his wife in Lumley Castle and no doubt act as right-hand man to the Vice-Master. I am glad to say too that four newly-joined members of the academic staff will be coming into residence in University College.

I suppose it is inevitable that members of Senior Common Room should go out of College as they marry or find private accommodation for other reasons. In the University a shortage of resident dons is a general problem. One of the ways of solving it which has been adopted for Grey College is the building of "Staff House" in close proximity to the College, the idea being that they shall be occupied by S.C.R. members who, though married, will nevertheless play a full and significant part as tutors to members of the College and at High Table. A similar solution is less easy for Colleges on the congested peninsula but University College has at least been given first refusal of one Durham Colleges house when it is vacated by a tenant. The idea is that a married don, a member of our Senior Common Room, should live there, close enough to the College to help in its running.

Despite the supposed unemployment problem in the North-East, it became, if anything, more difficult during the year to recruit domestic staff, particularly young people for residential posts in the College. The greater reliance on part-time daily domestic help which this necessitates is a more expensive method of solving our domestic staff problems which has affected both parts of the College, that is in Durham and in Lumley. But Mr. and Mrs. Maddison and Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have, in my view, given devoted service in their respective responsibilities despite these staffing difficulties.

A distinctive event of the year was a "one-night boycott" of formal dinner in Castle. In retrospect this seems so much sheer misunderstanding and so out of keeping with a year otherwise actively harmonious that it seems best not to enlarge on it here and to regard it as an accident rather than an incident. Just one point I would make and it is this: once more reporting in "Palatinate", with the inevitable "re-telling" in the general Press, proved harmful rather than

helpful to the best interests of the College! Risky business this publication!

1962/63 was the first year of trial of the new arrangements organised by the Universities' Central Council for Admissions. The administrative difficulties were greater than had been foreseen and embarrassing delays occurred before there was anything like a steady flow of the new application forms. Later on however the flow became a flood and there was most uncomfortable concentration in a short time of the normal work of interviewing candidates and of deciding whether or not to admit them. I confess I had been hoping that the new system would reduce the number of applications submitted to University College. How wrong I was! In the ten years for which I have had responsibility for admissions in College, the number of application forms received has grown from 450 in 1953 to almost 2,000 last year. This year the number of forms received was 2,300! What is no less startling is the fact that out of 3,000 applicants for the men's Colleges in Durham rather more than 1,500 put University College first in order of choice amongst those Colleges. Yet in the end I shall as usual be able to admit only about 75! Some of the burden of administrative work connected with applications has undoubtedly been borne by the new Admissions Office, the special responsibility of Mr. Thrush. When the new system has had another year or two to run itself in, I am convinced that the routine work of the College connected with admissions will be lessened although the Senior Tutor and I retain just as much responsibility as before for choosing those whom we wish to admit.

This year we were surprised and disappointed that a greater number of our men did not gain "First Classes" in the Final Examinations. In fact there was only one First Class and that in English although two members of the College — one of them the Senior Man himself — were placed in Division I for the Diploma in Education. No-one failed outright in Final Examinations but ten candidates at intermediate stages will be re-tested in September to see whether or not they may proceed. In terms of the number of "Firsts" obtained this is the poorest result we have had for many years but it should be noted that the number of "II(i)s" is twenty-three (fourteen in Arts and nine in Science) — even greater than last year when I wrote that our academic results were better than ever before. Our

disappointment not to have a greater number of Firsts was by no means assuaged by the realisation that Hatfield had had a record year for Firsts — not only for them but in the Division as a whole ! When I enquired, jocularly rather than seriously, whether there was any connection between the success of the Undercroft and its Bar and the lack of success in Final Examinations there was emphatic denial from some of the men,—even indignation that it should have been thought of.

Members of the College have played many important and successful parts during the year in a wide range of activities in the life of Durham — in the Union, in the Students' Representative Council and in many of the Societies,— Dramatic, Musical, Literary and Scientific. In sport we have had quite a good year on the playing fields and on the river. The College eight has been a success making something of a name for itself and elsewhere in this issue are recorded the successes of individuals, crews and teams in many events and sports. Michael Billingham and "Chick" Henderson as Senior Man and Secretary of J.C.R. have been unusually active in carrying out their responsibilities, always with the welfare of the College and its members very much at heart. Not all the situations of mutual concern were easy to solve or indeed matters on which we easily reached agreement. But we "got together" frequently and I am more than ever convinced of the basic importance of the institutions of Senior Man, Secretary and the Executive Committee of J.C.R. I take this opportunity of expressing my personal thanks to them and paying tribute to their zeal.

During the course of the year Governing Body have received and accepted in principle an invitation from the Council to assume more direct responsibility for College finances. The new arrangements are to be on trial for a year, Governing Body having resolved that only a trial would show whether the particular complexities of University College lend themselves appropriately to arrangements which admittedly had been successfully tried elsewhere. We are therefore about to assume a greater measure of financial responsibility for our own affairs. It is perhaps just as well that we do so at a time when we have managed to make a surplus on the year's working and to work off accumulated deficits from past years. It is particularly welcome to me that we should have a credit balance to carry forward for the

first time in a decade. The result arises largely from two causes : first a spectacular fall in the apparent cost of heating College premises in Durham; and second, Council's decision to continue to pay us the substantial subsidy as a "Datum Line Contribution", which they are allowed to make by agreement with the University Grants Committee. It will not be easy to continue to balance our books when we need so much to replace outworn College furniture and to improve other amenities. But we must strive to stand comparison with other Colleges in Durham which, in my view, are financially more favourably situated. It will be the task of myself and the Bursar to devise the means but until we have more buildings and therefore more fee-paying students, close at hand and near Durham Castle, we shall continue to find it difficult to keep pace with those other Colleges. Still, it is something to have got ourselves "out of the red" and very pleasing to be able to start thinking in terms of effecting improvement with the surplus rather than preventing further deterioration despite financial difficulty, as in the recent past.

This year is something of a mile-stone for me as it marks the end of ten years as Master of the College — and I suppose this is the tenth Master's Letter I have sent to the Editor of *Castellum*. I was particularly gratified this year to have Colonel Macfarlane-Grieve propose the toast of the College at the Annual Reunion and to reply myself. He and I remain in frequent communication and I have been delighted to see him so often back in Durham attending meetings of our Governing Body, of which he is a co-opted member, and coming to watch races and regattas on the river.

