



JOURNAL OF THE
THAMES ROWING
CLUB

1955



THE 1st VIII.

*M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. H. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter;
A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).*



*HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA, 1955. Winners of the Wyfold Challenge Cup.
Dick Phelps; K. A. Williams (coach); R. W. Morris (Capt.);
H. F. V. Denning (stroke); A. C. Riemer (3); J. Pope (2); G. S. Dear (bow. str.).*

THAMES ROWING CLUB

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MEMBERSHIP

Full	162
Life	118
House	126
Country and Overseas	214
University	59
School and Cadet	98
On National Service	36
Temporarily unclassified	59
Total	<u>872</u>

STAFF

Boatman :
R. W. PHELPS

Assistant Boatman :
R. BLANDFORD

Stewards :
MR. AND MRS. S. G. TAGG

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CALENDAR

1956

MARCH 24TH (MORNING)	OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE
MARCH 24TH (AFTERNOON)	HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE
JULY 4TH — 7TH	HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA
AUGUST 30TH — SEPTEMBER 2ND	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
NOVEMBER 23RD — 27TH	OLYMPIC REGATTA — AUSTRALIA

T H A M E S R O W I N G C L U B

E D I T O R I A L

The Editors regret that owing to circumstances beyond their control, not unconnected with the dispute in the printing industry, earlier production of this Journal has been impossible.

We will, therefore, pass on without delay, to the chronicle of last year's efforts, pausing to congratulate our Captain, 'Sparrow' Morris on the Club's thirty-two wins, including the Wyfold Challenge Cup at Henley.

His thoughtful mien these days may possibly be attributed to the problem of producing yet another Thames crew to achieve Olympic representation at Melbourne in November. We wish him success in furthering the Club's unique record, an unbroken line of Olympians dating from 1912. And if one has any doubts on the subject — there are always the evergreen 'Berry', Bruce Logan and 'Bean' Vernon to tell one how the whole thing started. And so to press.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

THE absence of the Captain's Report might have been welcomed by our readers, and would certainly have advanced by several weeks the day of publication of this Journal; but I was not to be let off so lightly for the Editorial ears were most unreceptive to the idea. Far from wishing to twist the said aural appendages, or causing the Editors any other form of pain, either physical or spiritual, for their stubbornness, I am grateful for the chance to thank that army of helpers without whom our Club could not flourish, and I am firstly going to thank the owners of the aforementioned ears, Swat and Bill, for yet again expending much energy and many 'free' hours in the production of our Journal.

Perhaps their efforts have been exceeded only by those of our oarsmen who, last year, strove mightily to make themselves fitter than ever before, and who, by doing so, were amply rewarded by winning thirty-two events. They were very ably assisted by an enthusiastic and sound coaching team, to whom we offer our sincere and grateful appreciation of their services. In particular I would mention Ron Symonds, Arthur Sulley and Bill Williams for their willingly accepted and, perhaps, most onerous assignments; Ron accepted the lion's share of the coaching of the First Eight, which fully tested and taxed his ingenuity, his fund of knowledge and anecdotes — and his patience; Arthur willingly carried the Henley commitment, to put on the final polish and pace; and to Bill was given the task of 'producing' a Wyfold Four.

We can be justly proud of our Wyfold victory, which has eluded us for twenty-four years. Great credit is due to the 'Producer' and his 'Players' for making this possible despite their late formation, and a major calamity at Henley, when one of the crew was whipped off to hospital with measles. Fortunately John Pope, who had signed off racing in order to pay more attention to his courting, had accepted the invitation to act as substitute for the crew; the telephone wires hummed and unrecorded conversations (at varying temperatures!) took place between Captain, John and his fiancée the result of which was the appearance of our substitute at Henley within about sixteen hours of the crisis. We thank both of them for losing a week's honeymoon.

Whilst admitting a certain feeling of frustration that our efforts did not produce a winning international eight from so hard-working a crew as our First Eight, we are very gratified that it proved itself easily the fastest crew in the country and, as such, was chosen to represent England at the European Championships at Ghent.

The Club's successes started early with the

First Eight winning the Boustead Cup from London, followed by their success in the Reading Head and taking first place in the Head of the River on the Tideway, beating the R.A.F. crew by a reasonable margin. They were well backed up by the Second Eight, who finished seventh at Reading and sixth at Putney, while the Third Eight was placed thirteenth and eighth respectively.

The First Eight made their annual Whitsun pilgrimage to Ostend and returned laden with booty after winning the Eights and Fours events. It has been our good fortune to experience, many times, the generosity of the people of Ostend, who lend support to their regatta by swelling the prize list, as well as entertaining the visitors and so, once again we thank them, very sincerely.

The season progressed, suitably enlivened by the feats of the Second Eight, who came very near to spreading alarm and despondency on the river by their near-invincibility (losing only to the Queens' College (Cambridge) Ladies Plate crew at Marlow. This record was shattered by the Captain changing the crew later!

The Junior-Senior Eight also struck a winning vein, winning four events before they were, perforce, 're-organised!'

The Club was not as conspicuous as usual in the Junior events for we had only one regular crew for the Summer's racing and this was only formed at Easter. But, thanks to that hardy annual, Ham Ward, they were cajoled and bullied into winning at Kingston Regatta, after which they had some good racing as a crew in the Junior-Senior events.

Year after year, behind the more visible scenes (and bar!) there is a hardworking crew of volunteer administrators endeavouring by their efforts to keep the Club solvent, and it is only on very rare occasions that they get a word of thanks or praise — and this is one of the opportunities.

What would be the state of our finances without Freddie Page's controlling influence, and Edgar Traylen's audit, and how would the money be 'booked' and the bills paid without the Honorary Treasurers, Jock Lane and Cyril Cummings, or, indeed whence would it come without our Hon. Secretaries, Bernard Ramm (so ably and cheerfully assisted by his wife, Barbara) and Rowing, etc., Hon. Secretary Bill Williams and without the Ham Ward Lotteries Department, backed up by the Bob Bray Bar and Social Committee? The Captain and the Club thank you all.

Of our many helpers I would mention our Dick Phelps and Mr. and Mrs. Tagg, who contribute so much to our successes. The service that Dick gave the Club, especially during the regatta season, was superlative, and despite losing his assistant, (on National

Service), he still found time to maintain our boats in the usual marvellous condition. He has surely qualified for membership of the Magic Circle for being able to pack up so many boats in one evening, often sending them to two different regattas, and to have all the correct pieces arrive at the appointed places. Memories of moving a dozen or so boats to and from the Serpentine are a nightmare, (as were the results of the racing !) and are best forgotten, except to say 'Well done, Dick — and thank you.'

We were fortunate when 'Lady Luck' directed the footsteps of Mr. and Mrs. Tagg to Thames. Immediately on arrival, on Coronation Day, 1953, they showed an enthusiasm, which seems to grow with the years, for all things Thames, and their efforts ever since to increase our stamina (and girth !) have been prodigious — and so successful as to be an anxiety to the Captain. Thank you, both.

Not being an accomplished crystal gazer I cannot forecast the future. However, I can

report that we have many enthusiastic oarsmen (and too few coaches) and if they will make themselves as fit as last year then we are going to have a good year. It has been usual for eight Eights to sample the vagaries of the river at week-ends, and, what is encouraging, is to see two regular Junior crews, with visions of a third, when Dick Messom, the Captain of Juniors, has exercised his influence amongst the 'irregulars,' not only rowing in eights but also using small boats when their Seniors must still be in bed !

And, finally, now I come to think of it, perhaps I should direct Dick's influence amongst you young and old veterans so that we are no longer remembered by our absence in the September Veterans' races ! Come along and begin training now. Remember the Bar is an excellent rendezvous where, without doubt, your stories, including rowing anecdotes, would be an excellent source of education and amusement to our members — and so to press.

THE CLUB DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held on Friday, 9th December, at the Dorchester Hotel, and the Club was honoured by the presence of Sir Thomas White, K.B.E., High Commissioner for Australia, who took the Chair.

The toast of 'The Club' was proposed by Mr. G. O. Nickalls, President of the Amateur Rowing Association, who made some provocative and stimulating comments on the training methods in vogue and the obvious comparisons with foreign competition.

R. C. Morris, Captain of the Club, responded and gave the usual account of the Club's activities during the season. The impressive array of trophies, including the Wyfold Challenge Cup gave point to his remarks. He expressed his hopes and plans for another successful season.

A. Vassilissin, Vice-Captain, proposed the health of 'The Guests' and an amusing response was forthcoming from Mr. K. A. Masser,

President of C.U.B.C.

The Chairman's health was proposed by Jack Beresford, who made some vigorous comments on the standards of rowing and training needed to make an impressive showing at the Olympic Games, to be held in Australia in 1956.

The reply by Sir Thomas was in a very happy vein and his anecdotes well in keeping with the high-spirited tone prevailing by that time. Our Chairman had been a first-class all-round athlete in his time, one of the few sports in which he had not participated being that of rowing ! One feels that the Australian rowing clubs lost some promising material when his record at boxing and other sports is considered.

