

roles, Queen Victoria and Florence Nightingale. A host of others helped convincingly to turn the pages of history. But it is the chorus of Mimers who most deserve mention: Barlen, Cartmell, Cook, Monks, Prescott-Bran, Proctor, Rose, Withey, Gandjei, Jones and Wakes-Miller. They gave body to the play, whether they were digging under ground or oscillating as the moving parts of a steam-engine.

Finally there was music. Mr Howe certainly surprised his colleagues with a hitherto well-concealed musical talent. He set the navvies' songs of the period to his own compositions in a catchy, folk-music style. The cast sang them with enjoyment, gusto and effect.

D.N.W.

## Lower School Rugby Tour

The Lower School made their fourth annual Rugby Tour to Hampshire this year. The tour was memorable for two things; a weekend of warm sunshine and clear blue skies after the unremitting murk and snow of the Easter Term, and the high standard of rugby played by all the boys. The first match was played against Walhampton School (who had generously agreed to play us at very short notice) in an attractive setting with the Isle of Wight apparently lying in the next field. The XV appeared understandably rusty in the first half, this was virtually the first time they had been on the field all term, but gradually they slipped into gear and in the end won comfortably by 18-4. Escott (2), Smith and Gaishauer scored tries; Smith's 30 yard break from the scrum being one of the highlights of the Tour.

After a stroll round Bournemouth where we appeared to be the only living inhabitants, news reached us that our next opponents, Sherborne Junior School, rather fancied their chances, so the team had an early night and were down on the beach at 9 o'clock next morning for an invigorating workout. The citizens of the town who had now ventured out onto the promenade seemed intrigued to see such robust physical activity and were even more amazed at the end of the practice to see two boys plunge into the sea. The sea air clearly had its effect for we then beat Sherborne 19-0. Our scrummaging in this match was outstanding and with so much possession we might well have scored many more points. Morgan (3) and Lampe scored the tries. Our opponents thought we had a great weight advantage but I believe that a resort to the scales after the game proved this not to be so.

The last match was against the Stroud School where we were given a hospitable welcome. A good crowd had gathered to watch and they were entertained with a first class exhibition of powerful and inventive rugby. We won 34-0, but all credit to Stroud who never stopped trying and made sure that every try had to be truly earned. The scorers here were Mitchell (3), Gandjei, Gaishauer (2) and Morgan. So ended a most enjoyable tour and, incidentally, a most successful season for the Lower School XV. In the fourteen matches they played, only four tries were conceded. The tourists seemed a happy party with whom it was a pleasure to spend a weekend; their feelings were summed up by the captain as the coach reached Bedford; "I wish we could have a Rugby Tour every week".

*The following boys went on the Tour:* Mitchell (Capt),

Morgan, Hopkisson, A. Jones, Lampe, Waterfield, Gandjei, Maslen, Escott, Hartley, J. Smith, Gaishauer, Fox, R. Miller, Muir, M. Smith, Dunne, Shukla, Silcock.

J.R.F.

## Old Bedfordians Club

### The Register

A new edition of the Register is now in preparation. This is in anticipation that all subscribers will complete their new banker's orders if they have not already done so – and those who hitherto have not subscribed have received pleading letters, and it is hoped that enough new subscriptions will come in to justify our optimism in putting the Register in hand.

But over one thousand names have no address. I do beg of you first to check your entry to make sure that it is correct: and then look through the register and see if you can fill in any of the blanks. If all OBs would reach for their 1974 registers and do this I am sure that many of the blanks would disappear. And when you have done this, write to me, A. D. Nightall, the OB Club Office, 37 De Parys Avenue, Bedford, MK40 2TR.

### Bedfordians Rifle Club

The new season is now well under way in every respect. The Old Boys came down to the School on Saturday March 17 to inaugurate the new "OB Week-end" with a grand win over the School, appropriate, in this the School's marvellous tenth unbeaten season against other schools, to remind this year's team of the giants of the past. On the Sunday we went to Bisley for the first Bedfordians Rifle Club Championship, in typically cold and wet conditions. Predictably Robin Hatcher and Philip Dawes won the 300 yards and the aggregate respectively; less expected, but all the more welcome, Jeremy Simpson won at 600 with a fine 48. It was a wonderful turn-out for a new venture. A week later, the Club shot two matches in the Surrey League, and rumour has it that we won both.

Veterans day at Bisley is Thursday July 19. Make sure Nigel Penn knows well in advance that you are coming [29 Castle Road, North Finchley, London N12 9EE – Tel. 01-446 3859] so that teams can be sorted out.

Simon Jones

### OB Notes

Captain R. I. T. Hogg RN (46-51) recently gave a talk at Shuttleworth Agricultural College on "the need of the Royal Navy today". After leaving School he served as an ordinary seaman with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1950. During the next two years as a Midshipman he served in small boats on the Rhine and in the Mediterranean and Far East Fleets. He was commissioned in the Royal Navy in 1953. Then followed seven years of almost unbroken sea service, in the West Indies, the Mediterranean and Home Stations until qualifying as an Anti-Submarine Warfare specialist. Between 1960 and 1965 he filled appointments as an Instructor in Joint ASW Tactics at the Anti-Submarine Warfare School and in HMS HAMPSHIRE, the first of the guided missile destroyers to join the operational Fleet.

After attending Staff College in 1965 he returned to the Far East as Staff Operations Officer, and in 1967 he was