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Vol. 2 No. 6

JUNE - 1949

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EDITORIAL.

Instead of introducing the magazine with an Editorial, I have decided to assume the mantle of a critic for "Whit Pie," and quite expect to be shot at dawn. I hear that someone suggested last month's issue was less and less Brentham and more and more "Bull!"

All Secretaries please note: The Management Committee will meet Section representatives in July to allocate dates and arrangements for interior Winter events. So have your ideas ready.

WHIT PIE.

After the show, widespread acclamation, with such epithets as "Wonderful," "Extremely Good," "Fine," greeted the participants of the second of the popular Pie entertainments. Since, by now, the majority of Brentham have sung its praises, I do not propose to laud further upon the outstanding qualities it owns, for I have heard no derogatory comments whatsoever (indeed, they are unmerited). Tim Coleman, in order to atone for the omissions of a Christmas magazine report, introduced the cast: Georgina Hines, Jacqueline and Peter Howard, "Nature Boy" Glamour-Pants Goodridge, Graham-Loman,

Tom Whittington, Gordon Dain, Bill Dwyer and Chas. Roberts, who all deserved cabbages for their talented display, not forgetting the indispensable back-stagers, with make-up, dressing, lighting and sound.

Analysing the show into assets and defects, one finds:

For-

Against-

1. An excellent compère.

2. Full use of sound effects.

3. Enthusiasm of the Gang.

4. Original ideas of the skits.

1. A not very responsive audi-

2. Length of the items.

3. Lack of wit.

4. Absence of slickness.

For (1): Tim, after eulogising his own capabilities and the high regard in which he is held by the Gang, has an egg placed carefully over his head, powder to follow, rounds off the introduction with "The yolk's on me." To illustrate further his technique in the Voice sequence, he assumes coyness, replaces shoulder pads and attempts to sing "Galway Bay" but after interruption he states "There is nothing else for it but to continue (as great artists can), and I am going to." He scores particularly with an air of egotistical abandon, which seldom misses a laugh.

(2): Send for Taul Pimple, I thought, was the best item, since it was well organised, everyone knew their entrances, the length was ideal and the sound was very effective. But the item which illustrated the synchronisation of sound effects was the "Egyptian Knights," with apologies to Wilson, Keppel and Betty, a clever adaptation. (Graham and Peter have found their vocation.) "Noises off," in "Who Will Save Nellie?" came with terrifying pitch, but it wasn't too loud. Again, the Territorials' march, on their knees, and the Boy Scout tramping, owed its appeal to the off-stage work.

(3): The Brentham Corpse de Bally gave evidence of the enthusiastic cast, and one felt sure they were all having a wonderful time.

(4): Good ideas came with almost every one, particularly the Rope propelled upwards by three ancient snake-charmers heralding the Interval, and with the Woman's Hour scene, which many thought the highlight of the evening. Announcers' voices are so useful in radio programmes that the idea has caught on to great effect—the switching of stations achieved hilarious results.

Against (1): I am quite sure Tim's story-telling (Clean but Clever) was not responsible for the sporadic but far from vociferous applause which greeted it. He was forced to get a laugh from spontaneous excuses. Beer and Spike Jones should help with a primary stimulation among an audience.

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(2): Wouldn't it be advisable to shorten the turns and increase their number? At present, an original idea is received with pleasure, and the novelty has worn off before the end. The Ballet gave time for everyone to realise that Graham had supple wrists and Peter revolved his hands above his head. Slick quick-fire episodes would hold the attention and keep the audience anticipatory.

(3: There were no puns. A few, even to groan at, would have been welcome. Either a quick, nonsensical Olsen and Johnson atmosphere, e.g., Bill Dwyer's enquiry from the audience) or a Take it from Here type of script should be aimed at. Slapstick was only

noticeable in Woman's Hour.

(4): Quick-fire repartee from a central compère interviewing unexpected entrants could be added to the repertoire to fill in a gap in the show.

The above comments are probably hypercritical, but I feel that such an entertaining and popular show would benefit from some improvements rather than remain at an accepted satisfactory standard.

A. D. T.

GOLF.

An eclectic competition will be run over the Whitsun week, June 4th-12th inclusive.

CORRESPONDENCE.

I wish to voice a word of protest and disapproval against what I think was a poor report of the last production presented by the Brentham Players, "The Linden Tree," and principally against a

criticism of the Committee in selecting a play of this type.

J. B. Priestley, as a playwright, has often been the subject of criticism, but this play, with a serious and topical theme, reputed to be one of his best, acclaimed by the national critics as a "brilliant success," and seen and enjoyed by thousands of playgoers, surely cannot be described by "V. Z." as unconvincing.