After the very excellent evening, enjoyed by all, an impressive contingent of revellers returned to the clubhouse to take a night-cap and, perhaps sample one or two of Mrs. Tagg's special thirst stimulators.

A letter from

VANCOUVER ROWING CLUB

August 8, 1955.

Dear Mr. Morris,

Very many things happened while we had our shot at the Henley 'Grand.' All of them have left many pleasant memories with all of us.

The banquet your Club staged, at least in part, in honour of our crew is possibly the outstanding highlight. Our boys will never forget your hospitality and I think most of them would choose their Thames Rowing Club ties when they go out with their favorite dates.

Please give my best regards to Mr. Vassilissin and any others who may remember our all too brief visit to your quite wonderful Club.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) G. N. Stacey,

Honorary Vice-President.

(An informal and spontaneous interchange of club ties took place during the evening. Any Thames man visiting Vancouver is requested to wear his Club tie and report to this Journal the names (and telephone numbers) of any 'favorite dates' acquired through this agency. —Ed.).

PROLOGUE TO THE REGATTA SEASON 1955

READING HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

12th March

First Eight: M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

Started 10th, finished 1st. Time, 16 min. 25 sec.

Second Eight: J. K. M. Hennessy (bow); P. H. Swift; M. R. Elvy; J. Pope; D. A. Dunton; P. B. Rooksby; G. G. H. Page; A. R. Reddin (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Started 11th, finished 7th. Time, 17 min. 21 sec.

Third Eight: R. C. Bray (bow); A. Hawes; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning; D. R. Mount; J. Rayne; P. G. E. Howell; R. Neale (stroke); R. L. Penney (cox).

Started 26th, finished 13th. Time, 17 min. 36 sec.

HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

19th March

First Eight: M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. Glynne-Jones (cox).

Started 6th, finished 1st. Time, 19 min. 28 sec.

Second Eight: J. K. M. Hennessy (bow); P. H. Swift; M. R. Elvy; J. Pope; D. A. Dunton; P. B. Rooksby; G. G. H. Page; A. R. Reddin (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Started 10th, finished 6th. Time, 20 min. 9 sec.

Third Eight: R. C. Bray (bow); A. Hawes; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning; D. R. Mount; P. P. Fryer; P. G. E. Howell; R. Neale (stroke); R. L. Penney (cox).

Started 31st, finished 8th. Time 20 min. 16 sec.

Fourth Eight: G. S. Dear (bow); A. C. Hancox; J. P. Hindle; W. S. L. Woolley; B. T. Ramm; M. R. Phelps; D. H. Drury; E. A. Ffooks (stroke); R. Morris (cox).

Started 57th, finished 50th. Time, 20 min. 52 sec.

Fifth Eight: J. A. Wilmot (bow); M. M. Tanner; P. H. F. Andrew; B. S. Tanner; P. D. Weight-Vowden; T. D. Raikes; J. P. M. Thomson; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); M. Wells (cox).

Started 66th, finished 98th. Time, 21 min. 23 sec.

Sixth Eight: D. M. Caplowe (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; I. F. H. Davison; P. Rata; A. M. Provan; J. F. C. Badcock; G. R. Fox; P. M. Bahon (stroke); C. S. Wigley (cox).

Started 73rd, finished 93rd. Time, 21 min. 19 sec.

Seventh Eight: P. S. Pusey (bow); A. B. Martin; J. Bavan; J. L. Buchanan; J. R. Johnson; D. A. T. Leadley; F. C. Plumer; H. K. Boller (stroke); J. T. Shaw (cox).

Started 118th, finished 106th. Time, 21 min. 28 sec.

Eighth Eight: A. G. Thoday (bow); I. B. Hudspith; K. Vernon; I. M. Orr-Ewing; L. Abel-Smith; P. F. Whalley; L. D. De Pinna; D. E. Goodall (stroke); J. W. Hatcher (cox).

Started 139th, finished 203rd. Time 23 min. 3 sec.

Ninth Eight: A. Smith (bow); W. E. Norman; W. S. Ham; E. H. Stokes; E. Spalding; P. R. Rummey; A. Cameron; D. J. Boyd (stroke); A. Griffin (cox).

Started 163rd, finished 216th. Time, 23 min. 29 sec.

SCULLERS' HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

2nd April

C. F. Porter, started 4th, finished 13th. Time, 24 min. 25 sec.

A. R. Davidson, started 15th, finished 17th. Time 24 min. 31 sec.

F. C. Plumer, started 53rd, finished 28th. Time, 25 min. 7 sec.

A. Hawes, started 8th, finished 31st. Time, 25 min. 9 sec.

D. R. Mount, started 52nd, finished 47th. Time, 25 min. 36 sec.

M. Legg, started 50th, finished 56th. Time 26 min. 32 sec.

P. G. E. Howell, started 48th, finished 63rd. Time, 26 min. 39 sec.

R. C. Bray, started 76th, finished 67th. Time, 26 min. 53 sec.

A. M. Provan, started 85th, finished 72nd. Time, 27 min. 12 sec.

LETTER FROM DICK PHELPS

To the Captain, Committee and Members,

Through the Club Journal I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Captain and Committee for the grand presentation Dinner to mark my 25 years service with the Club.

I would like also to thank all the members for

their appreciation of my services shown by their handsome presentation of a gold watch and cheque. Finally, the leather-bound album of members' names received will be a treasure to me now and more so in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) DICK PHELPS.

THE SEASON'S ROWING

Races and Regattas 1955

PUTNEY REGATTA

7th May

Reeve Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); I. B. Hudspith; A. M. Provan; P. Rata; M. R. Phelps; P. F. Whalley; D. H. Drury; E. A. Ffooks (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 2: National Provincial Bank R.C., 1; Chiswick G.S.B.C., 2; T.R.C., 3. 2 lengths.

Junior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Heat 1: Strong, 1; Gaylard, 2. $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

Final: Spracklen, 1; Strong, 2. 3 lengths.

VESTA ROWING CLUB OPEN DASHES

10th & 11th May

Quintin Challenge Cup (Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

'B' Crew: J. K. M. Hennessy (bow); A. Hawes; D. A. Dunton; A. R. Reddin; D. R. Mount; P. B. Rooksby; G. G. H. Page; P. H. Swift (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 1 length, 1 min. 9 sec.

Heat 2: Crowland R.C., 1; T.R.C. 2. Canvas, 1 min. 10 sec.

Final: Re-rowed after a clash: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Crowland R.C., 2; London R.C., 3. $\frac{3}{4}$ length, 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec.

Fitte Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: M. Legg (bow, steers); R. H. Nicholls; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter (stroke).

'B' Crew: F. C. Plumer (bow, steers); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Vesta R.C., 2.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; London R.C., 3. $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

Tweddel Trophy (Junior-Senior Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); I. B. Hudspith; A. M. Provan; P. Rata; M. R. Phelps; P. F. Whalley; D. H. Drury; E. A. Ffooks (stroke).

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; Battersea Polytechnic B.C., 2. Canvas.

Final: Westminster School B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Canvas.

HAMMERSMITH REGATTA

14th May

Lady Hays Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); P. Rata; A. M. Provan; E. A. Ffooks; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; D. H. Drury; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 2: Jesus College (Oxon.) B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length.

Marshall Hays Challenge Cup (Maiden Eights)

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN Walter; A. Hayman; G. A. Phillips; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; H. L. Davy; R. Matthews (stroke); D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat 1: Imperial College B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length.

Junior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Heat 2: Strong, 1; Stevenson, 2. Easily.

Final: Strong, 1; Barnes & District R.C., 2. Easily.

CHISWICK REGATTA

21st May

Allanson Memorial Trophy (Thames Cup Eights)

'A' Crew: J. K. M. Hennessy (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A. Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

'B' Crew: P. G. E. Howell (bow); R. C. Wright; J. G. Davenport; J. R. Cooper; M. R. Elvy; W. S. L. Woolley; A. C. Hancooper; R. Neale (stroke); P. A. Penney (cox).

Heat 1: Quintin B.C., 1; Imperial College, B.C., 2; T.R.C. 'B', 3. 2 feet.

Heat 3: T.R.C. 'A', 1; University of London B.C., 2; Reading University B.C., 3. $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Gladstone R.C., 2; Quintin B.C., 3. $\frac{3}{4}$ length.

Family Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; G. P. Hampel (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Midland Bank R.C., 2; Barclays Bank R.C., 3. 1 length.

Final: Vesta R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 2/3 length, 4 min. 8 sec.

Goring Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

D. H. Drury (bow); P. Rata; M. R. Phelps; E. A. Ffooks; A. M. Provan; J. B. G. Carpenter; D. M. Caplowe; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 2: National Provincial Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Quintin B.C., 3.