I cannot possibly foresee what the next ten years hold in store for University College. I cannot believe however that it includes abandonment of the Castle and moving the College to entirely new premises on a new site south of the river ! Yet this has seriously been put forward as a proper solution to the difficulties of continuing to run a College in two separate mediaeval Castles and a scatter of old buildings. This is the radical notion advanced for making us "comparable" with other Colleges able more easily to provide comfortable modern amenities—perhaps even better food—for their members. I would ask for the understanding of the members both of the College and of the Castlemen's Society therefore if I sometimes seem to dwell rather a lot on matters of buildings and plans for new ones. It is

because I am convinced that, until we can devise additional premises which permit the College to function in a manner comparable with newer Colleges, we shall always be under criticism and perhaps even in real danger of dissolution. If the danger should ever come really close, I shall certainly regard it as my responsibility to ensure that members of the Castlemen's Society have the situation properly presented to them. I do not imply there is imminent danger — only that our problems are real and their solution a matter of great importance. I shall welcome the views of Castlemen on the efforts made, in my determination that we should remain worthy of being "the premier College of Durham".

L. SLATER.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 1891

by J. E. Smith

IT is a long, long way to look back from 1963 to 1891.

I arrived at University College for the first term in 1891, late in the afternoon, only to find there was no room in the Inn for me, the castle being fully booked up, so I was stabled in University House. I can almost hear my steps as I went up the stairs in that empty house, and later finding myself the sole occupant was anything but pleasant. However, I had a most remarkable welcome when I entered the Dining Hall. There were many men round the fire, and as soon as I got there I was greeted with "Hello Smithy old man"—at last I was free to breathe, and said—"You are all making a mistake—my name is Smith alright, but I am not your Smith"—they began to laugh, someone called out—"What's the joke Smithy"—I replied "the joke is on you, I have not the pleasure of knowing any of you"—their Smithy arrived the next day.

I would like you to follow me in my travels during the first three terms, feeling sure none of you will have had the experiences I had. I remained in University House for my first term. In my second term I was stabled in the "Loose Box", which gave no indication that a four legged animal had been stabled here for any length of time. The location was at the bottom of the Dining Hall stairs—this Box has since been removed, so I have been informed. Having survived a term here without any need of medical attention, I was in a good state of health and was considered a fit and proper person for elevation to the sublime abode on the next floor. Here I had a glorious view of my surroundings, looking out of my window I could see the Chapel right opposite, on my left the Norman Gallery, in front the stately Keep, on my right the Entrance to the Castle, and the Master's House—I have in my possession a tinted photo of a lovely spot in the garden of the Master's House, the handiwork of the charming wife of the Master Emeritus.

It does not often fall to the lot of an undergraduate to be excommunicated at the beginning of his going up the stairs which would have landed him in the episcopal chair, but this happened to me in my first term. I was asked would I like to become a member of the Society of the Holy Trinity. I at once said yes. I was quite

unaware that I was about to learn that "Fellowship" was not practised by this section of the Anglican Church. A few days later I received a letter from my Dad, informing me that he had promised to lay the Foundation Stone of a Wesleyan Chapel in the village where he was born. As he was unwell, he asked me to do this for him, which I did, and today I have the silver trowel which was given me then. I found out later on that the Newcastle-on-Tyne 'Chronicle' had given a full account of this in the Monday issue. When a month had gone by, and I had not received any word from the Society of the Holy Trinity, I asked my proposer the reason why. His reply stunned me — "Our Founder, Canon Boddy, says you cannot become a member as you have been guilty of gross heresy, through laying the Foundation Stone of a dissenting chapel"—so that was that.

I have just told you about a man who might have been a saint, now, I am going to tell you about a sinner—in the room above mine there was a very fine gentleman called "Blennet"—this is only half his name—every morning he would come out of his bedroom, look at the photo of a lovely lady above the fireplace and blow her a kiss. This lovely lady would someday be his wife and would be known as Lady Then he would go out on the landing, calling our gyp—"Cross, Cross" there would be generally no reply, he would repeat his call with the same result—I used to think Cross sometimes did this on purpose, rather enjoying it—for the third time one heard "Cross, Cross, you buggar Cross, bring it up". "Coming sir"—Cross comes up with a pewter tankard of beer for his breakfast. After lunch, weather permitting, he would go for a good walk in the country. He found this helped to keep him fit, and he would often go where he knew an old man would be sitting on a piece of sacking breaking stones for the roads. Going to him he would say—"give me your hammer, I'll give you a spell", here he would sit for half-an-hour breaking stones all the while talking to the old man, then jumping up, he would thank him, give him at least 1/0d. and go on walking with a smile on his face. I fancy when the sinner and the saint met at St. Michael's gate, St. Peter came along and took the arm of the sinner, saying to the saint "Go straight ahead, take the first turn to the left, and mind the step".

After lunch I am walking in the courtyard. "Smithy, you got the key of the billiard room?"—big 6 ft. Jeffreys says to me, 5 ft. 2 ins.

“Yes, I’ve the key”—“hand it over I want the first game”—“so do I”. Swiftly he got my arm trying to get my hand out of my pocket. Somehow or other he forced me into the position where a little pressure of my elbow in the pit of his stomach did the trick, as he leaned over me, I managed to get my other arm round his neck, and 6 ft. Jeffreys landed on his back. I won’t mention what he said. I had the first game that day.

I think it was at the end of my second year I witnessed what was to me a sad sight, looking at the B.A. passes on the Board were the men who had been through an anxious week, and, the names of some of them were not there. One man in particular, I can see him now, a young curate—poor Evans—a fine highly strung delicate man who was brilliant in most subjects, but a duffer in Maths, here he got a D. I am minded of a similar case here in New Zealand—Harold Williams, one of New Zealand’s greatest sons, over 50 years’ ago sat for his B.A. at Auckland University and failed in Maths. I think at that time he could speak 6 languages. At the League of Nations he could act as interpreter for 90% of those present.

The Editor of the Times, London, Bradshaw’s name was on the Board, he got about a dozen of us to celebrate with him, ‘Come on you fellows, you’ll drink same as me’. We first went into the Rose and Crown, here he called for a cherry brandy, then we went to the Hat and Feather and had a bottle of Guinness Stout, then away we went to the Framwellgate Arms, and had a glass of beer. Coming back into the City we passed over the Elvet Bridge, went into the County, where we had port wine. On our way we went up Elvet to the Hare and Hounds and whisky was ordered. I said to Bradshaw, I am going out and I managed to reach my rooms at last and slumped into a chair. In a few minutes I was calling Cross who fortunately was in his room, he came and evidently saw what was amiss with me, I can see him pulling out my bath and coming in with 2 cans of water, helping me to undress, putting me in the bath, then into bed and in a few minutes a cup of coffee—thank God, the next morning I was alright. This was my first time drunk and the last time.

