

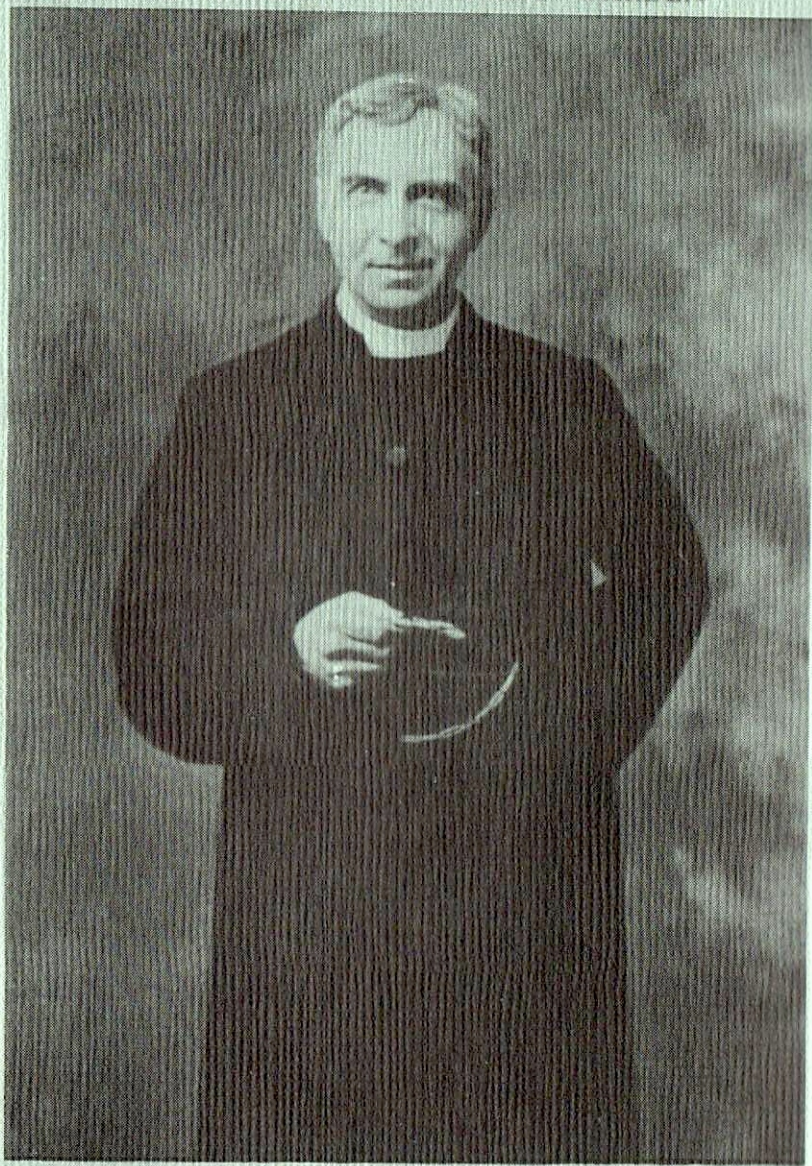


**A HISTORY
OF THE
KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

(1897 — 1967)

by
Richard E. Brock

THE FOUNDER AND FIRST WARDEN



THE REV. H. G. BONAVIA-HUNT



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OF THE
KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

(1897 — 1967)

by
Richard E. Brock
(K.G.S. 1927 — 1935)
Ratcliff House

This Book is Dedicated with affection to

Rosemary Chirgwin
(*School Secretary 1930 — 1973*)

and with nostalgia to

Eddie Chirgwin
George Hearn
Jack Rose

(*My Colleagues in the K.G.S. 4 x 110 yards*
Senior Relay Team; Middlesex Secondary
School Sports; White City 1935)
"A Famous Victory"



KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(at Cavendish Road 1899-1900)

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Vice-Chairman: H. D. Mitchell (1944)
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MEMBERS:

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FOREWORD

by Robert Whitmore, Patron of the Kilburn Grammar School Old Boys Association.

Education over the last century has reflected the changes in society and the destruction of the Grammar Schools was seen by many as an essential if regrettable reform, rather like the dissolution of the Tudor monasteries which gave birth to the Grammar Schools in the sixteenth century. It is only natural that many schools should wish to make a record of their past and this has meant an almost archaeological search for details.

Dr. Richard Brock is a well-qualified Old Boy to undertake this task. Like Tacitus he has had contact with contemporaries who saw the events first hand and gives a taste of real contact with them. His work is as unbiased as possible. We can see the reforms which came after two world wars with sharpened perception. On the lighter side, efforts by parents and others to raise money for amenities gave rise to "Parents' Evenings" and the accident of evacuation to Northampton changed a school sport (soccer to rugby).

Excluding war-time absence my stay at Kilburn was nearly half the entire life of the school. Some of the staff were there longer. Others took the fine traditions of the school elsewhere. I am sure this history is well worth while.

R. W. 1985.

INTRODUCTION

This history was undertaken at the suggestion of Robert Whitmore, Patron of the Kilburn Grammar School Old Boys Association and at the request of the Association. It is in the main a distillation of existing records, principally the school magazine and the local press reports. To have sought and incorporated personal reminiscences on any large scale would have taken far more time and publishing space than could reasonably have been justified. Reference to distinguished alumni is restricted to occasions when they figured directly in the school's history, for example as principal speakers on speech day. To have ventured more widely would have led me into a minefield of selection!

I record my thanks for encouragement and assistance collectively and severally to the committee of the Association and to John Archer (1934), Archie Lane (1913) and Rosemary Chirgwin. Also to the staff of the Grange Museum, Neasden.

Richard E. Brock. April 1985.



EVAN EVANS AND CLASS 1899-1900

CHAPTER 1

EVAN EVANS 1897-1909

Kilburn Grammar School's history equals in time the proverbial human life span of three score years and ten. Like a human being it was born, it grew in size, in strength and in achievement and it reached maturity. Its end came in 1967 and almost all that could be identified with it rapidly ceased to be.

For its first ten years "K.G.S." was a private establishment with a claim to public status. Its founder was the Rev. Dr. H. G. Bonavia Hunt, vicar of St. Paul's Kilburn, a church which later became redundant and was demolished in 1936. Hunt was a man of remarkable energy and range of activity. He was forty years old in 1897 and his first qualification had been in music. He was born in Malta, the son of William Hunt, so it was presumably from a Maltese mother that the name "Bonavia" was derived. His doctorate was conferred by Trinity College, Dublin in 1887. For over twenty years he edited "Cassell's Magazine". He was founder and editor of "Little Folks", editor of "The Quiver", founder and first warden of Trinity College of Music in London and author of a "Concise History of Music" which by 1913 had reached its eighteenth edition. Ordained in the Church of England in 1878, he came to St. Paul's in 1887 and left in 1905. He died in 1917.

Bonavia Hunt was in 1896 elected as a member by the Willesden School Board. Set up under an act of 1870, these Boards were bodies empowered to levy a rate and were charged with the duty of providing "elementary education" where it was not already being given in church or other voluntary schools. In 1900 he became chairman and so remained until School Boards ceased to be in 1903.

Willesden, of which Kilburn forms the south-east corner, was in the 1890's a growing London suburb. Hunt later declared that his initial reason for founding a new school was solely to provide a choir school for his church, "but it soon became evident that there was a pressing need in the whole neighbourhood for a school which should provide secondary education for boys." It must be noted that before the 1926 "Hadow Report", "secondary" defined school education of a higher level than the basic "elementary" and not, as now, a stage in the educational process between "primary" and "higher". In 1897 there was no general state provision for secondary education.

Dr. Hunt appears to have collected a body of influential citizens, probably those later named as governors of the new school, and in 1897 a "Deed of Foundation" was drawn up for the Kilburn Grammar School. The first governors included the Vicar of Willesden, the Chairman of the Willesden Board of Guardians, the Vicar of St. Gabriel's, Willesden Green, a J.P. who was a past Sheriff of London, a former

Chairman of Willesden District Council, the then Chairman of the Willesden School Board and Hunt, as warden and honorary treasurer, seven in all.

An advertisement for the school appeared in the local press on 7 January 1898. It announced that a school "For the Sons of Business and Professional Men" would open on 10 January at 1, Willesden Lane, "Close to the route of omnibuses from Cricklewood, Marble Arch, etc." Termly fees were three guineas for seniors and two guineas for juniors. It was to be a "first grade modern school". A later advertisement noted that scholarships and exhibitions to a total annual value of £100 were awarded. The headmaster was Evan Evans, B.A.Lond., late senior lecturer of Culham College, Oxford. At that time Evans was thirty years of age.

On the first day thirty-three boys assembled in the school's one room! Numbers grew and Hunt approached the Willesden Technical Education Committee, of which he was a member, to secure the use of two rooms in the Polytechnic Institute building in Priory Park Road for the Easter term and an additional one for the summer term. Later, when he sought a continuation of the arrangement, he ran into opposition from another member, W. B. Luke, a prominent local Liberal, a Free-churchman and a fellow member of the school board. Luke argued that the rooms were needed by the Polytechnic and that it was wrong for a public body to be identified with a private venture.

It was clear that Luke had touched a sensitive spot. In August a letter from Hunt appeared in the local press, refuting the description "private venture" and asserting that K.G.S. was a public grammar school established by voluntary effort. Its governors were precluded from deriving any profit save for bona fide services. The Technical Education Committee had been invited to nominate a governor, a post which Luke could easily have taken up, but his "party is desirous of crushing all voluntary effort, and of establishing an opposition secondary school in the Institute". The following week a reply appeared, not from Luke but from "B.A. Cantab." It asserted that the school had been started for Dr. Hunt's own reasons under a headmaster he had appointed; scholarships and exhibitions were in effect reserved for St. Paul's choir-boys and the school was not a public grammar school but should be called "St. Paul's Choir School, Kilburn" or "Bonavia College". To this letter was appended a vigorous editorial note, commending Hunt for taking risks to fill an education gap in contrast to the actions of those "who only seek to wreck it because they do not approve of the manner in which he set about performing a public service." Hunt replied that scholarships and exhibitions were open to all and complained of "sectarian prejudice" and "factitious opposition".

The charge of sectarian prejudice is a reminder that Church of England versus Free Churches, especially in education, was a very live issue at that time. In April 1898 a lengthy advertisement had appeared, listing the governors and declaring that the religious education would be in accordance with Church of England principles, but without party bias and that a conscience clause protected other churches and faiths. On 28 January an advertisement had for the first time referred to the Bishop of London as "Visitor". Such an official was not a social caller! In the middle-ages a Visitor was charged to visit, inspect and where necessary reform religious establishments, among which schools were then included. In modern days the post was titular rather than real. At about the same time the advertisements began to be surmounted by a bishop's mitre, which gave them a distinctive appearance shared by no other local school advertisement. In securing Bishop Mandell Creighton's cognizance Hunt probably at the same time received permission to use the shield of the see of London — crossed swords on a red ground, surmounted by a mitre — as school badge. It was presumably also at this time that the school's motto, "Pasce Agnos Meos" was adopted.

In June 1898, while the school was still in three rooms, there appeared an advertisement headed "Forward Movement in Secondary Education." It claimed "Professional, Commercial and Civil Service Departments". In January 1899 K.G.S. reopened after the holidays in a large house at 28 Cavendish Road.

There were now about eighty-five pupils. In July the first annual prize distribution or "Speech Day" was held at West Hampstead Town Hall. Mr. Irwin B. Cox, M.P. took the chair. Evans reported that there were 106 boys, 20 in the junior or preparatory department. There were 7 staff — this number would have included part-timers — all graduates or trained teachers. During the course of the evening a school song was sung. The words were by Bonavia Hunt and the music by Leonard Butler, the organist at St. Paul's, Kilburn. In view of the school's later attachment to Shakespearean production, it is interesting to note that a scene from "Julius Caesar" was given by the boys. The lower school sang two songs and presented recitations in English, French and German, the senior school also gave items in French and German, there was violin music and S. Elston, the head boy chaired a debate by pupils on "Is knowledge of Latin essential to success in life?". Hunt in his remarks revealed that a site had been secured in Salisbury Road for a purpose built school.

In the event construction had to begin sooner than the governors had expected. The Cavendish Road premises had to be quitted and no suitable temporary home could be found. They were forced into a bold step. A trust was formed to raise the £4,500 needed. The architect was G.B. Carvill and construction was by George Neal. In April 1900 the

school began to move piecemeal into still uncompleted buildings. The conditions did not prevent it from giving the first "Play Night", in July at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, during which the Sixth Form presented "Richard II".

The first really "grand occasion" in the life of K.G.S. was undoubtedly the opening of the new "Speech Hall" by Bishop Mandell Creighton in July 1900. The local press reported that the practically completed buildings on a site nearly opposite the Maria Grey College were of red brick with Portland stone dressing. Evans' report claimed a classical department in the school, as well as those already named. Pupils were beginning to sit a somewhat motley assortment of public examinations. Shakespeare, sport, a proposed rifle corps and swimming were among the other matters to which he referred. In the previous September "The Kilburn Times" had made favourable comment on the school's swimming activity. Bishop Creighton distributed the prizes and spoke disparagingly of the general state of English education. He stressed the importance of parents not handing over education entirely to the professionals. They must "get inside the school and regard themselves as part of it". They were wise words from a respected figure. Mandell Creighton was a parish priest and a Cambridge historian who was consecrated Bishop of Peterborough in 1891. Translated to London in 1897, his tenure there was brief for he died six months after his visit to Kilburn. Permission was given by his widow to call the hall "Creighton Hall".

Press reports of the 1901 speech day contain the first mention I have found of staff names other than that of Evans. E.F. Hamer, B.Sc. was second master and visiting staff included C. Couillault, B-es-L and Herr Lazarowitch. Sgt.-Major Ibbs of the Royal Fusiliers took "Battalion Drill". From April 1902 to October 1903 staff were listed in the school advertisement. The first list included the four already named and A. Golland, M.A., Rev. W.H. Braine, M.A., D. R. Stephenson, A.C.L., T. Miles, T.C.M., and Senor T. Pinochet, professor titulado, Univ. Salamanca. At this speech day Evans commented on the school's need of a permanent playing field and indicated that a benefactor could expect to have his name perpetuated in return. "The Kilburn Times" took up the matter with emphasis. It said that the Kilburn Grammar School had taken its place as one of the educational centres of the metropolis and would bring fame and credit to the locality. Some "local Carnegie" was needed! Until parliament did something for schools of this character, there would remain the anomaly of a local board school, with a large playground provided by ratepayers, standing almost next to a school for the children of those who provided the bulk of the rates, which had no more ground than one could swing a proverbial cat in. The board school was Salusbury Road, then in process of being built, and, incidentally, intended to have far more pupils crammed into it than K.G.S. was ever to know! At the same function

Hunt, who claimed credit for the discovery and appointment of Evans, revealed that the headmaster had recently declined appointment as an H.M.I. Subsequent events were to give an ironic twist to this refusal.

Speech night in 1902 saw the unveiling of a memorial window in the Hall to Mandell Creighton by his successor, Bishop Winnington Ingram. It had been subscribed for by the pupils. Evans again mentioned the opening of a preparatory department, which is puzzling unless we assume that it had been discontinued for a while. It is clear that in those years K.G.S. was not a secondary school in the modern sense. In 1906 mention is made of the youngest boy in the school as a "little dot" of five years. Evans' speech also included a curious eulogy on the teaching of singing to boys. "Vocal music is held with us, not only as a grand vehicle for instilling in the boys a proper sense of patriotism by means of national songs, but also as a physical exercise, for it is an excellent antidote against the possibility of drooping, round shouldered and hollow chested boys". It also helped to prevent consumption.

The governors were now experiencing financial problems. There was no "foundation" income and the buildings had cost a lot. In September 1902 Hunt led a deputation to Willesden District Council to urge that ratepayers whose children did not go to publicly maintained schools should receive some assistance by way of schools like K.G.S. None was forthcoming. "The Kilburn Times" gave its habitual support but a correspondent calling himself "Fairplay" wrote rudely that if the school was not self-supporting it should reduce its expensive staff or raise its fees.

The Balfour Act of 1902 had made county councils responsible for "higher" or "secondary" education. Middlesex County Council found Willesden very ill provided. Luke, now chairman of the Willesden Technical Education Committee, was talking of a school to be opened by the county and Hunt protested that this would harm K.G.S. Luke disclaimed any such intention but said that though he knew little of the school it was "denominational". In 1904 the earlier dispute was repeated with even greater vigour. As before Hunt at once had recourse to the local press, denying that K.G.S. was under the control of St. Paul's Church. As before Luke published no written answer, but others weighed in, "Educationalist", "Vindex", "A Parent" being nom-de-plumes used. They seem to have had the better of the argument, pointing out that Hunt was chairman of the governors, that the vicars of St. Paul's were to be ex-officio governors after him, that he had nominated the first seven governors for five years, that their secretary and clerk was H.J. Harrington, a churchwarden of St. Paul's and that one of his assistant clergy, Braine was on the school staff. Furthermore, his elder son, Wilfrid Hunt, was now second master. Hunt claimed that this was Evans' doing and contrary to his own wishes since nepotism could be alleged. The critics also pointed out that the Bishop

of London was "visitor" and that twenty choristers of St. Paul's had places at a nominal £1 per year each. Hunt nevertheless had the last word, challenging his opponents to come out from behind their "unmanly" aliases. They declined to do so!

This episode was preceded by a mysterious quarrel between Evans and the governors. All that we know for certain is that on 16 October 1903 "The Times" (of London), carried an announcement that the headship of Kilburn Grammar School would shortly be vacant and enquiries were invited. The problem must have been sorted out before the end of the year. What part Hunt played is unknown but he could scarcely have allowed himself to be overruled in such a matter, although he claimed to have been so done in the matter of his son's appointment as second master.

It was at the time of this advertisement that the school's regular insert in the local press revealed a change in the academic organisation. The commercial department continued as before, but professional and civil service were replaced by "Science", offering chemistry, physics, hygiene, etc., and "Art", providing primary, advanced and technical drawing. The last cannot have taken root, for it is the recollection of our present senior "Old Boy", H.A. Lane, (1907-1913) that there was almost no art taught in his day.

Hunt left his incumbency at St. Paul's in 1905. Naturally he also ceased to be a governor. It is perhaps significant that in 1906 Luke for the first time attended speech night. He paid tribute to the school's work and said that both Middlesex County Council and Willesden Education Committee "had their eyes on it". The county council had indeed for some years been negotiating to buy the school, but one may suspect that as long as Hunt chaired the governors a take over would be resisted. Now the obstacle was removed and as from 1 September 1907 the buildings and equipment were purchased for £6,500, Middlesex and Willesden each paying half. It was agreed, with Willesden complaining at the extra expense, that additions be made to provide a capacity of 300 as against the existing 140. There were also rumblings about the extravagance of the Board of Education's accommodation requirements. Willesden might grumble, but both it and Middlesex had to act. It was declared in the District Council Chamber that no other town of the size and rateable value of Willesden was without a public secondary school. The District had been living off London for its needs in this respect and the London County Council was not going to tolerate this for much longer.

Evans had established a school which appears to have had a good deal of local esteem, for which he was given due credit. "The Times" advertisement of 1903 had led to a number of parents preparing to withdraw their sons. "The Kilburn Times" and "The Willesden Chronicle" usually

spoke favourably of the school, often enthusiastically. Luke, County Alderman Pinkham, County Councillor Furness and others thought well of it. Dr. J.S. Crone and G.A. Sexton, both chairmen of Willesden District Council in their day, and the Rev. J. Crowle Ellis, also a county councillor, were prepared to send their sons to K.G.S.

School public entertainments were a praised feature. Evans attached importance to good diction. At Christmas 1899 the first recorded entertainment took place, while the school was still in Cavendish Road. It was in aid of the "Daily Telegraph" widows' and orphans' fund in the South African war. The first "Play Night" was in 1900 but it is not until the next year that we have a detailed programme. It was at St. George's Hall and included a lengthy excerpt from "Julius Caesar", German and French plays, a dialogue, rifle drill, French and German songs and recitations, and the presentation by B. B. Evans, a local store owner, of prizes which he had donated for swimming. Evan Evans habitually persuaded parents, governors and others to give prizes for work and sport. He called them "the sinews of war".

School activity in cricket, association football, rifle shooting and swimming all seem to have prospered. In 1902 there was first reference to an athletic sports. The Kensal Rise Athletic Grounds were commonly used, but in 1906 they took place at "The White Hart", Willesden and the programme was typical of the period. It included hundred yard races for each year-form, high jump, long jump, quarter mile race and sack race for the upper school, egg and spoon race, obstacle race, three legged race, slow bicycle race, one mile bicycle race, consolation race, and a shooting competition. Evans frequently stressed the need for "mens sana in corpore sano". He tried to enlist the support of district and county councillors by getting them to be "Presidents" of various school sporting activities. K.G.S. was also a pioneer in the Baden-Powell Boy Scout movement, a troop being started under Drill-Sergeant Piggott in 1909, but its life seems to have been brief.

