



Annual Sports

Pupils of Aylesbury Grammar School were very fortunate on Tuesday in holding their annual sports in fine weather.

The prospect of a disappointing and listless series events amid showers of rain was suddenly swept away the passing of the rain clouds the sports began and the advent bright sunshine, which continued throughout the proceedings. A very large company of parents and others were present, and the competitors in a keenly contested series of events, provided capital entertainment.

Unusual keenness and excitement prevailed amongst the pupils this year in consequence of a new method procedure whereby individualism gave place. The communal spirit and prizes were not awarded the winners of each event, but the best competitors were selected from four houses into which the whole of the scholars, boys and girls, had been divided, and points of graded value were awarded the particular house which the three leading competitors in each race or competition represented. Thus 'houses' not boys or girls, won events.

There were four houses, each with two captains, one selected from amongst the girls and the other from amongst the boys. The name of each had special significance.

The first house, Denson (colours, red and blue), referred to 'old boy,' Thomas Denson and was captained by D. Guntrip and L. White.

Hampden House (green and gold) was associated with a famous Bucks name, John Hampden, and E. S. Sharpe and H. Cowley were the captains.

Phillips house (red and white) recalled the beneficence and founder the school, Henry Phillips and was captained by D. Kinman and J. Sharpe, securing ultimately the highest number of points, and becoming entitled to a school trophy which will presented in due course.

Ridley house (dark blue and light blue) was named after the late headmaster, Rev. C. Ridley, with G. Walker and K. Cannon captains.

The whole of the school staff worked hard to ensure that the detail arrangements were complete, and with the aid of innumerable small flags and a quantity of bunting, generously lent by Mr. F Longley, they defined clearly a well utilised track.

During the afternoon the headmaster, Mr. T. Osborne, acted as starter, the Vicar (Rev. V. L. Whitechurch), who is chairman of the School's governors, Messrs. R. W. Locke and G. L. De Fraine acted as judges, assisted by Messrs. H. Middleton and J. East. Stewards of the course were Misses Milner and Taffs, Messrs. J. R. Smith, H. Deeming, and E. Jenkins. Competitors' stewards; Miss Langham and Mr. J. S. Leonard.

Entertaining music was discoursed from a gramophone lent by Mr. F. Robinson, and manipulated by Mr. B. Watts, who supplied some especially loud records for the occasion. Tea was served in the school during an Interval, under the direction of Miss Simmonds and Miss Watson. The Houses were subdivided into junior, junior-senior, and senior sections, and the initial event in the sports list was throwing the cricket ball.

Gough for the juniors threw 60 yards; Pratt was successful for the junior-seniors, and Goodwin led the seniors with a 74 yards throw. The seniors gave a good long-jump display, in which Cowley carried off honours with a spring of 16ft. 8in. A series of 100 yards races provided close finishes, Gough being successful amongst the junior boys, Towersey the junior-seniors, and Sharp the seniors (the latter's time being 10, 1-5th secs.

Of the girls, Joan Underhill won the juniors, M. Hawkins for the junior-seniors, and D. Bateman for the seniors. Phillips house made sure of the half-mile through Towersey, with an easy win from Cannon for Ridley house. At the long jump again, the juniors found a winner in Gough at 14ft. 6in. and the junior-seniors' best competitor was Piper at 15ft.

Mildred Hawkins won for Denson house the 220 yards for junior-senior girls, and Dorothy Bateman was successful over the same distance for the seniors, the premier points in this instance going to Ridley house.

Sharp went well over the 120 yards hurdles in 16, 3-5th secs. In favour of Phillips house. At 220 yards, Gough as a junior, brought points to Denson and Mackrill led the junior-seniors over the same distance.

Remarkably good performances were made at the high jump, especially by the girls, who, in the case of the juniors, cleared 4ft through Joan Underhill, and Marjorie Oliver succeeded for the junior-seniors at 4ft. 2in. Of the boys, Mackrill cleared 4ft. 5in. from amongst the juniors and Bateman, a junior-senior, went up to 4ft. 6in. The quarter-mile was run well, but did not yield a strong finish, the three placings being Smiter, Towersey and Cowley, the first and second representing Phillips house, and the third Hampden.