In our College we were very fortunate in having a very learned man in Dr. A. Plummer, for the Master. He looked and always gave the impression of being also a very saintly man, when in his presence

he never talked *to* you, but *with* you in a soft soothing voice, you felt it was a benediction to be with him, when you had breakfast with him and Mrs. Plummer at their home, you felt it was a time you would remember.

Our Bursar, Mr. V. K. Hilton, was a real man's man. I never forgot how one afternoon he asked me before several men to join him at Tennis in the Fellows Garden. We called him—Agag, he walked so delicately.

I left the University as I had entered, although I got no degree. I met some men who I always will remember and my coming into contact with them has been a worthwhile education.

Being an old man of 93 I hope you will pardon the errors you will have found in this account of my life at University College over 70 years ago.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 1920

by The Rev. W. Purdon

THIS year 1963 is a notable one for the University for in August it lost the Newcastle Division and therefore became smaller. This has happened when the Durham end had become large enough to stand alone. This is far preferable to the suggestion years ago that the University should change its name to what the Manchester Guardian said would best be Durham and 'Newcastle United'. It was in 1900 that a first suggestion was made of there being a University of Newcastle. Then there was a fear that it might have swamped Durham as it was then.

I look back to the time when both the University and The Castle were much smaller. Many no doubt think that it was far too small but it had an intimacy which was itself a delight; neither things nor institutions can be judged just by their size.

There has been more change in both Durham and the Castle in the last 40 years than ever before. If Verdant Green had come up to The Castle in 1920, like me, it might have looked less changed than it does to me now. He might have been surprised by the gas

light in the corridors and Hall but the lamps and candles and open coal fires in the rooms would have been much the same. We still had breakfast and tea in our own rooms, as I expect he had, which gave us the opportunity of entertaining, often at tea-time and now and then at breakfast. Then there were coffee parties late in the evening and long talks and discussions, which I should think Mr. Green had as well but which now must be changed because you cannot entertain in a small bed-sitter nor be jovial, nor be philosophical, sitting round a radiator. These things I hope still go on, but they cannot be as easy as when we all had a bedder and a sitter. These things are not trivialities, I for one learned a great deal at Durham outside lecture rooms; things as useful to me as my Third Class Degree.

The Read and Weed Club goes on, which is a good sign. It was revived in my time chiefly through the work of C. E. V. Owen. Its object then was the reading of good literature and the smoking of reasonably good tobacco. It may have changed its views but its continuation shows that small groups still have their place in the life of The Castle.

Because of small numbers many had their Castle blazer covered with initials. My U.C.B.C. and U.C.R.F.C. was only a modest exhibit. I was in few winning games and never, to my great regret, got an oar and a pot; I think a priest's study is greatly improved by at least one oar. In spite of this I do not grumble because I learned to enjoy the River and the footer field whether we won or not. My stoicism was almost upset when a Durham Colleges' Rugby team lost by almost a 100-nil to Armstrong College.

I was at the ceremony of conferring degrees a few years ago and discovered that it was now called a Congregation. The reason for this change was soon evident. It was all done with great decorum and at the end the pro-Vice Chancellor embarked upon a long moral discourse or sermon. Convocations, as they were then called, were wonderful mixtures of dignity and hilarity when notorious names were greeted with "What! 'im?" and the various 'graces' were negatived from the floor of the house. I have heard that these ceremonies were done in an unique way at Durham which makes me regret the change the more.

The great occasion was, I believe, just before my arrival when St. Chad's brought Cardinal Wolsey in state from that other college, meeting a prominent politician as he came who doffered his cap to him and received the Cardinal's blessing in return. Afterwards he was enthroned at the back of the Hall while the Earl of Durham was enthroned as Chancellor on the dais.

In my day it is possible that too many of us were destined for Holy Orders because a good mixture provides the best place for everyone. Nowadays the opportunities for graduates are greatly extended because of the Science faculties, though I would remind you that G. G. Jarman took a B.Sc. from the Castle in the first decade of the century. Just because there is now a wider outlook it is a better place for the training of ordinands and it has in the past done well at this job.

I will end with the mention of one great improvement in Durham, the layout of Palace Green. I do claim to be one of the people who helped to make this possible. There used to be an irregular hexagonal green hump in the middle. One day a replica of a low cenotaph was erected at the Cathedral end of this green. On the following day it was to be inspected by some fine art body for their judgement. We did not trust their judgement and we did not like the cenotaph put in that place. There was a meeting in the Union, a perfectly polite letter was sent to the Dean and Chapter setting out our views. This might not have had any result but fifteen minutes later the whole contraption was in the River and was never heard of again. If it had been put up the later great improvements could never have been carried out.

I'd like to write much more; all sorts of people and happenings come to my mind as I write. Mr. Green the butler, the gyps, especially George and Charles and Mr. Gait who also poked the Chancellor and certainly the great Dr. Lowe, rowing coach, scholar and fine Christian gentleman.

FLOREAT COLLEGIUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REUNION DINNER

At the Annual General meeting in the Undercroft the Master presided. The Secretary Treasurer's Report was accepted and recommendations from the Committee for a grant of £50 to Castle Day and £25 to the Committee of Captains were approved.

Mr. Spedding was re-elected as Secretary Treasurer and the Rev. T. H. Corden was re-elected as the Society's Representative on the College Governing Body. The Rev. W. Purdon and Mr. P. T. Jeffreys were elected to the Committee, replacing the Rev. F. S. M. Chase and Mr. S. Hughes who retired.

The date of the 1964 Reunion Dinner was fixed for Friday, 24th April.

At the Reunion Dinner Lieut.-Col. A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve proposed the Toast to the College and the Master replied.

EXTRACTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM GAZETTE

Principalship of St. Cuthbert's Society

Mr. J. L. Brooks, Reader in Spanish in the Durham Division, has been appointed as Principal of St. Cuthbert's Society for a period of five years, in the first instance, from 1st February, 1963.

Mr. Brooks succeeds Dr. J. J. Grant, C.B.E., who, as announced in the last issue of the Gazette, has been appointed Director-elect of the new Institute of Education to be established in Durham after the reconstitution of the University.

