

Speech Day 1950

A new gymnasium, additional science laboratories, and a settled staffing position were appealed for by Mr. R. W. Hamilton. Awards were presented by Mr. J. H. Nicholson, Principal of University College, Hull.

Ald. A. Flavell, chairman of the Governors, presided. He said the Governors were pressing for more accommodation, of which the district and the whole of South Yorkshire were starving. They could not keep silent with the injustice. If the country wanted more coal and goods, technical and grammar education should be provided in the districts by which it would profit most.

Mr. Hamilton said far too frequent changes of staff and inadequacy of laboratory accommodation were affecting the work of the school. In July nine teachers left and their successors were really all beginners in the profession. They were, however, all well qualified, potentially good teachers and were already contributing much to the School's life. He was confident that with the assistance of their more experienced colleagues the school would soon have as good and efficient staff as ever. About twelve years ago a decision was made to build a new gymnasium, but the war caused it to be shelved. The time had come for the project to be revived. The girls had no changing accommodation and the boys had to use a wooden hut erected as a temporary structure twenty years ago. The school had a fine reputation for games, but the facilities for physical education and for changing accommodation were among the worst in the county. Mr. Hamilton said there was also a need for more science laboratories. The country was desperate for more scientists, who came from grammar schools. The school needed a new science block with six laboratories. At present their science teaching was severely handicapped and the marvel was that they kept such high standards in science studies.

The number of pupils was 614, compared with 625 a year ago, and Mr. Hamilton said there had been a tendency of late for the number to get less. Results in the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate were not outstanding, and only one pupil reached a level high enough to win a County Major Scholarship. Excellence in advanced work was based upon sound work in the junior-middle school.

Mr. Hamilton said all the School's activities were running smoothly. The spirit of the school was high, and the enthusiasm and keenness in all their undertakings were outstanding features.

Mr. Nicholson talked about freedom and how education could help it. Freedom was too often taken for granted in this country, he said. It was our birthright, but it should never be forgotten that men and women in the past had gone through a great deal to win it. They could not set a man free by refusing to restrict him. In all organisations it was the few who counted, who accepted the responsibility of leadership, and the rest followed like a lot of sheep or stayed away from the meetings. Yet this country, as a democracy, depended on leadership, not of the few, but of the many. Education in these days was closely related to citizenship, and taught them to be wise and tolerant citizens. The most important lesson of all that education taught, was how to make the right choices. If they lived in a totalitarian state they would find they were not allowed those freedoms. They must learn to use their freedoms.

Mr. Nicholson was thanked by Coun. A. Richards and Coun. A. Pennington.

The Awards

The list of awards included the following:

County Major Scholarship

Royal Society of Arts Certificates

For gaining County Major Scholarship

For Distinction in Higher School Certificate:

For Distinction in School Certificate

Rotary Essays

Head Boy: Robinson.

Head Girl: Gladys Alderman.

Form Prizes

1a - M. Haigh	1b - Farnsworth	1c - M. Knapton	1d - Sedgwick.	
2a - S. Paynter	2b - Drury	2c - Horbury	2d - Megson.	
3a - M. Weston	3b - M. Adamson	3c - Dillon	3d - Baker.	
4a - M. Horbury	4b - A. Heppinstall	4c - Callery	4d - Mozley	4e - Haverty.
5a - M. Burns	5b - S. Rimmington	5c - Marr.		

A. G. Jenkinson Latin Prize	Ackroyd.
Col. Hallam Latin Prize	M. Burns.
M. A. Griffiths French Prize	M. Allen.
Davy Prize for Music	E. Godwin.
Kubo Art Medal	M. Roberts.
Guest Cookery Prize	S. Rimmington.
Guest Needlework Prize	M. Kendall.
Kenward Biology Medal	J. Kenchington.
Star Prize	M. Knapton.
Junior Girls P.T. Medal	M. Farmer.
Junior Boys P.T. Medal	Laughton.
Senior Girls P.T. Medal	J. Thompson.
Senior Boys P.T. Medal	Frost.
Individual Cricket Cup	Schofield.

Winners of House Cups were:

Sports	Talbot (315 pts.)	Holgate (239½)	Price (187½)	Guest (175).
Standards	Price (830 pts.)	Holgate (762)	Guest (655)	Talbot (634).
Cricket	Holgate (43pts.)	Price (37)	Talbot (21)	Guest (nil).
Swimming	Price (65 pts.)	Guest (48)	Holgate (45)	Talbot (42).
Rugby	Talbot (63pts.)	Tie - Price & Holgate (50)		Guest (17).
Hockey	Holgate (37pts.)	Talbot (25)	Guest (21)	Price (17).
Challenge	Talbot (1,227pts.)	Holgate (1,214)	Price (1,046)	Guest (1,012).
Arts	Talbot (105pts.)	Price (104)	Guest (103)	Holgate (87).