The blame for the apparent "failure" of this production, suggested by "V Z.," does not, in my opinion, lie with the Committee for selecting this play, nor does it lie with the players, but with

either (1) the audience, or (2) the critic himself.

I would not like to suggest that the Brentham audience is incapable of approaching a serious theme with utmost attention, as "V. Z." almost does in his report, and the excuse offered by him that the seating accommodation prevents an audience from "full concentration" is sheer "bunkum." One does not need a "plush seat" to enjoy a good play, as many "galleryites" will second.

The choice of plays, it appears, is carefully considered, and in the past two seasons the Brentham Players have given as wide a scope of entertainment as three plays a season will allow, namely, (1) a thriller, (2) a comedy (3) an intellectual play. What more

variety is there?

An analysis of item (3) shows that the two plays presented in the last two seasons—"The Gleam" and "The Linden Tree"—both good, have not been received with enthusiasm, and in addition the Committee have been condemned, by the critic, for "making a poor choice." This points to a lack of interest in this type of play which, if I may use the word, I think is a tragedy for it does not show any progressive spirit in the advancement of intellectual thinking when two such worthwhile plays of the "thought-provoking" kind are not well received.

I hope that the Committee continue their good work in selecting more of these plays, and would offer our "worthy" critic, "V. Z." a "brickbat" for not adopting a more progressive attitude. P. S.

THEY SAY THAT-

One corpulent figure observed, on the first afternoon of cricket, that all he saw coming down were trial balls.

"Once he gets started (running) it's a difficult job to stop

him."

An "A" XI cricketer had such spikes on his boots that he stuck in the ground at every stride.

4. Some years back a young lad turned up in running spikes,

but was not allowed to bowl in them, to his chagrin.

5. At Ashford, the scorer called out to a small boy: "Don't

run across the wicket—it's bad enough as it is!"

6 A tail end batsman coming out to bat not only attempted to take guard at the wrong end, but nearly trod on the toes of his partner. Pity he didn't stand on his shoulders, and take "High-up."

7. An Ealing tailor supplying a cricket shirt asked if the pur-

chaser would like collar attached or detached.

8. A hockey enthusiast living a short distance from the Club, in order to vote, hired one of his opposite parties' cars.

9. Is the "Strollers" a new film or what?

10. It was noticed that Cricket and the Bottom Bar opened together.

FOOTBALL SUPPER.

The football supper, held in the small hall, was marked by a large attendance of players, together with earlier players and a few zealous supporters. Everybody tucked into the combination of sausages, trifle and beer, very well provided by the Overalls in their usual helpful manner. Frank Ahl was the first person to rise to his feet with a toast to the Football Club, coupled with the name of Sid Lewis, President and first skipper of a Brentham side. It had been a momentous season, with the winning of the Middlesex A.F.A. Senior Cup for the second year running and promotion to the Premier Division of the Southern Amateur League (and, it was anticipated, the leadership of Division II)—a great achievement to which our young skipper, John Swann, had contributed a great deal. His speech was further enriched by a modern explanation of a miracle.

Sid Lewis followed by saying that although he had been unable to see the successful team since the previous Cup Final, he received all the good news from Jock, but while he was still active, he preferred to continue in some sport, rather than be a spectator. After the supporting toasts had been made, the decks were cleared and the piano centralised, and singing and beer held sway. First on the list was "Allouette," led by a nucleus of holiday camp songsters, with accompaniment from that expert, Gordon Dain. "Two, Two, the Lillywhite Boys," a firm favourite, came next, but perhaps the highlight of the evening was "Vio, Vio, Vio-la," an excellent rendition with varying demonstrations from the stalwarts. Horace responded to a clamour for some of his Naval ditties, followed by a spontaneous, appropriate version of "Quartermaster's Stores."

It was announced earlier that 14 tankards were to be presented

MAY DAY FESTIVAL.

The festival of 1949 lost none of its charm, simplicity or beauty, and all agree that it surpassed even the high standard of other years. Although the procession was a little shorter than usual, the traditional characters of Jack-in-the-Green, Britannia, Herald and Robin Hood's men were noticeable. The band was formed by Sea Cadets, who roused the neighbourhood to their roadside gates, and were followed by the Maypole bearer in a white smock, surrounded by little girls each bearing a ribbon from the head. The Dowager Queen and the two previous Queens, resplendent with trains and attendants, preceded the uncrowned May Queen, Miss Lorna Fisher, who looked very sweet and typically English in white. Bringing up the rear were the charming little dancing girls and a horse-drawn load of mischief, who seemed extremely interested in the wheels, but not the camera. For her crowning ceremony our May Queen had a good companion in King Sol.