Ronald Studd Cup (Junior Eights)

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN Walter; A. Hayman; G. A. Phillips; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; R. Matthews; H. L. Davy (stroke); D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat 6: T.R.C., 1; Southampton University B.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{3}$ length, 4 min. 8 sec.

Semi-final: Lensbury R.C., 1; Quintin B.C., 2; T.R.C., 3. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Anglian Challenge Trophy (Senior Pairs)

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); J. Pope.

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2; Barnes & District R.C., 3. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Final: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Final: Sibley, 1; Strong, 2; Wise, 3. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

TWICKENHAM REGATTA

28th May

Junior-Senior Sculls

Semi-final: F. C. Plumer, 1; J. T. Goulding, 2. 2 lengths.

Junior Sculls

Final: F. C. Plumer, 1; M. B. Sprackun, 2. $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 4 min. 36 sec.

OSTENDE REGATTA · 30th May, 1955

After our enjoyable trip of the previous year it was with pleasant anticipation that we departed for Ostend on the morning of Saturday, 29th May. In addition to the crew the party included Sparrow, 'Vass' and Dick Phelps.

'Vass,' as liaison officer, soon made his weight felt and, after effusive exchanges with the Belgian captain our party was discreetly transferred from the third-class melee of the passenger boat to the first-class luxury of the car-ferry. *Toujours la Politesse!*

We were met by several friends from Ostend Rowing Club who transported us to our hotel — where we found Lewis and Peggy Tanner ensconced. The latter very kindly elected themselves as welfare officers and chauffeurs for the week-end and their efforts were greatly appreciated by one and all.

Dunkirk Rowing Club kindly lent us an eight for the 500 metres dash on Sunday and the 2,000 metres race on the Monday; and a very useful Stampfli boat was produced for our use in a 2,000 metres fours race, also to be rowed on the Monday. The course, on a canal on the outskirts of the town, was wide enough for five crews abreast, dead straight and with no stream — a well-nigh perfect venue, with the pungent odour of rotting fish near the finish encouraging fast times!

The sprint was rowed at three p.m. on Sunday and, after a rather shaky start, we settled down to row 11; 22 and 42 in the quarter, half and full minutes, to win by $2\frac{1}{3}$ length, with Basse Seine 2nd and London R.C. 3rd. A promising start to the week-end.

On the Monday, our first heat was scheduled to start at 11 o'clock but after being shepherded to the start rather early we had to bear a wait of one hour before our opponents arrived and the race could be started. We had a good start at about 40 and secured a half-length lead over Meulan by the 500 metres mark with Kiel

University $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths behind them. We steadied down to 32 and drew away to win easily.

We rowed the Four race at 3.15 p.m. and, after the best start we had ever had, went into the lead, striking 38, with the boat running very well. We steadied down to a long 30 and finished well in the lead, with Basse Seine second and S.N.U.B. third. This race was the best four-oared boating the crew had had.

In the Eights final, rowed at 5.15 p.m. we had No. 3 station and London R.C. No. 4.: Basse Seine, Kiel University and Antwerp Sculling Club made up the race. We went off at a high rate and managed to get an immediate lead of a $\frac{1}{4}$ length after 20 strokes. We steadied down to 35 eventually and maintained our lead to win by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths from Antwerp Sculling Club, with London about six lengths behind, third. In spite of beating the local crew it was a popular win and received a very friendly and sporting reception.

A welcoming function at the Town Hall, presided over by the Mayor, was followed by the prize-giving and the crew eventually adjourned to the hotel to celebrate. A very gay and pleasant evening followed and the morning boat on Tuesday carried a cheerful, if pleasantly fatigued contingent back to the realities of the Tideway.

Although the experience of rowing 2,000 metres was very useful, it was to be regretted that harder racing did not illuminate the weakness of the crew, i.e. its inability to settle down under pressure with the confidence in its power to produce the necessary pace. This weakness was, to some extent, encouraged by the lack of agreement in the crew as the basic essentials of boat moving.

In conclusion we extend our sincere thanks to the Ostende Regatta Committee, and to the various people who did so much to make our trip so successful and enjoyable. A.R.D.

OSTENDE REGATTA

30th May

Senior Eights (2000 metres)

M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynn-Jones (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Kiel University, 2.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Antwerp, 2; London R.C., 3; Basse Seine, 4; Kiel University, 5.

Senior Eights (Dash)

M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynn-Jones (cox).

Final: T.R.C., 1; Basse Seine, 2; London R.C., 3; Belgium, 4.

Senior Fours

M. Legg (bow, steers); R. A. F. Macmillan; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Basse Seine, 2.

Junior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Final: Lefebre (Rouen), 1; Strong, 2; Willems, 3; Genin, 4; De Rode, 5. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 6 min. 4 sec.

WALTON REGATTA

4th June

Walton Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

G. G. H. Page (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A. Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin; J. K. M. Hennessy; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat D: T.R.C., 1; Cygnet R.C., 2. Easily.

Heat H: T.R.C., 1; Gladstone R.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 5 min. 44 sec.

Heat J: T.R.C., 1; Reading University B.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 5 min. 37 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 5 min. 32 sec.

Goring Challenge Cup (Wyfold Fours)

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); G. P. Hampel; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

Heat C: T.R.C., 1; Putney Town R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 6 min. 6 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Vesta R.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 6 min. 21 sec.

Sabin Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. Rata; D. M. Caplowe; J. B. G. Carpenter; M. R. Elvy; J. R. Cooper; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. L. Penney (cox).

Heat B: Weybridge R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 5 min. 36 sec.

Thames Rowing Club Challenge Cup (Senior Pairs)

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); J. Pope (stroke).

Heat B: T.R.C., 1; Barnes R.C., 2. Easily, 7 min. 8 sec.

Semi-final: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Easily, 7 min. 2 sec.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Heat C: Strong, 1; Cook, 2. Easily, 7 min. 40 sec.

Final: Buxton, 1; Strong, 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 7 min. 30 sec.

Gosnell Challenge Cup (Junior Sculls)

R. C. Bray.

B. S. Tanner.

Heat A: Bray 1; Tanner, 2. 3 lengths, 8 min. 14 sec.

Final: Bray, 1; Mandeville, 2. 4 lengths, 8 min. 24 sec.

READING REGATTA

11th June

Grand Challenge Cup (Senior Eights)

M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynn-Jones (cox).

Final: T.R.C., 1; Eton College B.C., 2. Easily, 4 min. 22 sec.

Austin Balsom Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

G. G. H. Page (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A. Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin; J. K. M. Hennessy; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 4: T.R.C., 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 4 min. 33 sec.

Heat 13: T.R.C., 1; Bedford Modern School B.C., 2. $\frac{2}{3}$ length, 4 min. 42 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; R.A.F.R.C., 2. $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 4 min. 31 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; The Queens' College B.C., 2. $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 4 min. 38 sec.

Reading Challenge Vase (Wyfold Fours)

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); J. Pope; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

Heat 10: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 4 min. 54 sec.

Semi-final: Kettering R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 feet.

Sandeman Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. Rata; D. M. Caplowe; J. B. G. Carpenter; M. R. Elvy; J. R. Cooper; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).

Heat 7: Walton R.C., 1; T.R.C., disqualified.

R.M.C. Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; R. Matthews; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke); D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat 6: Beaumont College B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 feet, after a dead heat.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. A. Strong.

Heat 3: Strong, 1; Cook, 2. $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

Semi-final: Buchanan, 1; Strong, 2. Easily, 5 min. 31 sec.

Junior Sculls

A. M. Provan, B. S. Tanner.
Heat 1: Davie, 1; Provan, 2. 1 length.
Heat 2: Grierson, 1; Tanner, 2. 2/3 lengths.

MARLOW REGATTA

18th June

Grand Challenge Cup

M. Legg (bow); K. S. Cross; D. Whitaker; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Lady Margaret B.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 4 min. 15 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College (Camb.), 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 12 sec.

Senior Fours Challenge Cup

M. Legg (bow, steers); R. A. F. Macmillan; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter (stroke).

Final: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College (Camb.), 2. 1 length, 4 min. 29 sec.

Marlow Eights Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

G. G. H. Page (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A. Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin; J. K. M. Hennessy; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Race 38: T.R.C., 1; Radley College B.C., 2. 1 length, 4 min. 22 sec.

Race 71: T.R.C., 1; Henley R.C., 2; London R.C., 3. 4 feet, 4 min. 23 sec.

Final: Queen's College (Camb.), 1; T.R.C., 2; Molesey B.C., 3. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 13 sec.

Town Challenge Cup (Wyfold Fours)

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow, steers); G. P. Hampel; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

'B' Crew: R. J. M. Thayer (bow, steers); J. G. Davempont; W. S. L. Woolley; R. C. Wright (stroke).

Race 18: Trinity Hall B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 56 sec.

Race 40: Kettering R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', disqualified.

Junior Eights Challenge Cup

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; R. Matthews; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke); D. W. Grigg (cox).