Principalship of St. Aidan's College

Dame Enid Russell-Smith, M.A., has been appointed Principal of St. Aidan's College from 1st October, 1963.

Dame Enid Russell-Smith is 60 years of age. She was educated at St. Felix School and Newnham College, Cambridge, where she was an exhibitioner and then a scholar of the College. She took the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos obtaining first class

honours in both parts. She entered the Civil Service in 1925, being the first woman to be admitted to the Administrative Grade by competitive examination, and was posted to the Ministry of Health where she worked mainly on housing, the war-time evacuation scheme and the National Health Service. At present she is Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Health. For some years she has been a member of the Governing Body of Newnham College, Cambridge, and for six years she was an Associate Fellow of the College. She was created a D.B.E. in 1953.

The following resignations are announced :

Professor C. Leech, Professor of English in the Durham Division, from 30th September 1963.

Mr. J. S. Cunningham, Lecturer in English, from 30th September, 1963.

Mr. N. S. Brooke, Senior Lecturer in English from 30th September, 1963.

Miss K. M. Chalkin, Lecturer in Botany from 31st July, 1963.

Mr. J. B. Cullingworth, Lecturer in Social Administration from 30th September, 1963.

The following member of Staff will retire on 30th September, 1963 :

Colonel D. M. Eley, Buildings Officer.

Name of new men's College "X"

Council have agreed that the new College for men, which has hitherto been referred to as "New Men's College X" for the purposes of the building programme, should be named Van Mildert College after Bishop William Van Mildert, who was the chief ecclesiastical founder of the University.

Work will start on the building for the new College in 1964. The architect is Mr. Phillip R. Middleton and his plans, which have already been approved, were recently displayed at a press conference held in the Durham Colleges office. When completed, the building will provide an additional 300 residential places for men.

Purchase of County Council properties

The University has purchased the Shire Hall, together with a number of properties in Old Elvet, which will be vacated this year by the Durham County Council. The acquisition of this property will enable the Durham Colleges' expansion programme to continue as planned, despite the fact that, through planning difficulties, the completion of a new Arts Block in this area has been considerably delayed.

It is proposed to use the Shire Hall, to be known in future as 'The Old Shire Hall' for the University administration, together with the Department of Education and the Institute of Education. The other properties in Old Elvet will provide for a measure of expansion in the Department of Social Studies, for the re-housing of the Department of French, German and Spanish, together with some additional study bedrooms for graduate students and, in due course, a building for a student health centre.

Professors and Readers

The following resignation is announced :

Dr. P. A. Bromhead, Personal Reader in Politics in the Durham Division, on his appointment as Professor of Political Institution at the University College, Swansea.

Durham Division

The following resignations are announced :

Dr. R. P. Doig—Assistant Keeper in Palaeography and Diplomatic.

Dr. C. J. Lowe—Bursar of Grey College and part-time Lecturer in History.

Obituary

The University records with regret the deaths of Mrs. M. S. Gordon, M.B.E., Honorary M.A. Dunelm, member of the Durham Colleges Council from 1938 to 1962; of Sir Irvine Masson, KT., M.B.E., F.R.S., D.SC., HON.LL.D., formerly Professor of Chemistry and Head of the Department of Pure Science in the University of Durham 1924-38.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

The spring reception of the Durham University Society was held at the House of Commons on 4th May, when the principal guests and speakers were Professor G. A. Smart, Professor of Medicine at King's College and Postgraduate Dean of the Medical School, and Mr. J. L. Brooks, Principal of St. Cuthbert's Society. In the absence in his division of Mr. Fred Peart, M.P. (formerly of Bede College), Colonel Marcus Lipton, M.P., was the host. The speakers were welcomed by Professor A. W. Woodruff, Wellcome Professor of Clinical Tropical Medicine at London University, President of the Society, and were thanked by Mr. W. R. A. Easthope, Chairman.

Among those present were Mr. K. G. Collier, Principal of Bede College, and Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Macfarlane-Grieve, formerly Master of University College, and Mrs. Macfarlane-Grieve, and a number of distinguished medical guests.

Professor A. W. Woodruff, Wellcome Professor of Clinical Tropical Medicine at London University, who graduated at King's College, Newcastle, in 1939, was elected President of the Durham University Society at the annual general meeting held at the Connaught Rooms, London, on 24th October, immediately before the annual dinner. Professor Woodruff succeeds Bishop Bertram Simpson, formerly Bishop of Southwark, who had expressed a wish to retire after holding the presidency for many years.

With the addition of Miss Jean Matthews as social secretary, the principal officers were re-elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. W. R. A. Easthope; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Murray Leask; Hon. Treasurer, the Rev. F. H. Hargroves.

The principal speakers at the dinner were Dr. C. I. C. Bosanquet, Rector of King's College; Dr. T. Whitworth, Master of Hatfield College; and Mr. Fred Peart, M.P. for Workington, a graduate of Bede College.

OBITUARY

Rev. E. P. Pestle

The Rev. Edward Pelham Pestle died at the age of 75. From the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne, he went up to University College, Durham, where he was a foundation scholar and won the university classical scholarship. He graduated with a first in classics in 1910, and took a second in theology in 1911. The following year he was made a Fellow of the University, and was ordained to the chaplaincy of the college. As chaplain, lecturer and tutor, Pestle did much valuable but unrewarded work until 1924. For the next 12 years he was vicar of Tanfield, Durham. He was vicar of Wyresdale, Lancashire, from 1936 until 1945, when he retired.

I .A. Gatenby

We have heard with regret of the death of I. A. Gatenby (1944-47) in an air crash in America. He had been working for the Admiralty in America and was in a small plane with one other passenger when he died. He contributed a News Item to the 1961 Castellum.

COLLEGE REPORTS

J.C.R.

A further year has gone by, impossibly quickly as usual. October's freshmen can look back on a year in which they changed from uncertain newcomers into confident members of the J.C.R. taking part in all the various activities of College life. For those in their final year the time passed more and more quickly as the exams drew nearer. Academically it has not been an outstanding year, with only one "first" and fifteen "2(1)s", but in the sporting field the College has been successful, and other aspects of life in Castle have been eventful, to say the least.

The Freshers' Conference had scarcely finished when the freshers found themselves observing what must have been a rather bewildering, albeit interesting, introduction to the College — the first J.C.R. Meeting of Michaelmas Term. This turned out to be a mammoth affair centred on a heated discussion of the Committee of Captains Accounts, which in turn was centred on the Boat Club estimates, which after heavy debate in a packed House were passed.

