

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
ASSOCIATION OF BOYS' CLUBS



WEEK-END CLUB, COWLEY MANOR, JANUARY 1952

ANNUAL REPORT 1951-52



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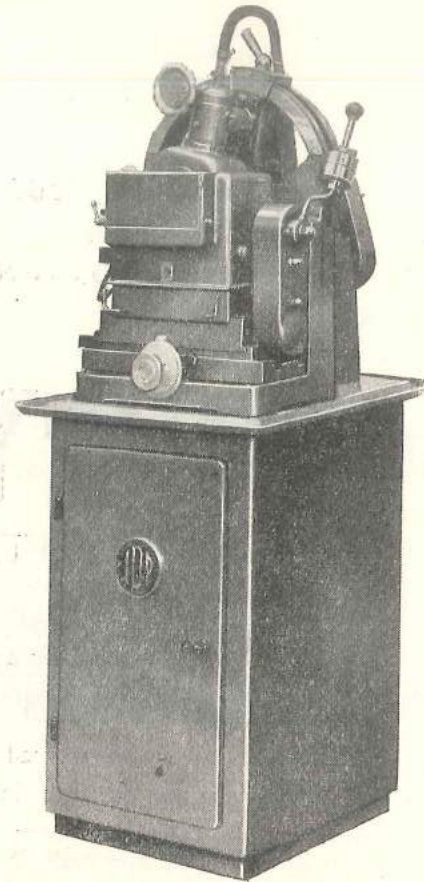
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ACHIEVEMENT—1951



Boys of Baker Street Y.M.C.A. Boys' Club, Cheltenham working to complete the New Lounge they built on to their premises under the direction of their Leader.



The General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. dedicates the Cross in the completed building.

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BOYS' CLUBS

1.—*What is It?*

It is the local branch, in the County of Gloucestershire, of the National Association of Boys' Clubs in which is centred all the accumulated knowledge and experience gained from 70 years of Club working.

2.—*What does it Do?*

It "services" its 30 or so affiliated clubs, giving them advice and support when wanted, arranging County and National competitions for them in Sports, Drama and other cultural activities, and providing training courses for Leaders and Senior Boys. It does the preliminary work in starting new clubs where they are most needed, getting a local committee formed and seeing that management, finance and leadership are put on a sound basis.

3.—*What does it Cost?*

About £1,100 a year, of which grants from the Local Education Authority and the National Association of Boys' Clubs provide about half. The balance must come from local subscriptions, raised in the County.

4.—*Is it Necessary?*

Yes, certainly. Experience has shown that, where there is no local association, the life of many clubs is a short one, through lack of experience in management. The lack of the County competitions and training facilities is also a grave loss.

BOYS' CLUBS IN THE WELFARE STATE

An address given by Mr. H. C. A. GAUNT, Headmaster of Malvern College, at the Annual General Meeting on June 20th, 1951 and printed here with his kind permission

When your Chairman wrote to me, several weeks ago, to ask me to address you to-night, in spite of the fact that my programme of events was already overfull, I felt impelled to accept his invitation; and the reasons for my doing so were varied. And there was my own interest, going back many years, in the subject you have asked me to speak about: "The Value of Boys' Clubs in the Welfare State." Yet it was only when I sat down a day or two ago to write this address that I realised how little I have to say and how trivial it may appear to an audience who are far more experienced in the need for and in the running of Boys' Clubs than I am.

None the less I know a little of the needs and the aspirations of boys; I know how some ways of influencing them work badly and others work well; I know the immense, almost infinite importance, of the personal example and character of the teacher; and I find it hard to believe that my experience among boys at Malvern is irrelevant to the boys of Gloucestershire.

Now the term Welfare State has lately become rather a term of contempt and abuse, and I think it is a great pity. For if by a Welfare State is meant a State which caters for the welfare of its citizens, that surely is the kind of State we should wish to have. And certainly I do not think there are many people of any political party who would wish to see what we call the social services abolished, though we shall always, I hope, seek to have them improved. But side by side with the great extension of social security in the last ten years has gone also a great and growing disappointment. The worst evils of dire poverty in England are almost things of the past; at any rate poverty is not to-day a major or widespread problem. I imagine you do not find boys and girls to-day unable to come to the Club because they have no shoes, nor listless when they get there because they have not had enough to eat. The immense service to the poor boy and the needy boy that Youth Clubs did in the bad old days of the 1880's and the even worse old days of unemployment of 1931, was incalculable. But these days are past, and that evil is mainly remedied. Yet there has crept into society a certain work-shyness, a lack of responsibility, even a readiness to take advantage of others. It seems sometimes as though the material security which we so much desired, quite rightly, that every man should have, has sapped him of his energy and will-power. No doubt this tendency can be exaggerated, but it exists. And the natural result

has been for people to feel that in the Welfare State voluntary societies are either unnecessary or futile.