The programme sellers, crinolined, bell-bottomed, pig-tailed, were insistent and contacted unfamiliar but very welcome faces, which swelled the throng behind the tennis courts. The organisers and helpers were rewarded with ideal weather for their patience and understanding in initiating the youngsters into Maypole dances. To them must go congratulations for handling all the children, from the pill-box-hatted toy soldiers to the excited little girls, and providing

an excellent afternoon.

BOWLS.

President's Match.—The President's matches for the current season had an auspicious launching on April 30, when the executive, strongly supplemented by invitees (perhaps, in truth, the executive formed the mere supplement), won 148-103 against their generous hosts at the Brentham Club. The special occasion was arranged to mark the opening of the relaid green. Having first thrown a good wood, the county president (Major Godley) formally declared the green open. Subsequent play revealed that the green had been well and truly laid—a consummation for which, it was stated, much credit was due to the greenkeeper for a principal share in the extensive work. The festive proceedings which followed were further evidence of the hosts' successful solicitude for the comfort of their guests. Bowls Captain Boyce, President Taylor and the Club Chairman spoke words of welcome, and, on behalf of the visitors, Major Godby and V.P. Arthur Collins voiced gratified appreciation.

Entertainments Committee announce a further contribution of £13 6s, to their Chair Fund.

A Flannel Dance will be held in the Hall on Whit-Monday—tickets 1s. 6d.—8.30-11.45. Usual "Spots," etc.

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BRENTHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB.

Before a gathering of about forty spectators, the Club Championships were held early in April. In the final of the Men's Open Singles, H. Clark, who was runner-up in the same event last year, proved too good for P. Goodridge, and emerged the winner by

3 games to 1.

In the Ladies' Open Singles, Miss B. Godfrey beat Mrs. B. Netherton by 2 games to 0. The Men's Handicap provided a thrilling struggle between P. Goodridge and J. Kirbyshire, the former just retaining the title he won last year, by 3 games to 2, after having lost the first two games. After a fairly even battle, Miss B. Godfrey beat Mrs J. James by 2 games to 1. Details of the other events were:-

Men's Doubles Handicap: L. Landon and D. Vincent beat P.

Howard and J. Kirbyshire by 2 games to 1.

Ladies' Doubles Handicap: Mrs. E. Seymour and Mrs. J. James beat Mrs. B. Netherton and Miss D. Veevers by 2 games to 0.

Mixed Doubles Handicap: Mr. L. Landon and Mrs. D. Turner

beat Mr. E. Langton and Mrs. H. Thurland by 2 games to 0.

At the Section A.G.M., held on 26th April, Mr. R. O. Bonnick relinquished his appointment as Chairman, a position that he has

ably filled for a number of years.

The Committee elected for the 1949/50 season will consist of Mr. S. Clifford, Chairman; Mr. E. Leary, Secretary; Mr. H. Clark, Team Captain; Mr. L. Landon, Treasurer, and three additional members, viz., Miss V. Whippey, Mr. N. Pearce and Mr. D. Dover.

OBITUARY.

Charles Penn, who died on the 25th April, 1949, was a foundermember, a past President, and, for the past fifteen years, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Brentham Ex-Servicemen's Association.

Of a shy and retiring disposition, his placid pertinacity and his unflagging enthusiasm at all times, for the Association, endeared

him to all his colleagues.

A good soldier, he never knew defeat, and only the best satisfied him. (Who, except Chas., could have persuaded the "Powers That Be" that the Association was deservedly fitting to be given a Union

Jack from the Cenotaph?)

No one has done more to foster and keep alive the spirit of the Association, and one recalls with gratitude that unobtrusive presence ever at hand to steady the helm. Although no longer with us, the results of his labours, ungrudgingly given, will endure, REX.

Thank you, Chas. R.I.P.

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SURVEY OF THE FOOTBALL SEASON.