With the term well under way, "Freshers' Coffee" and Freshers' Debate were held, and both gave first year members the opportunity

to show off the wide variety of talent which will form the core of future J.C.R. entertainment. The "Coffee" particularly was a great success.

After Castle Informal, which came on the traditional "second" Friday and was enjoyed with all the gusto that accompanies Castle Dances, thoughts of Christmas Dinner loomed largely in the minds of Castlemen. Particularly large this year, as after last year's excursions and alarum stern warnings were given from official quarters. J.C.R. Meetings were held to discuss the Dinner and, after what seemed to be a press campaign designed to spread rumours that members of University College, Durham, were the most foulmouthed, drunken students in the North of England, the J.C.R. undertook to restrain themselves during the meal. Consequently a much quieter atmosphere marked the occasion, but most people seemed to enjoy the meal just as much.

Epiphany Term will be remembered by many for the events concerning food in Castle. The subject formed the main point of several J.C.R. Meetings and things were brought to a head with a boycott of Formal Dinner one evening. This boycott to some extent misfired as a result of misunderstandings and conflicting reports in the Press. As a result much discussion ensued between the J.C.R. and the authorities; and as the severe weather eased so too did the atmosphere in the College. Some will agree that the food improved, too.

As usual, Easter Term seemed to pass even more quickly than the previous two terms, particularly as the first fortnight after the Easter Vacation was devoted to preparations for Castle Day by a large number of Castlemen. In spite of the weather, which was unusually cold, people seemed to enjoy all the various activities from the Opening Ceremony, based on Steptoe and Son (Mr. Bland displaying even more of his many talents !) and Lord Hailsham's visit to the North East (the Minister of Science being portrayed admirably in stature, if nothing else), to the Entertainment which was of an extremely high standard with Messrs. Baker, Marshall, Nield and Murphy surpassing themselves in their musical prowess (the Opera will surely be remembered for a long time) and Messrs. Hodgson and Thompson providing satire which made "That was the Week" seem like "The Silver Lining". As usual the Dance in the evening was a great success and everyone enjoyed themselves including Her Majesty's Judges and

their ladies, who took part in the dancing and showed appreciation at being able to attend. Thanks are due to the very hard working committee and to all those who helped make the day such a success, as well as the cheapest Castle Day for a very long time. This was helped by an increased donation from the Castlemen's Society, to whom the J.C.R. is very grateful.

It was decided to hold the College Photograph earlier in the term so that orders could be delivered before the end of term. Consequently it was rather better attended than it had been for some years.

One of the outstanding features of the year has been the Undercroft. The Bar, under the expert supervision and guidance of Dave Woodward, has been run superbly, and the Undercroft has come into its own as the ideal place to hold parties. After slight teething problems, it has been used sensibly and regularly throughout the year for parties given by members of the J.C.R. It provides a unique setting for parties and as a supper room during dances in the Great Hall, and its value has been well appreciated by the J.C.R.

J.C.R. Meetings have been gratifyingly well attended on the whole, in spite of the larger number than usual, and interest in College affairs seems to be increasing. The amount of assistance given with J.C.R. functions has been encouraging and a great help to the various committees responsible for organisation of the College events.

It remains for me to thank "Chick" Henderson for the phenomenal amount of work he has done as Secretary on behalf of the J.C.R., and for his assistance and unfailing support throughout the year.

Finally I wish Kenny Spyer and Jim Jones, next year's Senior Man and Secretary respectively, every success in their year of office.

MICHAEL BILLINGHAM,
Senior Man.

LUMLEY J.C.R.

The idyllic setting of Lumley Castle and its remoteness from Durham contribute towards the unique atmosphere of peacefulness which lends itself admirably to the creation of a community spirit. Our year at Lumley has been no different from past ones in developing this friendliness which expressed itself in our relaxation, organised

and disorganised, and in our more formal occasions. The wonderful opportunity for relaxation was not lost by most and we enjoyed "Front Lawn Football and Cricket" and all-night coffee and card sessions.

The natural hesitancy of the first year gentlemen to mix was soon overcome in the first term by an extremely successful Bonfire Night. The estimated number there was six hundred. Luckily the bonfire after initial sleepiness came to life and gave a splendid blaze. The Bede Rock Group played in Baron's Hall for jivers though most people could barely find room to stand. Refreshments of both liquid and solid nature proved too little and the off-licence near the bus-stop did a roaring trade. Next year there will have to be some restriction of numbers. Later on in the Michaelmas term a Christmas dance was held which everyone enjoyed. The Christmas dinner at the end of term was a memorable occasion with a well-balanced mixture of high spirits and decorum.

The Epiphany term's activities were restricted by the snow which sadly reduced the Layabouts' features list to a standstill — a pity after their promising first term. The Captain of the Layabouts in disgust at the weather went to Spain. A dance at the end of term warmed things up a bit but we had to wait for the summer for events to liven up again.

The Easter Term started with the Layabouts making up for lost time by all-day practices on the front lawn. Their cricket team did extremely well in the few matches played. Exam. pressure showed itself by relative quiet at meals and lights on till early morning, but when they were out of the way June Week began for Lumleymen with Lumley Night, incorporating a cricket match, barbecue and dance.

We are left alone so much at Lumley that we don't realise how much of the success of the year depends on Dr. & Mrs. Prowse who helped us all. I would like to thank them and Mr. Mitchell and all who made our year at Lumley what it was, and finally to wish Michael Fitchett, next year's S.M.R., all success.

TIMOTHY C. NEWELL.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

The bad weather played a great deal of havoc with this year's fixture list, and altogether we only managed to play two games. As a result of this long lay off, the Trophy competition was abandoned for this season. Against Bede College we lost 12-1, an improvement upon last year's performance. The whole team played with considerable enthusiasm throughout the match-long rainstorm. In the Epiphany Term, we beat an unusually strong St. Chad's side 2-1.

J. Jones and R. Bradley were awarded colours for three years' hard and devoted work for the College side. The team for the forthcoming season will be under the leadership of the former, with M. Brent as secretary, and should put up a good performance against all the College sides.

A. A. REED, *Captain.*

ATHLETICS

The season has been a poor one for the College, far fewer Castlement competing in the College's sports than in previous years. The third place gained was due mainly to the high standard of the few who competed.

Wilby, a sprinter, and Rathbone, a hurdler, went on to represent Colleges in the 'Varsity sports, when both gained third position. Rathbone has since represented the University in the Muir Cup match at Leeds.