Race 59: Queens' College (Camb.) 'B', 1; T.R.C., 2; Downing College B.C., 3. 1 length, 4 min. 38 sec.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. A. Strong.
Taylor 1; Buxton, 2; Strong did not finish.

Junior Sculls

B. S. Tanner.
Race 46: Tanner, 1; Segal, 2; Finney, 3. 3 lengths.
Final:

RICHMOND REGATTA

25th June

Maiden Eights Challenge Cup

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; R. Matthews; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; University College School B.C., 2. 2 lengths.

Final: T.R.C., 1; London School of Economics B.C., 2. Easily.

HENLEY

ROYAL REGATTA

June 29th, 30th, July 1st, 2nd

GRAND CHALLENGE CUP

	st.	lb.
M. Legg (bow)	12	11
2 K. S. Cross	11	3
3 D. H. Whitaker	13	11
4 A. R. Watson	12	6
5 R. A. F. Macmillan	13	9
6 C. F. Porter	13	3
7 A. R. Davidson	13	3
R. H. Nicholls (stroke)	11	13
D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox)	8	11

Semi-final: University of Pennsylvania (U.S.), 1; T.R.C., 2. 2/3 length, 7 min. 20 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 4 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 30 sec.

THAMES CHALLENGE CUP

	st.	lb.
G. G. H. Page (bow)	11	7
2 P. H. Swift	11	8
3 D. A. Dunton	12	7
4 A. Hawes	11	10
5 D. R. Mount	13	3
6 A. R. Reddin	13	3
7 J. K. M. Hennessy	11	5
P. B. Rooksby (stroke)	11	3
D. B. Fawcett (cox)	8	11

Wednesday: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College, Cambridge, 2. 2 lengths, 7 min. 40 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 9 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 35 sec.

Thursday: Royal Air Force R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length, 7 min. 29 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 11 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 39 sec.

THAMES EIGHTS AT HENLEY, 1955

by ARTHUR SULLEY

Although this year's Grand Eight disappointed us all at Henley and in the European Games, it would be a mistake to dismiss it as a complete failure or to assume that there are no constructive lessons to be learnt from it.

As a result of general agreement in the Club that a Grand Eight, to be successful, must get

together in the winter and devote itself to reaching a high degree of fitness by Easter, the crew (whose order had been settled before Christmas) embarked on a most vigorous programme of winter training with a fierce determination which aroused general admiration. Every week-end saw them covering prodigious mileage in long stretches — Richmond and back, rowing home from Mortlake was a routine outing — with training exercises at the clubhouse during the week. And as soon as it became light in the evenings they tore up and down the river in the twilight. By the end of April they were the leanest, fittest, toughest and fastest crew seen on the Thames for many years, and from then until Marlow no other crew could give them a race or even pace them for more than a minute or two.

And so they arrived at Marlow, unquestionably the fastest and most powerful crew in the country. To that extent, and at that stage, they appeared to have succeeded handsomely in achieving their objective. They were the nearest approach we had seen to the toughest crews from overseas, and their winning of the Grand at Marlow was a foregone conclusion.

With a crew of this calibre, in such an advanced state of training, practice at Henley could not follow the normal pattern. They were accustomed to longer outings than most crews and needed about twenty minutes paddling to get really loosened up. For the first few days outings were about twice the conventional length and covered most of the river available between the locks. There was great indignation one afternoon when they were told to turn round at Greenlands ! But two outings a day and the more relaxing climate of Henley, accompanied by the inevitable increase in nervous tension, combined to bring them more into normal lines. As far as possible other crews were persuaded to take part in the outings and provide an opportunity for trial of strength up the course ; but none could be found to present any real opposition.

In their courses it was clearly evident that for the first time for many years we had a crew which was relatively faster over the second half of the course than the first — the first half appearing to be fast enough by practice standards. But as their race was lost in the second minute there was some defect at this point. It was unfortunate that their first really testing race had to be against the fastest crew in the world ; but nevertheless it is fair criticism that their performance shewed little improvement over Marlow.

If mileage alone could make champions this crew should have swept the board this year. But during the winter the primary object was physical fitness, with technical problems being hotly debated after the outings, rarely resolved, and usually left in an agreement to differ, no doubt with the hope that they would be smoothed

out by further mileage. Strength and fitness confused the issue. It was clear that they were exceptional by comparison with previous crews — they knew it, and quite justifiably felt they had 'got something,' and were inclined to be intolerant of technical criticism. Conversely, it was understandable that coaches, faced with this rather aggressive exuberance, were reluctant to be too dogmatic on technical matters and tended to compromise with their own convictions. It was an unusual experience to have a crew which could cover their water, paddling 28/30 for mile after mile. Though they appeared to be rushed, the boat hardly stopped at all, and no one complained of lack of time — at any rate during an outing. They were strong enough, too, to develop a high proportion of arm work and seemed to like to do everything the hard way without relaxation. Looking back now, this was probably a significant feature. None of the crew had ever rowed before in such a powerful eight, and it should have been an exhilarating experience ; yet it is doubtful whether any of them ever really enjoyed their outings. Certainly they never got out of their rowing the equivalent of the effort they put into it.

Talks with the crew before and after Henley revealed that there was (and probably had been from the start) a lack of unanimity on technical matters, with strongly divergent opinions on some points — which accounted for the heated arguments and meant that there were irregularities in the bladework. This also explains the roughness in the early stages of most outings and the lack of smooth efficiency in the first two minutes of a row.

It is easy to be wise after the event ; but it seems now that there should have been far more emphasis during the winter on perfection of technique, with a clear understanding throughout the crew of the finer points to be aimed at. It was a fallacy to expect much development to take place between Marlow and Henley in a crew which had been training together continuously for the previous six months. And further reflection suggests that it was unwise to change the order of the crew after Henley and expect it to put up a peak performance within a few weeks, although at the time it seemed a good move which was generally welcome.

Disappointment in the final outcome should not discourage repetition of much of the training programme adopted by this crew. It did prove beyond any doubt that a club crew can reach the highest standard of fitness necessary for international competition, and with greater insistence on technical uniformity we can still look forward to winning gold medals.

The Thames Cup Eight made a creditable effort to keep up with the Grand Eight in training ; but they did not row in their final order until after Easter. By comparison they were more conventional in their approach, and by being

able to relax has a far greater degree of flexibility. They gave a good account of themselves during training at Henley in friendly competition with other crews, and should have been able to reach the semi-final without much difficulty. But there was a lack of fire in their attack which prevented them from making much impression on their opponents, particularly over the second half of the course. They deserved to have done better.

WYFOLD CHALLENGE CUP

	st. lb.
G. S. Dear (bow, steers)...	11 4
2 J. Pope	11 5
3 A. C. Riemer	12 10
H. G. V. Denning (stroke)	12 8

Wednesday: T.R.C., 1; Trinity College, Oxford, 2. 3 lengths, 8 min. 18 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 18 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 55 sec.

Thursday: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College, Cambridge, 2. Easily, 7 min. 54 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 11 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 44 sec.

Friday: T.R.C., 1; Bedford R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 8 min. 17 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 17 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 55 sec.

T.R.C., 1; Royal Air Force R.C., 2. 1¼ lengths, 8 min. 2 sec. Barrier: 2 min. 14 sec. Fawley: 3 min. 50 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Kettering R.C., 2. 1¼ lengths, 7 min. 51 sec.

THE WYFOLD FOUR

The Wyfold four was put together after the first two eights had been settled and after repeated trials of the oarsmen then available. It first raced at Chiswick Regatta in the order: Dear (bow), Denning, Riemer, Hampel. Two and stroke were interchanged before it appeared again, and at Walton it won without too much difficulty.

In the new order it improved steadily, but the sudden indisposition of Hampel during the morning of Reading Regatta forced us to replace him there by Pope. In spite of the change the crew lost to the very good Kettering four by only a few feet.

Hampel was back for Marlow, where the crew did pretty well, and all appeared to be set for their final training at Henley. However, Hampel fell sick again on the first Tuesday at Henley, and Pope was sent for hurriedly. He agreed to row in the boat when it became obvious that Hampel could not recover in time for the regatta, and he took the two seat at the expense of half his annual leave, due to be spent in early autumn on his honeymoon. By the Friday we knew that Hampel had measles; and though he had been with the crews at Shiplake until then, we were lucky to escape any other cases of the illness.

I do not think that anyone other than their coach and their captain believed that the four

would show any real speed; indeed one member of the crew had already rowed for five consecutive years for Thames at Henley without so much as winning a single heat; but signs of speed were clear before Hampel left the crew, and became more and more marked each day at Henley. They took on all possible fours in practice and a number of quite fast eights, dealing with them all creditably. When it came to racing, they proved to be so fast over the first part of the course that no other crew in the class had much chance against them. The Kettering crew that just defeated them at Reading came nearest; but even though they led by a short amount at the top of the island they could not keep the lead for much longer. This Kettering crew deserves special praise for its effort. It had built its own boat, a four that any club could well be proud of, and had become easily the second best crew in the Wyfold Cup in 1955. Had not the Thames crew won, one would have liked to have seen Kettering winning the Wyfold Cup.