That invariably entertaining item, 'tilting the bucket' provided amusement and diversion, and was followed by high jumping by senior girls and boys. Of the former, Dorothy Batemen succeeded at 4ft. 3in. and W. Bates led for the boys at 4ft. 11in. W. Birch easily won a slow bicycle race for girls. A. Briggs breastst the tape in an 'old boys' race and Murial Leggett won the race for 'old girl students'.

A train race, in which competitors were required to prepare for a journey by donning outer covering, and carrying umbrella and attaché case, ended in a win for Phillips house through W. Everett. The same house had two representatives placed in the mile, with Ridley house next in order of merit. Sharp won the event in 5min. 20secs, with a good lead from Redrup, who set the pace to the last lap, and was overhauled by the winner.

Denson and Hampden houses shared points in a skipping race for girls, in which several competitors tied for third place and went over the course again. The house relay race, followed by tug-of-war, provided a capital and enthusiastic finish to an excellent meeting.

In the relay race, girls ran 100 yards, succeeded by boys who ran 440 yards; the girls took up another 100 yards run and the boys finished over the 220 yards distance. Sharp was prominent again and Phillips house scored in a well-contested event in which the girl representatives set a good starting pace.

The preliminary round of the tug-of-war was decided on Monday. On Tuesday, therefore, Phillips and Ridley houses contested for first and second places and Denson and Hampden for third and fourth place. The latter pulled first and Denson easily established their claim to the third place.

Phillips house won the first pull without difficulty against Ridley house, but on the exchange the Ridley boys made a determined bid for supremacy and at one period were within a few inches of success. Phillips house held well together, however, and a series of well-timed heaves led to the issue in their favour amid general cheering and an excited demonstration by the winners' supporters.

This concluded the events, with Phillips house entitled to the school trophy with an aggregate of 65 points. Ridley house came second with 56 points, Denson house third with 43½ points and Hampden house fourth with 38½ points. A point was divided between competitors who failed at an equal mark in the high jump.

At the close of the sports the Vicar presented Jack Sharp with the school shield presented by the governors and awarded annually to the competitor who obtains the highest number of points. He drew attention to the fact that the shield was presented in 1906, and won every year to 1914, when on account of the war the school sports was suspended. He now congratulated Sharp on winning the shield this year and reminded him that the school would expect him to live up to the reputation he had established by his success.

The sports day closed with dancing on the lawn to gramophone music introduced by Mr Watts.

Some local advertising from the pages of the original article...



FREDERICK ROLFE & SON,
Removal Contractors,
WESTERN ROAD, TRING.

Furniture removed to all parts by Up-to-date and Express
MOTOR PANTECHNICS.
Warehousing a Speciality.
Call, Phone, or write for Free Estimates.
Phone - TRING 37.

Make Your Choice

A Curry. No bicycle is so good, nor yet so cheap. It is built by the largest manufacturing Retailers in the country, and sold only through their depots. **YOU** save the Agent's Profit. Read the specification of the **£10:19:6** Gent's Standard. Frame built of Weldless Steel tubing. Treated with our secret non-rusting process. Richly ornamented with four coats of lustrous jet black enamel. Lined in art colours. Portland Tyres fully guaranteed for 12 months. B.S.A. Ball Bearing Free Wheel. 2 Rotary Lever Bowden Brakes. Drawn Steel non-rusting mudguards. Curry 4 wire Saddle. Phillips' Rubber Pedals. Then you realise the wonderful **£10:19:6** value offered by

Curry's
THE CYCLE PEOPLE

Aylesbury: 23, Market Sq. Chesham: 15, Market Sq.
High Wycombe: 1, Paul's Row. Maidenhead: 9, Market St.
Have you seen our very special lines?
Shopping Basket, 2/9; Air Tubes, 1/11; Plated Wheels, 13/9; Belvoir Covers, 6/9.