In 1906 an Old Boys' club was started with a dinner at the Café Monico, Picadilly, attended by over sixty members with Evans, Wilfrid Hunt and other staff. Stanley Elston, the first head boy, was secretary. These dinners, together with "at homes" – entertainments and dances – continued for some years. At the 1908 play night the Old Boys' Dramatic Company performed two sketches; "Hâtez-vous Lentement" and "Beim Barbier", both of which drew loud applause!

The K.G.S. was now governed by the "Willesden Urban District Council Higher Education Committee" which was made up of eight county council and seven district council nominees. All those appointed were aldermen or councillors. They included County Aldermen Pinkham and Adams, County Councillor Crone and District Councillor Biddiscombe,



THE FIFTH FORM c1903

all of whom had been governors under the old regime. At its first meeting early in 1908 the new body elected as its chairman County Councillor W.B. Luke. He continued so to be chosen for over twenty years without a break. Evans was reappointed head and Wilfrid Hunt second master. All the other staff were also retained. Evans seems to have found the new governors congenial. His first report mentioned 140 pupils but said that nearly 20 were expected to leave at Easter. Parents were unsettled about the school's future. The governors resolved to issue a letter of explanation and a prospectus. Later in 1908 Evans complained that numbers had fallen to 132, the cause being that he was no longer allowed to admit boys under eleven years of age, whereas competing schools took them at eight. The school was being depleted of the "middle class boy who creates the kind of environment which should be maintained in the interests of boys coming direct from council schools". When the prospectus was prepared it set out the curriculum as "Scripture, Reading, Writing, Geography and History, English Grammar, Composition and Literature, French, German, Latin, Arithmetic, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Drawing, Manual Instruction, Drill and Singing, together with such other subjects as the governors may arrange from time to time". In a number of subjects this catalogue showed hopeful intention rather than an existing reality!

At the 1908 speech day Luke presided for the first time. He announced that fees were to be modified and reduced and that the authority was spending money to improve the field next to the school. This field was later the asphalted playground. He commended the abilities of the "Scholarship Boys" admitted by selection from the elementary schools. Alderman Sir Ralph Littler, Chairman of the Middlesex County Council presented the prizes and unveiled a painted portrait of Evans, a gift of past and present pupils. It seemed like a high point in Evans' career, but he was in fact on the brink of disaster.

In his chairman's remarks Luke had referred to an inspection of the school by the University of London and one forthcoming by His Majesty's Inspectors on behalf of the Board of Education. They were menacingly connected. The first had taken place in May 1908 to ascertain the school's fitness to prepare pupils for the new "School Leaving Examination". The report made sombre reading. The buildings were declared inadequate, which was no surprise. But organisation was defective, teaching was too much instruction and not enough development of enquiry, lower form work was uninteresting and the composition of forms ill-assorted, upper school teaching was sacrificed to preparation for examinations. The confidential report on staff, and on Evans in particular, was damning. The headmaster was not fit for his post, he had not got the support of his colleagues and he distrusted their ability and discretion. He ruled boys by fear of heavy punishment and the timetable and curriculum showed his lack of power to organise.



School Football Team 1907-08

Left to right standing: (1) Upton (Science Master), (2) Lesnew, (3) R. Robinson, (4) S. Ratcliffe (Head Boy), (5) Unknown, (6) W. B. Hunt (Classics Master). Sitting: (7) Smith, (8) Hand, (9) Morris (Captain), (10) J. Ellis (later Head Boy), L. Curtis (later Head Boy). Foreground: (12) Unknown, (13) B. Cohen.

The governors, who must have been appalled, at once asked the Board of Education for an inspection. It was carried out by a Dr. Edwards and two other H.M.I.'s. They presented a preliminary report, probably verbal, in October and a full one in December. In the interim Luke interviewed the assistant staff and came away with an impression of strong feelings about working under excessive pressure. The reports were devastating. They criticised the buildings, the low average age of the boys, the standard of work in upper forms, lack of school societies, an "incomplete" monitorial system, inadequate provision for school dinners (at the time provided by the headmaster), the advertising of examination results of a poor type, long and fatiguing school hours and an entrance examination of low standard. Detailed criticism of standards and methods of teaching, subject by subject "piled Pelion upon Ossa". Once again the principal blame was laid on the headmaster. His attitude was totally wrong. He was a good coach but a poor scholar and an almost impossible organiser. He was obstinate, arrogant, unaware of his own limitations and without self-restraint. He treated his staff like boys. His discipline of boys was severe, compelling them to stand for over forty minutes at a time. In the opinion of the inspectors it was not in him to change his attitude to staff. "The responsible head is at fault when the organisation shows lack of confidence in the masters and lack of sympathetic understanding of the pupils. The alternative is rule by fear, and this prospect is one which calls for the gravest consideration of the Governing Body." The last sentence was in effect an ultimatum. To these charges Evans made an equally detailed reply.

Luke thought the report unduly severe but he admitted that there had been grave errors on Evans' part. Other governors laid the blame at the door of Rev. E. C. Monk who taught English and Scripture, with some singing. In one of his first reports to the new governors Evans had singled out Monk as a hard-working assistant during school hours but not over ready to carry out orders and with no interest whatever in the out-of-school life of the boys. The quarrel appears to have come to a head when Monk refused to take Saturday morning choir practice. The H.M.I.s had an unfavourable impression of him and the governors resolved that he be warned to mend his ways. He accepted the caution in writing. The governors expressed their support to Evans but advised him to conciliate his staff.

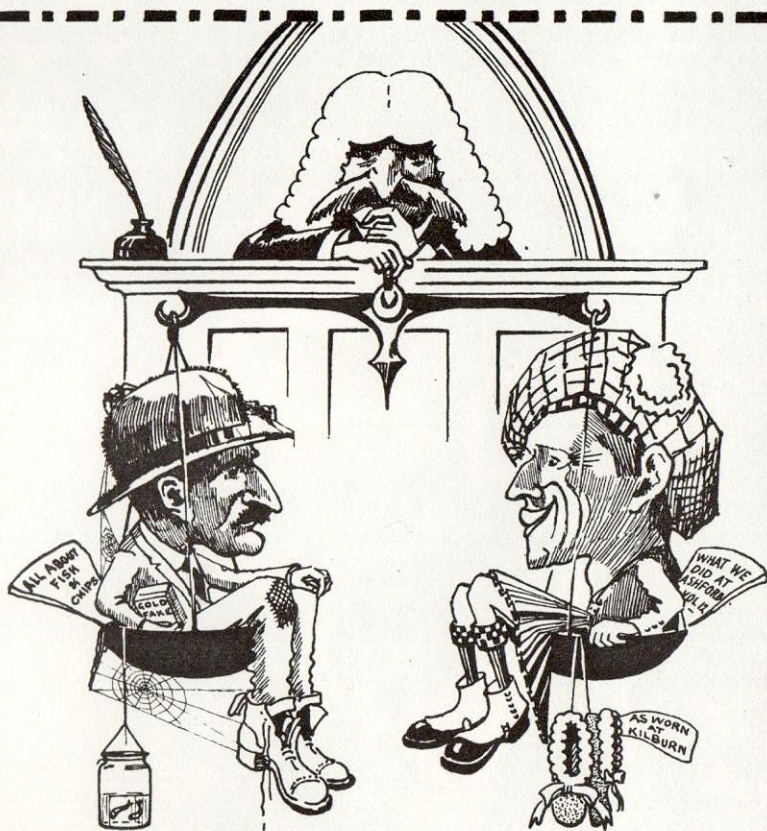
There was little sign that he tried to do so and meanwhile the avalanche was gathering speed. In January 1909 the Middlesex Education Committee expressed its serious concern, but Luke tried to hold off any action. The Board of Education stated that only provisional recognition would be given to the school while steps were taken to "remedy radical defects". The University of London declined to give recognition for the School Leaving Examination. The governors warned Evans of the seriousness of his situation. In May two visits were made

by H.M.I.s and no improvement found. The governing body was warned that unless they acted no grant would be made from the Board. In June they interviewed the staff individually.

Wilfrid Hunt supported Evans and denied the charges made against him. The governors resolved to say that there was insufficient evidence to support the allegations. In July the Board confirmed the refusal of grant and Middlesex declared themselves ready to dismiss Evans over the heads of the governors. The National Union of Teachers took up the matter with the chairman of the Board of Education, Walter Runciman, through Sir James Yoxall, M.P., secretary of the N.U.T. but Runciman refused to budge. At a special governors' meeting in September Luke said that he felt that they had to submit and ask Evans to resign. He complied, thanking them for their kindness over two years. They expressed their reluctance and regret and their high appreciation of his ability, zeal and devotion. Evans' conclusion of his last report to them is dignified and moving. "Today, Gentlemen, my twelve years of work is culminating in the loss of my professional character and the deprivation of my means of livelihood – a deprivation quite unmerited, as time will show."

I have been fortunate enough to receive personal reminiscences of the school in Evans' last years as head from "Archie" Lane, a prefect and the second house-captain of Curtis. He was one of the first scholarship boys admitted, being eleven years old. With another boy he habitually walked the three miles to school from Church Road, Willesden. He recalls Evans as a fiery Welshman with iron-gray hair who, at their first encounter slapped a school cap on Lane's head and demanded half-a-crown! Unlike the rest of the school, the scholarship boys had studied neither French nor Latin and Evans himself gave them intensive teaching and homework to enable them to catch up. Lane considered that the school's standards in basic subjects were low. The Hall was sometimes used by more than one class and Evans' "bellowings" made life difficult for those who had to share with him. Lane does not remember the discipline as unusually harsh for those days, although there was at least one caning before the whole school. Among other members of staff he recalls Couillault as a "typical" Frenchman in frock coat with a blue ribbon in the button-hole, (unidentified) and "Imperial" beard and moustaches. Among a variety of playing fields to which games players had to travel there was one near Gladstone Park with an old tramcar as dressing room.

Evan Evans professed a full Christian faith. He was fond of repeating the school motto, "Pasce Agnos Meos". He remained a generous friend to the school from which he had been so painfully parted. After a period of time he presented annually first two and then an increasing number of awards for competition in various subjects and he paid for or underwrote the cost of the stained glass window for Winnington Ingram and the painted portrait of Wilfrid Hunt. The impression he leaves is of a man whose personal relationships easily became emotionally charged. In this we can see, perhaps, the cause of his downfall.



7th ANNUAL DINNER
of the
KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY
SIXTH
1926.

CARR'S
RESTAURANT
STRAND



Geo. Spring



W. BONAVIA HUNT, Esq. M.A. (Oxon.)
HEADMASTER 1910-1925

CHAPTER 2

WILFRID BONA VIA HUNT 1910-1925

Evan Evans' last speech day was in November 1909. Sir James and Lady Yoxall presented the prizes and Luke took the chair. Evans made no reference to the circumstances of his departure. He paid tribute to W. Hunt's loyalty over a period of years. Alderman Pinkham said that the governors had supported Evans but had been overruled. Editorial comment in the local press recorded much astonishment and very considerable displeasure being aroused by what had taken place.

One hundred and fifty three applications were made for the post. Eleven candidates were interviewed and Wilfrid Hunt was appointed, to the reported approval of the school, the Old Boys and the locality, although Lane recalls thinking that Hunt was a weak man and being surprised at his promotion. Hunt was a bachelor, a graduate of Keble College, Oxford in 1897. He had a good athletics record and had already served the school well. His support of Evans against His Majesty's Inspectors may have commended him more to Luke and the governors than his connection with the Founder. It is significant that at his first meeting with the governors, whilst still headmaster elect, he asked for the removal of four of the five full time assistant staff left after his promotion. He spoke of an attitude of treachery which was "unenglish" and not loyal. He could not carry on without the change he requested. The governors agreed that the four named — E.C. Monk (joined 1904), W.E. Upton (1907), B. Morgan (1908), and A. Shillington (1908) be asked to resign. Not surprisingly they fought back and sought for allies. In March 1910 Hunt reported that Dr. Edwards, (the destroyer of Evans) had threatened another inspection of the school if they were dismissed. It was a hollow threat and the governors protested and asked that K.G.S. be removed from Edwards' aegis. The four staff appealed to the Board of Education but the governors felt on secure ground and, probably with some satisfaction, stood firm.

The remaining assistant, forty year old John Ware, had been appointed during the brewing of the headship crisis, to teach history, French and English. He joined in January 1909 and in October 1910 became second master and so remained until his retirement in 1929. During the next few years the staff was joined by a number of masters who were to serve for many "generations" of school life and to be its backbone during the first great period of reputation and achievement. In 1910 J. Westbury, W.G. Bowden, C.B. Thurston and W.H.E. Bentley were all appointed. In 1911 came W. Davies and in 1914 S. Burton. Always "Sam" to the school, very few of his pupils knew that he had been named "Sydney"!

The building extensions to the school, projected in Evans' time, were carried out in 1910-11. The number of pupils was then 150. The Board of Education required county councils to provide 25% of admissions as free places in public secondary schools, open to competition among pupils who were eleven years of age. K.G.S. received its quota and in 1911 there was a brief outburst in the local press on the subject of their treatment in the school. A councillor alleged to Willesden Education Committee that he had had complaints that K.G.S. boys would not "rub shoulders" with them for reasons of snobbery. He drew a strongly (even rudely) worded reply in flat denial from "Ex-Matriculation students" who wrote that they had been among the first scholarship boys. Lane, a scholarship boy himself, has confirmed their correctness. In October 1911 Hunt reported 190 pupils on roll and 215 in 1912. He had given the staff a dinner when the 200 mark was passed. By October 1914 the figure was 290. The school was virtually full and so remained, even becoming over full in 1918 with 330 boys. This growth was not achieved without some anxious times. In 1913 Hunt was much upset by a comment in Willesden Education Committee that K.G.S. was a failure and that the entry age had been reduced in order to fill it. The argument seemed to be that there was over provision rather than that the school was being rejected, but it was true that in 1910 the entry age had been reduced to ten years and the governors thought even this to be too high in competition with schools which had preparatory departments taking boys at eight years.

Among the H.M.I.'s criticisms of Evans was the lack of school societies. He was given little time for correction, but Hunt took note. In a prospectus of 1910 there are references to debating, scientific, rifle, swimming, photographic and Old Boys clubs and a fire brigade. Later came historical and geographical societies, a chess club and a cadet corps. Most of these continued to function over long periods. The first number of the school's magazine, "The Kilburnian" was mentioned in December 1898. It was 1902 before the second number was mentioned. Number 10 was produced in 1908. Covers to this and other early numbers were at first in gray, but this was changed to the Cambridge blue which was used with little variation for almost sixty years. Style and taste changed greatly over the course of years but for much of its life the contents were basically of a pattern. Reports and comments on school activities, literary and artistic contributions from pupils and occasionally from staff, photographs of office holders and school teams, and Old Boys notes were the basic ingredients. The editorship seem usually to have been with pupils.

The office of head boy existed from the start of the school, and he seems always to have been elected by the boys and not appointed by the headmaster, which is an interesting comment on Evans' reputed authoritarian attitude. Also of interest are some of the roles expected from the holder. In 1909 Evans requested the governors to pay the

head boy for teaching classes during staff absences, an arrangement hitherto regarded as normal. They agreed payment but said that the practice must cease. Another H.M.I. criticism had been the lack of a proper prefect system. It was not until 1911 that Hunt could report the system as organised and the prefects issued with cap badges. There is no doubt that the prefect system during the rest of the school's history played an important and beneficial role. The declaration made by a prefect when inducted by the headmaster at morning assembly was a good summary of the ideals which lay behind the office.

Hunt, before he became headmaster, had begun another very important feature of K.G.S. life, the "House System", for competition in games. It was based on his schoolboy experiences at Westminster school and he claimed that Kilburn was the first outside the "Public School" system to adopt it. Its origin there, as the name implied, was the provision of board and lodging establishments for pupils. Incidentally, Kilburn's first scheme of government under the county council included the article "No master shall, without the consent of the Governors, receive boarders." It was a consent never given and probably never sought! In 1908 the school was divided into four houses, each under a leading athlete, namely L.V. Curtis, J.C. Ellis, A.J. Keith and E.Y. Saxby. It was not until 1911-12 that a full "Cock House" championship was organised. By that time each house had its own master, who chose its distinguishing colour. Westbury selected Oxford dark blue for Curtis, Bowden Cambridge light blue for Keith, Henley Trinity College Dublin, green for Ellis; Thurston took for Saxby the still available red in preference to London's purple. By the war years the school numbers had risen to 300 and it was felt desirable to add a fifth house. S.W.G. Ratcliff, briefly headboy in 1908 before his family emigrated to Australia, had there distinguished himself as a medical student. Commissioned in the R.A.M.C., he visited the school in 1916 and agreed that a new house should bear his name. Bentley, first housemaster, chose his own London University purple as its colour. The house championship, whose first winner was Keith, in 1911-12, was for sporting competition, but house rivalry was keen in other fields. The champion house for each year had its name placed on a board in the Creighton Hall. Hunt had asked the governors to provide one, but in the end paid for it himself. House colours for athletes who distinguished themselves were first awarded in 1921. House competition undoubtedly contributed much of interest to school life, particularly for those who could not aspire to the membership of school teams. It was to survive as long as K.G.S. lasted and almost every number of "The Kilburnian" included "House Notes".

From its inception the school had played other teams at cricket and association football and under Hunt these sports continued to flourish. Athletic sports were annual events, interest sharpened by house competitions. They were often accompanied by entertainment by "The Gas

Declaration of Prefect

I,
do hereby undertake the office of prefect in this the Kilburn Grammar School, having full knowledge of the duties and responsibilities attaching to this office.

First, I must actively discourage any conduct subversive of the school discipline generally, or of any school regulation in particular.

Secondly, I must resolutely set my face against anything in the nature of or conducive to unmanliness, impurity, evil speaking, bullying, or any conduct likely to lower the moral tone of the School.

Thirdly, I must exhibit in my own character an example of those qualities that I am expected to instil into my schoolfellows.

Finally, I must perform all such duties as may be assigned to me by the Head Boy with cheerfulness and loyalty and with the utmost punctuality.

All these duties and responsibilities I will discharge with God's help to the very best of my ability.

And to this Declaration I set my name.

.....
.....
Head Master.

Date.....

Light and Coke Company Band" and similar bodies. By the war years such events as egg-and-spoon, sack, and three-legged races had disappeared and the programme consisted of flat races from 100 yards to 1 mile, throwing the cricket ball, high and long jumps and relays. In the spring of 1914 a letter from Benjamin Gott, secretary of the Middlesex Education Committee, notified the governors of the formation of a Middlesex Secondary Schools Athletic Association and requested them to grant a day's holiday in July so that pupils could compete or watch. The idea had been born in the K.G.S. staff common room and was largely the brain child of C.B. Thurston; who was the first secretary. The first contest was held at the Kensal Rise grounds and seventeen schools took part. Before long the venue was settled at the Chelsea football ground at Stamford Bridge, where it remained until 1932. K.G.S. won the Junior Shield in 1915 and 1916.

A tennis club for staff and sixth formers was instituted in 1910 and the office of school tennis captain in 1921, but the game was played principally at house level. Hockey may have been introduced when the asphaltting of the school playground made it unsuitable for football. It was first mentioned in 1911 and the next year was included in the house competition. Even after the acquisition of the school field the hockey team played few matches compared with the football programme. Boxing appeared in 1910 and again in 1919 but did not secure a place in the house championship. A school rifle club was formed by Bowden in 1910 and from 1911 to 1923 shooting had its place as a house contest. In 1923 appeared a note in "The Kilburnian" on "The K.G.S. Harriers", the voluntary precursor of much compulsory suffering in later years! For one term in 1921 Rugby football was played but it did not at this time become permanent.

It has been observed that from the beginning K.G.S. entertainments almost always included extracts from Shakespeare's plays. Yet even when plays were described as having been presented this can scarcely have been in full in view of the number of other items on the programme. The traditional numbering of the years of the annual Shakespearean production dated from "Richard II" in 1908, but this again cannot have been other than a condensed version. Full length plays had to await the productions of John Ware. Productions continued through the years of war, but it is recorded that "King Lear", 1917, was at one point accompanied by the sounds of an air raid. Starting as a single play night, later periods saw productions of as many as five nights with additional matinees. During the years when J. Lodge was producing (1918-1924), the celebrated professional actor Ben Greet attended most of the plays and in 1925 gave a performance solely for the school. The tercentenary of the Bard's death in 1916 was marked by a lecture given to the school by W.B. Luke.