For Brentham to have gained promotion to the Division I of the Southern Amateur League is one feat, but to retain the Middlesex A.F.A. Senior Cup simultaneously, for the second year in succession, gives an indication of the strength of the team. Brentham enhanced their reputation, and we can all look forward to some keen struggles and exhibitions of even better amateur football next season. factor which contributed to success was the fielding of the same side until the beginning of February, which moulded eleven players "as a team" and not as a collection of individuals. When changes were necessitated, the high standard of play was maintained by those who stepped into the breach—especially from that fine, workmanlike, little player Ron. Fairhead. Of course, George Sorensen was a tremendous acquisition (in his second game he scored all 5 goals), and he added punch to an already powerful forward line. John Swann led the line and the team extremely well, scoring 45 goals in all; Horace Brearley, outstanding with his head, netted 35; George Sorensen rocketted in 19, and Norman Allsopp obtained 17 from varying positions. The wingers, Frank Turner and Alan Trueman, co-operated well with the insides and sent in countless centres. The defence kept opposition goals down to a minimum, and even Worthing's nine goals failed to mar the average. We had a vastly improved and safe Paul Swann; Jack Mitcham, whose increasing years lend greater skill to his play; a harassing stopper in Peter Goodridge, and a tough defender, Don Merriott. John Salisbury was ubiquitous and must have covered miles with untiring energy. Apart from Southgate Olympic's final, which attracted a large gathering, the defeat of Willesden will be remembered as the triumph of the year, when cooperation and team work beat a Spartan side, superior on paper. Crown and Manor and Ruislip gave us some fine games, but Crouch End Vampires remained favourite opponents in the League. only defeat was provided by Old Westminster Citizens in a deluge, with a 3-goal setback against -the wind early on.) There were six draws, and most of the goals came against Old School Cup sides.

The Reserves receive sympathies, after doing so well the previous year, now returning to Division II, but it is hoped they will regain the fire and incentive which gave them a 3—1 lead against the 1st at half-time in a friendly that year. John Meadows and

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George Hines revel in their games, and provided a fine example to the younger ones, of whom Ray Lewry (back trouble curtailed his season), Lawrie Gambles, Tommy Tucker, David Vincent and Peter Hayes deserved mention.

The 3rd team provide a blooding for the youngsters, and, guided by the experience of Jack McCarthy and Bert James, already Peter Howard, Peter Moorhead, young Spurgeon and Neville Hawkes have

shown that they can step higher, creditably.

CRICKET.

The cricket season has opened with wickets more familiar to us in August than in May and groundsmen everywhere are looking for rain, though cricketers would still prefer it, however necessary, to come during the week. We have a large membership and it will be the aim of the Committee to give everyone as much cricket as possible consistent with providing adequate representation for the

six elevens which are being fielded most week-ends.

All of the eight 1st XI games played have produced a decisive result, five being won and three lost. Our victories include local rivals Ealing Dean, who were defeated on a "sporting" wicket with two wickets to spare, and the Old Latymerians game provided a thrilling finish, victory being attained in the last five minutes with one wicket to fall. Our three defeats include a "double" by Winchmore Hill. Eb. Shneerson has shown good form with the bat, being undefeated in all four of his innings, and Frank Waters played a stylish innings of 88. John Swann has proved a valuable bowler, with an outstanding performance of 6 for 50 against Ealing Dean.

The "A" XI took a week or two to get into their stride, but have won three and drawn two of their seven matches. Ealing Dean were beaten after a close game, and against Napiers the last wicket fell on the stroke of time. The new skipper has batted very well, notably against Polytechnic, when he and Cyril Spice stoutly took the side to an honourable draw after a bad start. "Wag" James has bowled consistently and has also had a useful innings or two, while Bob Melhuish has shown flashes of the bowling form which made him such a dangerous bowler before the war. Harry Abel played

a very valuable knock of 69 against Napiers

The "B" XI has started the season well, winning four and drawing two of the first seven matches, and it is to be hoped that the coaching now being given to the younger players will lead to further successes. Unfortunately the commencement of the home fixtures on the football ground has had to be postponed through the weather, but it is hoped that a start will be possible on June 4th.

Congratulations to Horace Brearley on a very successful knock against the bowling of Sims and Gray in the Middlesex Trial at

Ealing, and, in a different field, to Bill Dwyer and "Podge" Holloway on winning the Billiards and Snooker Championships respectively.

RESULTS.

-	The second second
FIRST	ELEVFN.