K.A.W.

KINGSTON REGATTA

9th July

Ravens Ait Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); M. S. Atkins; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 4 feet.

Coronation Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

G. G. H. Page (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A. Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin; J. K. M. Hennessy; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat C: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 3 min. 51 sec.

Heat E: T.R.C., 1; Westminster Bank R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 4 min. 20 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. ½ length after a dead-heat.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Norwich A.R.A., 2. ¾ length, 3 min. 53 sec.

Dittons Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

E. A. Ffooks (bow); D. H. Drury; D. M. Caplowe; P. J. Bartram; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; N. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).

Heat A: T.R.C., 1; Kingston R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 3 min. 59 sec.

Heat D: T.R.C., 1; Burway R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 25 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Quintin B.C., 2. 2 lengths 4 min.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Weybridge R.C., 2. 1¼ lengths, 4 min.

Surbiton Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; B. S. Tanner; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke); D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat B: T.R.C., 1; Mortlake R.C., 2. 2½ lengths.
Heat E: T.R.C., 1; Burway R.C., 2. 2 lengths.
Heat J: T.R.C., 1; Haberdashers Askes School
B.C., 2.
Final: T.R.C., 1; Marlow R.C., 2. 1 length.

Chapple Challenge Cup (Senior Pairs)

M. S. Atkins (bow, steers); A. C. Riemer (stroke).
Heat A: T.R.C., 1; Twickenham R.C., 2. 1½
lengths.
Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 lengths,
4 min. 32 sec.

Secretary's Challenge Cup (Junior Sculls)

A. M. Provan.
Heat A: Provan, 1; Gibbs, 2.
Heat B: Provan, 1; Mowbray, 2.
Final: Baker, 1; Provan, 2. 2 lengths.

MOLESEY REGATTA

16th July

Molesey Grand Challenge Cup

M. Legg (bow); J. M. Beresford; A. R. Watson;
W. H. Rand; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter;
A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R.
Glynne-Jones (cox).
Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. Easily, 5 min.
13 sec.

Senior Fours Challenge Cup

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); M. S. Atkins; A. C.
Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).
Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 1 length,
5 min. 45 sec.

Thames Cup Eights Challenge Cup

J. K. M. Hennessy (bow); P. H. Swift; D. A.
Dunton; A. Hawes; D. R. Mount; A. R. Reddin;
G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett
(cox).

Race 6: T.R.C., 1; Westminster Bank R.C., 2.
1½ lengths, 5 min. 32 sec.
Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Walton R.C., 2. ½ length,
5 min. 21 sec.
Final: T.R.C., 1; Molesey B.C., 2. ½ length,
5 min. 18 sec.

Junior-Senior Eights Challenge Cup

'A' Crew: E. A. Ffooks (bow); D. H. Drury;
D. M. Caplowe; P. J. Bartram; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G.
Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A.
Penney (cox).

'B' Crew: J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN.
Walter; B. S. Tanner; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland;
J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke);
D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat 2: St. Paul's School B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2.
Heat 13: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Cygnet R.C., 2. 1½
lengths, 5 min. 22 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; London R.C. 'A', 2.
1 length, 5 min. 29 sec.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Weybridge R.C., 2. 1½
lengths, 5 min. 31 sec.

Senior Pairs Challenge Cup

S. N. P. Marks (bow, steers); H. K. Boller (stroke).
Heat 2: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.

Garrick Pairs

A. C. Hancox (bow, steers); A. Hawes (stroke).
Heat 1: Twickenham R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Easily,
6 min. 31 sec.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. C. Bray.
Heat 1: Buchanan, 1; Bray, 2.

The Club received the C. W. Kent Trophy for the
most wins at this regatta.

METROPOLITAN REGATTA

19th, 20th, 21st July

Champion Cup (Senior Eights)

M. Legg (bow); R. H. Nicholls; A. R. Watson;
W. H. Rand; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter;
A. R. Davidson; J. M. Beresford (stroke); D. R.
Glynne-Jones (cox).

Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 1½ lengths.

Thames Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow, steers); M. S. Atkins;
A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

'B' Crew: M. Legg (bow, steers); R. A. F. Mac-
millan; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'B', 1; London R.C. 'B', 2. 1
length.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; London R.C. 'A' withdrawn.
Final:

Old Barnes Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

K. S. Cross (bow); J. K. M. Hennessy; D. H.
Whitaker; G. P. Hampel; A. C. Riemer; A. R.
Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke);
D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 2: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length.

Horton Cup (Wyfold Fours)

P. H. Swift (bow, steers); P. B. Rooksby; D. A.
Dunton; A. Hawes (stroke).

Heat 1: Vesta R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.

Forster Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: E. A. Ffooks (bow); D. H. Drury;
D. M. Caplowe; P. J. Bartram; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G.
Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A.
Penney (cox).

'B' Crew: J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN.
Walter; B. S. Tanner; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland;
J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke);
D. W. Grigg (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Cygnet R.C., 2; T.R.C.
'B', 3.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Thames Tradesmen's R.C.,
2; London R.C., 3.

Amphill Cup (Senior Pairs)

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); A. C. Riemer (stroke).
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; London R.C. 'B', 2. 1 length.

Final: London R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C., 2. Easily.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. C. Bray.
Heat 2: G. C. Justicz 1; R. Winkelman, 2; R. C. Bray, 3.

Freeman Cup (Junior Sculls)

M. R. Phelps.
A. M. Provan.
Preliminary Heat A: M. R. Phelps, rowed over; H. E. Gaylard, withdrawn.
Preliminary Heat C: A. M. Provan, rowed over; J. A. Tripp, withdrawn.
Semi-final: M. P. Phelps, 1; R. Easterling, not rowed out.
Semi-final: W. H. Rand, 1; A. M. Provan, 2. Easily.
Final: W. H. Rand, 1; M. R. Phelps, 2. Easily.

STAINES REGATTA

23rd July

Senior Eights Challenge Cup

K. S. Cross (bow); G. S. Dear; A. C. Riemer; G. P. Hampel; D. H. Whitaker; A. R. Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).
Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 29 sec.
Heat 3: T.R.C., 1; Quintin B.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 30 sec.
Final: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length, 4 min. 29 sec.

Junior-Senior Eights Challenge Cup

J. R. M. Parker (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; B. S. Tanner; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; A. Hayman; H. L. Davy (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Colet B.C., withdrawn.
Heat 7: T.R.C., 1; Quintin B.C. 'B', 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 47 sec.
Heat 9: Beaumont College B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 37 sec.

Senior Fours Challenge Cup

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); A. Hawes; A. C. Riemer; K. S. Cross (stroke).
Final: Vesta R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 4 lengths, 5 min. 10 sec.

Staines Fours (Wyfold Fours)

P. H. Swift (bow, steers); D. A. Dunton; D. H. Mount; J. K. M. Hennessy (stroke).
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. Easily, 4 min. 55 sec.
Heat 5: T.R.C., 1; Putney Town R.C., 2. ¾ length, 4 min. 57 sec.
Heat 7: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. ½ length, 4 min. 57 sec.
Final: T.R.C., 1; St. Bartholomew's Hospital B.C., 2.

Junior Sculls

A. Hawes.
Heat 4: A. Hawes, 1; J. W. Bird, 2; 1½ lengths, No time taken.

Heat 5: A. Hawes, 1; J. M. Arlett, 2. Easily, 6 min. 7 sec.
Final: A. Hawes, 1; J. W. Hartley, 2. 4 lengths, 5 min. 43 sec.

BEDFORD REGATTA

23rd July

Talbot Jarvis Cup (Senior Eights)

M. Legg (bow); R. H. Nicholls; A. R. Watson; W. H. Rand; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; J. M. Beresford (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).
Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; Bedford R.C., 2.
Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 3 min. 36 sec.

Junior-Senior Eights

E. A. Ffooks (bow); D. H. Drury; D. M. Caplowe; P. J. Bartram; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Magdalen College School B.C., 2. 2 lengths, 3 min. 53 sec.
Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Bedford School B.C., 2. 3 lengths, 3 min. 52 sec.
Final: T.R.C., 1; Hans Bodtischleid R.C., 2. 4 lengths, 3 min. 47 sec.

Coxed Senior Four

M. Legg (bow); R. A. F. Macmillan; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter (stroke).
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1.
Final: L.R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Canvas, 4 min. 0 sec.

MAIDENHEAD REGATTA

29th July

Daily Telegraph Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow); G. P. Hampel; A. C. Riemer; K. S. Cross; D. H. Whitaker; A. R. Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke).
'B' Crew: E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. Rata; P. A. J. Arengo-Jones; M. S. Atkins; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).
Heat 1: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. 1 length, 3 min. 24 sec.
Heat 3: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. ¾ length, 3 min. 21 sec.

