

with the School in all items, especially in the free-standing. We gained points on the parallel bars, our marks not going below seven for any of us.

The result was a win for Cambridge by 10 points, the total being 166 to 156. Before the match, because there was no judge, we had decided that the captains should judge. We were very fortunate in being saved from this by the arrival of C. J. Keens and A. K. T. Shannon, both ex-colours. It was very kind of them to judge for us after a long absence from the sport.

The individual placings were:

1st	K. G. M. Benn
2nd	A. C. Milton
3rd	C. W. Pagan
4th	P. Sutton
5th	Slaffer
6th	Harrington

After the match Colours were re-awarded to A. J. Young, and awarded to S. N. Slaffer, P. Harrington and R. McD. Fennell.

## ATHLETICS

### CROSS-COUNTRY

On Saturday, 22nd February, the Bedfordshire County Cross-Country Championships were held at Huntingdon. The School entered only two runners, Barrett in the 2½ mile Boys' race and Hartley in the 3 mile Youths'. After a fast start Barrett led the Boys' race, but was soon overtaken by Simonds of Luton. Although Barrett tried to hang on, he found the pace too fast and stopped back, finishing second.

In the Youths' race, Hartley ran extremely well, finishing seventh out of a field of 140.

*Positions: Boys' Race*—1, Simonds; 2, Barrett. *Youths' Race*—1, Pakey (Luton); 7, Hartley.

On Thursday, 6th February, the Bedford and District Schools' Cross-Country trials were held at Stratton School, Biggleswade. Although the age grouping prevented many of the better School probables from competing, the School still managed to put in a team of five.

After a fast start, Barrett, who had run over the course the previous week and knew his way, went straight into the lead and held on to it to win by some twenty seconds. The rest of the team, having had only four weeks' training performed extremely courageously and all promised well for next year.

*Positions:* 1, Barrett; 13, Taylor; 25, Crompton; 31, Acreman; 42, Phillips. Out of a field of 80.

A. R. BARRETT.

### STEEPLECHASES

The races were held on Tuesday, 18th February.

In contrast with last year, the course was in a fairly reasonable condition, with only a few difficult patches. The Juniors started first at 2.45. Lobban ii immediately went into first place. Throughout the race he did not release his hold, but steadily increased his lead.

There was, however, a constant battle for second and third positions between Frost and Jordan. Having decided that neither could outrun the other, they came in together. Forbes was fifty yards behind in fourth position.

The Senior race started at approximately 3.15. When Farrar's gate was reached, Barrett had gone into the lead with Hartley second. Beresford overtook Hartley on Cemetery Hill and held his position until the cemetery was reached on the return journey.

Meanwhile Barrett had increased his lead considerably. When the runners returned to the School field, Beresford and Hartley were running together with Griffiths about seventy-five yards behind in fourth position. When the tape was reached, Barrett was some two hundred and fifty yards ahead.

*Juniors*—1st, Lobban ii; 2nd=Frost, Jordan; 4th, Forbes.

*House*—1st, Ashburnham; 2nd, St. Peter's.

*Seniors*—1st, Barrett; 2nd=Hartley, Beresford; 4th, Griffiths.

*House*—1st, Crescent; 2nd, Ashburnham.

P. J. HARTLEY.

### Cross-Country v Stowe and Haileybury

The race was held on Saturday, 15th February, 1964, at Stowe.

This was the first cross-country race against another school in the history of the School. We were feeling our way very carefully, so out of the three races being run that day at Stowe, we entered the 2nd VIII races. This was necessary as we had no knowledge of the type of competition there would be and we did not want a disheartening defeat by aiming too high.

The course, which was over 4½ miles, was in excellent condition, being very firm for a greater part of the distance. There were 24 runners competing.

Soon after the start Barrett took the lead and was never again challenged for his position. Hartley and Harper i held second and third respectively for about the first ¼ mile. Harper then dropped back and was overtaken by a member of the Stowe team, who finally had to relinquish his position to Mangold. At the 3½ mile stage Barrett's lead was about 300 yards on Hartley, who was leading Mangold by 15 seconds. In the middle places Houghton, Kitchener and Crompton were keeping well together. Griffiths and Harper, who both did very well considering the amount of training they had done, still held positions in single figures.

When the tape was reached, Barrett had slightly increased his lead.

*Final positions:* 1, Barrett; 2, Hartley; 3, Mangold; 5, Harper; 8, Griffiths; 12, Houghton; 13, Kitchener; 16, Crompton.

*Team Result:* 1, Bedford; 2, Stowe; 3, Haileybury.

## SHOOTING

Hopes of producing a successful shooting eight this year have been raised by the kind concession that certain boys might treat shooting as a minor sport, and practise on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This has provided a good opportunity of finding, at an early date, prospective candidates for the shooting team; there is keenness and talent among them, and we are looking forward to the coming matches; these are:

The King George V Cup; the *Country Life* Competition; the National Smallbore "Tin Hat" Competition; and the Assegai Cup, for which the R.A.F. team practises on Wednesday afternoons.

J. W. O. CURTIS.