"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE" 1912

The war years 1914-18 were inevitably a period of problems and disturbances for the school. In 1914 and 1915 some Belgian refugees were admitted. By the end of 1914 J. Lodge, E.H. Parr, and J.F.S. Nash of the full time staff and part timers J. Paterson and P.T. Horsley had joined the armed forces and the school caretaker, a regular army reservist, had been recalled. They were later joined by F.L. Henley, T. Beach, W. Davies, C.B. Thurston, W.G. Greaves and J. Westbury. Paterson was twice wounded, Lodge was severely injured and Henley was killed in October 1916. Their replacements were men too old or otherwise unfit for military service, or women teachers. Five ladies were so employed at K.G.S., the last being Miss Crowle Ellis, sister to two head boys. Miss P.L. Rickards was obliged to resign in May 1918. She had been arrested during a pacifist meeting at Marble Arch and bound over. The report in the press was seen by a vigilant parent who complained to the headmaster. In the prevailing climate of opinion the governors had no option but to offer her the choice of resignation or dismissal since she would give no undertaking to refrain from addressing public meetings. In 1916 they had already been required by Middlesex County Council policy to dismiss G.D. Millar, who had been exempted from military service on conscientious grounds. Ironically this exemption was on condition that he remained in the teaching profession.

The lady teachers at K.G.S. were neither welcomed nor successful. Hunt complained that numbers of parents were withdrawing their sons, partly because of dissatisfaction with female teachers and partly because of financial strain. The staff meeting minute book, which has survived for the years 1909 -1924, contains a 1915 entry which is startlingly unprofessional and childish. In John Ware's barely legible scrawl it records a formal resolution of appreciation to the women assistants for detention lists of magnificent proportions, no dullness or apathy in classrooms, but animated conversation by the more ardent spirits, a suggestion that they address themselves to the arduous feat of marking registers, and more in the same strain. The minutes were as usual signed by Hunt. Needless to say the ladies were not recorded as present.

Other events and problems in these years may be traced in the governors' minutes. and in the school magazine. There was no speech day in 1914. The one held in 1915, with Bishop Winnington Ingram present, was the last until 1919. Parents' evenings were held from 1912 to 1915, with the school present in form rooms, an address by the headmaster and refreshments and conversation with staff. In 1915 the Middlesex Education Committee decided that "in the present exceptional circumstances" certificates would be substituted for prizes in schools. The headmaster reported a loss on school dinners because of rising costs. "Zeppelin drill" was instituted in case of air raids; (Hunt had always taken fire drill seriously). Various war charities

were given support, beginning with "Princess Mary's Fund for Gifts to Soldiers and Sailors". In 1917 Ware and Bentley started a National War Savings Group. Periodically the magazine published lists of Old Boys serving, wounded and killed.

The quarrel between Bonavia Hunt and Luke had long since dissolved in the respect felt for each other by two good men. In 1912 Hunt distributed the prizes at speech day and Luke described the school as a permanent and imperishable memorial to Hunt's courage and devotion to the cause of education. In 1917 No. 36 of "the Kilburnian" recorded the celebration of the school's "Vicenary". It is to be noted that it reckoned the twentieth year of its existence from the Deed of Foundation in 1897 and not the actual opening of classes in January 1898. The Jubilee (1948) and Diamond Jubilee (1958) were otherwise reckoned. The Vicenary magazine included a photograph of the Founder and articles by him, by Luke and by Wilfrid Hunt. In September 1917 Dr. Hunt died. On the day on which he was cremated the school held a special assembly and heard an address from Luke in which he told them that they might and probably would have, in the course of time, many headmasters, but that there could never be more than one founder.

Other activities at this time were a week under canvas near Strood in Kent, organised by Thurston for the Geographical Society in 1912 and in the next year a tour of Germany accompanied by Beach, Bentley and Thurston. This was followed by the first of many "Camp Lectures" illustrated by photographic slides which Thurston was to give. The war put an end to foreign tours. Cadet camps were held but the only domestic one on record was a "Land Camp" for harvesting near Horsham in 1918. The cadet corps had been formed in 1912, probably in response to the urgings of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts that the nation should take home defence seriously. The governors gave permission on the understanding that there was no charge on school funds. Commanded first by Bowden and then by Burton, the corps flourished through the war years and continued until 1926. It had a very creditable record in marksmanship competitions. The 1st K.G.S. Scout Troop, formed in 1909 had only a brief existence. Hunt was keen to revive it and in 1918 the 11th. Willesden Troop was formed under C.H. Hughes. It only lasted for two years.

C.H. Hughes ("Bobby") was priest-in-charge of St. Francis' Church, Dollis Hill, when in March 1917 he was appointed temporarily to replace Thurston, absent on war service. Seldom can a temporary appointment have led to such permanent satisfaction for both sides! He was already forty-one years of age and had taken a modest degree in modern history at Oxford and a theological course at Cuddesdon College. His subjects were scripture and music, but he found himself initially teaching both of them and geography, Swedish-drill and

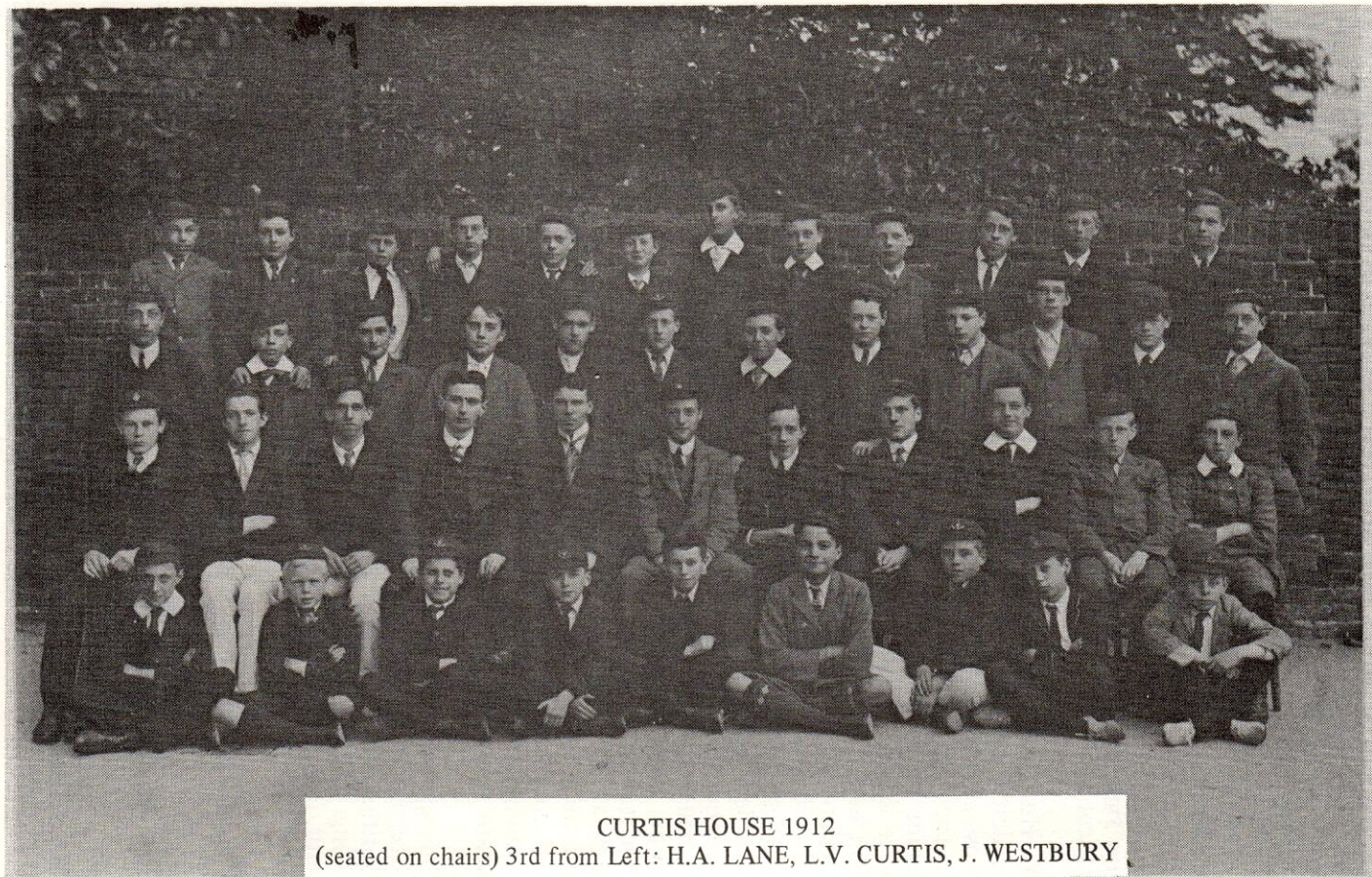
history as well. In his time at K.G.S. he always taught scripture and to me made it more than interesting, but he lived music. He seems to have had no special qualifications for this until he persuaded the governors to help him financially with a series of courses at the London Academy of Music. In 1921 he started a school orchestra and organised a series of public instrumental lecture recitals. Next year there were three chamber concerts to raise money for a new school organ. In 1923 took place the first of what was to be a long series of annual house music competitions for the "Founder's Memorial Bowl". The adjudicator at this first concert was Geoffrey Shaw, "one of England's best known educational musicians and composers".

W. Hunt had been faced with the task of establishing the school's academic organisation on a sound basis. In July 1910 he gave the local press an interview in which he said that the existing curriculum led only to the University of London matriculation examination. Numbers of senior boys, whose parents did not wish them to sit this examination, were leaving the school. He therefore proposed to introduce specialisation at fifteen years of age by providing a commercial side, including modern languages, a development which he claimed no other school had yet made. This is puzzling because in 1898 a school advertisement had claimed for K.G.S. a commercial department, and in 1903 it included modern languages, book-keeping, shorthand and "all the essential subjects". Perhaps these provisions had never existed in reality or had lapsed. Hunt had a slight problem with the Board of Education before the course was approved, but he persevered and fostered the department. He arranged a series of business lectures by local traders such as B.B. Evans, by London businessmen such as Gordon Selfridge and by Luke on the Civil Service. A Commercial Form club was started and continued for several years. Hunt was also able to begin "Manual Training Instruction", in this case woodwork, in response to the Board's criticism of its absence.

The special commercial course was mentioned in a resumed school advertisement in 1910. Advertisements had been discontinued six months after the county took over the school, but the difficulty in filling places must have led Hunt to urge resumption. They continued until 1922, by which time the school had been full and over full for some years.

The H.M.I.s reported a gradual improvement in school organisation and by 1911 were saying that such satisfactory progress had been made that special care should be taken to help in the development by the provision of a fully adequate staff.

What was described as "The University of London School Examination (Matriculation Standard)" was first taken in the school in 1910. Four candidates were entered, of whom only one passed, in the Second



CURTIS HOUSE 1912
(seated on chairs) 3rd from Left: H.A. LANE, L.V. CURTIS, J. WESTBURY

division. It later became the "Senior School" and subsequently the "General School" examination, with a pass standard lower than that for matriculation but with the possibility of securing exemption from "Matric" if a sufficiently high standard was achieved. They were all "Group Examinations", that is to say a candidate had to satisfy the examiners in a number of subjects drawn from different groups, and this had to be done at one time. Thus began a system which continued until after the Second World War and by which it became usual to assess a school's academic standing and reputation. In 1924 there were 28 candidates and 20 G.S.C. passes, but only a disappointing 7 matriculations. The next year, Hunt's last, produced a blaze of success with 42 entries, 42 General Schools, of which 5 were with Honours and 25 matriculations. By this time pupils were also taking the "Higher Schools" examinations and securing exemption from London "Intermediate" degrees. The latter were recorded on a board in the Creighton Hall headed "University Successes". Hard by was another board headed "University Scholarships", which began with "1910 Crowle Ellis, J. Historical Exhibition Keble Coll. Oxford". When the school ended in 1967 there were over ninety similar scholarships recorded on this and other boards in the school hall. Between 1919 and 1922 there were no fewer than nine scholarships and exhibitions gained at Oxford and Cambridge, but in 1924 Hunt told the governors that scholarships to the ancient universities were now out of the question because parents could not afford the fees for residence. Between the wars the normal university for Kilburnians was London and the "University Letter" in the school magazine was usually sent from one of its common rooms.

D. Crowle Ellis, the younger of the brothers, had won a scholarship to Cambridge in 1914 but did not then take it up. They are both in the first list of serving "Creightonians". In 1918 D. Crowle Ellis was invalided out of the army and he returned briefly to school as a member of staff. He was not the first Old Boy to teach in the school; in 1906-07 J.C. Miller, who had been head boy in the previous year, was a student teacher and remained as a non-graduate member of staff for another year. He was one of those killed in the war. W.J.F. Hiller, head boy 1914-16, taught lower forms from September to July 1918 before going into engineering.

Lack of a proper playing field was a perennial problem for the school's first twenty years and more. As early as 1906, before it had bought the school, Middlesex resolved to purchase five acres to serve K.G.S. and a proposed new school in west Willesden. In 1914 it was decided that a similar acreage was needed for K.G.S. alone. In 1915 the school had the use of a field in the Avenue, Brondesbury, formerly used by the London Scottish Cricket Club. In 1921 the county purchased this ground and the school undertook to renovate the dilapidated pavilion with labour from classes under D.R. Hounsell, the manual training teacher. The field had its shortcomings. During the winter months



W. J. GRAY,
CRICKET CAPTAIN, 1922
and
HEAD BOY, 1922-23.

no tap water was available. Even normal rainfall put it out of action for several weeks each spring season. There were some very poor grass tennis courts and some of the cricket pitches had to be prepared in football areas. It was calculated that fewer than half the school could make use of the field in any one week. In 1923 Thurston submitted a scheme for improved drainage but no action was taken.

During Hunt's headship a number of prizes were established to be won in open competition among the boys. Miss Lupton, locally prominent for her interest in education, founded the Lupton Kitchener Memorial Prize when Lord Kitchener was lost at sea in 1916. A Crockett Memorial Prize commemorated an old scholar killed while serving in Italy. In 1917 Evan Evans renewed his links with the school by providing a History Prize and in 1918 the Bishop of London's Prize for Divinity. There were science prizes from Dr. Bridges and County Councillor Turner and a Reader's Prize for the best reader among the prefects in morning assembly. There was also a series of sporting trophies such as the Last Cup for tennis, the Ratcliff Shooting Cup, the Athletic Championship Cup, the Mullen Challenge Cup for swimming and the Temple Cole Junior Athletic Cup.

The original Old Boys Club had petered out during the war, although Hunt at the 1915 speech day said that some of its members had held a dinner near the front in France. It was re-formed in 1919 as the "Kilburn Grammar School Old Boys Association" and has since had a continuous history. It chose as its first "Patrons" the governors (ex-officio) and Evans. Hunt was "President". Its first concern was to provide a fitting memorial to those former pupils who had died in the war. Under the chairmanship of G.W. Sexton this was achieved in December 1921, when Luke unveiled and Bishop Winnington Ingram dedicated a memorial clock and inscription in the Creighton Hall. The list of names totalled fifty-one, among them four head boys.

The school's own memorial to the dead took much longer to bring into being. It was ultimately decided to raise a sum of money to endow and maintain a bed in the Willesden General Hospital and to continue the collection of money towards its upkeep. In July 1925, Hunt's last term, a memorial plaque over the bed was unveiled. Thereafter the Monday morning collection of "hospital money" by each prefect from the form of which he had charge was a routine part of school life.

Other activities of the Old Boys Association may be traced in the pages of "The Kilburnian". Football, cricket and tennis are to be found, together with the annual dinner, whist drives, dances, smoking concerts and a dramatic section. In 1923 the football club began the custom, later adopted by all sports and in the end by the association as a whole, of referring to itself as "Old Creightonians"



K.G.S. CRICKET ELEVEN, 1924

STANDING—Lane, Benka, Shuff, Morley, Tarry, Westbeeck,
SITTING—Hatfield, Rawdon, M. W. Dalton (Capt.), Jenkin, Forster.

In 1919 there took place the first full H.M.I. inspection of the school for ten years. The report stressed the need for increased provision for both physical education and for science. The hall, smaller then than later, was used as a gym and was no longer suitable. The staff were found generally to be satisfactory, discipline was good, the prefect system adequate and the corporate life of the school commendable, special mention being made of the cadet corps and the scouts. It was a great contrast with the strictures of the previous report, but Hunt's leadership was not without its critics in other quarters. He found administrators uncongenial, especially "the man Gott", (from 1924 "Sir" Benjamin Gott, Secretary to the Middlesex Education Committee 1898-1928). In 1918 there was a suggestion that an increment in salary for headmasters be withheld but Luke and another governor interceded, admitting that Hunt was not a strong head and that the governors had often had to deal with the consequences, but feeling that it was not fair to single him out in this way. Happily, they were successful. He was frequently handicapped by ill-health and he certainly lacked a proper grip on many aspects of school life. The condition and sometimes the contents of the staff meetings minute book show signs of poor leadership.

The governors' minutes for 1919 give an interesting glimpse of the concerns of a staff common room. There can have been few periods when teachers, or for that matter any employees have considered themselves other than underpaid, but from time to time matters boil over. In July of that year the local press reported a meeting of the Incorporated Association of Assistant Masters representatives from a number of secondary schools in west Middlesex, including K.G.S. They made formal protest at low salaries. Two weeks later a letter from John Lodge, the wounded war veteran was published. Lodge also wrote to Luke from the staff common room. This letter was brought before the governors, who took exception to its tone, but probably realised that this had been provoked by a piece of official ineptitude. They appointed a sub-committee to investigate. The matter was overtaken by a Middlesex I.A.A.M. deputation which met Gott. It was likely that in consequence the Middlesex Education Committee in 1920 resolved to adopt the Burnham Scale for Teachers' Salaries — a step which shifted future disputes on to the national level.

Another development in these years was the extension, by the 1918 Education Act, of school medical inspections to secondary schools. Hitherto they had been confined to elementary schools.

At the end of the summer term in 1925 Wilfrid Hunt retired. He was only in his fifty-first year and for twenty-two of them he had been at Kilburn. His resignation was on the ground of ill-health. The school's reputation was not at the time high, and there would be much for his successor to do. But he had seen K.G.S. through difficult times and left it firmly established with three hundred pupils and sixteen staff. A humorous and modest man and a dedicated fisherman, he had won its undisguised affection.



J. MCLEISH, M.B.E., M.A.
HEADMASTER, 1925-32

CHAPTER 3

JAMES McLEISH 1925 - 1932

The Michaelmas 1932 number of "the Kilburnian" mourned a great headmaster with dignity and with sincerity. A brief curriculum vitae, a letter from his widow, an excerpt from his last speech day address entitled "In Defence of the Secondary School", an appreciation by his second master James Westbury, an "In Memoriam" by his fellow headmaster and former colleague Charles Thurston, a schoolboy's recollections by W.B.G. Clayton, the head boy, and an account of the memorial service by D. R. Woodman with an elegy by F. D. Flower, also pupils, all paid tribute to the work of a remarkable man.

James McLeish, successor to Wilfrid Hunt, came of a Scots family of seven brothers. Brought to London at the age of four, he had been educated at Upper Latymer School, trained as a teacher at Borough Road College, Isleworth and spent two years in London County Council schools before going to teach history at the County School in Ashford in Middlesex. Nominally he was employed there until 1925 but from 1914 to 1919 he was continuously on war service. A private in the London Scottish Regiment, he was one of that Territorial Army which, committed legally only to home defence, had volunteered almost to a man to serve abroad. Wounded in France, he returned home and transferred to the Royal Engineers Gas Section. He was commissioned, returned to France and was again wounded. Given command at Porton gas station, he was severely gassed trying out a new and in the event unsatisfactory respirator which he refused to allow one of his men to be detailed to wear. For this he received the military M.B.E. He returned to teaching in 1919, rapidly turned his London pass degree into a first class honours B.A. and then by research into an M.A. in 1926.

Such was the man who, at the age of 34 became the third headmaster of the Kilburn Grammar School. He went through a slack school like a fresh breeze. Wrote the magazine editors, "We were apt to take his presence for granted; that flying gown, that warning cough, that cheery smile, that infectious enthusiasm which displayed itself both in the School and on the field - ". A headmaster who played cricket well and football better than most amateurs inevitably had a head start in the estimation of his pupils. He hated sloppiness in action, in thought and in appearance. He tightened up the general appearance of his boys and sought reasonable uniformity. Coloured house caps, first awarded in 1921, were now commonly worn to school. This was stopped. The school cap was modified. By 1903 Kilburnians were wearing a plain round cap with a small peak, probably blue in colour. By 1907 an embroidered version of the school badge had been added. McLeish introduced a modernized version in black, with a slightly different

badge and a button in the appropriate house colour. Blazers were not compulsory but parents were encouraged to provide a school tie and a dark jacket. All pupils below the Fifth Forms were required to wear gym-shoes in school. A modern paediatrician might well have disapproved, but it certainly cut down noise! Above all the headmaster himself provided an example of the standard which he expected. He must have made a contrast to Evans, who was known as "Tramp" and Hunt who was remembered in his attire principally for the carpet slippers which he wore in school.