Castle colours have been awarded to J. Patrick and J. Rathbone.

D. J. WILKINSON, *Captain.*

BADMINTON

For the second successive season the Castle team remained unbeaten in trophy matches. St. John's succumbed 8-1, Bede 7-2 and St. Cuthbert's 6-3. The crucial match which decided the destination of the badminton trophy was against Grey whom we eventually defeated 5-4 after a long, tense battle lasting over four hours. Our final match provided the most satisfying result of the season when we

defeated old rivals Hatfield 9-0. We also played several mixed doubles matches with St. Hild's, Darlington T.C., and Scarborough T.C., the latter match now becoming an annual fixture.

Keith Farmery, a freshman, Keith Nicholas, who has now completed six years' service, and Chris Hawkyard, as captain, all played regularly for Colleges' teams, and were invaluable members of our Castle team. I would like to thank all members for their support during a highly successful season, and to wish Chris Hawkyard, next season's captain, the same support.

Colours were awarded to Chris Hawkyard, and re-awarded to Dan Ellis and Keith Nicholas.

W. H. BOWMAN, *Captain.*

BOAT CLUB

The year began promisingly, but was disappointing in terms of silverware. The Master kindly co-operated with the club by permitting the Senate four to come into residence one week, and the Pickard-Cambridge four one week-end, before term began. With this strong Boat Club representation, some twelve freshers became interested in rowing. However, many of these discontinued rowing during the Epiphany term when the Wear was frozen over. In the early part of the year there was a marked shortage of novice coxes, but as the year progressed the position was reversed to a shortage of experienced coxes.

After exhaustive trials two Pickard-Cambridge crews were chosen and coached by A. Shea, an ex-Castleman and member of Durham A.R.C. The first crew, bow J. Khaleelee, 2 N. Norman, 3 T. Newell, stroke D. Parkin, cox P. Bareham, progressed well, settling down to a fast hard-working team. Unfortunately, D. Parkin was forced to withdraw from the crew on doctor's orders, N. C. N. Thompson was substituted at two and N. Norman moved to stroke. But, although Thompson was rowing well, the crew did not regain its former speed. The second four, bow R. Walter, 2 D. Waters, 3 M. J. Kempster, stroke C. Long, cox M. Tamblyn, trained hard with little or no coaching at all. Both crews lost in the quarter-finals.

The pair, bow D. E. Bland, stroke N. C. N. Thompson, disbanded when Thompson went into the Pickard four but not before Palatinates had commented, "a pair of little aquatic but considerable political distinction".

J. Washbrook began sculling during the first term and was narrowly beaten in the first round by a very competent and experienced sculler.

The selection of the Senate crew posed no problems. The crew, bow J. Heyes, 2 J. W. D. Clark, 3 M. K. Jones, stroke C. J. F. Madden, cox R. D. Brown, was coached by W. R. Burdus, who confounded the clubs by granting the crew a week-end off a fortnight before the Regatta. The crew recorded some very fast practice times and tried circuit once, and once only, being nearly crippled by it. In the Regatta, the Senate four was not seriously challenged after the first two minutes and wone each race by more than three lengths.

C. J. F. Madden was president of D.U.B.C. for this year and M. K. Jones gained a place in the University eight. Both had their full Palatinates awarded.

The Castle eight, bow R. Walter, 2 C. Long, 3 M. J. Kempster, 4 N. Norman, 5 T. Newell, 6 D. Parkin, 7 J. Khaleelee, stroke J. W. D. Clark, cox R. D. Brown, started training at the beginning of the Epiphany term on the Tyne. The eight rowed with the University for most of the term, each acting as a pacing crew for the other. This and Clark's determination, coaching and his drive ensured the eight's success. The crew was second to D.U.B.C. at the Tyne Head, third to D.U.B.C. and Nottingham University at the Chester Head and fifty-seventh in the Thames Head.

With the Wear frozen over, Graduates Regatta was postponed until the beginning of the Easter term.

The Graduates four, bow J. Khaleelee, 2 N. Norman, 3 T. Newell, stroke D. Parkin, cox R. D. Brown, lost in the final to Medicals. Considering that the crew had had only a fortnight's training this was a very creditable performance.

The Macfarlane-Grieve crews lost in the first round. Both had been seriously affected by the lack of training during the second term. The pair also lost in the first round.

Only one crew was entered for the Wear Head. It came equal second with King's in the Clinker Division.

C. Long replaced J. Khaleelee in the Graduates four to form a junior crew. The crew won junior fours at Tees Regatta but lost in the final at Berwick, Hexham and Durham first day and in the semi-final at York Summer and Durham second day, all by distances of less than a length.

Two maiden crews showed promise early in training but were hampered by the shortness of the term. Neither crew reached a final.

At the end of the Michaelmas Term bumping races were held for Durham College crews only. Castle were head and also ninth after three days enjoyable racing over the long course.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking W. R. Burdus, A. Shea, R. D. Brown, C. Long and R. Walter for the time they have spent in coaching during the year and their unfailing enthusiasm.

M. K. JONES, *Captain*.

CRICKET

For the first round of the Trophy Competition Castle met the holders, John's. Once again Castle's peculiar brand of apathy prevented us from fielding our strongest side. Put into bat, Castle began disastrously and continued in the same vein until a courageous last wicket stand between Patrick (28) and Wilkinson (16 n.o.) took the score from 35 for 9 to 77 all out. Only Farmery (16) of the earlier batsmen offered any effective resistance to the accurate John's attack. In reply, John's began steadily but a fine piece of bowling by Ellis (6 for 31), including a hat-trick, had John's struggling to scrape home by one wicket.

The College played one other game, against Grey. Set to score 165 to win in 2 hours, useful contributions from Webb (41), Akehurst (34), Glover (30 n.o.) and Barker (18 n.o.) enabled us to make a respectable 149 for 5.

This year we had a number of promising freshers who with added experience should form the nucleus of a good side next year, which

will be led by Larry Wilkinson. To him go best wishes for a successful season. Perhaps next year will see a change in Castle's cricket fortunes.

R. C. WEBB, *Captain.*

CROSS-COUNTRY

The College has again had an average year, finishing third in all Inter-Collegiate races to Hatfield and Bede. The intake of freshmen this year was good, and although it was late in the season before any realised their full potential, the foundations were laid for a strong team for the coming season. Throughout the year Moseley and Turner have consistently represented Colleges'.