Orkney Cottage Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow, steers); M. S. Atkins; A. C. Riemer; J. Pope (stroke).
'B' Crew: P. H. Swift (bow, steers); D. A. Dunton; D. R. Mount; J. K. M. Hennessy (stroke).
Heat 4: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Quintin B.C., 2. ½ length, 3 min. 49 sec.
Heat 8: Sabrina & Shrewsbury B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2.
Heat 7: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Clifton R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 2 sec.
Semi-final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 53 sec.

Maidenhead Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

H. L. Davy (bow); M. J. Segal; A. Hayman; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; J. M. Baldwin; B. S. Tanner (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Henley R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 39 sec.

Heat 6: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 4 feet, 3 min. 38 sec.

Semi-final: Cygnet R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 41 sec.

Town Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Fours)

D. C. Morton (bow, steers); C. A. J. Gosland; S. N. P. Marks; H. K. Boller (stroke).

Heat 3: Strode's School B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 51 sec.

Jubilee Goblets (Junior-Senior Pairs)

S. N. P. Marks (bow, steers); H. K. Boller (stroke).

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; Virden & Drake, 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 28 sec.

Heat 6: T.R.C., 1; Peake & Debenham, 2. 2½ lengths, 4 min. 30 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Smith & Freeth, 2. ¾ length, 4 min. 17 sec.

Junior-Senior Sculls Challenge Cup

A. Hawes.

Heat 2: Wolfson, 1; Hawes, 2.

HENLEY TOWN & VISITORS REGATTA

1st August

Haileywood Cup (Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow); G. P. Hampel; A. C. Riemer; K. S. Cross; D. H. Whitaker; A. R. Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

'B' Crew: E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. J. H. Rata; P. A. J. Arengo-Jones; M. S. Atkins; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C. row over.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Colet B.C., 2; Henley R.C., 3. ¾ length, 4 min. 8 sec.

Heat 4: R.A.F., Cardington R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; Molesey B.C., 3. 2/3 length, 4 min. 18 sec.

Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; R.A.F., Cardington, R.C., 3. ½ length, 4 min. 4 sec.

Old Town Cup (Senior Fours)

P. H. Swift (bow, steers); D. A. Dunton; D. R. Mount; J. K. M. Hennessy (stroke).

Heat 3: T.R.C., 1; Marlow R.C., 2; Ibis R.C., 3. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 39 sec.

Semi-final: London R.C. 'B', 1; T.R.C., 2; Sabrina & Shrewsbury B.C. disqualified. ½ length, no time taken.

Sagamore Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

H. L. Davy (bow); M. J. Segal; A. Hayman; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; J. M. Baldwin; B. S. Tanner (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 5: Quintin B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; London R.C. 'B', 3. Canvas, 4 min. 21 sec.

David Cup (Junior-Senior Fours)

D. C. Morton (bow, steers); C. A. J. Gosland; S. N. P. Marks; H. K. Boller (stroke).

Heat 4: T.R.C., 1; Radby College B.C., 2; Peter-sham Gowers B.C., 3. Canvas, 4 min. 47 sec.

Final: Het Spaarne, 1; St. Edward's Martyrs, 2; T.R.C., 3. 3 lengths.

Peter Beresford Cup (Senior Pairs)

'A' Crew: S. N. P. Marks (bow, steers); H. K. Boller (stroke).

'B' Crew: M. S. Atkins (bow, steers); A. C. Riemer (stroke).

Heat 1: London R.C. 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2.

Heat 3: Colet B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; King's College, Cambridge, B.C., 3. ¼ length, 5 min. 12 sec.

Gill-Mardon Cup (Junior-Senior Sculls)

R. A. Strong, A. Hawes.

Heat 1: Strong, 1; Langton 2; Whittaker, 3. 1 length, 5 min. 15 sec.

Heat 6:

Heat 7: Francis, 1; Hawes, 2; Baker, 3. ½ length, 5 min. 13 sec.

Final: C. G. V. Davidge, 1; G. Francis, 2; K. A. Strong, 3.

Miller Cup (Junior Sculls)

I. C. J. Galbraith.

Heat 1: Simpson, 1; Galbraith, 2. Easily, 5 min. 46 sec.

SERPENTINE REGATTA

4th, 5th, 6th August

Grand Eights

M. Legg (bow); R. H. Nicholls; A. R. Watson; W. H. Rand; R. A. F. Macmillan; C. F. Porter; A. R. Davidson; J. M. Beresford (stroke); D. R. Glynn-Jones.

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Crowland R.C., 2.

Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 4 feet, 2 min. 21 sec.

Senior Fours

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); J. Pope; A. C. Riemer; H. G. V. Denning (stroke).

Final: London R.C., 1; Vesta R.C., 2; T.R.C., 3. 3 feet, 2 min. 36 sec.

Thames Cup Eights

'A' Crew: G. S. Dear (bow); G. P. Hampel; K. S. Cross; J. Pope; D. H. Whitaker; A. R. Reddin; G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

'B' Crew: E. A. Ffooks (bow), P. J. H. Rata; P. A. J. Arengo-Jones; P. J. Bartram; M. R. Elvy; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; R. Neale (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).

Heat 3: Gladstone R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Henley R.C., 3. ½ length, 2 min. 33 sec.

Heat 4: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Gladstone R.C. 'B', 2; Crowland R.C., 3. ½ length, 2 min. 33 sec.

Final: Molesey B.C., 1; Gladstone 'A', 2; T.R.C., 3. ½ length, 2 min. 26 sec.

Wyfold Fours

'A' Crew: P. H. Swift (bow, steers); D. A. Dunton;

D. R. Mount; J. K. M. Hennessy (stroke).
 'B' Crew: D. C. Morton (bow, steers); C. A. J. Gosland; S. N. P. Marks; H. K. Boller (stroke).
 'C' Crew: G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); A. R. Reddin; D. H. Whitaker; P. B. Rooksby (stroke).
 Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Quintin B.C., 2. 1 length, 2 min. 36 sec.
 Heat 4: T.R.C. 'C', 1; Ibis R.C., 2.
 Heat 7: T.R.C. 'B', 1; London R.C., 2; Linden R.C., 3. 1½ lengths, 2 min. 42 sec.
 Heat 8: T.R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C. 'C', 2; National Provincial Bank R.C., 3. ¾ length, 2 min. 38 sec.
 Heat 9: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; Het Spaarne, Holland, 3. 1 length; 2 min. 40 sec.
 Final: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1½ lengths, 2 min. 41 sec.

Junior-Senior Eights

'A' Crew: J. R. M. Parker (bow); M. J. Segal; A. Hayman; R. G. Eastell; A. S. J. Fingland; J. F. C. Badcock; J. M. Baldwin; B. S. Tanner (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).
 'B' Crew: R. A. Mills (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; D. E. Goodall; B. D. Hall; J. J. Twynham; B. Taylor; J. Wynne; J. H. Satchell (stroke); C. B. Kemp (cox).
 Heat 2: Westminster Watermen R.C., 1; De Hoop, Holland, 2; T.R.C., 3. ¾ length, 2 min. 32 sec.
 Heat 3: T.R.C. 'A', 1; London R.C. 'A', 2; Quintin B.C., 3. ½ length, 2 min. 37 sec.
 Final: Westminster Watermen R.C., 1; Thames Tradesmen R.C., 2; T.R.C. 'A', 3. ¾ length, 2 min. 30 sec.

Senior Pairs

'A' Crew: M. S. Atkins (bow, steers); A. C. Riemer (stroke).
 'B' Crew: G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); J. Pope (stroke).
 Heat 4: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Molesey B.C., 2. 2 min. 56 sec.
 Heat 7: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Marlow R.C., 2.
 Heat 9: T.R.C. 'B', 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2. Canvas, 3 min. 4 sec.
 Heat 11: T.R.C. 'A', 1; National Bank R.C. 'C', 2. Easily, 3 min. 6 sec.
 Heat 12: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', scratched.
 Heat 13: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 2 lengths, 2 min. 48 sec.

Junior-Senior Sculls

R. A. Strong; M. R. Phelps; A. Hawes; F. C. Plumer; A. M. Provan.
 Heat 2: Felstrup, 1; Plumer, 2; Langton, 3.
 Heat 9: Spracklen, 1; Green, 2; Phelps, 3.
 Heat 10: Sibley, 1; Strong, 2; Mandeville, 3. 2 feet, 3 min. 2 sec.
 Heat 12: King, 1; Barritt, 2; Provan, 3. 1½ length, 3 min. 35 sec.
 Heat 11: Hawes, 1; Goulding, 2; Knights, 3. ½ length, 3 min. 7 sec.
 Heat 16: King, 1; Hawes, 2; Sibley, 3. 2 lengths, 3 min. 9 sec.