In 1925 the school numbered about 300 and there was need for extension. Proposals for enlargement had existed for a number of years and in 1927 they came into being. At speech day in November of that year W.B. Luke, chairman of the governors, opened a new wing of four classrooms, four laboratories, cloakrooms, staffroom, headmaster's study and what was at the time believed to be the finest gymnasium in Middlesex. It was anticipated that in two years the school roll would rise to 450.

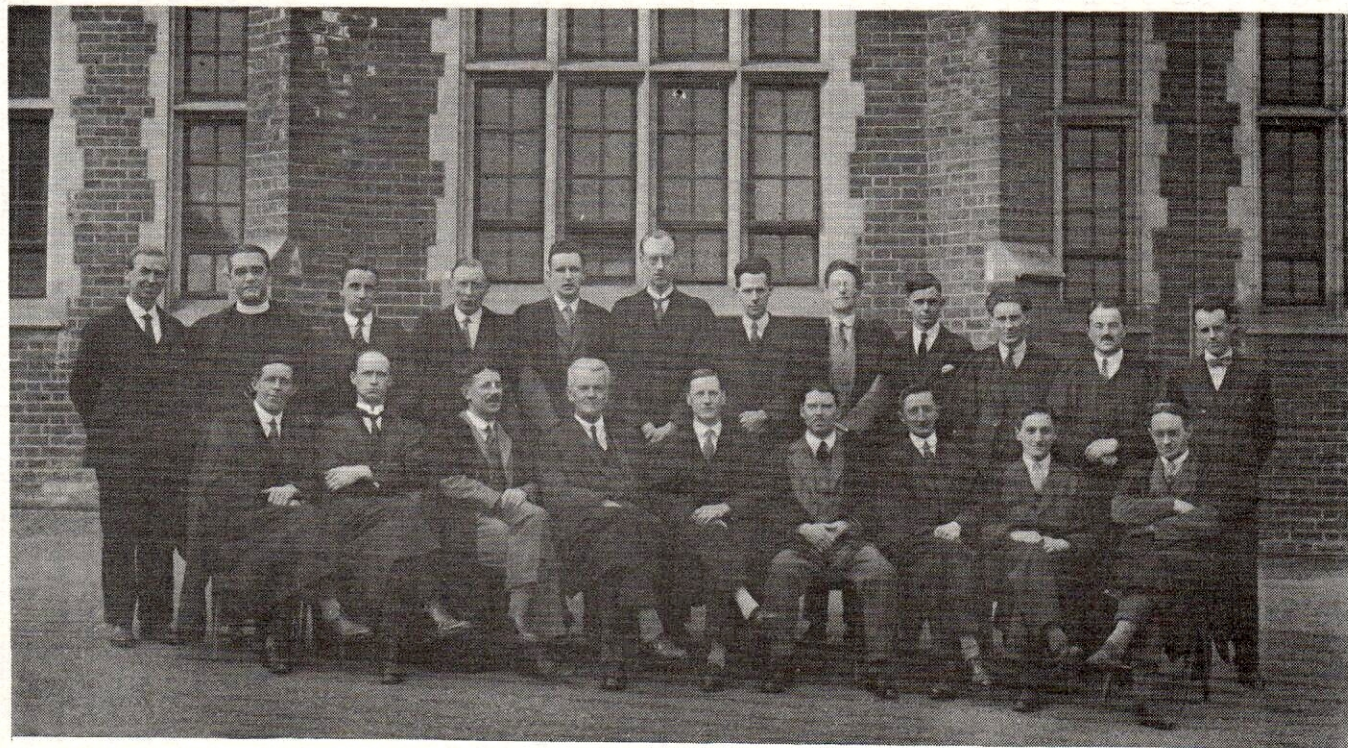
Apart from lacking purpose-built art and handicraft rooms, the school now had very good accommodation, but the provision for changing for games was utterly inadequate. To this problem McLeish turned his attention. As early as March 1926 he had raised with the governors the matter of a school pavilion. Public bodies move with deliberation in anything which involves the spending of money and he was not content to wait for Middlesex to provide all that was needed. For two years the school hummed with fund-raising activity which culminated in a two day bazaar and fete in March 1928, opened successively by England cricketers P.G.H. Fender and P.F. Warner. The sum of £350 was raised. By the end of the year over £1000 had been secured and to this the county added £600. By the first term of 1930 the building was in use – changing rooms, showers, refreshment room – and accommodation for a mowing machine. The original mower and rollers were horsedrawn and the horse had been owned by Vernon House School in Willesden Lane, then a private establishment with a sports ground adjacent to that of K.G.S. In 1928 McLeish recommended that a motor-mower be purchased as the horse had died!

The pavilion project had been a great success but McLeish did not rest content. Fund raising continued, seemingly of its own momentum. Newspaper style competitions proliferated to such an extent that the various houses had to be rationed in the number each could run. By the end of 1931 three hard tennis courts had been constructed on the field at a cost of £600, of which two thirds was provided by the school. When the headmaster died a year later he was planning for "fives" courts in the school playground.

Teaching accommodation is of great importance to a school, but even more essential is a staff of adequate number and quality. In 1926 a headmaster and 15 assistants taught 300 boys. By 1932 there were 450 boys and 23 staff, a ratio marginally worse! John Ware retired in 1929 and was replaced as second master by J. Westbury. C.B. Thurston, after twenty-one years service to the school was appointed headmaster of Isleworth County School in 1931. R.E. Jones ("Squint") died in 1930 at the age of fifty. D.R. Hounsell (handicraft), E.C. Bond (P.T.) and G. Ayling (art), left. Those appointed and remaining more than two years were H.E. Gould (Latin), H.J. Sharpe (mathematics), T. M. Yarwood (physics), H.E. Collins (French), E.W.M. Potts (mathematics), E.W. Rhodes (modern languages), E.H. Thompson (art), L. Thompson (handicraft), B.J. Morahan (P.T.), A.G. Field (history), R. Whitmore (art), J.L. Whiteley (classics), D.B. Fry (French), J.M. Pullan (physics) G.F. Carpenter (economics) H. Thomas (geography), J.W. Jenkins (mathematics), and H.A. Peter (English). McLeish inherited a good staff and many of high quality were added. Of especial interest was E.W.M. Potts, an old scholar (1918-1925) and the first Old Boy to have an undoubtedly permanent appointment.

Among the masters McLeish had found at least one major problem in the person of E.H. ("Peter") Parr. Joining to teach French and German in 1910 he had been among the first of the staff to go into military service. He was invalided out in 1916 and suffered long periods of bad health. He was house master of Keith and took particular interest in swimming. In 1926 his career came to a sad end in bankruptcy, followed by dismissal for repeated absence without permission. On the last occasion McLeish reported to the governors that £20 of the swimming club's money was in Parr's possession. Several months later he was sentenced to a year's hard labour for thefts from London hotels. "The Willesden Chronicle", describing him as a schoolmaster, tactfully omitted to mention K.G.S.

It was in this period that Kilburn Grammar School was given its own full time secretarial staff. Evans presumably dealt with his own correspondence, as did Hunt at first, but in 1914 the governors acceded to his request that a suitable boy be given a free school place and an honorarium for the work. In 1920 he asked for professional help and authority arranged that a lady clerk in the county divisional education office in Glengall Road should be allocated part time for work at K.G.S. The first full time secretary was Miss Ferris who, after a few years was replaced by the very youthful Rosemary Willis, later Mrs. Chirgwin, who stayed until her retirement some years after K.G.S. had ceased to be. In post-war years she had additional assistance in the work of a larger school.



STAFF 1927

D.R. Hounsell; C.H. Hughes; H.A. Peter; H.T. Sharpe; E.W.M. Potts; W.H. Williams; T.M. Yarwood; H.E. Gould; E.C. Bond;
H.E. Collins; C.B. Thurston; E.H. Thompson; W. Davies; W.H.E. Bentley W.G. Bowden; J. Ware; J. McLeish (Headmaster);
J. Westbury; S. Burton; J. Ellison; R.E. Jones.

In the earlier days at Salusbury Road caretaking and drill tended to be combined under a regular army reservist. Sergeant Piggott (1908-09) had been strikingly versatile, being caretaker, supervisor of football practice in school hours, giving upper school instruction in rifle drill and lower school in Swedish exercises, and being laboratory assistant in the mornings. He also found time to start a scout troop. Later on came the celebrated "Pat" and his wife, (Mr. and Mrs. Paterson). The 1927 extensions included a caretaker's cottage in the playground and for the first time there was a resident caretaker. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, (she cooked school dinners) remained for many years in peace and war until retirement in 1955.

During the school year 1926-27 an inspection by the University of London was carried out with very favourable results and in 1930 a Board of Education full inspection found that "a spirit of keenness and energy pervades the school. The work is good and the play and social life active". The curriculum during the interwar years seems to have remained basically unchanged. McLeish was no innovator in this field though had there been need he would doubtless have acted with vigour. With the enlargement of the school to three form entry, mild specialisation was introduced as early as the second year, with Latin, German or chemistry each in one form. There was no "fast stream" to take the examinations in the fourth year. The basic aim set before all boys was to secure "General Schools", with matriculation exemption if possible, at the end of the fifth year. In a world of economic depression and "dole queues" it sometimes seemed as if one's standing at the Day of Judgement would depend on the examination result. In 1932 there were 56 candidates of whom 49 obtained General Schools, 3 with honours, and 29 secured matriculation. The Sixth form was now a two year post-matriculation course. In the same year 6 boys obtained Higher Schools and exemption from intermediate science, arts or economics degrees, 2 obtained intermediates direct and 2 obtained open scholarships to universities. In 1929 D.W.J. Woodman, head boy in that year had passed higher schools and inter. B.A. and won the first "State Scholarship" to university obtained by the school. In 1931 M. Morris obtained the Andrews' Scholarship in Arts to University College, London, the first open award since 1922.

Evan Evans continued his special awards which in 1927 became the "Ap Ifan" prizes. By 1928 they were six in number, presented on speech day. Among the "Lions" secured by McLeish for these occasions were an M.P., two directors of education, a former Lord Mayor of London, a major figure in the gas industry and two county aldermen. In 1927 the principal guest was Lt. Col. Charles Pinkham, J.P. He had been associated with K.G.S. almost from its beginning and was now Chairman of the Middlesex County Council. In his early years a working carpenter, he had developed a large building business in Willesden. He had been chairman of the district council and for four



THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS (POST 1927)

years an M.P. He was knighted in 1928. The "Lt. Col." was a rarity in that he had no military experience whatever and the honorary rank was given in the Middlesex Volunteers for services to the Red Cross.

In the autumn of 1930 William Balkwill Luke retired from the governing body after serving as its chairman since 1908. Now frail in appearance, he attended morning assembly one October day and was presented with a framed photograph of himself, which was handed back to be hung in the school hall. His address to the school, typical of the man who had cared for it for so long, ended with lines from Tennyson's "Idylls of the King". The last of them was later inscribed and placed beneath the portrait, to be quoted more than once by McLeish in the brief years left to him. "We needs must love the highest when we see it." Just a year later Luke was dead.

Clubs and societies flourished. Some continued, others were founded or refounded. In 1926 was revived the National Savings Group, run by Sharpe. Debating, wireless, chess, science and geography were all catered for. A historical society, long in abeyance, was revived in 1930 after A.G. Field joined, and a sketch club appeared with R. Whitmore. In the same year German and French societies were started. With G. Carpenter came an economics society in 1931. There was also music, which permeated the school through the music society, the orchestra and the glee club, together with "Bobby" Hughes' lessons. It began with the morning assembly hymn, accompanied on the organ which was installed in 1919 as part of the school's memorial to its founder. This instrument replaced an earlier American Organ or harmonium, whose ancient keys, and possibly those of its successor, were presumably played by O. Peasgood, among others. He was a pupil for eleven years and later an organist at Westminster Abbey. The inter-house music competition for the Founder's bowl continued year by year and from 1929 K.G.S. distinguished itself in the London Secondary Schools' Music competition. Year by year also the school concert was continued by Hughes' tireless enthusiasm. In 1928 the Michaelmas term ended with the school assembled for a "sing-song", an event which became a feature of each term end. McLeish loved to sing and one of his happiest memorials is surely the "K.G.S. Song Book". Printed for the school, it contained a collection of ninety songs, hymns and carols, beginning with Bonavia Hunt's second version of the school song and ending with "The First Nowell". The chorus of No. 50, "The Massacre of Macpherson", was accompanied by a fearful nasal droning, led by the Scottish headmaster!

Another feature of school life which flourished was camping. The secretary of the camping club was W. Davies. Each year from 1926 to 1932 parties accompanied by the headmaster and his family and a number of staff enjoyed summer camps in Normandy, Brittany, Germany or North Wales. Each year the Michaelmas term saw a camp lecture evening when



THE CREIGHTON HALL
1927

Thurston, and after him Field, using lantern slides made from photographs taken on the holiday, shared its enjoyments with parents and pupils. In 1932 Field took a party, in company with boys from other schools, on a Baltic cruise, the forerunner of interesting developments in educational journeys, especially by the British India Shipping Company in post-war years. There were also occasional day visits for school parties or the whole school to docks, factories etc.

A parents' evening became an annual event in the Lent term. "Even the boldest of us who live in this age of experiment were inclined to incredulity at the prospect of a K.G.S. dance" declared the school magazine. Yet such a function took place under the organisation of Collins and Potts. Few boys attended the first one so in the next year a dancing class was provided, with successful results. According to a tradition which now reached its quarter century, the Shakespearean play was produced each year before Christmas, H.E. Gould being in charge from 1925 to 1932. Sporting activity continued and increased. Football, cricket, hockey, tennis, swimming and athletics were pursued at house and in most cases school level. To these was added a revived rifle shooting club which in its first year, 1927, won the Middlesex Inter-Schools Shooting Shield. The sport was later brought once again into the house championship. Also in 1927 was introduced a cross-country run, compulsory save for the medically exempted! Held first at Horsenden Hill, Sudbury, when this area because too built-up it was transferred to Hampstead Heath. The year 1927 also saw the introduction of "Efficiency Points" whereby each boy could contribute to his house by attainment in cross-country, hundred yards, high and long jumps. To some it did not at the time seem very glamorous but in retrospect its value is obvious. Training for the Royal Life Saving Society's certificates and medals was introduced by Peter as a non-competitive activity. The appointment of Morahan led to the reintroduction of boxing, put into the championship in 1932 and also a school sport.

Good schools have always tried to help pupils choose and enter congenial and worthwhile careers and K.G.S. was no exception. Although as early as 1909 "The Kilburnian" printed an article on "How to become an Actuary", the organisation of a careers service had to wait the coming of McLeish and in 1931, G.F. Carpenter. It was reflected in a series of magazine articles on "Careers for our boys" which included some very well set out advice on the actual use of the careers office.

The Old Boys Association had an active life, with whist drives, dances, concerts and dramatics. Badminton and hockey were added to the sporting sections. The headmaster instituted one of the play performances as "Old Boys' Night" and there began the custom whereby the head boy for the year responded to a toast at the annual dinner. Almost every number of the school magazine had notes on O.B. activities.



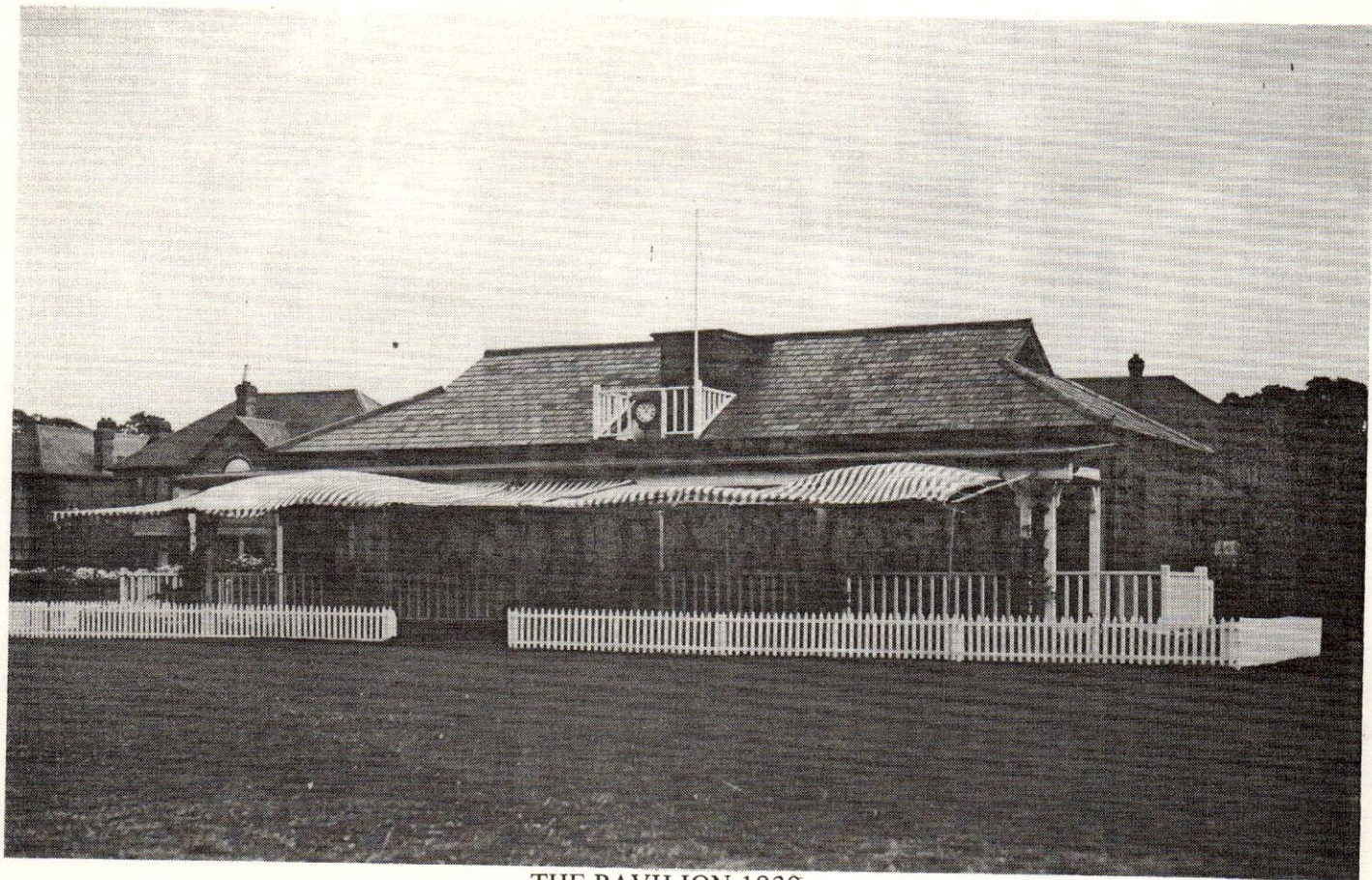
Mr. JOHN WARE, B.A., Cantab.

A portrait by Mr. Heber Thompson.

THE LONGEST SERVING SECOND MASTER

Speech day in 1932 was held towards the end of November. The guest of honour was Dr. Percival Sharp, former Director of Education for Sheffield. The headmaster's report contained a vigorous defence of the secondary school and the "Free-Place" system against attacks in the press, principally from public school headmasters who argued that money expended on secondary education for the proletariat was a waste of public funds. He damned such opinions as "unadulterated snobbery".

A month later James McLeish was dead. Pneumonia had killed him after an illness of two weeks. It seems probable that his life was shortened by his war experiences. Brief as was his headship in terms of the shaping of a school, he left "Kilburn Grammar" a place of which all who were associated with it could be justifiably proud. He was to remain fresh in the school's memory for many years, recollection being helped by his portrait in the hall, painted from photographs by Robert Whitmore and unveiled by John Rich as Head Boy in the Michaelmas term of 1933.



THE PAVILION 1930

CHAPTER 4

H. D. ANTHONY 1933 – (1939)

Appointed to succeed McLeish, H. D. Anthony, M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D., was in name headmaster until 1947 but his effective headship ended in September 1939. He had a brilliant academic background and was now forty years old. Like McLeish, but his junior by two years, he had been a boy at Upper Latymer School. His first degree he took at Queen's College, Cambridge and he held a commission in the army from 1915 to 1919. From 1929 until it closed in 1932 he had been headmaster of Elmfield School, York. He was a bachelor.

Anthony more than once paid tribute to the school as he found it. "I refer to the spirit of the school. No one would deny its reality, although it could not be weighed or measured. It pervaded every activity of school life – the House, the classroom, the playing field, the numerous school societies, the Old Boys' Association. Though all these shared in it, the spirit of the school was greater than their sum, for it welded them into a living unified whole – K.G.S. – of which boys and staff were proud to be members." He built with success on that spirit.

In the 1939 public examinations 63 candidates all obtained the general school certificate, 46 of them with matriculation exemption. 8 candidates secured higher school certificates with intermediate exemptions for arts, science, commerce, engineering or first M.B. A State scholarship was gained. During the years 1933 to 1939, 14 boys secured between them 13 university open scholarships or exhibitions and 4 State scholarships. Three of these awards were to Faraday House Electrical Engineering College and it is no surprise that the principal of that institution was guest of honour at speech day in 1938. Also among these awards was D. J. Krivine's open scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford, the school's first "Oxbridge" award since 1922. For most pupils the normal leaving age was sixteen and general schools/matric. still the accepted aim. The number of boys on a two year Sixth form course rarely exceeded twenty, although the Michaelmas term usually saw a number of short stayers or "Commercials".