FIRST ELEVEN.						
	Anril	23	Shepherd's Bush		173	for 8 dec.). (
	April	1	Brentham		76.	
		24	Ashford		103	(Haworth 4 for 27).
	35	-	Brentham		127	Merriott 29; Abel 29 not out).
		30	Hounslow		93	(Howard J. 4 for 23, Swann J. 4 for 41).
	"	200	Brentham		95	for 4 (Ahl 30, Swann J. 34 not out).
	May	1	Winchmore Hill		119	(Swann J. 5 for 59, McMorran 4 for 23).
	ivitay	•	Brentham		104	(Swann J. 41 not out).
		7	Brentham		187	for 6 (dec.) (Shneerson 53 not out, Salis-
	"					bury 32).
			Polytechnie		122	(Shneerson 5 for 33).
	- 1	8	Old Latymerians		176	(Haworth 5 for 46, Parker 4 for 45).
	22		Brentham		182	for 9 (Waters 88).
		14	Ealing Dean	244	117	(Swann J. 6 for 50).
		-	Brentham		119	for 8 (Shneerson 31 not out, Merriott 24).
	1	15	Winchmore Hill	1	176	for 5 (dec.).
	1100		Brentham (122	(Swann J. 35 not out).
*					MA	" Freeman
				//		" ELEVEN.
	April	23	Shepherd's Bush			(Sones 4 for 31).
			Brentham	/		(James C. 25).
	,,	30	Brentham	/	125	(Dwyer 23).
g			Hounslow	1	152	for 6.
	May	1	Brentham		156	for 8 (dec.) (Weeks 31, Trueman A. 27).
			Winchmore Hill		121	for 9 (James C. 5 for 23).
	,,	7	Polytechnic	***	156	for 7 (dec.) (Sones 4 for 37)
			Brentham		132	for 8 (James H 58 not out, Spice 37).
	**	8	Brentham		168	(James H. 42, Lewry 39 not out).
			Old Latymerians	***	74	(Flint 5 for 31, Melhuish 4 for 6).
	**	14	Brentham	1.57		for 9 dec.) (James C. 42).
			Ealing Dean	+++	144	(James C. 4 for 23).
	- 17	15	Brentham	***	181	for 6 (dec.) (Abel 69, Spice 32, Trueman
4						A. 32).
			Napier		164	(Melhuish 4 for 30).
					" B	" ELEVEN.
			- 0.11			
	24 A	pril	Enfield		1	
			Brentham	2.52	130	for 8 (dec.).
	22	30	Hounslow	***	125	for 9 (Parker 26, Holloway 24).
		-	Brentham	5.53		(Osang 25).
	May	1	Brentham	***	57	(Stevenson 6 for 21)
		_	Mill Hill	***	08	(Howard A. 28).
	"	7	Brentham	***	90	(Howard P. 5 for 34, Woodger 4 for 40).
			Polytechnic		97	(Woodger 5 for 30 Morgan 4 for 34).
	. 22	8	Harrow Town	***	120	(Curtis 28, Landon 29).
		1.4	Brentham			(Woodger 4 for 41).
	99	14		***		2 (Parker 19).
		15	Brentham		120	(Vincent 40, Landon 27)
	,,	15	Brentham	***		o for 9.
			Polytechnic			
						15

EAVESDROPPER.

- Do you want your coat on, dear? Sh! all the boys'll think I'm henpecked.
- How about a Public Relations Officer for Brentham? You know I'm a goalkeeper of repute. We're full of 'em.

A can only kick with my right foot.—You'd do for centre-half.

We've got almost a cricket team here to-day, with So-and-So., etc.

What about me?

Do you play cricket, Jack?

- 4. Home Guard. I'd have taken a commission, only I wanted to be with my pals.
- A pity he's not playing this season, he had his cap cleaned the end of last year.
- 6. Nothing can be more certain in this world than death and taxes. Nothing can be more certain than that your humour's taxing me to death.
- Have you ever bowled that end before, Len? Well, about seven years ago. Before he was skipper
- 8. Has anybody a puncture outfit handy? (Heard at cricketers' tea.) Cyril Spice will supply one out of his little bag.
- 9. One family had three names in the paper last week. Where were they, in the adverts?
- 10. He's O.K.—only he is like mustard—all right in small doses.

Announcement.

In recognition of yeomen service and lengthy associations with Brentham, Joe Roberts and wife have been appointed Hon. Life Members of the Club.

Engagement.

Congratulations to Hilda Wilson and Len Wright

Birth.

On Monday, 16th May, Mr. and Mrs. John Willis rejoiced at the happy event—the arrival of a son.

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BOWLS SECTION.

On Saturday, June 25th, by courtesy of the Brentham Club, a representative game will take place between Ealing and D.B.A. and Romford and D.B.A. (six rinks). Brentham will be represented by one rink.

On Saturday, July 2nd, the annual struggle for the Allen Cup takes place, between Brentham and Pitshanger, on the Pitshanger green (four rinks). The position is: Brentham 6 wins, Pitshanger 5 wins.

It's up to you, Brentham.

RESULTS.

Sat., April 30.—Brentham 103, Middlesex Ex. 148.

Sat., May 7.—Gas Light Sports 74, Brentham 120.

Wed., May 11. Gunnersbury 39, Brentham 62

Sat., May 14.—Brentham 101, Sanderson 74.

Wed., May 18.—Brentham \$4, Hounslow Cons. 58.

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