Let me illustrate this by an experience which we had at Malvern College last summer. Our School Mission is the Dockland settlement in Canning Town, in the East End of London. During the Whitsun weekend we invited down twenty members of the Boys' Club to Malvern, and they came by train, each paying his own fare. Two things created a great impression on our own boys. The first was that everyone of the club boys had money and to spare—far more, I am told, than any of our boys had; and they spent that money freely in the town. The second thing was that ten of the club boys and four in particular, seemed to be exceedingly well versed in many of the arts of gangsterism: one of them gave a demonstration with a "cosh" and another a vivid lesson in "razor-slashing." Most of them stayed out in the town until midnight, their chief desire being to pick up a girl; and altogether the experiment of inviting these boys down seemed to be interesting rather than fruitful. Now I have mentioned this, not because I think it was unusual, or deplorable, or challenging; but because afterwards our boys came to me and said, "Sir, why should we subscribe money for boys who have plenty of their own, and who behave like this?" That question demands an answer, and the answer we give will reveal our attitude towards Boys' Clubs in the Welfare State. Why should we devote our money or our time towards the welfare of those whom the State is pledged to look after?

"Those whom the State is pledged to look after." Surely the key to the answer to our question lies there. The State (which is merely ourselves acting in our corporate and compulsory capacity) can look after the *material* welfare of the society. It can see that pre-natal treatment, post-natal treatment, nursery schools, free orange juice, free school meals, and free schools are available for all children. It can see that treatment in sickness is universally available, that no one starves, that men and women are fed, housed, entertained, and even buried with due dignity, whether they can afford it or not. In fact the State sees that the material advantages of the nation are sufficient and evenly distributed, that no one gets less than his minimum needs; and I, for one, would not quarrel with that. But that is as far as the State can go, at any rate that is as far as law and administration can go. The State cannot provide the *spiritual* needs of men. It can put up buildings, but it cannot provide friendship; it can make laws, but it cannot make men. Please do not misunderstand me; the State can greatly encourage or greatly hinder the building of fellowship or the making of men. But it cannot itself make men. Even the most perfect Committee cannot do that. That can only be done

by God, acting through men and women, through men and women who are prepared for sacrifice and self-denial, for duty and service. And a Committee is, if I may suggest it, debarred by definition from sacrificing itself, though its individual members may sacrifice themselves.

What is this service that we can give to boys? Why *must* there be Boys' Clubs? What is it, beyond the material necessities of life and bare formal instruction in technical knowledge, what is it that they *must* have, and which we must see that they have, either in their families, or in their School, or in their Clubs?

The first thing is fellowship. If boys are not organised into Clubs they will organise themselves into gangs. Gangs are not necessarily bad things; they are certainly very natural things. But gangs tend to become either so adventurous as to be dangerous, or so feeble as to be boring; and the gang is very seldom indeed able by itself to be creative of good sound fellowship.

That takes me to my second point; the necessity for good standards in all parts of life. How does a family or a Club or a School or a nation maintain its standards and improve upon them? Partly by imitation. I wonder whether we realise how imitative we are by nature, and how much from our earliest childhood up to to-day we rely upon and seek to follow the examples of one another, particularly of those who for one reason or another, good or bad, we admire and respect. Boys have little experience, but an insatiable appetite for it. They will devour the experience of others, if they cannot find it for themselves. If the good is presented to them, they will follow it willingly, if it is presented heroically; and if evil is presented to them—and it is far easier to present heroically—they will follow that; but they will follow the one or the other, the good or the bad, as they see them presented by us. It is an appalling and a most wonderful responsibility that we hold in our hands, whether we like it or not. But all building of character, all spiritual development, comes through people and not through things. And it comes most certainly and surely when people come together in some sort of community, for a purpose and for an ideal.