In 1937 the school acquired a purpose built art and craft block to replace the very unsatisfactory classroom or even cloakroom accommodation which had hitherto served. This provision enabled more space to be given to the library.

On the sporting side "Sam" Burton continued to have charge of cricket with assistance from Whiteley. In 1933 they instituted "Cricket Week" – a whole week of one day matches against visiting school teams. Burton retired from the task, after seventeen years, in 1934. Whiteley replaced him and cricket week continued until 1939. Powerful athletics



STAFF 1934

H.A. Peter; C.E. Hughes; J.W. Jenkins; W.B. Rhodes; R. Whitmore; H. Thomas; W.H. Williams; L. Thompson; J.L. Whiteley;
 W.W. Rollinson; J.M. Pullan; T.H. Yarwood; W. Davies; H.E. Gould; A.G. Field; W.H.E. Bentley; J. Westbury;
 H.D. Anthony; (Headmaster); W.G. Bowden; S. Burton; D.B. Fry; B.J. Morahan; G.F. Carpenter

teams were developed by Rhodes, the Seniors coming within two points of securing the Bowles Cup in the Middlesex Secondary schools Athletic Sports in both 1937 and 1938. In 1936 field events – javelin, discus and shot – were introduced and in 1938 pole-vault facilities were provided on the school field. All house activities continued, including boxing, for which a shield was given, named by the donor's request, "The McLeish Shield". In 1938 the school took part in the London Secondary Schools Boxing Championships. 1934 was a very good year for football, of which W. Davies had for long taken charge. The first eleven equalled a twenty-year old record of fourteen games won and only one lost. Swimming was a widely practised activity but the school standard was a disappointment, especially to Peter who was a prime mover of the Middlesex Secondary Schools Swimming Association and its secretary from 1929 onwards. Dr. Anthony was himself a keen swimmer and saw the need for better provision for the activity. As a result in 1934 the Fives courts fund, which had not aroused much enthusiasm, became the swimming bath fund. House whist drives, concerts, cruise lectures, play profits, local operatic society performances and in 1936 another bazaar, which owed much to the drive of the head boy, Alan Lewis, all raised money. By the outbreak of war a planning stage had been reached, but nothing more.

Among clubs and societies which appeared or reappeared in this era was a formidable Hobbies club with sections for stamps, Meccano, model aircraft and Hornby railway. There were photographic and "cine" societies and in 1938, after two years in abeyance the French society re-emerged as "La Société Française," reporting its activities in French.

At the end of the 1937 school year C.H. Hughes retired. We have already noted his immense services to the school. He left to take charge of a parish in rural Norfolk. His successor as music specialist, J. N. Hancock, maintained all the now long established traditions until the coming of the war changed everything. Hughes' religious instruction work was taken over by D.W.J. Woodman, who had already for a year been Gould's assistant in the classics department. Woodman had been head boy and captain of Ratcliff, noted for his inexhaustible enthusiasm. He proved to be a major asset to the school in his new role. He founded a junior dramatic society which from 1937 to 1939 staged an annual evening of one-act plays. The 1933 school play, "The Merchant of Venice" was produced in eighteenth century costume by Whitmore, a step considered at the time to be highly revolutionary for K.G.S. It was his only play, but as art master he had a close association with literally dozens of others.

The "Camp" had now become the "Cruise" lecture. A.G. (inevitably "Gracie") Field took a leading part in the organisation which hired the troopship "Neuralia" and later the new "Dilwara", each summer for



The longest serving member of staff. 1910-1951

Mr. W. H. E. BENTLEY.

cruises to the Baltic and Scandinavia from 1932 to 1938, with one excursion south to Lisbon, Casablanca and Madeira in 1936. In 1938 there was also a school party to Switzerland. Anthony went on both trips and gave both lectures!

The effective public report on the school's progress continued to be speech day. Anthony secured the Charter Mayor of Willesden, the Astronomer-Royal, the Bishop of London, the Principal of Faraday House College and the Hon. Lily Montagu. He introduced the custom of an annual report given on speech day by the head boy, dealing with school sporting activities. At the 1935 event the Bishop of Willesden unveiled a stained glass window depicting Bishop Winnington Ingram, to match that of his predecessor as Visitor, Mandell Creighton. It was provided by the Old Boys Association and Evan Evans, who was present. Next year both Evans and Hunt were in attendance to propose and second a vote of thanks to the principal speaker and in 1938 the first headmaster was again invited, this time to present the sporting trophies. It was pleasant to see him brought back more fully into the school's awareness than at any time since 1910. He had underwritten the cost of a portrait of Wilfrid Hunt by Hugh Reviere, presented in 1934 and the "Ap Ifan" prizes were continued. He was present at the planting of trees and shrubs and placing of seats around the school pavilion which marked the coronation in 1937. Evans gave much and asked for little more than that the boys be made aware of the Welsh national hero, Owen Glyndwr.

The years between 1933 and 1939 saw a number of staff changes other than those already mentioned. W.W. Rollinson (English and history), A.T.L. Southwell (French), G.W. Dakin (science), S.F. Hann (mathematics), G. J. Evans (P.T in replacement of Morahan), and G.F. Walters (mathematics) all joined. A.J. Stuart replaced Field as head of history in 1934. He was to become a regular player in the England hockey team and naturally found himself in charge of school hockey. To this was added school cricket and in 1938 he took a memorable 193 runs off by no means contemptible school bowling in the annual staff cricket match. In 1939 L. Thompson, the handicraft master died at the age of fifty-one. H. Thomas, appointed to teach geography in 1931, completed a Ph.D. degree before he left in 1935.

In the autumn of 1938 Britain came to the brink of war with Germany. Heavy air attack was anticipated and for a brief but very tense period the school assembled daily prepared for evacuation to the provinces, gas masks at the ready and luggage packed. The crisis passed with the Munich Agreement but few really believed that the danger had been more than postponed. One sequel for K.G.S. was the revival of an army cadet unit. Commanded by the headmaster, it was affiliated to the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), unlike its predecessor which had been attached to the Middlesex Regiment. Less

than a twelvemonth later war arrived. The cadet unit, which had just taken part in its first annual camp, was closed down since all its officers had joined the armed forces. Dr. Anthony had joined the territorial army in the period since Munich and, grotesquely, the headmaster of a secondary school of over four hundred boys, faced with the unprecedented problems of emergency evacuation of its buildings and its home town, took up duty as a lance-corporal in a unit of Royal Engineers.

CHAPTER 5
ACTING HEADMASTERS:
J. WESTBURY 1939-1942; W. G. BOWDEN 1942-1948

The burden of leadership came to rest on the shoulders of James Westbury, a man whose health was in a poor condition to bear such additional strain. In common with other Willesden schools, K.G.S. was in September 1939 evacuated to the Midlands. Via Queen's Park and Watford stations, 250 pupils set out for Northampton. Not all made the journey direct for one group was accidentally diverted to Market Harborough and did not rejoin the main body for several weeks. Travel, billeting and teaching accommodation arrangements had been made by higher authority, but this was a situation which on a national scale was being faced for the first time. Problems and mistakes inevitably abounded. From 1.45 to 5.45 p.m. each day the school used the buildings of the Town and County School on the eastern outskirts of Northampton. In the mornings games and other activities were organised. On 9 October the whole school at last assembled, 300 boys and 16 staff under Westbury as acting headmaster.

During the years which followed the pages of "the Kilburnian" marked a quiet determination, shared by staff and the original pupils, to keep K.G.S. going as its recognisable self. It was a war effort as worthy as any, a struggle to preserve something worthwhile. But what was from the outset a herculean task was increased to difficulty almost beyond bearing by subsequent events. The regular production of the magazine throughout the war, fifteen numbers in all, was but one sign of this resolve. The summer 1940 issue claimed that not one of the traditional activities had ceased during three terms. This was not strictly correct, since hockey had gone, but in its place came Rugby football, of which more hereafter.

The situation of three hundred boys in a strange town called for special provision of facilities for work and recreation. This was clearly perceived by D.W.J. Woodman. With the backing of authority he secured the use of a ten-roomed building and of a nearby hall, and "Youth House, Northampton" came into being. Woodman acted as warden and lived on the premises. It became the venue for all clubs and societies and other school activities which it could physically accommodate. Wherever there was a need, Woodman sought to meet it, even to the revival of a boxing club. There were dances and whist drives, a Scout troop, "Youth House Takes a Bow", (a concert), and the production of "Tilly of Bloomsbury". It was perhaps this remarkable man's chief service to the school he loved so well as pupil and as teacher and it lived on after he departed for the Royal Navy in June 1941. Before he left he revived the junior dramatic society.

In 1940 Whitmore organised a school camp at Castle Ashby. It was not under canvas but it provided a much needed holiday for some of the boys. Woodman's assistant warden at Youth House was "Bert" Falco, one of the school laboratory assistants. He worked on staging a school play in Northampton, he was a general handyman and he even took classes. He also served on the committee of the modern languages society and was chairman of the photographic society. He left early in 1940, an interesting example of the good that can sometimes come from evil, for without the emergency such opportunities would never have come to him.

The house competition was kept going for one year, with most of the activities on a reduced scale. Soccer was restricted to juniors but Rugby had been adopted enthusiastically under the guidance of Rhodes and Rollinson, using the facilities of the Town and County School so conveniently to hand. It at once became a sport in which K.G.S. played other schools and played with success. By the end of the 1939-40 academic year it was clear that the number of boys was now too small for a five-house competition to be continued. Four new "Groups" were formed, named according to precedent after leading boys on the school, who became the first captains. The competition between Cowan, Reed, Robertson and Sommers groups took place for one year but thereafter seems to have been discontinued.

Other events at Northampton were a school concert, the revival of the school orchestra, two annual music competitions in reduced form and in the spring of 1941 the formation by Yarwood and Peter of Air Training Corps Flight No. 777.

From the outset of the emergency the school had been faced with the problems of physical division. Over forty pupils and two masters had been left either at Wembley County or Preston Manor Schools. These were both in the Borough of Wembley, which was counted as outer London and from which no evacuation took place. This minor problem was soon to be compounded. The expected massive air attacks had not taken place and there was a drift back to London. Evacuation had been a voluntary measure and in 1940 the education authority decided that a first year intake could be housed in Salusbury Road. In September Burton and Williams assembled 70 eleven year olds in the gymnasium, the hall being full of furniture from damaged houses. Walters and Southwell joined from Preston Manor and Wembley County respectively. Within a week or two heavy air attack did begin and the number of boys declined. During the term the army required the buildings and K.G.S. in Kilburn was housed in the Brondesbury and Kilburn Girls' High School buildings across the road. During a night raid in 1941 a parachute mine demolished part of this building and Burton, who was on fire watch, had a narrow escape. In time the army left K.G.S. and the boys were able to return. It seems that every Wednesday morning Woodman journeyed by train from Northampton to take Religious Instruction lessons.

Numbers at Kilburn grew and those at Northampton decreased until in the second half of 1941 Westbury and the school office returned to London. In the autumn term there were 230 first and second years at Kilburn and only 100 of their seniors at Northampton, where they were amalgamated with the boys of Willesden County School. Staff had been transferred to Kilburn to teach the growing numbers.

Anthony, Stuart, Dakin and Evans had been with the armed forces since the outbreak of war. They had been joined by Hann, Rollinson, Whitmore, Woodman, Hancock, Taylor and Southwell. W. ("Taffy") Davies suffered a long illness which forced him to retire. He died in January 1944. A 1911 appointee, had given much valuable service, not least as housemaster of Ellis, including the years when they became the first house to win three championships in succession. Replacements were for the most part women teachers, who were received without the prejudiced hostility which their predecessors encountered twenty five years earlier.

In the spring of 1942 about 30 third years were received from Willesden County School, which had acted as foster parent and four of these were given authority as sub-prefects. The school field was not available, having been used as a barrage balloon station and now as allotments ("Dig for Victory"). Use was allowed of the B.K.H.S. field for Saturday football, a great boon for K.G.S. It was anticipated that a first year of over 100 would join in the autumn and more staff were transferred from Northampton, among them Peter, who formed a junior A.T.C. unit. In July Westbury's health collapsed. Bowden, now acting headmaster, stayed in Northampton and Bentley took charge of the "Home school".

Westbury was never to return to the school and in October he died. No. 111 of "The Kilburnian" appeared with a white cover and black borders. It contained a tribute from Alderman Hicks-Bolton, chairman of governors, sometime Mayor of Willesden, who had taught Westbury as a boy. There was editorial comment, and an appreciation of "Jock" by E.W.M. Potts, a house captain of Curtis and also a staff colleague, which contained the remarkable comment, "I cannot recall Jock Westbury punishing a boy during my twelve years at K.G.S.". There was also an account of his career and some personal reminiscences from W.G. Bowden.

The same issue of the magazine reported the revival of the house system, with fifty to sixty boys in each, the appearance of a weekly "K.G.S. Gazette" produced by the third years and the first Shakespearean production in the Creighton Hall since 1938. Peter had been producer since 1934, including two plays at Northampton. One of these, "Much Ado", was staged in modern dress. Now he staged "Henry V" at Kilburn, his last for K.G.S. for at the end of the 1943 summer term he left after fourteen years devoted service. The house championship of 1942-43 included cricket, football, athletics, swimming and boxing and was won by Keith. Other activities revived in the home

school were inter-school soccer, and the literary and debating society. Meanwhile the diminishing group at Northampton continued a programme of out-of-school activity based on sport and Youth House.

By the Michaelmas term of 1943 evacuation was virtually at an end, Bowden and the remaining staff returning to Kilburn. The prefect system had expanded to its pre-war scale and a determined attempt was in train to re-establish clubs and societies. There was an afternoon of community singing in December, with carols and songs. A Christmas dance was arranged, the music society, the A.T.C., school Rugby at Kilburn and a new "Spotters" club were reported in the magazine. In the Lent term of 1944 the newly joined E.C. Pettet produced "Julius Caesar", an inter-house music competition was adjudicated by the staff and the house sports competition progressed, rugby replacing soccer.

"Just when, through the energies, enthusiasm and sense of tradition in boy and staff alike, we were beginning to establish the old K.G.S. way of life again, we were plunged into conditions far worse than anything we had ever known before." (Editorial; "The Kilburnian"; Spring and Summer Terms 1944). With the ending of the heavy attacks of 1940 and 1941 London entered a period of comparative freedom from damage, until the spring of 1944 when there began the assaults of the German V1, a jet propelled bomb, and V2, a large rocket. Damage was extensive and heavy. In June, mercifully by night, the K.G.S. buildings were cruelly struck. Gymnasium, library, a laboratory and three classrooms were completely lost and much of the rest was temporarily useless. Once again K.G.S. was dispersed. Brondesbury and Kilburn High School, the Congregational Church in Tiverton Road and Willesden County School offered much appreciated assistance, but apart from the examination classes only afternoon school was possible, and all was under the strain of constant attack. The school office remained in the shattered buildings, dictation and typing proceeding to the accompaniment of the rain dripping into buckets in wet weather!

As the numbness wore off the school still had its dead to mourn. The "In Memoriam" list now contained thirty-four names and in July was added that of Major A.J. Stuart, killed in Normandy.

Magazines were slim and in accordance with war time economy, but there was little school activity to report. Originally intended for seniors, a harvest camp at Newport Pagnell in Bucks was opened to juniors before the term ended in order to try to relieve pressure on class accommodation. During the six years of war the school collected £832 for various charities, both British and allied.

Both the European and the Far Eastern wars were ended by the mid-summer of 1945. The school, like the nation began the long slow climb to what it was hoped would be a life better than had been known

before. In the autumn term staff who had been on war service began to return. Eleven of the permanent staff had served. Anthony and Stuart did not return and Evans and Southwell resigned as soon as they were demobilised. The minutes of the Willesden Education Committee for April 1946 recorded grave concern at the continued absence of the headmaster on war service. In July 1947 they determined to advertise the post, presumably taking his voluntary deferment of release as equivalent to resignation. In the event, Bowden continued, at first at his own request to enable him to secure a better pension, which was agreed to in view of his excellent work as headmaster, and subsequently to oblige the committee. It was not until January 1949 that K.G.S. once more had a permanent headmaster.

Clubs and societies, sports and other extra-curricular life began to gather momentum with the end of the war. A school dance, a mock election, the "K.G.S. Rhythm Club", and other ventures emerged. In January 1946 Pettet produced "The Taming of the Shrew" and at Christmas "Twelfth Night". The house championship was again revived in 1945-46. In the summer of 1946 foreign travel resumed, a K.G.S. party joining a visit to Denmark arranged by the promoters of the pre-war cruises.

A memorial to Alan Stuart, provided by past and present staff, was placed in the Creighton Hall in 1947, alongside that to F.L. Henley. Stuart was the subject of a long article by Woodman in a 1946 magazine and Woodman's own part in school life was similarly recorded by Rhodes when he left at the end of the summer term for a headship in Northern Ireland. 1947 saw two more departures, H.T. Sharpe to retirement and J.N. Hancock to another post. In 1948 both W.W. Rollinson and G.W. Dakin left to become heads of newly organised "Secondary Modern" schools in the borough.

In 1948 K.G.S. celebrated the golden jubilee of its opening. There was a Ceremony in the Creighton Hall attended by the chairmen of the Willesden and the Middlesex Education Committees and by Cliff Symes as chairman of the "Old Creightonians", which cognomen had now been extended to the whole association. It was addressed by the then Bishop of London, J.W. Wand. Only one edition of the magazine was produced in that year but it was a double number with a specially designed cover and it was indeed worthy of the occasion. An editorial by Bowden set the tone. A seventeen page article by two pupils, J.A.H. Risbridger and D.W. Thomas gave a more exhaustive history of the school than had yet been produced and entailed much research. There were articles on H.G. Bonavia Hunt, Bishop Creighton, Evan Evans, Wilfrid Hunt, James McLeish, John Ware, C.B. Thurston, A.J. Stuart, and D.W.J. Woodman. There were also Rolls of Honour of both World Wars, rolls of head boys, of champion houses and of Shakespearean plays. There were photographs of the Founder, four headmasters, two

acting headmasters, two masters i/c home school and also of the buildings in 1935 and 1946. Other material showed a school life as rich and varied as it had ever been. There was an article on the replacement of association by Rugby football in the school and house programmes.

In March 1948 "Bobby" Hughes came from his retirement to dedicate both the memorial to Stuart and the bookcase filled with volumes given by the O.B.A. in memory of the war dead of 1939 to 1945, recorded then at a total of sixty-six.* It was an especially welcome memorial for the school since the library and its contents had been entirely destroyed. Hughes' words were and are, moving; "I think I knew personally everyone on this list; some of them very well, and some were great friends of mine".

November of the same year saw the first speech day for ten years. It was a fairly low key afternoon function. The alderman who was to have presided was unwell and Bowden himself took the chair. He had never been a showman and the domestic atmosphere was reinforced by the presence of "Charlie" Thurston, recently retired from Isleworth County School, to present the prizes. There was a vote of thanks from "Sam" Burton. The school was able to boast of 4 open or State scholarships, 14 higher school certificates, 11 intermediate degrees, 77 general school certificates and 56 matriculation exemptions in 1947-48.

It was a fitting end to "Bosky" Bowden's long service to the school and "The Kilburnian" paid him tribute, recalling his virtual creating of the advanced science course, his work with Keith house, the cadet corps and the rifle club and more. I personally recall that when John Rich (head boy 1933-34) began work to gain admission to a medical course, he was able to study zoology, which the school did not offer, only because Bowden offered "to learn it with him." He lived for many years in retirement and the Old Kilburnians delighted to honour him as their life president.

*Two names have since been added to this roll of honour.

CHAPTER 6

DAVID WILLIAMS 1949-1967

D.F. Williams was the last and the longest serving of Kilburn Grammar School's five headmasters. He had been since 1932 at Manchester Grammar School as a modern linguist specialising in university scholarship work. This was to correlate happily with the dramatic expansion in "Sixth Form" studies which K.G.S. in common with grammar schools nationwide, was to experience in the nineteen fifties. He left on record his dismay at the sight of the hastily patched-up buildings, shattered by war, which faced him as he walked up Salusbury Road for the first time, and in contrast "the undimmed spirits and standards still high" that he found within. To the school he was "Loppy", due to his habit of leaning to the side on which he carried his academic cap, under-arm, as he walked into morning assembly. A remote figure to most pupils, he could yet convulse a third form in the absence of regular staff, with impromptu acting of such roles as the porter in "Macbeth". He was an author and a broadcaster of some repute.