D. J. WILKINSON, *Captain.*

GOLF

College golf as such is almost non-existent. The only exception in an annual inter-collegiate foursomes matchplay knockout competition which takes place after June examinations. This year, as in the past two years, Castle were beaten by Hatfield in the final, by a margin of 4 and 2.

Chris Grice (Colleges G.C. secretary this year) and Tony Cumpstey (a promising first year golfer) have represented the Colleges all year, while Cumpstey has once played on the University side. Both have received College and Colleges' colours.

Congratulations go to Cumpstey who has been elected Secretary to the new Durham University Golf Club.

M. LEATHER, *Captain.*

HOCKEY

In common with the other winter outdoor sports the College hockey programme was severely curtailed by the snow in the Epiphany term.

The performance of the Castle team in the Trophy tournament was no more than moderate. An experimental side lost to Bede, 0-3, and showed a lack of cohesion and real ability. A 1-1 draw with Grey

and a victory over John's, 2-1, indicated an improvement in teamwork and spirit although the inability to convert well-made chances guaranteed that each game was a close fight. In the annual inter-collegiate 6-a-side tournament Castle played well in an enjoyable series of contests to become runners-up to Bede College.

This year we lose the talented services of D. Southern and F. Bedford who for 3 years have performed regularly and often brilliantly. These two and R. Thompson are to be congratulated on their selection for the University and their award of College colours.

KENNETH SPYER, *Captain.*

LAWN TENNIS

Tennis continues to be one of the most consistent of the Castle sports. The sheer mediocrity of the tennis players who come to Castle has to be seen to be believed: it is, after this, no surprise that we lose our one Trophy match a year. This year it was against Grey who have a virtual corner on the University team, so it might be supposed that we did well to hold them to 6-1 with two matches halved. But we did not: K. Spyer and K. Farmery were unlucky not to win one at least of their two close matches: S. W. Gray and D. Pickard were flattered in achieving the one clear-cut victory that Castle did get.

There are lots of keen tennis players in the College, but until 'Finals' become a winter sport, or the selection procedure for embryo-Castle men taps a vein of undiscovered talent, there will be very little success to report. Next year's captain is Keith Farmery: I wish him well, but am less hopeful of seeing the wish fulfilled.

DON PICKARD, *Captain.*

RUGBY

Mainly due to an influx of rugby playing Freshers and third year gentlemen coming out of retirement, a fairly strong combination, boasting several Colleges players, was assembled at the beginning of the season only to be denied showing its paces by the severe winter.

The season kicked off with a warm up game against Durham Johnstone which was somehow lost 13-14. The game however seemed to have served its purpose when in the first Trophy match Chads were defeated 15-3, in conditions that were far from ideal.

This victory was followed by a second, Cuthberts being the victims and the scoreline reading 5-3.

After this the team looked forward to bigger things, however the snows descended and with them came the end of rugby for the year.

With the possibility of Trophy matches being discontinued in the 1963-64 season the club will have to rely more on outside fixtures for competition and I express the hope that Keith Hardwidge will receive all the support necessary for the promotion of the sport within the College.

Finally may I thank all those gentlemen who rendered their services on the field during the season. The best of luck for a complete and successful season.

G. N. HARRIS, *Captain.*

RUGBY FIVES

The Fives Club has not maintained its usual high standard this year. The team began with defeat in the trophy match against St. Cuthberts, but pulled itself up to beat Grey later in the season. The third trophy match was lost to Hatfield, who also captured the Jevon's Cup.

P. S. WALSH, *Captain.*

SQUASH

No squash player of quality having joined the College in the last two years, University College had to rely on her old stalwarts. Considerable enthusiasm helped to compensate deficiencies in skill, but was insufficient to defeat Grey and Bede Colleges.

Castle beat Hatfield, St. Chad's, St. John's and St. Cuthbert's, losing no sets at all, and came second to Grey College in the trophy. A couple of enjoyable 'friendlies' v. St. Aidan's College were also played, in which the mixed doubles were among the most exciting matches of the season.

At first string S. W. Gray, after losing v. Grey, only conceded two games in all his other matches. J. W. Patrick and K. Spyer were useful 2nd and 3rd strings and improved well during the year. E. D. Woodward and S. J. W. McFarlane completed the team, E. K. P. Back having an injured foot for most of the season. Interest in the game spread through the College, and a weekly 'squash afternoon' brought players of all standards and years down to the courts.

S. W. GRAY, *Captain*.

SWIMMING

Of the five Colleges entering this year's gala, Castle were placed third in the final order. Considering the lack of swimmers available to choose from, and the fact that no Castle swimmer had bothered to train, this was not a discreditable result. If a little more effort is forthcoming next year, there is no reason why we should not be pushing Bede for first place, as our team will remain basically the same.

D. J. Breeze swam well in good company, but even had two touch decisions not gone against us, we could not have improved our position. No colours are awarded.

MICHAEL S. HORWOOD, *Captain*.

THE THORP CLUB

The life cycle of the Thorp Club is by now well-known even though the species is only four years old. The cells forming the body of the Club are of two main types, the Dip. Ed. student and the Research student. Of these the former is by far the most beneficial to the whole and receives in return the most benefit from the whole. Normally the Club is reborn every October after the summer hibernation, it reaches its peak of activity while still comparatively young in the months of November and December and then goes into a long and slow decline before entering the period of hibernation in July. This year has been no exception.

The awakening was skilfully carried out last October by the Senior Man and the previous year's Secretary. These two gentlemen took

on the duties of President and Chairman respectively, and organised the election of a fresh committee who immediately met, full of vigour, to decide how to maintain the Club in good health. Since the previous year the Club room had been moved from Hall stairs to the Senior Tutor's old quarters on the Norman Gallery. The basic necessities of the Club's life were provided there, namely coffee, milk, sugar, crockery and a small selection of magazines. Having seen to this the committee decided to add a few luxuries to the life of the Thorp Club and rented a radio. The next step was to add some life to the Club by holding a series of informal discussions. Actually only two were held but for the two evenings on which they were held the Club room was full of people discussing everything very informally. Even some of the Research student members not normally seen in the Castle in the evening turned up to put their word in and for once the Dip. Ed. students did not have the facilities entirely to themselves.

The activity of those two evenings obviously tired the great majority of members because most of them were never seen again and once more the small band of Dip. Ed. students who actually use the facilities available to them because it is their privilege to be graduate members of the J.C.R. were left alone to drink coffee, listen to the wireless or even work according to their fancy. Teaching practice took these members during the Epiphany term so the life of the Club was restricted mainly to the week-ends. Plans to organise another informal discussion were not met with great enthusiasm by the members so the term ran its course and the only thing to record is that nothing happened.

