

OLD BOYS' DINNER 1948

KILBURN G.S. OLD BOYS' DINNER

School's "Finest Hour" may be Surpassed

A PROPHECY that Kilburn Grammar School, in spite of the handicaps of "squalid" buildings and lack of playing fields, will, in the future, play an even more important role in local education, was made at the annual dinner of the Old Boys' Association on Saturday.

Held at the Gayton Rooms, Harrow, the function was attended by about a hundred members, and was extremely successful. Many old friendships were renewed, and reminiscences of boyhood days played an important part in the evening's programme.

The toast of "The School" was proposed by Mr. J. Huish. It was, he said, the spirit of Kilburn that had given them the common foundation on which they had built their lives. It was at Kilburn that they learned the great ideals of tolerance, decency and fair play; ideals which seemed at the present time to be menaced more than ever. The price of freedom was eternal vigilance and, in maintaining that vigilance, Kilburn Grammar School would continue to play a distinguished part.

HEAD'S REPLY

The chairman, Mr. W. G. Bowden, headmaster, in reply, congratulated the Association and the officers on their activities, and said how much he and the staff appreciated the support they always received from the Association. He thanked them for their loyalty to the school.

Mr. D. J. Chandler, head boy, toasting "The Association," paid tribute to Mr. Bowden, and detailed successes achieved during the past year in studies and on the playing fields.

Responding, Mr. E. V. Cockayne told many stories of the past, and paid tribute to the long association with the school of three of the staff, Messrs. W. G. Bowden, W. H. E. Bentley, and S. Burton.

"The Guests" was the last toast of the evening, and was proposed by Mr. L. Mapstone. Responses came from the Rev. C. H. Hughes, a former master, and Mr. W. H. E. Bentley.

ADMIRER OF THE BOYS

The Rev. Hughes said he had always had the greatest admiration for the school, and for the boys. If all the schools were like it, England would indeed be fortunate.

Finally, he spoke of his admiration for the headmaster and his magnificent work, and wished the Association the best of luck.

Mr. Bentley said the school saw its "finest hour" in about 1933. Some people said it would never rise again, but he was not a pessimist. During the last three years, he had seen signs that it was regaining its former position, and he was sure it was going to rise to even greater heights.