By 1951 rebuilding and repairs were complete. In 1956 biology laboratories were added to cater for new courses and in the same year the dining hall and kitchens were moved from the school into concrete huts in the playground which had served temporarily as classrooms. Growing numbers continued to put pressure on available space and in 1960 the authority provided the use of "Crosshill Towers", a large property in Christchurch Avenue at its junction with Willesden Lane. A pleasing amenity installed in these years was the creation of a garden in the small school quadrangle.

The growth in numbers was largely a consequence of the expanding sixth form. In 1953 the school total was 516; in 1959, 550; in 1963, 603; in 1967, 570. Sixth formers numbered 89 in 1960 and 121 in 1963.

In the summer of 1952 the "General" and "Higher" school examinations gave way to the "General Certificate of Education at Ordinary and Advanced Levels", commonly known as "O's" and "A's". Matriculation and the intermediate degree exemptions disappeared from schools. The standard of the new examination was to be between the former schools and exemptions level. The new examinations were "subject exams.", no longer requiring a number of subjects to be passed at one time. Qualifications could be collected piecemeal. For these and other reasons it is difficult to compare achievement under the two arrangements, but K.G.S.'s record continued to be good. In 1965 there were secured 531 "O" levels, 84 of them by fourth year pupils, and 147 "A" levels. In the period 1949-1967, 46 boys gained between them 28 open awards and 25 State scholarships. Entrance to universities and



STAFF 1945-46

E.W. Rhodes; Maybank; A.H. Cope; J.W. Stewart; H.T. Sharpe; R.I. Cox; S.A. Corrin; S. Burton; W. Issacson; T.M. Yarwood;
 E.C. Pettet; W.H. Williams; G.W. Dakin; H.E. Gould; A.A. Warner; G.L. Walters; W.G. Bowden (Acting Headmaster);
 W.H.E. Bentley; G.F. Carpenter; G.A. Rees; Miss Vincent; Mrs Davidson; Mrs Cox; Mrs Chirgwin.

advanced education increased greatly. The original "University Letters" to be found in the magazine were written from Oxford or Cambridge. Between the wars they came almost exclusively from London. In 1952 they came from London, Oxford and Cambridge, but before long separate letters had to cease. In 1965 the school produced 30 entrants to 15 universities and university colleges, 3 medical schools and 5 polytechnics and colleges of advanced technology. The examination curriculum was also greatly broadened until by 1964 there were 21 subjects taken at "O" and 13 at "A" levels, including four modern foreign languages at the former.

It was also a period when staff were being encouraged to improve qualifications by courses and secondments. Notably in 1961 the headmaster took up the first school-master fellowship at Nottingham University, for one term. In 1966 J.H. Beaglehole, the head of a history department which produced many open scholars, himself secured a Ph.D.

The school underwent its last Ministry of Education general inspection in 1952, the twenty year interval since the last being a consequence of the war. Before the next was due such general inspections had been discontinued.

The pattern of staff careers also underwent considerable change from that of former days. The post-war "Education Explosion" provided far more opportunity and inducement to teachers to seek promotion in other schools. The education service as a whole needed this flexibility if resources were to be fairly spread, but schools which had had a tradition of staff stability, and K.G.S. was one of them, suffered by comparison. Between 1909 and 1939 about 65 permanent staff were appointed, of whom 70% remained for five or more years. From 1946 to 1962 the total was also about 65 of whom 44% remained for similar periods.

A number of long serving masters from earlier days were now leaving for retirement. In 1950 "Sam" Burton and T.M. Yarwood went. Burton had been appointed in 1914. Found medically unfit for the army, he had taken over the cadet corps and continued with it until it closed in 1926. He was a notably dedicated house master and enjoyed a Keith triple triumph in 1931-1934. His strident exhortations to "Get it into the circle, Keith" are among my earliest recollections of watching hockey matches. In 1931 he followed Thurston as head of geography and he had charge of "Home" school when it first re-opened. "Tom" Yarwood was appointed to teach physics in 1926 and became head of science when Bowden took up the acting headship. He was a skilful and successful teacher yet, such is the way of these things, he is best remembered for the fine tenor singing voice which he made freely available on every and any occasion when the school had need of him.

In 1951 departed W.H.E. ("Bill") Bentley. He was the last of the pre-first world war staff, indeed the last of the remarkable 1910 group. He was then only twenty years of age. The top-hat he bought for the interview became a part of K.G.S. history. Save for two years as a pupil teacher in an L.C.C. school, he taught only at Kilburn and he taught for a record forty-one years. He had originally taught mainly music and scripture. A fine musician (I quote Hughes), he prepared the way for the latter as a specialist. When Henley left for the army Bentley took over his responsibility for mathematics and retained it throughout his career. He was second master to both Bowden and Williams. He was the original housemaster of Ratcliff house. Formed in 1917, it had only one championship before 1935 when there was a run of three. Before "Bill" retired there were three more. Seven victories in 35 years in a five house competition. A mathematically tidy par score! 1958 saw two more such departures. W.H. Williams was the last assistant appointed under Wilfrid Hunt, in 1924. A modern linguist, he became head of department in 1942 and second master in 1951. From 1931 he was Saxby's house master. His great height led to him being "Lofty" in the staffroom but to the school was was "Wee Willie". With him left H.E. Gould, senior classics, one of the first two masters appointed under McLeish in 1925. A noted producer of school plays, he took over Curtis house after Westbury. In the immediate pre-war years he was closely associated in cruise activities with Field, both having had sea service in the first war. Next year went E.W. Rhodes. A Yorkshireman, "Bunny" took his nickname at second remove from "Wilfrid", the rabbit in the strip cartoon, "Pip, Squeak and Wilfrid", via Wilfrid ("Bunny") Rhodes, cricketer for Yorkshire and England. He taught French and German and pupils sometimes "led him a dance", but he was a striking example of a teacher who never achieved any significant academic status yet made himself a "king-pin" in the life of a school. He was house master of Ellis for many years. He coached strong pre-war athletics teams, he introduced Rugby into the school and he could sing and entertain in school concerts to the enjoyment of all present. At the same time left G.W. Walters appointed in 1935 and head of mathematics after Bentley, when he had also become careers master. Careers departments were very much a "growth industry" in post-war schools! Walters left for a post in a teacher training college.

"The Kilburnian" paid merited tribute to Charles Hicks-Bolton who died in November 1959 at the age of ninety. Ex-headmaster, councillor, alderman, Mayor of Willesden, he succeeded Luke as chairman of the school governing body and so remained until it was abolished under the 1944 education act. His interest in the school, always active, was especially valuable in the emergency, with his visits to Northampton and his close concern for the home school.

The prefect system was, as always, a potent element of school life, dealing with much routine business and freeing staff for more construc-

tive work. A sub-prefect office was introduced by Anthony. It was discontinued in 1951 but reappeared by degrees with an increasing number of "Senior Prefects". With the growth of the sixth form there were many more boys available for prefects' duties who also had a claim to the office as part of their education. In 1949 there was a head boy, a senior prefect, nine prefects and ten sub-prefects. In 1966 there was head boy, deputy head boy, four senior prefects and forty-two prefects. In 1967 all sixth formers were doing prefect duties.

The original prefect insignia had been a metal badge worn on the school cap. This was altered by McLeish to a broad yellow band round the back of the cap as it had been modified by him. In the post-war school the wearing of caps was allowed to lapse and in 1958 a prefects 'tie' was introduced.

In 1961 came an addition to sixth form life which was partly the result of pressure on playing field accommodation. At the initiative of R.K. Hands, the deputy headmaster, social service was started. It began with help to the Willesden Green Senior Club and the collection of money to provide that institution with a record-player. This expanded to the doing of shopping and odd jobs, and visits just to listen and talk. By 1965 over 25 sixth formers were so engaged as an alternative to organised games. The school also had other charitable (in the best sense of that word) endeavours, such as the sponsoring of children in under-developed countries.

Under David Williams' headship K.G.S. was again to experience an old problem. A new secondary school was needed in the area and in 1952 the Willesden Education authority decided that the most suitable site was the K.G.S. field, only recently returned to the school from war time uses. It was a tragedy for the school and its roots went far back in the history of K.G.S. The original field which Middlesex bought for the school in 1921 was in 1927 extended by two acres, purchased with another six acres which were for "the erection of a Secondary School in the Avenue, Brondesbury". The intended school was not then built, but the land was retained as a playing field for B.K.H.S. When, a quarter-century later, a school actually materialised its requirements had grown to absorb the whole site of some thirteen acres for fields and buildings. In 1956 "Aylestone Secondary Modern School" was opened.

The consequences for K.G.S. were serious. Alternative fields in the borough were unobtainable. Use of the field was lost in March 1954 and it was not until the end of that year that the authority got even as far as entering into an agreement to purchase a replacement at Marsh Lane, Stanmore. It was not available for use until the following May. In the meantime makeshift arrangements had once more to be endured. Instead of taking place on a field within walking distance of the school,



"TWELFTH NIGHT," SCHOOL PLAY, MARCH, 1959.

provided with a good pavilion, which itself was a significant part of school history, games now required time for a coach journey. Changing accommodation, initially miserable, never reached the old standard. In 1958 the magazine complained of the noisome mud at Stanmore and six tin baths on a windswept verandah with inadequate canvas screens and a hot water boiler which had been broken for several months. It was "a piteous return for the loss of adequate facilities at Aylestone Avenue" and therein lay the rub. One other unfortunate result of the greatly increased distance between School and ground was the practical impossibility of house games after school and the need to reduce the number of houses to four, as it had been before 1917. Curtis and Keith were amalgamated under their hyphenated names.

In the face of adversity, to which K.G.S. was no stranger, school and house sport continued. To the traditional activities were added badminton, table tennis, basket ball, skittle ball, golf, and right at the end, sailing on the Welsh Harp at Neasden. In 1952 and 1953, under the guidance of D. McGinty, the Bowles Cup, the senior championship in the Middlesex Secondary Schools Athletic Sports was at last won, for the only occasions in the school's history. A feature of school life in these as in earlier days, were annual matches between school and staff at cricket, tennis and Rugby. Whereas staff Rugby teams needed strengthening by Old Boys, their soccer predecessors had been pure staff! There were also Old Boy v. school games in various sports and parents v school cricket matches recorded over long periods of school history.

The Shakespearean tradition of school plays was unchallenged until in 1960 the "Oedipus Rex" of Sophocles was staged. In the next six years the Bard was displaced on three more occasions, by Ibsen, by Gogol, and by Beaumont and Fletcher. In 1957 there was the second production in school history of "Hamlet". This was taken on tour to Brussels and North Germany. Next year a part of "Loves' Labours Lost" was used in schools' television. These were the last two productions of P.K. Wright. In the opinion of some who had recollections of very many years of school plays, Wright's productions were the best that they had seen. It became customary to produce a play from among those set for public examinations and matinee performances were given for audiences drawn from other schools. Whitmore's backcloths and stage sets attracted visits from students from drama schools. A major innovation of the 1961 "An Enemy of the People" was that women's parts were cast from B.K.H.S. pupils. This working together had already become more common in other activities, such as music, societies and excursions.

Music under D. Merlyn-Smith from 1947 onwards maintained its high status. The house music competition expanded in 1961 into a "Festival of Arts" involving a large number of boys in music, verse speaking,



STAFF 1958

C.V.W. Williams; D.T. Anderson Sparks; D.J. Robinson; C.B. Muller; J. Mathew; S.A. Corrin; E. Wolheim;
 D. Merlyn-Smith; A.A. Warner; A.J. Toley; A.J.W. James; A.E.E. Minchin; D. McGinty; P.K. Wright; B.H. Adams; V.
 Callaghan; J.H. Beaglehole; J. Roscoe; E.W.L. Leavey
 Mrs Chirgwin; G.L. Walters; R.I. Cox; W.H. Williams; D.F. Williams (Headmaster); H.E. Gould; W.B. Rhodes; R. Whitmore;
 W. Isaacson

drama and painting. The best items were presented to over two hundred parents at an open afternoon. The school had successes in the Willesden Music Festival. School concerts continued and some major orchestral and choral works were produced. Three members of K.G.S. reached the high altitude of the London Schools' Symphony Orchestra. In November 1954 a new two-manual electric organ was inaugurated in the Creighton Hall with a recital by Dr. O.H. Peasgood, an Old Boy to whom reference has already been made. This organ was purchased from the former swimming bath fund, which had been "killed" by the Willesden Education Committee in 1950.

As already noted more than once, clubs and societies waxed and waned according to the spirit of the time. The Christian Fellowship, originally one of Woodman's interests, might have seemed a superfluity in earlier days when Sunday school and church attendance was far more common. The sketch club had grown into the arts and crafts society and the school now had equipment for pottery making. There was a jazz club, an angling club, a cycling club, railway and aeronautical societies, a sixth form society and a film society. A rather sad comment is that in more than one report appears the apology that meetings had been restricted because no suitable films were available on that society's particular interest. Secretaries in "the olden days" had no such resources on which to rely or the absence of which to bemoan! The chess club seems to have had a stranglehold on the Willesden Chess League trophy in the earlier nineteen-sixties. In 1955, 1959, 1965, and 1966 mock elections coincided with General elections, on the last two occasions being a joint activity with B.K.H.S.

The library was restored to use after rebuilding in 1952. The whole of the existing stock had gone and it was years before adequate replacements were acquired. Thereafter, to judge from frequent reports in the magazine, it had a more organised and professional image than ever before.

A new feature of the era was the holding of school religious services in Christ Church or in St. Anne's, Salusbury Road. There were carol services at Christmas, joined by B.K.H.S. in the nineteen-sixties and an end of year or "Founder's Day" service in the summer.

Another growth activity of post war times was the extra-mural educational visit or journey. To these K.G.S. was no stranger, one example being the series of trips made to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon. There were camps and parties in Devon, Warwickshire, North Wales, France, Italy and other places. In 1965 there were two separate parties to the U.S.S.R., so great was the demand. For a succession of Easters parties led by R.I. Cox and his wife visited Switzerland. They usually included some pupils and staff from B.K.H.S. "Reg" Cox had come to the school in 1943 from Pound Lane

Central School. He took over the geography department from Burton in 1950. He was a well loved figure and one of the true pillars of K.G.S. in his day.

Issues of the magazine continued at the traditional rate of three per annum until 1943. This dropped to two and by 1947 to one a year. Between 1954 and 1963 termly issues reappeared. For the remainder of the school's life they were again biannual. The 1948 "Jubilee" number had a special cover and was followed by ten years of a redesigned cover in traditional blue. The "Diamond Jubilee" magazine had a commemorative cover in yellow and red. There followed another design in blue until 1964. The last six issues were in a variety of designs and page sizes. The lean periods were the result of soaring production costs. There were attempts to deal with this by subsidy and even free issue through a school "Extra-amenities Fund" and the inclusion of advertisements.

Although the average length of staff stay had greatly reduced, K.G.S. still had its core of long serving masters. They were, as always, the very backbone of the school. R.I. Cox (1943-1960) has already been noted. S.A. Corrin, appointed to teach French temporarily in 1942, became permanent in 1946 and was still at the school in 1967, having had the satisfaction of presenting its first candidates in "O" level Russian. Also at the school in 1967 with ten or more years service were C.V.W. Williams (P.T. 1947), A.A. Warner (physics, 1947), D. Merlyn-Smith (music, 1947), A.J.W. James (Chemistry, 1948), A.J. Toley (English, 1948), J. Mathew (French and German 1951), A.E.E. Minchin (mathematics, 1953) and J. Roscoe (mathematics, 1957). Other long stayers who taught for a minimum of one decade at K.G.S. were Dr. W. Isaacson (German, 1942-1963), J.W. Stewart (science, 1942-1953), E.W.L. Leavey (physics, 1950-1966), C.B. Moller (geography 1950-1962), E. Wolheim (handicraft, 1951-1961), and J.H. Beaglehole (history, 1954-1966).

Old Boys who taught where they had in former years learnt were B.H. Turner (left 1933, classics 1958-1960) and M.L. Schmeising, (left 1957, mathematics 1963-1967). With the staff in 1967 and for one year more was R. Whitmore. His thirty-seven years in K.G.S., including war service, made him the third longest stayer of all, giving place only to Bentley and Bowden. As housemaster of Ratcliff in post war times, he presided over two unprecedented runs of "Cock house" victories from 1955 to 1960 and 1962 to 1965. When Bowden died the Old Boys Association chose Whitmore as their Patron.

It is perhaps indicative of both a change in public attitude and the flexibility which staff shortages were forcing on the educational world that, before 1967 the first women staff in peacetime were being appointed to the school.

For some twenty years "The Old Creightonian" news sheets had been published separately from the magazine but in 1957 the Old Boys' news was again incorporated in "The Kilburnian". The major feature of this time was the acquisition and development of a playing field, for the Old Boys had suffered alongside the school from the loss of Aylestone Avenue and they wanted no repetition. In 1956 a project for securing a field was launched and, with much courage and more effort was brought to reality in 1960, at Tentelow Lane, Southall. Twelve acres of ground were bought and in course of time a fully equipped pavilion was provided.

Under D.F. Williams speech days continued to be held normally in the Michaelmas term. The principal speakers were headmasters, directors of education, high officers from the B.B.C., college principals, newspaper editors, suffragan bishops, university professors, authors, actors and M.P.s. Williams was the first headmaster to invite distinguished old scholars and he began in 1949 with F.R. Poskitt, headmaster of Bolton School. The others were E.W.M. Potts, headmaster of Hendon County School and a former member of staff, J.W. Blake, professor of history at Keele university and J.A. Camacho, head of B.B.C. schools' broadcasting. The vote of thanks to Camacho was proposed by R.D.J. (Richard) Baker, then in 1957 a television news reader. He had been head boy in 1942-43 and became perhaps the most widely known "Kilburnian" face of all time.

In the post war era parent/staff evenings were so regular a feature in the school calendar that they attracted no mention in the magazine. On the other hand Kilburn never formed a "Parent-Teacher Association" and in this respect it was unusual.

Secondary education in state schools in the post-war years was long the subject of argument. The 1944 "Butler" education act laid down that there should be free secondary education for all, according to "age, aptitude and ability". It set out as the norm a division into grammar, "Secondary Modern" and technical schools. The grammar schools were to be attended by the top 25% of achievers in an "Eleven Plus" examination. This arrangement was from the first challenged by those who said that any selection was unfair. The matter rapidly became, at both local and at national levels, a party political concern. The Labour party espoused "Comprehensive schools" and the Conservative party stood by selection. Throughout the period Labour controlled Willesden Borough Council but were unable to proceed with a comprehensive scheme without the co-operation of the Middlesex County Council, and this they were never able to secure for sufficiently long to achieve their aim. The consequent uncertainty was most unhelpful to the school (and K.G.S. was not alone in this respect). Argument seemed at times to proceed from social rather than from educational considerations. It even intruded into speech days, when everybody was traditionally

supposed to be on their best behaviour! K.G.S. could do little to determine its own fate, which was clearly not going to be settled in isolation. Ironically it was a Conservative government's measure which in the end decided the issue. In 1964 "Greater London Boroughs" were set up, autonomous in, among other things, education. One such borough was a "shotgun marriage" of the old Middlesex boroughs of Willesden and Wembley. Labour secured political control and promptly introduced a comprehensive scheme. "Kilburn Grammar School" was to become "Kilburn Senior High School". David Williams, who had suffered a heart attack in 1966 and been absent for a term, decided that the problems of the new school were best left to a successor and he laid down his office. As far as Kilburn Grammar School was concerned, there was to be no successor.

CHAPTER 7

EPILOGUE

Kilburn Senior High School was established in 1967 as a non-selective school admitting pupils from "Junior High Schools" at the age of 13+. For several years a majority of its members were the grammar school intake and a number of the staff remained, most notable among them being John Mathew who in 1978 retired after twenty-seven years in three schools on the Salusbury Road site.

The opponents of the change had maintained that the academic standards and the "ethos" of K.G.S. could not survive the proposed alterations. In the first matter comparison is scarcely possible between two such fundamentally different arrangements. It could only be made on a borough or perhaps a Willesden basis. In the second instance the critics were proved sadly correct.

Certain changes consonant with the spirit of the times had indeed already been made and more would have taken place even without reorganisation. The prefect system had had its day as an elite and had become a sixth form duty. Speech day, perhaps the most ancient of all the traditions, was modified in 1966 and the next year abandoned in favour of a social gathering. It is also true that efforts were made to keep a continuity. The school badge was retained. Concerts and plays were still presented. "The Kilburnian" continued to appear, in printed form until at least 1969 and as a duplicated publication until 1973.

Nevertheless it became increasingly clear that the corporate spirit which had marked so much of the life of K.G.S. was not sustainable. It disappeared as the K.G.S. intake moved out of the school. Clubs and societies withered and died with increasing frequency. The house system was abandoned from lack of support in 1971. School sports teams found difficulty in fielding full numbers. Saddest of all was evidence that contemporary pupils were not only indifferent but even hostile to the old traditions. There was vandalism of the honours boards and after 1973 they were removed from the Creighton Hall as having no further significance for the school.