Double Sculls

F. C. Plumer (bow); A. N. Watson (stroke).
 Heat 3: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Het Spaarne, Holland, 3. 2 lengths, 2 min. 48 sec.

THAMES ROWING CLUB REGATTA

24th September

C. W. Hughes Bowl (Club Fours)

Final: G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); D. E. Goodall; D. R. Mount; S. F. A. Miskin (stroke), 1; D. C. Morton (bow, steers); J. H. Satchell; A. M. Provan; D. A. Dunton (stroke), 2; easily.

George Vize Beakers (Club Pairs)

Final: R. C. Bray (bow, steers); D. A. Dunton (stroke); 1; A. M. Provan (bow, steers); D. E. Goodall (stroke), 2; 2¾ lengths.

Doubledee Cup (Club Handicap Sculls)

R. A. Strong, scratch, 1; F. C. Plumer, sec., 2; A. M. Provan, 3; R. C. Bray (rum-tum), sec., 4; A. Hawes (rum-tum), sec., 5.

John Lang Cup (Junior Scullers in Rum-tums)

Final: B. R. Bonner-Davies, 1; P. R. Rumney, 2; A. Hayman, 3. ½ length.

Invitation Scratch Eights

Final: T. P. Wilson (bow); D. Fairbairn; J. H. Satchell; P. R. Rumney; D. Harding (Molesey B.C.); D. Willatt (Maidenhead R.C.); M. Legg; G. P. Hampel (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox); 1; J. Williamson (bow); T. French; M. Bettles (Westminster Bank R.C.); R. A. F. Macmillan; K. Lawrence; R. Gunn; C. Robinson; J. M. Beresford; (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox), 2; J. Marsh (bow); M. M. Brandon-Bravo; G. Harding (Herne Bay R.C.); R. Wiggin; J. M. Baldwin; B. Johnson (Worcester R.C.); G. G. H. Page; P. B. Rooksby (stroke); B. Walkinshaw (cox), 3; R. C. Bray (bow); H. James; (Stratford R.C.); A. Morris (Llandaff R.C.); D. R. Mount; J. Rayne; A. R. Davidson; R. G. Seaman (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox), 4; canvas, 1 length, ¾ length.

COXED FOURS HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

29th October

A. C. Riemer (bow); H. G. V. Denning; A. R. Davidson; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); R. A. Penney (cox).

Started 3rd, finished 2nd; time: 12 min. 43 sec. The winners, Barn Cottage B.C., started 1st, and their time was 12 min. 15 sec.

TIDEWAY BOXING DAY REGATTA

26th December

Harry Tate Cup (Junior-Senior Fours)

A. M. Provan (bow, steers); W. J. de Vries; R. C. Bray; H. K. Boller (stroke).

Heat 4: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2; National Provincial Bank R.C., 3. 1 length.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Cygnet R.C., 2. 1 length.
 Final: Thames Tradesmen R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Canvas.

The European Championships

THAMES R.C. AT GHENT

There can be no denying that the performance of the First Eight at Ghent, after a season with these Championships as the ultimate goal was extremely disappointing.

The races were rowed on a newly constructed 2,000 metre course on the outskirts of the city and, while the Belgians had made superhuman efforts to finish it in time, it fell rather short of the amenities of the Bosbaan in Amsterdam, upon which it is modelled. Indeed, the boat racks were erected only four days before the Championships opened, and no washing or changing facilities were available at all. In a year or so it may well become one of the best courses in Europe.

Possibly because of the increase of the British team the A.R.A. arrangements were not as well managed as in 1953 and 1954. The crews were all housed in an abbey converted to a youth hostel, a vast building, half finished, in a quiet corner of St. Peters Square. Apart from not being expected, the crews were quite comfortable there. Feeding arrangements, in a small restaurant on the other side of the town, were obviously likely to be unsatisfactory, it appeared, when, on the first evening, the limited staff took two-and-a-half hours to serve dinner!

During training, when the weather was very hot, the crew seemed to me to be going quite well and were obviously on a 'one-up' in being coached, by the Captain, from an Austin-Healey — something even the Russians could not match — but two pieces of bad luck came our way when the racing started.

First, Colin Porter, rowing 6, went sick with stomach trouble the day before and, although he rowed, was unable to make his usual contribution to the racing. Also, on the first day, a very strong cross-head-wind sprang up and made the stations very unequal. In fact, more than half the races were won on the 4th and sheltered station, and only one (out of thirty-one) the exposed No. 1 station.

So unequal did the conditions prove that the Italians, on No. 4, beat the Russian holders by two lengths, and so drew some extremely flattering comments from the not too wise, which were hardly borne out by their failure to reach the final.

Thames were drawn on the most exposed station with Sweden next, then Rumania, with Czechoslovakia on the sheltered station. Thames, Rumania and Czechoslovakia went off level

with Sweden rapidly dropping $\frac{1}{4}$ -length behind, but by the 500 metre mark, Czechoslovakia had a canvas lead from Rumania with Thames a few feet behind. By half-way the positions were unchanged, except that Thames were about a $\frac{1}{4}$ -length behind Rumania. Around the 1250 metre mark, with Thames dropping still further back, Sweden put in a remarkable spurt which carried them well clear of Thames and nearly up to Czechoslovakia and Rumania.

The wind had dropped by the second day, when Thames met a composite French crew and the Danish 'Kvik' Eight, runners-up in 1953 and 1954, in a repechage heat. For this race Bill Rand moved up to 6, Porter dropping back to 4. The Danes and Thames led off the mark with France soon dropping back, and, at the 500 metre mark, 'Kvik' led by a canvas; they increased this to about a length by the 1500 metre mark and, though Thames came back slightly, the Danes went away again up the enclosures, to win by a little over a length, with France three or four lengths behind.

The other members of the British team survived to the semi-final before being knocked out, perhaps the best performance coming from Doug Melvin, who lost a fine battle with Van Mesdag of Holland.

So it was all over bar the shouting as far as England was concerned, but the lessons were there to be learned for those who stayed on to see the finals, when the racing must have been the best ever.

The coxed Fours went to the Argentine crew, rowing a very smooth Fairbairn style, and the Fours without cox to the Rumanian crew that lost to the R.A.F. by a few feet the previous year. A wonderful race in the coxless pairs saw Buldakov and Ivanov row down Baetens and Van Kneysens by striking a steady 40 from the 1750 metre mark to the finish. These two pairs have fought out every final since 1953. The Swiss coxed pair retained their title, being the first crew to do so.

In the Single Sculls, Kocerka reproduced his Diamonds form to win, by $1\frac{1}{2}$ -lengths, from World Champion Tjukalov, with Van Mesdag surprisingly beating J. B. Kelly of the U.S.A. into fourth place, by some 3 lengths. The Russian double had, perhaps, the easiest race of all, and had improved tremendously since the previous year.

The Eights are traditionally the last race of the day, and, perhaps, the most exciting of all.

Krylia Sovetov, second in the 1952 Olympics and European Champions in 1953 and 1954, were led off the mark by both Denmark, who struck 46, and the German crew, who went off at 45, with the Swedish crew last. By halfway the Russians had established a lead of a few feet and were striking 39. Sweden, at this stage, were over a length behind. At about the 1250 metre mark Denmark dropped back and left Russia and Germany to fight it out, but, at the 1500 metre mark, just as the Germans began to buckle, the Swedes started their tremendous finishing 'kick' which carried them past Denmark, and then up to and past the rapidly tiring Germans. Right up the enclosures they were closing the gap with Krylia and, at the finish, they just failed by a bare canvas. A wonderful effort by Sweden, who were rowing Conibear style and, reportedly, had been coached by an American.

What are the lessons to be learned? Firstly,

nearly all the winning crews had been together, unchanged, for two years or more. The winning Eight, double, Pair and Single Sculler had competed every year since the last Olympics. Secondly, it is essential to train for 2000 metres, preferably on slack water and under the sort of conditions in which the Championships are invariably held. Most crews had their distances so well judged that they finished up striking about 40. The Russian Pair actually covered the second 1000 metres faster than the first 1000 metres, a very rare occurrence. Finally, why do the British crews make rowing look such an unnatural pastime?

We shall remember Ghent. Amongst other things we shall remember the blazing sun, the mosquitoes, the turgid canals—and some epic racing.

C.F.P.

N.B.—American comment on Ghent: 'Canal numero stank.'—*Ed.*

JUNIOR ROWING 1954 - 1955

The start of the season was, unfortunately, very similar to that of the previous year, i.e. very few juniors around. The few that were available were enthusiastic and consistent in their attendance.

Their rowing ability varied pretty considerably—from no experience whatever, to some fairly steady application to the water for some years. They had to be taught to work hard, get fit and tough and, above all, row in a style that was not vastly different from that in use in the rest of the Club.

This was achieved by getting some of the older members of the Club to row in the eight with them; whilst those of lower standard were given special instruction on the tank, or, later, in an eight where they were learning together.