When summer came so did the Thorp Club's report on lodgings in Durham. The idea of such a report was put forward the previous year and carried out this year by the Dip. Ed. representative on the committee. It is strange but true to say that the object of the survey and report was to help members find suitable living accommodation where they could feel at home, entertain guests, work and generally live comfortably, in fact, to do most of the things for which the Thorp Club room is made available. Can it be that most of the Dip. Ed. students do not have these facilities while most of the Research students do? Why is it that Research students make very little use of the facilities available? Is it because they are in Durham for a further three years and so have the time to look around and

try several places before they find their Utopia ? Whatever the reasons for the poor support from one section of the graduate community it is well worth maintaining the Thorp Club and its facilities while another section of the community has need of them.

D. A. CURTIS.

FRESHERS' COFFEE

During the past academic year, the trend towards increased quality of entertainment in Castle has been continued, and Freshers' Coffee, held on 8th November, was no exception to this. The performances, which ranged from a string quartet, to a new college song to the tune of "The Locomotion", showed that the modern, ex-sixth-form-fresher, has as much, if not more, wit and originality than his predecessors who came up having served Queen and Country for two years. Certainly, the humour was distinctly non-bawdy, and followed the more general trend towards satire of varying shades, including some attempted shaking of the more permanent institutions in College, the Boat Club probably suffering the heaviest fire. An interesting change from the slapstick was however provided by some gentlemen from Bailey House, who managed to produce some of "Under Milk Wood".

To those who will not blindly accept things like college entertainments without question, it may be said that Freshers' Coffee, at least this year, gave a good idea of what talent and enthusiasm Castle had acquired. In fact, both of these were shown to be at a premium. How much this type of entertainment is demanded nowadays in college remains to be seen. In fact by a motion passed in the J.C.R., "Castle Wine", the other comparable event, was abolished this year, due to very little support from second and third year gentlemen.

Freshers' Coffee, however, serves as a good observation point for those talents which should then, to some extent at least, be deployed in more serious art within the College. Only then will the risk of Castle degenerating into an unbalanced, predominantly sporting, community be lessened.

DAVID BAKER, *College Musician.*

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

This year a second abortive attempt was made to justify the word "literary" in our title. A magazine, "Mayfly", was planned and gentlemen were asked for contributions of any kind on any subject. One only was forthcoming ! The committee felt that there was little point in publishing the work of one or two men, when the College as a whole was so manifestly uninterested. Next year's President is a man with more experience in literary productions and may be more successful in luring the Muses past the keeper of our gate. I wish him luck.

The "debating" side of the society was more successful: in the first term the Freshers' Debate was held in the Union Debating Chamber. The motion before the rather poorly-populated house was "That this house believes that New World pseudo-culture is undermining precious British Tradition". Mr. D. E. Bland proposed the motion, suggesting amongst much of irrelevance that American "culture" was poisoning the minds of the British especially through the influence of their educational system and films. This was "imposed" whereas the superior British product was "ingrained". The apex of the British system, continued Mr. Bland, was the College system. Its benefits included self-discipline, intellectual development, and "regularity in our lives". Also a College is run by "people": "The Master exists for us", we were told, but the speaker would not explain what he meant by this. The result of all this fine British tradition would be "a society of self-disciplined members".

This was opposed by Mr. P. Bradshaw, a Canadian geologist. No-one was quite sure afterwards what he had said, not even the Minutes book ! But in the midst of his long pauses and entertaining exclamations he did extol the glories of American dancing, television and other fine arts. He praised the film, "The Ten Commandments", and at this point someone asked if these had been written by an American.

Mr. B. Withnall, seconding Mr. Bland, revealed that the American way of life originated in England and we could not refuse shelter to a close and therefore respectable relative. Mr. M. Evans answered him by tracing evidence of the Twist in English literature: he talked

of "long-distance seduction" and proceeded to compare Mickey Spillane with T. S. Elliott's "Respectable Future", a book which no-one else had read. The weft of his speech was not very obvious, but the warp manifest. The motion was finally carried after coffee and floor speeches.

The Visitors' Night Debate was held in March in the Undercroft, a very pleasant setting, flowing with milk and honey. Once more the number of Castlemen in attendance was poor, but a number of ladies and gentlemen from other Colleges joined us. Their interest may have been aroused by the motion — "This house believes that sex has left the body and entered the imagination".

Proposing the motion was Dr. Kearns, whose main point was the difference between primitive man's sexual behaviour and modern man's tendency to write about and do little more, to live a vicarious sex-life. He elaborated his point with many quotations and anecdotes: the result was entertaining and persuasive. Dr. Leo Blair, who filled the gap at very short notice, rushed in from the Middlesbrough Divorce Court to dine and debate: his mind was therefore full of the hard truth and his speech filled with realistic comment on the fact that the body is still very important, especially in marriage.

Mr. J. Chalklen of St. John's College and Mr. S. Broadbent of Hatfield were the seconders. Neither of them understood the motion and so proceeded to talk on other things, including satirically-presented Old Testament stories and boating on the Thames. There was only one speech from the floor: Mr. D. J. Henderson said that he "wanted to get outside as soon as possible". The relevance of this speech to the motion is a little dubious!

The motion was defeated by a substantial majority and the society's year ended with coffee and the opening of the bar. A fitting end.

G. HODGSON, *President.*

READ AND WEED CLUB

There have been five meetings this year. At the first Jim Heyes produced a surprisingly erudite study of the Loch Ness phenomena known as a monster. For the guest-night David Bellamy, of the

Botany Department, combined social commentary with witty travelogue as he described his summer-vacation trip to Sierra Leone. Mr. Bellamy was again the guest of members in the Annual Dinner, which due to the abominable relationship of J.C.R. with domestic staff (following misunderstandings over a food strike), was held in the Royal County Hotel.

Norman Thompson spoke eruditely upon essential services in Stratford-on-Avon; to the delight of the members.

The year's presidents were Jim Heyes and Don Payne.

D. E. BLAND.

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Dr. D. B. Wilson, M.A., Doc.D'UNIV.

ASSISTANT TUTORS, 1963-64

Dr. C. H. Emeleus, M.Sc., D.Phil.
Mr. J. R. de S. Honey, M.A.
Dr. R. E. Long, B.Sc.