Kilburn Senior High School had followed Kilburn Grammar School into history in 1973, when an amalgamation with the girls' school produced a new "Brondesbury and Kilburn High School". In 1976 Michael Brilliant was appointed its headmaster and in this we may count ourselves fortunate. An "Old Creightonian" himself, he has done much to rescue and preserve material relics of the life of the old school. Surviving Old Boys of all eras will wish him well as he seeks to build a school as worthy as, yet inevitably different from the one which they knew.

STAFF 1897-1967

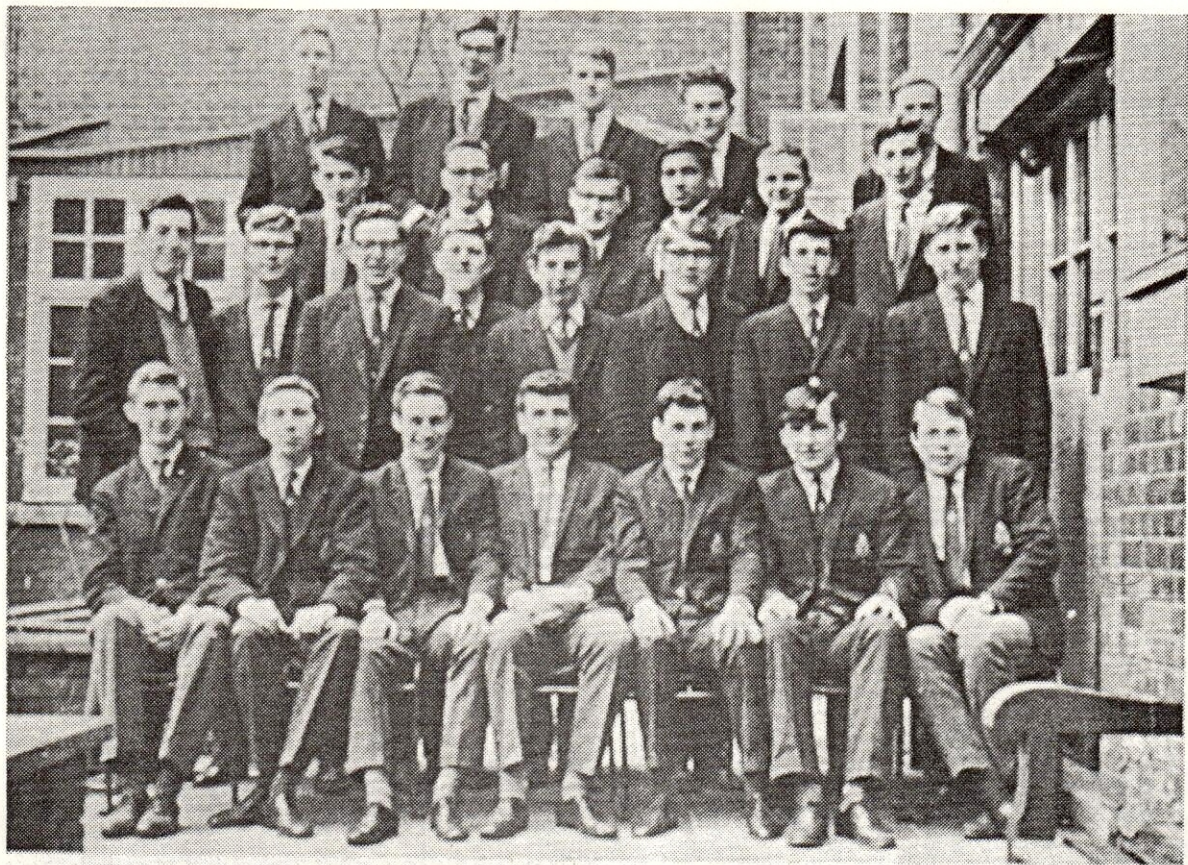
No single complete list of Kilburn Grammar School staff exists nor can an accurate one be compiled from such information as is now available. In the list that follows I have tried to include all those who taught in the school for at least one year, arranged chronologically by date of appointment. If this date and/or that of leaving are not known the dates in brackets give first and/or last mention. "1967+" indicates that the teacher continued from K.G.S. into Kilburn Senior High School.

E. Evans	Headmaster	1897-1909
E.F. Hamer	Second master	(1901)-1902
G. Couillault	French	1898-(1908)
Herr Lazarowitch	German	1898-(1908)
Sgt. Maj. Ibbs	Drill	(1901)
A. Golland		(1902)-1902
Rev. W.H. Braine		(1902)-(1903)
D.R. Stephenson		(1902)-1902
T. Miles	Music	(1902)-1902
T. Pinochet	Spanish	(1902)-(1903)
R. Thomas		1902-(1902)
W.H. Kingston	Music	1902-(1902)
B. Farnhill		1902-(1902)
W.H.F. Jeffcoat	Second master	1902-(1903)
H. Todd		1902-(1902)
A. Jack	Preparatory	1902-(1903)
R.F. Julian	Art	1902-(1902)
W.B. Hunt	History; Second Master;	
	Headmaster	1903-1925
H.C. Ussher	Lower School	(1903)-(1903)
Rev. E.C. Monk	English/Scripture	1904-1910
W.M. Mann	Drill	1905-1910
J.C. Miller	General	1906-1908
P. Purkiss		1906-(1908)
Crofts	Science	(1907)
W.E. Upton	Science	1907-1910
B. Morgan	General	1908-1910
A. Shillington	French; German	1908-1910
L.L. Richmond	Art	1908-1914
C.H. Piggott	Rifle Drill; (Caretaker)	1908-1909
J. Ware	History; Second master	1909-1929
J. Westbury	English: Acting-headmaster	1910-1942
F.L. Henley	Mathematics	1910-1916
W.G. Bowden	Science Acting - headmaster	1910-1948
E.W. Parr	French; German	1910-1926
C.B. Thurston	Geography	1910-1931
T. Beach	Commercial	1910-1924
W.H.E. Bentley	Mathematics	1910-1951
J. Paterson	P.T.	1911-1919
P.T. Horsley	Woodwork	1911-1914
W. Davis	French	1911-1941
C. Round	Geography	1911-1913
W.G. Greaves	Science	1912-1925

J.F.S. Nash	German	1913-1920
J. Lodge	Classics	1913-1925
S. Burton	Geography	1914-1950
G.D. Miller	German; French	1914-1916
Miss E.R. Binnie	Art	1914-1919
Miss P.L. Rickards	French	1915-1918
Miss I.M.C. Nicoll	General	1915-1919
Miss E.A. Clarke	Mathematics	1915-1919
W.J.F. Hillier	English	1916-1918
H.E. Knight	Commercial	1916-1919
Rev. C.H. Hughes	Scripture; Music	1917-1937
F.W. Jones	English	1918-1919
S.M. Dainow	French	1918-1919
E.G. Richardson	Science	1919-1921
D.R. Hounsell	Handicraft	1919-1928
E. Gowridge	P.T.	1919-1920
J.R. Coulthard	Mathematics	1919-1923
J.G. Twist	Art	1920-1923
F.T. Brooks	P.T.	1921-1922
J. Ellowitz (Ellison)	Chemistry	1921-1931
E.C. Bond	P.T.	1922-1929
G. Ayling	Art	1923-1927
R.J. Bridges	Mathematics	1924-1925
W.H. Williams	French	1924-1958
J. McLeish	Headmaster	1925-1932
H.E. Gould	Latin	1925-1958
H.T. Sharpe	Mathematics	1925-1946
T.M. Yarwood	Physics	1926-1950
H.E. Collins	French	1927-1931
E.W.M. Potts	Mathematics	1927-1932
H.A. Peter	English	1927-1943
E.H. Thompson	Art	1927-1930
E.W. Rhodes	German; French	1928-1959
L. Thompson	Handicraft	1928-1939
B.J. Morahan	P.T.	1929-1937
A.G. Field	History	1929-1934
R. Whitmore	Art	1930-1967+
J.L. Whiteley	Classics	1930-1936
D.B. Fry	French	1931-1934
J.M. Pullan	Science	1931-1934
G.F. Carpenter	Economics	1931-1948
H. Thomas	Geography	1931-1935
J.W. Jenkins	Mathematics	1932-1936
H.D. Anthony	Headmaster	1933-1947
W.W. Rollinson	History; English	1933-1948
A.J. Stuart	History	1934-1944
A.J.L. Southwell	French	1934-1945
G.W. Dakin	Science	1935-1948
G.L. Walters	Mathematics	1935-1959
S.F. Hann	Geography	1936-1946
D.W.J. Woodman	Classics; Scripture	1936-1946
J.N. Hancock	Music	1937-1947
G.J. Evans	P.T.	1937-1946

Taylor	Handicraft	1939
Mrs. Robinson	Art	1941-1946
Mrs. E.B. Cox	English	1941-1945
R.W. Burfitt	Mathematics	1942-1945
S.A. Corrin	French	1942-1967+
W. Isaacson	German	1942-1963
Miss E.L. Vincent	Art	1942-1945
D.L. MacInally	P.T.	1942-1944
J.W. Stewart	Science	1942-1953
E.C. Pettet	English	1943-1948
R.I. Cox	Geography	1943-1960
Miss F. Doyle-Davidson	French	1943-1945
G.A. Rees	English	1943-1946
A.H. Cope	P.T.	1944-1946
W. Thorp	English	1946-1948
R.H. Squire	P.T.	1946-1947
A.D. Smith	English	1946-1948
D. Merlyn-Smith	Music	1947-1967+
A.A. Warner	Physics	1947-1967+
W.W. Parsons	Science	1947-1950
C.V.W. Williams	P.T.	1947-1967+
J.W. Manson	Mathematics	1947-1955
T.F. Gibbs	English	1948-1950
A.J.W. James	Chemistry	1948-1967+
A.J. Toley	English	1948-1967+
J.A. Lumsden	French	1948-1949
W.J.C. Gill	History	1948-1954
D.F. Williams	Headmaster	1949-1967
M.W. Figgis	English	1949-1951
P.T.S. Whitmore	French	1949-1951
R.J. Dent	French; German	1949-1950
E.W.L. Leavey	Physics	1950-1966
P.K. Wright	English	1950-1958
L.H. Rolfe	French; German	1950
C.B. Moller	Geography	1950-1962
D. McGinty	Mathematics	1950-1958
R.W. Waters	English	1950
H.G. Rensch	Mathematics	1951
J. Mathew	French; German	1951-1967+
E. Wolheim	Handicraft	1951-1961
W.B. Rhodes	Mathematics	1952-
H. Dow	English	1952-1953
E.L. James	Science	1952-1956
A.E.E. Minchin	Mathematics	1953-1967+
A.B. Scrase	Classics	1953-1956
V. Callaghan	English	1953-1960
N.F. Hidden	English	1953-1954
J.H. Beaglehole	History	1954-1966
L.G. Hodder	Mathematics	1955-1956
S.G. Sathaye	Geography	1955-1956
B.H. Adams	Classics	1956-1958
D.T. Anderson	Biology	1956-1958
D.J. Robinson	Mathematics	1956-1958

D.C. Measham	English	1956-1958
J. Roscoe	Mathematics	1957-1967+
A.B.H. Fell	English	1958-1963
T.H.R. Thomas	Science	1958-1959
R.K. Hands	French; Deputy head	1958-1962
B.H. Turner	Classics	1958-1960
P.K. Murthy	Mathematics	1958
J.E. Kerry	English; Deputy head	1958-1966
D.E. Sparks	Classics	1958-1960
H. Whate	Biology	1958-1966
H. Oldman	Mathematics	1958-1967+
A.H.L. Pilkington	French; German	1959-1967+
B.E.H. Fonseca	Mathematics	1959
P.W. Brearley	Classics	1960-1967+
B. Cole	Mathematics	1960-1962
M. Foss	French	1960-1967+
D. Owen	Geography	1960-1966
D. Holder	English	1960-1967+
E.L. Protheroe	Mathematics	1960-1964
R.J.N. de Pinto	Art	1960
B.F. Conneller	Latin	1960-1967*
A.H. Dalrymple	English	1962
G.P. Cockburn	Handicraft	1962-1966
E.G. Fogwill	Geography	1962-1967+
A. Marson	French	1962
J.K.O. Martin	Science	1962
J. Bailey	English	1963-1966
J.F. Hargreaves	French; German	1963-1966
R.A. Layton	History	1963-1964
I.D.M. Morley	English	1963-1967+
L.S. Plester	Biology	1963-1964
M.L. Schmeising	Mathematics	1963-1967
J.P. Condon	Biology	1964
B. Valier-Grossman	Mathematics	1964-1966
G.B. Hill	History	1964-1967+
Miss M. Conroy	Biology	1965
R.J. Hudson	Chemistry	1965-1967+
Mrs. Wistrich	Economics	1965-1967+
D.G. Badham	Handicraft	1966-1967+
B.H. Elliott	Science	1966
P.M. Toner	Geography	1966-1967+
M.I. Warden	French	1966-1967+
R.F. Rogers	Mathematics	1966-1967+
Miss G.E. Hebb	English	1966-1967+
R.H.E. Waters	History	1966
D.J. Lincoln	Biology	1966



PREFECTS - 1963-64

HEAD BOYS (Died on active service*)

1898-1900 S. Elston
 1900-1901 H. Knight
 1901-1902 J.G. Spencer
 1902-1903 K.G. Young
 1903-1904 E.W. Wales
 1904-1905 H.G. Gill*
 1905-1905 J.C. Miller*
 1906-1906 J. Atkins
 1906-1907 H.L. Beiles
 1908-1908 S.W.G. Ratcliff
 1908-1909 J.C. Ellis
 1909-1910 L.V. Curtis
 1910-1911 A.J. Keith*
 1911-1912 L.T. Westaway*
 1912-1913 D.C. Ellis
 1913-1914 C.B. Thompson
 1914-1915 W.J.F. Hillier
 1915-1916 H.G. Hughes
 1916-1917 C.S. Hill
 1917-1918 G.G. Beasley
 1918-1919 C.A. Hill
 1919-1920 M.E. Jeffries
 1920-1921 A. Clark
 1921-1922 A.J. Hills
 1922-1923 W.J. Gray
 1923-1924 F.O. Cooke
 1924-1924 M.W. Dalton
 1924-1925 G.O. Morgan
 1925-1926 J.A. Camacho
 1926-1927 J.G.M. Simmons
 1927-1928 J.M. Ferris
 1928-1929 D.W.J. Woodman
 1920-1930 D.J. White
 1930-1931 S.J. Haynes
 1931-1932 F.D. Zahoorbux
 1932-1933 W.B.G. Clayton

1933-1943 J.R. Rich
 1934-1935 F.C. Stallwood*
 1935-1936 A.G. Lewis
 1936-1937 K.F. Shrubbs
 1937-1938 J.M. McAuliffe
 1938-1939 D.R. Hollingsworth*
 1939-1940 S.F. Taylor
 1940-1941 S. Robertson
 1941-1942 C.D. Cowan
 1942-1943 R.D.J. Baker
 1943-1944 N. Taylor
 1944-1945 J.E. Peacock
 1945-1946 K.A. Phillips
 1946-1947 W. Watts
 1947-1948 D.T. Chandler
 1948-1949 J.P. Jay
 1949-1950 B.C. Eady
 1950-1951 J.M. Sentinella
 1951-1952 W.W.J. Barratt
 1952-1953 G.G. Tomkins
 1953-1954 P.E.V. Frost
 1954-1955 N. Holmes
 1955-1956 R.A.R. Hill
 1956-1957 M.B. Elster
 1957-1958 K.A. Schweitzer
 1958-1959 F.T. Usher
 1959-1960 J.P. Reed
 1960-1961 M.J. Cook
 1961-1962 A. Ereira
 1962-1963 K. Schwartz
 1963-1964 P. Reder
 1964-1964 C.W. Prockter
 1964-1965 T.B. Challand
 1965-1966 G. Eynon
 1966-1967 G.E.R. Padfield
 1967-1968 D.W. Griffith



SCHOOL RUGBY XV, 1965-6

ROLL OF HONOUR

1914 – 1918

E.L. Appleby
W.G. Baker
L.C. Barbu
R.C. Barnes
W.F. Barnes
J.E. Barrett
H.G. Bretton
A.D. Brooman
J.S. Brooman
W.P. Carr
H. Chapman
S. Chappell
E.J. Chipp
C.W. Comper
W.J. Crockett
H. Dane
W.H. Easty
S.A. Eves
A.G. Feavearyear
L.J. Fennell
A. Fraser
G.P.T. Frith
S.B. Gabriel
H.G. Gill
G.S. Godson
W.A. Gough

R. Hamilton
H. Kearley
A.J. Keith
H. Kempster
R.C. Kingston
G. Knight
N. Knight
S.T. Knight
C.G. Le Sueur
J.C. Miller
G.M. Myers
C.H. Poston
F.A. Ramsay
C. Robertson
J.V. Robinson
H.A. St. Cyr
G.B. Samuels
E.Y. Saxby
C.T.R. Stanton
E.T. Streets
R.W. Toop*
L.T. Westaway
R.G. Wheatley
A.E. Woodman
D. Van Ryn

* The name on the memorial in the Creighton Hall is "R.E.M. Toop". It was noted in "The Kilburnian" of July 1973 that this was a mistake and that R.E.M. Toop was still alive, his brother R.W. Toop having been killed. This has been verified from the General Register Office Index of Army O.R. dead. viz., "Toop, Robert W., Private, Middlesex Regiment, 1916".

ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 – 1945

H. Albon
A.H. Athill
R.F. Atkinson
R.H.W. Ball
C. Barnett
F.B. Bassett
N.A. Bridges
P. Britten
P.B. Champion-Jones
K. Clack
R.D. Cooley
R. Dawson
D. Dymond
H.W. Edwards
G.D.H. Edworthy
D. Flanagan
M.R. Gerard
E.T. Godwin
A.J.P. Golder
S. Harcourt
C. Hawksworth
R.J. Heavens
R.J. Helsdon
D.R. Hollingsworth
R.M. Housden
N.T. Huckle
G.W. Jackson
G.J.F. Jones
P. Jones
D.A. Jukes
L. Lane
W.H. Layton
J. Mangum
F. Meaker

A. Moore
H.A. Moore
H.F. Morrish
V. Moss
J. Needham
G.R. Olsen
L.A. Orchard
G. Ormerod
G. Owen
G. Pendrell
H.A. Perks
A.C. Perrin
P.C. Pinkham
P.E. Reed
M.B. Sandley
H.M. Saunders
R.A. Shrubbs
A. Sidey
A.E. Smith
W.C. Smith
F.C. Stallwood
R. Stringer
L.M. Talbot
P.R. Trevayne
G.W. Trodd
R.R. Uridge
M.M. Venn
J.L.R. Walter
H.A. Weaver
A.M. White
M.C. Woodgate
A.L.O. Wray
D.G. Wye
A.C.W. Yeates

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS AS RECORDED ON HONOURS BOARDS

1910	Crowle Ellis, J.	Historical Exhibition	Keble Coll. Oxford
1912	Keith, A.J.	Historical Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1914	Crowle Ellis, D.	Historical Scholarship	Selwyn Coll. Cambridge
1914	Ratcliff, S.W.G.	Medical Scholarship (1st. in First Class Honours)	Sydney
1918	Poskitt, F.R.	Historical Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1919	Hutt, G.A.S.	Historical Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1919	Grosch, C.J.	Natural Science Exhibition	Selwyn Coll. Cambridge
1919	Hillman H.H.	Natural Science Exhibition	Selwyn Coll. Cambridge
1919	Adams D.T.	Historical Scholarship	Hertford Coll. Oxford
1920	Potter, S.	English Exhibition	St. John's Coll. Oxford
1920	Crone, G.R.	Historical Exhibition	St. John's Coll. Cambridge
1921	Clark, A.	Historical Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1922	Weeks, H.T.	Mathematical Exhibition	Emmanuel Coll. Cambridge
1929	Woodman, D.W.J.	State Scholarship	King's Coll. London
1931	Hentschel, C.E.	State Scholarship	University Coll. London
1931	Morris, M.	Andrews Scholarship in Arts	University Coll. London
1932	Warren, J.B.	Royal Studentship	
		State Scholarship	Imperial Coll. London
1932	Zahoorbux, F.	Royal Scholarship	
		State Scholarship	Imperial Coll. London
1935	Brock, R.E.	King's Scholarship also awarded Andrews Scholarship in Arts	King's Coll. London University Coll. London
1918	Crone, D.B.	Prize Cadetship	Royal Military Academy, Woolwich
1936	D.J. Krivine	State Scholarship	
1936	M. Finer	Whittuck Schol. in Laws State Scholarship	London School of Economics London School of Economics
1937	D.J. Krivine	History Scholarship	Christ Church Oxford
1938	J.H.S. Burgess	History Scholarship	Queen's College Oxford
1939	R.A. Lewin	State Scholarship	
1939	H.D. Davis	State Scholarship and Leverhulme Scholarship	London School of Economics
1940	G.V. Owen	Exhibition in Mathematics Drapers' Company Scholarship	St. Catherine's Coll. Cambs. Queen Mary Coll. London
1940	R. Weinstein	History Scholarship	St. John's College, Oxford
1940	H.D. Weiss	Exhibition in Modern Studies	Balliol College, Oxford
1941	C.D. Cowan	History Exhibition	Peterhouse, Cambs.
1942	R.D.J. Baker	History Exhibition	Peterhouse, Cambs.
1944	T.H. Elkins	Leverhulme Scholarship	London School of Economics
1945	G.M. Treitel	Duncan Mackinnon Scholarship in Law	Magdalen College Oxford
1946	K.W. Grunberg	Mathematical Schol.	Magdalene Coll. Cambridge
1946	R.W. Waters	English Exhibition	St. John's Coll. Cambridge
1947	W. Watts	English Exhib.	Queen's College Cambridge
1947	G.E. Myers	History Scholarship	University College Oxford
1948	A. Wagner	Mathematical Scholarship	Jesus College Cambridge
1948	M.L.E. Tobe	Royal Studentship also State Scholarship	Imperial Coll. London University College London
1948	F.W. Girling	State Scholarship	
1949	F.W. Girling	History Scholarship	University College Oxford
1949	J.A.H. Risbridger	State Scholarship	Corpus Christi Oxford
1950	V.A. Atkinson	Entrance Scholarship to also State Scholarship	Imperial College London