It is, perhaps, a little hard on those seniors who are press-ganged into rowing, especially if they have a ropey outing. May they be reminded of the good work they are doing for the Club rowing generally by bringing on the youngsters who in turn may one day become the Grand oarsmen rowing for Thames in the highest class, not only at Henley, but also in many parts of the world.

As the winter wore on, one or two new faces began to appear, but unfortunately, one or two others disappeared for various reasons. Eventually we got to the 'Head' with a complete eight much to the amazement of the participants concerned. In the race itself they did much better than anticipated, only going down a few places,

and are to be congratulated in overcoming the many disadvantages they had to contend with, particularly the inevitable chopping and changing of the order.

At the start of the Summer season they made their first objective Chiswick Regatta, where they won a couple of heats before going down to the eventual winners. With one or two final changes they were put in for Reading and Marlow Regattas. Again they got through one or two heats showing considerable improvement, and and it became very obvious that it was only a question of time before they won their Juniors.

After Marlow they were put back into a fast Clinker, with a view to going in for the Clinker event at Richmond. They won very comfortably and were never extended.

After Richmond they returned to a shell eight, and it was obvious they had improved enormously. At Kingston Regatta they had a very nice draw, and improving with each heat, they won the final by a length and a bit. Incidentally in some of their heats they were within 2 or 3 seconds of the Junior-Senior eight who also won their event.

After Kingston, where the eight had worked itself up to a pitch, they went off considerably, and it was some time before they began to cope with the higher class. They had a thoroughly enjoyable time at the end of season regattas, but were very gradually improving at the end; in time they would have undoubtedly won in Junior-Senior class.

HONORARY HOUSE STEWARDS REPORT

In 1955 social activity at the Club included, as well as the regular and familiar events, two functions of rather more than passing interest. As usual, we vaguely welcomed the New Year until the wee sma' hours, observed the University Boat Race, drowned our Serpentine sorrows (see Regatta Records) and for a reason, unknown to most, we danced at Hallowe'en.

Of the two less usual occasions, one was the dinner to mark the event of Dick Phelps' twenty-five years service with Thames. Club members, whose active years covered a wide range, came to wish Dick well and many more must have wished they had been able to be there. Dick was presented with a handsomely bound record containing the list of the subscribers to his presentation fund, together with the balance of the fund the larger proportion of which had previously been passed over at the Club Dinner.

Enthusiasm was the keynote of the other event of vivid memory, the dinner to the Vancouver Boat Club and the Kettering Boat Club. The Canadians had already enjoyed some very robust hospitality at Henley, and probably came prepared for more. In the event, things were a little gentler — perhaps the effect of the magnificent meal (a Mrs. Tagg 'special') and the tropical heat. A few complimentary speeches were wildly applauded and Frank Reid, the Vancouver coach, when he presented the Club with a most attractive memento, was warmly applauded.

All the Club functions were embellished by Mrs. Tagg's excellent catering and the tremendous cooperation we have come to expect from Mr. and Mrs. Tagg has always been forthcoming. Our sincere thanks are due to them for a year of sterling service and unflinching support.

HISTORY OF THE THAMES ROWING CLUB

PROVINCIAL TOUR 1888

Let us quote the Press: 'A Thames four went for a little pot-hunting a few weeks ago. They won at Bedford, Tewkesbury and Oxford. At Tewkesbury the sun shone bright, and it was suggested that the crew would look better if it were bronzed. Anxious to make a good impression, and that quickly, one of them remembered that if you covered your face with oil, lay in the sun, and let it dry off, the result was a deep and becoming mahogany. The oil-can was produced and the four stalwart champions carefully oiled their faces, necks and arms. A huge crowd gathered to see a champion crew of 1888 get into their boat. Thames became the favourites for the Toddington Vase, and their condition was the wonder of the Town.

'Alas for the sequel. The sun went in, the oil got into their eyes and they returned looking more like fitters than African explorers. But they won the Vase.

'Royal Chester sent a crew for the race, and it fancied itself very much, especially when it saw Thames standing outside the hotel smoking long clay pipes. "Do you always smoke clay pipes when you train?" asked a Royal Cestrian of Frank Clark. "Always," puffed the gigantic wearer of the red, white and black. And the Cestrian went out and tried a cigarette on the sly; but it was no use. In the final heat between the two Clubs, Chester had the choice of stations

and were first round the bend, but Thames, who were better steered, soon got on terms, and won by half a length after a good race.'

Racing at Bedford was clearly as enjoyable as it is today. It is reported that the entries for the Senior Fours were decidedly good, and Thames sent three of their Grand Eight to defend their challenge cup, win what else they could, and keep up the old Bedford reputation of the Club, where 'Mickey' Slater was the popular idol of the local mob. We won the Cup, but Bedford Modern led at half-way and only collapsed when they met the wind.

But Oxford Regatta produced a tale of woe. It is true that we won the fours, and we certainly claimed the prizes for the pair oars. The first heats of these two races were rowed at 1.30 p.m. and 1.45 p.m. respectively, an arrangement the regatta has previously declined to alter. The final of the pairs was set for 4 p.m., that of the fours for 5 p.m. While our crew was on the way to the start of the pair-oar final, it was told that the race had been postponed to 6.30 p.m., but its consent was not asked, and we replied that we could not accept the change. This seems to have angered the emissary of the Committee, who is reported to have said: 'Go and row then, and I hope you'll smash your adjective boat and break your adjective necks.' The umpire at the start refused to start them, and after waiting a

little we claimed the race. The claim was contemptuously rejected, but the Committee did not award the prizes to our opponents who rowed over later.

More trouble was to come. After coming in from the pair-oar, Thames were told by the Secretary that they had three-quarters of an hour before the final of the fours. But they found their opponents going to the start only five minutes later. Thames ran to change, manned their boat and hurried to the start. They found the other crew on the point of being started, but this they prevented, and they won the race.

Indignant about the whole concern, Thames wrote to the Regatta on returning to London, but while they received a reply there was no apology or explanation, and no prizes for the pairs. There seems to have been some doubt in the rowing press whether rowing was in fact the main interest at this Regatta, especially as the programme notes at the height of the proceedings: 'At 4.15 p.m. a Greasy Pole.'

XMAS DRAW

The trip to Paris has actually been won by somebody who has taken advantage of the prize. Sad to relate though, in spite of the solicitations as to her health by various young bachelor members, the lady is going with her sister,

Congratulations to Mrs. Tagg (125 books) and Charlie Newens (55 books) on some very good selling. A few more of such calibre will enable the Club to get many of the necessities which have to be deferred to later times.

It is pleasant to record that we make a profit of some £400-£500 as a result, the exact amount cannot be given until all the bills are in.

The Sweep Committee would also like to thank Mr. Twitchen, The Bridge Hotel, Buttermere, for the very kind offer of accommodation for two people as a prize.

AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION

Amalgamation with N.A.R.A.

As a result of prolonged negotiations, agreement was reached with the N.A.R.A. that from 1st January, 1956, the A.R.A. should be the sole governing body for rowing in England and Wales.

The full constitution of the A.R.A. (last published in 1950) and details of the reorganisation resulting from the merger will be published in the British Rowing Almanac, the 1956 edition of which is now available in March.

European Championships Tie

The tie for those who have represented Great Britain in the European Rowing Championships is now available, and may be obtained by those entitled from the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. H. Page), price 13/6, post free.

THE MATRIMONIAL CHALLENGE CUP

The following entered in 1955 and the Club's best wishes are extended to the competitors.

R. H. Nicholls.
G. J. Alwin.
M. R. Phelps.
G. C. Fisk.
D. K. McLachlan.
J. Pope.
W. Luchinger.

OBITUARY

A. E. COLLINS	...	...	...	March, 1955
E. H. DAVIES	...	...	...	1954
G. P. FLETCHER	...	...	...	February, 1956
E. G. NISBETT	...	...	...	September, 1955
D. O'DONOGHUE	...	...	...	January, 1955
'DARKIE' WILLIAMS	...	...	...	1955
MRS. HENNESSEY	...	...	...	1955



OSTENDE REGATTA 1955.

The Captain presents a Thames blade to the Mayor, after the prize-giving ceremony at the Town Hall.



TRIPPERS AT OSTENDE

(left to right) Ostende Jehu ; Rex Strong ; Mrs. Peggy Tanner ; 'Sparrow' Morris ; Lewis Tanner ; David Glynn-Jones.

A THAMES MEMBER IN KOREA

Walter Luchinger (left)





THE 2nd. VIII.

*G. G. H. Page (bow) ; P. H. Swift ; D. A. Dunton ; A. Hawes ; D. R. Mount ; A. R. Reddin ;
K. J. M. Hennessy ; P. B. Rooksby (stroke) ; D. B. Fawcett (cox).*

PUBLISHED BY
THAMES ROWING CLUB, PUTNEY, S.W.15
AND PRINTED BY
LOCHEND PRINTING CO. LTD., LONDON, S.W.9