THE CREIGHTON WINDOW

1951	K.C. Waller	State Scholarship	King's Coll. London
1952	S. Brittan	History Exhibition	
1953	G.L. Barnes	also State Scholarship Organ Scholarship	Jesus Coll. Cambridge
1953	M.J. Esten	also State Scholarship State Scholarship	Hertford Coll. Oxford
1953	D.J. Spivey	State Scholarship	University Coll. London
1953	M.A. Whitehead	State Scholarship	Nottingham University
1954	R.I. McLeod	State Scholarship	Queen Mary Coll. London
1954	J.I. Strauss	Mathematical Exhibition and State Scholarship	King's Coll. London
1955	J.J. Palmer	State Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1955	J. Schuldenfrei	Leverhulme Scholarship	Magdalen Coll. Oxford
1955	A.S. Wohl	Exhibition in History	London School of Economics
1956	J.M. Levy	Open Entrance Scholarship and State Scholarship	Jesus Coll. Cambridge
1956	B. White	Mining Scholarship	Birmingham University
1957	H.I. Steadman	Exhibition in Natural Sciences	Jesus Coll. Oxford
1957	M.F. Lewis	State Scholarship	St. Peter's Hall Oxford
1958	A.R. Maizels	State Scholarship	Imperial Coll. of Science London
1958	T.J.P. McMahon	State Scholarship	Birmingham University
1958	K.A. Schweitzer	State Scholarship	St. Peter's Hall Oxford
1959	M. Fireman	Open Scholarship in History	Jesus Coll. Cambridge
1959	G. Chanan	State Scholarship	Magdalen Coll. Oxford
1960	A.J. Day	Exhibition in History	Magdalen Coll. Oxford
1960	D.J. Britton	State Scholarship	Birmingham University
1960	E.T. Ryan	State Scholarship	Nottingham University
1960	J.P. Reed	State Scholarship	Oriel Coll. Oxford
1961	W. Cheswick	Royal Schol. to	Imperial Coll. of Science and Tech. London
1961	C.J. Hall	Open Schol. In History	Corpus Christi Oxford
1962	A. Ereira	Exhibition in History and State Scholarship	Queen's Coll. Cambridge
1962	R.P. Steinburg	Open Schol. in History and State Scholarship	Wadham Coll. Oxford
1962	D.N. Aranaz	State Scholarship	Birmingham University
1962	R.E. Anson	State Scholarship	Christ's Coll. Cambridge
1962	A.W.M. Glass	State Scholarship	Downing Coll. Cambridge
1963	B.A. Fireman	Open Schol. in History	Jesus Coll. Cambridge
1963	R.S. Wistrich	Exhibition in History	Queen's Coll. Cambridge
1963	N. C. Hill	C.E.B. Schol.	Imperial Coll. London
1964	D.A. Biede	Open Exhibition in History	Jesus Coll. Cambridge
1964	B. Carr	Open Demysip in History	Magdalen Coll. Oxford
1964	J.I. Israel	Open Scholarship in History	Queen's Coll. Cambridge
1964	G.H.R. Lamb	Robert Gee Schol.	Liverpool University Medical School
1965	J.F. Moont	C.E.G.B. Scholarship	Imperial Coll. London
1966	D.A. Aarons	Mathematical Schol.	London School of Economics
1967	D.J. Sasson	Exhibition	Imperial Coll. of Science and Technology, London
1967	A.J. Thornby	Scholarship	Imperial Coll. of Science and Technology, London
1967	K. J. Yugin	Maths. Schol.	London School of Economics
1971	B. L. Stewart	History Exhibition	St. Peter's Coll. Oxford
1972	J.M. Cowen	Open History Exhibition	Worcester Coll. Oxford
1936	R. Keen	Scholarship	Middlesex Hospital Medical School, London

1937	E. Hamer	Faraday Scholarship	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1937	K. F. Shrubbs	Exhibition	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1937	A. Silberblatt	Denny Scholarship in Naval Architecture	Glasgow
1938	B. V. Poulston	Maxwell Scholarship	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1939	G.S. Brosan	Faraday Scholarship	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1939	F.W.F. Leavis	Maxwell Scholarship	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1949	J. P. Jay	Faraday Scholarship	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London
1951	C. Ohrenstein	Exhibition	Faraday House Elect. Engineering College, London

S.W.G. Ratcliff's Scholarship at Sydney University 1914 is scarcely valid as a claim to honour by Kilburn Grammar School, which he had left in 1908.

THE SCHOOL PLAYS

By the School's official reckoning the first Shakespearean production was "Richard II" in 1908. This is puzzling because, according to the local press "The Merchant of Venice" was presented before Christmas in 1907 and repeated in the new year to raise funds for Willesden Hospital.

1908	Richard II	
1909	Julius Caesar	
1910	Henry IV pt. I	produced by J. Ware
1911	The Taming of the Shrew	produced by J. Ware
1912	The Merchant of Venice	produced by J. Ware
1913	Twelfth Night	produced by J. Ware
1914	Macbeth	produced by J. Ware
1915	The Tempest	produced by J. Ware
1916	Henry V	produced by J. Ware
1917	King Lear	produced by J. Ware
1918	Twelfth Night	produced by J. Ware
1919	Love's Labour's Lost	produced by B. M. Bazley
1920	All's Well that Ends Well	produced by J. Lodge
1921	Two Gentlemen of Verona	produced by J. Lodge
1922	Coriolanus	produced by J. Lodge
1923	Hamlet	produced by J. Lodge
1924	The Comedy of Errors	produced by J. Lodge
1925	Much Ado About Nothing	produced by J. Lodge
1926	Romeo and Juliet	produced by H.E. Gould
1927	Richard II	produced by H.E. Gould
1928	Othello	produced by H.E. Gould
1929	As You Like It	produced by H.E. Gould
1930	Macbeth	produced by H.E. Gould
1931	Julius Caesar	produced by H.E. Gould
1932	Henry IV pt. I	produced by H.E. Gould
1933	The Merchant of Venice	produced by H.E. Gould
1934	The Tempest	produced by R. Whitmore
1935	Richard III	produced by H.A. Peter
1936	The Winter's Tale	produced by H.A. Peter
1937	A Midsummer Night's Dream	produced by H.A. Peter
1938	Antony and Cleopatra	produced by H.A. Peter
1940	Much Ado About Nothing	produced by H.A. Peter
1940	Henry IV pt. I	produced by H.A. Peter
1942	Henry V	produced by H.A. Peter
1944	Julius Caesar	produced by H.A. Peter
1946	The Taming of the Shrew	produced by E.C. Pettet
1946	Twelfth Night	produced by E.C. Pettet
1947	Romeo and Juliet	produced by E.C. Pettet
1948	Much Ado About Nothing	produced by W. Thorp
1949	Macbeth	
1950	The Tempest	produced by M.W. Figgis
1951	Henry IV pt. I	produced by P.K. Wright
1952	As You Like It	produced by P.K. Wright
1953	The Taming of the Shrew	produced by P.K. Wright
1953	Henry IV pt. II	produced by P.K. Wright

1955	Coriolanus	produced by P.K. Wright
1956	Hamlet	produced by P.K. Wright
1957	Love's Labour's Lost	produced by P.K. Wright
1959	Twelfth Night	produced by J.E. Kerry
1959	Henry IV pt. I	produced by J.E. Kerry
1961	(Oedipus Rex)	produced by A.B.M. Fell
1962	(An Enemy of the People)	produced by D. Holder
1962	Henry V	produced by A.B.M. Fell
1963	(The Government Inspector)	produced by D. Holder
1964	Henry IV pt. II	produced by J. Bailey
1965	(The Knight of the Burning Pestle)	produced by J. Bailey
1966	Cymbeline	produced by I.D.M. Morely

"Much Ado About Nothing" 1948, was abandoned by the original producer and seen on to the stage by Gould and Whitmore!

SPEECH DAYS – PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS

From 1899 until 1908 Speech Day was held in July; thereafter it was almost always in the Michaelmas term, until 1964 and 1965, when it took place in February.

* Indicates an Old Boy of the School.

1899	Irwin B. Cox, M.P.	
1900	Rt. Rev. Mandell Creighton	Bishop of London
1901	Dr. J.S. Crone	Chairman, Willesden Urban District Council
1902	Rt. Rev. A.F. Winnington Ingram	Bishop of London
1903	G.A. Sexton	Chairman, Willesden Urban District Council
1904	Curtis Price, J.P.	
1905	Hon. W.R.N. Peel	
1906	Sir John Puleston, J.P.	H.M. Lieutenant for the City of London
1907	C. Alderman W. Regester	Chairman, Middlesex Education Committee
1908	C. Alderman Sir Ralph Littler	Chairman, Middlesex County Council
1909	Sir James Yoxall, M.P.	General Secretary, National Union of Teachers
1911	Montagu Sharpe	Chairman, Middlesex Quarter Sessions
1912	Rev. H.G. Bonavia Hunt	
1913	Rt. Rev. W.W. Perrin	Bishop of Willesden
1915	Rt. Rev. A.F. Winnington Ingram	Bishop of London
1919	C. Alderman C.F. De Salis.	Chairman, Middlesex County Council
1920	Lt. Col. Charles Pinkham, M.P.	
1921	Rev. J. Costley-White	Headmaster, Westminster School
1922	Mrs. Bonavia Hunt	
1923	Mrs. Luke	
1924	Lt. Col. the Hon. G.F. Stanley, M.P.	
1925	Mrs. Bonavia Hunt	
1926	Lt. Col. the Hon. G.F. Stanley, M.P.	
1927	C. Alderman Lt. Col. Charles Pinkham, J.P.	Chairman, Middlesex County Council
1928	Major T. Worswick	Director of Education, Regent Street Polytechnic
1929	Sir Kynaston Studd	(Former) Lord Mayor of London
1930	Sir Francis Goodenough	Chairman, Gas Light and Coke Company
1931	C. Alderman Sir William Prescott	
1932	Sir Percival Sharp	(Former) Director of Education, Sheffield
1933	Alderman H.G. Hiscocks, J.P.	Mayor of Willesden
1934	H. Spencer Jones	Astronomer Royal
1935	Rt. Rev. G. Vernon Smith	Bishop of Willesden
1936	Hon. Lily Montague	
1937	Rt. Rev. A.F. Winnington Ingram	Bishop of London
1938	Dr. Coode Adams	Principal, Faraday House College, London
1948	C.B. Thurston	(Former) Headmaster, Isleworth County School
1949	F.R. Poskitt *	Headmaster, Bolton School
1950	Denis Richards	Principal, Morely College, London
1951	Sir Graham Sharpe	Chief Education Officer, London County Council
1952	Dr. Eric James	High Master, Manchester Grammar School
1953	J.F. Wolfenden	Vice-Chancellor, Reading University
1954	Nigel Balchin	
1955	J.W. Blake*	Professor of History, Keele University
1956	Bernard Miles	
1957	J.A. Camacho*	British Broadcasting Corporation
1958	Leslie Hale, M.P.	
1959	G.R. Matthew, M.P.	
1960	K.L. Fawdry	British Broadcasting Corporation
1961	John Beavan	Editor, "Daily Herald"
1962	E.W.M. Potts*	Headmaster, Hendon County School
1964	Kenneth Adams	British Broadcasting Corporation
1965	Rt. Rev. Graham Leonard	Bishop of Willesden

THE SCHOOL SONGS.

The original K.G.S. song was written by H.G. Bonavia Hunt with music composed by Leonard Butler, the St. Paul's Church organist, and published by Novello. It was first sung publicly at the first Annual Prize Distribution in July 1899*. The words as published differ slightly from a version printed in the programme for the opening of the school hall in the following year.

Now Boys, give a cheer for our School so dear,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
We'll fight for her colours and win, never fear,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
Her honour be ours, our cause her good name,
By thousands her sons to establish her fame
In manners and learning, and skill of the game;
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!

We'll march to the front where battles are won,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
We'll show them our form when work's to be done,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
For God and our Queen, our laws and our land
The life of our School shall prepare us to stand –
A gallant young army, a disciplined band;
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!

When holidays come, we are glad to run home,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
When lessons begin we have places to win,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!
Thus steady at work, and sturdy in play,
We're making the most and the best of our day,
Till out in the world we go marching away,
With a hip, hip, hip, hurrah, boys!

* "The Kilburn Times" 21 July 1899

The 1913 speech day was opened with a new school song, both words and music by Hunt.*

Kilburn Grammarians, muster your forces,
Shoulder to shoulder, plucky and cool;
Steady and true as the stars in their courses,
All for the honour and fame of the School.
Down with the bully, the braggart, the birker,
Hence with the laggard, coward and fool,
Down with the shirker, and up with the worker,
All for the honour and fame of the School.

Prove to your rivals your mettle and fibre,
Firm at your wickets, straight for your goal,
Staunch as Horatius, who, back to the Tiber,
Took of the foeman his terrible toll.

Stand then, Kilburnians, stand with each other,
Hand over shoulder, eager and strong,
England your mother, each Briton your brother,
Fired with your spirit, shall chorus your song.

For many years this second song was used at end-of-term assemblies and always at speech days until 1961, by which time its phraseology had become quite alien to the spirit of the time and it was fittingly replaced by William Blake's "Jerusalem". It is still to be heard, sung perhaps with amusement but also with affection, at the O.B.A. annual dinners!

* "The Kilburn Times" 7 November 1913

THE HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

CURTIS; ELLIS; KEITH; SAXBY.

1911-1912 Keith
1912-1913 Curtis
1913-1914 Curtis
1914-1915 Keith
1915-1916 Keith and Saxby
1916-1917 Saxby

CURTIS; ELLIS; KEITH; RATCLIFF; SAXBY

1917-1918 Ellis	1934-1935 Ratcliff
1918-1919 Ellis	1935-1936 Ratcliff
1919-1920 Curtis	1936-1937 Ratcliff
1920-1921 Ratcliff	1937-1938 Keith
1921-1922 Ellis	1938-1939 Saxby
1922-1923 Ellis	1939-1940 Ratcliff
1923-1924 Saxby	1942-1943 Keith
1924-1925 Saxby	1945-1946 Keith
1925-1926 Curtis	1946-1947 Curtis
1926-1927 Ellis	1947-1948 Curtis
1927-1928 Ellis	1948-1949 Ratcliff
1928-1929 Ellis	1949-1950 Ratcliff
1929-1930 Curtis	1950-1952 Keith
1930-1931 Saxby	1951-1952 Saxby
1931-1932 Keith	1952-1953 Ellis
1932-1933 Keith	1953-1954 Keith
1933-1934 Keith	1954-1955 Keith

CURTIS-KEITH; ELLIS; RATCLIFF; SAXBY

1955-1956 Ratcliff
1956-1957 Ratcliff
1957-1958 Ratcliff
1958-1959 Ratcliff
1959-1960 Ratcliff
1960-1961 Ellis
1961-1962 Ratcliff
1962-1963 Ratcliff
1963-1964 Ratcliff
1964-1965 Ratcliff
1965-1966 Curtis-Keith
1966-1967 Saxby

The House system was abandoned in September 1971.



The Winnington Ingram Window

"RELIQUIAE SCHOLAE KILBURNIAE"

To locate and catalogue the material remains of seventy years of school history in public and private hands would be a task involving much research. The buildings remain in Salisbury Road. The sports pavilion in Aylestone Avenue has been gutted by fire and demolished. In the Creighton Hall are the painted glass windows which depict Bishops Mandell Creighton and Winnington Ingram. Also in the hall are the Old Boys Association memorial to the 1914-1918 dead and the Staff memorial tablets to F.L. Henley and A.J. Stuart.

The honours boards were removed from the hall after Kilburn Senior High School came to the end of its short life. They were stored under such poor conditions that many suffered damage and two, the Head Boys' board and the Champion House board, were lost. Fortunately most have survived and are now placed in "Stone Hall", (the old Brondesbury Synagogue), together with the painted portraits of Evan Evans, Wilfrid Hunt and James McLeish. For these and for other preservations we owe thanks to Michael Brilliant. The O.B.A. memorial to the 1939-1945 dead, a bookcase with an inscribed plaque, is no longer to be found.

The inter-house and individual trophies which have survived loss (mostly by burglary) and are in the school, are:—

*Athletic Championship (individual) Cup**

Crone Football/Rugby Cup

Curtis Cricket Cup

Keith Hockey Cup

Athletic Championship Shield

McLeish Boxing Shield

McAuliffe Tennis Cup

House Swimming Cup

Welsh Harp Sailing Cup

Junior Cross-Country Cup

Mullen Swimming Cup

Junior Swimming Cup

Last Tennis Cup

Intermediate Athletics Cup

Trophies which are known to have existed but are now missing include:—

*Harrington House Championship Cup
Ratcliff Shooting Cup
Temple-Cole Junior Athletics Cup
Senior Cross-Country Cup
Founder's Music Bowl
Junior Music Cup
Hughes Music Plaque
Wolheim Festival of Arts Trophy
Handicraft Trophy
Harrison Cup for best all-round Sportsman
Old Creightonians R.F.C. School Trophy
"Lampas Honoris" Cup. Given by the O.B.A. for public spirit.*

**The oldest trophy, dating from 1908 at the latest.*

Mr. Brilliant has also accumulated some important photographs, written records and printed material at the school. The Old Boys Association has some similar material. The Grange Museum has material records, magazines and personal relics. As the museum for the Borough of Brent it is the proper repository for any material relating to Kilburn Grammar School.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

H. G. BONAVIA HUNT

Various volumes of "Who's Who" and "Crockford's Clerical Directory" provide basic information on the Founder. His birth in Malta is attested in the Public Record Office 1871 Census R.G.10. 336 f.32v. His father's name, "William Hunt" and occupation, "Classical Professor" is recorded in H.G. Bonavia Hunt's marriage certificate; General Register Office 1870 Marriages September Quarter; West Ham 4a.53.

"THE KILBURNIAN"

The school magazine is the main source for this history. Between 1899 and 1967 no fewer than 163 issues were produced. With the exception of Nos. 1 to 9 and No. 31, all are extant, either at Brondesbury and Kilburn High School, the Grange Museum, or in the O.B.A. archives.

LOCAL PRESS

The files of "The Kilburn Times" and "The Willesden Chronicle" may be consulted in the British Library Newspaper collection at Colindale. "The Willesden Chronicle" is also to be seen in the Grange Museum.

GRANGE MUSEUM, NEASDEN

A number of copies of the school magazine are to be found here. There are also the original minutes of the "Willesden Committee for Higher Education" – in effect the governing body of the school, from 1908 to 1928. This is a truly astonishing survival of a most important source. The minutes of the Willesden Borough Education Committee from 1945 to 1963 are relevant but not detailed. Even less helpful are the London Borough of Brent Council Minutes 1964-1967.

GREATER LONDON RECORD OFFICE

There is material to be found in the Middlesex County Council Education Committee Reports, and Minute Books.

BRONDESBURY AND KILBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Apart from magazines and photographs, other useful materials which have survived are the Staff Register Book, 1908-1942 and Staff Register Sheets, 1942 onwards. Unfortunately these are not complete and often omit the date of leaving. There is also the revealing Staff Meetings Minute Book, 1909-1924.

THE MEMORIAL IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH

On the 27 October 1985 a memorial service was held in the ancient parish church of St. Mary, Willesden during which a window commemorating the Kilburn Grammar School and a book of remembrance of its war dead was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Graham Leonard, Bishop of London.

The window depicts both the Founder, the Rev. H.G. Bonavia Hunt and the first Visitor, the Rt. Rev. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of London.

These memorials have been provided by the Kilburn Grammar School Old Boys' Association.