The third necessity is that of responsibility. The greatest desire of all that boys have is to be grown up. If they knew what being grown up meant they might not be quite so ardent; but most of them at least want to put on the garment of adult responsibility. It is therefore of the utmost importance that they should learn and practise responsibility at the earliest possible moment, and at a stage when, if they fail in it, it does not greatly matter. "The man who never made a mistake never made anything." That is a very true saying, and in fact our whole educa-

tional system, School and Club alike, is built on that belief. In the life of a School, in the life of a Boys' Club, that realisation of responsibility is its greatest justification and its greatest reward. There is also the education in financial responsibility: the discovery that you cannot have something for nothing even in a Welfare State. And perhaps here I might express the hope that Clubs realise how necessary it is to support their parent body, the National Association of Boys' Clubs, and to devote a regular quota of their subscriptions towards its work. But to learn responsibility in any direction is a large part of the education of a good citizen.

But there is a further responsibility, not of the boy but of the adult. For if we conclude that the Welfare State will do everything, we are merely using it to try and relieve ourselves of an inescapable responsibility. If our children see us helping others, they will do the same; if they hear us abusing or neglecting Boys' Clubs, they will talk and think likewise; if we segregate ourselves into a world of our own, so will they, and the task of handing on the best of our national character and our national heritage will not be continued. Clubs in any kind of a State are a necessity, even if they are only a meeting place for young and old.

And then our money or our gifts—perhaps especially our gifts—are needed too. Subscriptions and grants will no doubt cover much of the Club's expenditure. But will the money always be forthcoming from the Club members themselves for those unusual things, some special books for the library or pictures for the wall, perhaps a potter's wheel for the workroom, some timber to make a stage, a small sundial and a few rose trees, even a brass knocker for the front door? And Clubs get dreary sometimes and boring if it is all fun and games and dances. Beautiful things and significant things have a very great part to play in the building of character, especially in the lives of boys who do not usually come across them.

There is also great scope for voluntary clubs undertaking some new and original pieces of work which might be difficult or impossible for a Local Authority to do. Such ventures are of course vital to the life and spirit of a good Club.

Beside, can we, as citizens ourselves, afford to stand aside and see Boys' Clubs dying or failing for lack of support? Are we not, in some measure, committing a form of treason if we do? Does it matter or doesn't it matter what sort of men are going to be working in our fields and factories and offices and dockyards and mines in 10, 20, and 30 years time. Every page of our history books cries out to us that it does matter, and matters more than any other one thing. Well, if so, can anybody suggest any

other way of moulding character except by boys and men associating with one another and with those who care for good things and try to practise and encourage them? If there were no such things as Boys' Clubs we should have to invent them.

Finally, there is one further reason, the best and highest reason of all, which was expressed to me a few days ago in words I shall never forget, by a man whom you will all know by name, Mr. Basil Henriques. He talked one Sunday morning to some of our senior boys about Juvenile Delinquency and the Juvenile Courts, and it was a very moving experience; for here was a man speaking with authority from a storehouse of knowledge and with a light shining within him. Incidentally he mentioned that it was very seldom that as a Magistrate he had before him a boy or girl who was a regular member of a Youth Club; I pass that on because it seems to me to be a very encouraging thing. He talked of broken homes, frustrated lives, cruelty, callousness, impossible conditions, hopeless cases. Here was a man who had seen more failures, I suppose, than all of us here put together have seen. Yet he remained serene and hopeful, for he had also seen lives changed and saved and flourishing. He ended his remarks by speaking of the happiness which he himself had found in his work among boys during the past fifty years, and he used these words: "Finally I speak to you as a Jew; and because I am a Jew, I know that all these boys and girls whom I meet are made in the image of God. I count it my duty to do what I can to help them to express the glory that is within them."

I feel it has been almost impertinent of me to attempt to set before you the views of a mere amateur, when many of you are so actively engaged in the great work itself. Yet I propose to add another impertinence to it. Let us never grow weary of putting this duty of supporting and encouraging Boys' Clubs before the public. People are often lazy and hidebound and even callous if they are allowed to be. But it is one of our greatest British characteristics that, once our conscience is roused, we do not refuse to lend a hand, we do not "slink out of the race." And if anything I have said this evening may in any way encourage you to persist in publicity, propaganda and persuasion, I shall feel that I have not altogether failed.



GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BOYS' CLUBS

Affiliated to the National Association of Boys' Clubs

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FOREWORD

I am pleased to note that in this year's Report emphasis is laid on two or three very fine efforts that have been made for the future welfare of Boys' Clubs in this County. In particular I refer to the training courses for boys at Cowley Manor, and to the reconstitution of the Oddington, Stow and other Boys' Clubs.

This is most encouraging and, as I wrote last year, shows that our County has well maintained her efforts.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity of thanking and congratulating all connected with Boys' Clubs in Gloucestershire and also to send best wishes for their efforts in the coming year.

17th April, 1952.

BEAUFORT,
President.

INTRODUCTION

Candour compels the admission that the bulk of these introductory remarks have had to be written at the New Year, because the Chairman is adding to his other defects as such by some three months of absenteeism, leaving the country in mid-January for an official journey to Pakistan, with further duties in Burma and India, and though due back by the beginning of April might not be in time for the printing of this Report.

As the New Year succeeds the Old a certain feeling of optimism is permissible in the G.A.B.C. This is not based on finance, though at that exact date our account was for the moment positively in credit. This was unusual enough, especially as in March, 1951 there was a deficit of some £250, to cause temporary jubilation; but it must at once be recorded that the fortunate position was due to two most generous anonymous donations of £50 and £250, respectively, whose donors refuse personal acknowledgement, though it is hoped that they may privately read here the most grateful thanks of a Committee seriously anxious over ways and means and quite enormously relieved and encouraged to fresh efforts by this benevolence and well aware that such godsendings cannot be expected in 1952. Yet already a deficit of some £20 on the very successful Boxing Tournament held in December, 1951 has been covered by an anonymous friend who has put up that amount, realising that the expenses of such an evening are necessarily heavy, what with such prizes as the A.B.A. has authorised and rent of the Cheltenham Town Hall, where a very large audience is required to make any show financially profitable. Fully half of our affiliated Clubs sent either boxers or a coach-load of spectators, or both, and some excellent fighting was seen.

The Penny-a-Week Scheme has not had the success hoped for, largely because its originator, Mr. Hoyland, has been prevented by indisposition from personally advocating it in various Clubs as he had intended. Nevertheless, it has made not a few of them conscious of their responsibility and led to their subscribing to the Central Fund as they had not done before. With the danger of some diminution of public monies for the support of Youth Clubs in the general "Economy Drive," this source of income becomes even more necessary.

The real test of success is development. If this is judged by the opening of new clubs, then the G.A.B.C. has not developed during the past year. But it can record something even more valuable, the revival of Clubs that for one reason and another have actually closed or were about to close. Thus the Club at Oddington re-opened in December, that at Stow-on-the-Wold is being resuscitated, and the defunct Stroud Club has now a new Management Committee and a keen group of boys with a Leader, only awaiting the discovery of suitable premises to begin afresh.

A second really helpful development is the holding of an "Adjustment to Industry" course of five days at Cowley Manor early in December. A number of leading Firms in Gloucestershire, paying all expenses, mustered a party of 29 apprentices, who obviously enjoyed the addresses by all grades of Management, the discussions, and the general good fellowship, under the able direction of Mr. Kirk from N.A.B.C. Headquarters. It can be recorded that the Wardens of Cowley Manor strongly commended the general behaviour and spirit of the company, and that some leading industrialists have expressed themselves either to your Chairman or your Secretary as well satisfied with the reaction of their representatives. It is hoped to repeat such a course in 1952 with a new lot of apprentices. Incidentally, it is a great opportunity of putting the boys into touch with Clubs in their neighbourhood, and for doing something tangible for Industry in return for the valuable financial support already coming from it.

Other activities—visits by the N.A.B.C. Mobile Training Wing, a weekend adventure party at Nash Court, a junior Fitness Leaders' course at Ford Castle,—are recorded below. Meanwhile, the Executive Committee has been engaged at several sessions in examining the whole field of existing efforts and deciding what should be in abeyance and what vigorously promoted in the immediate future.

It is impossible for the most energetic Secretary to give equal attention and time to all the possible schemes and a deliberate selection has seemed essential. Better to have some openings thoroughly used than a larger number inviting little traffic.

And finally, Finance, which last year was the opening theme. With public economy in the air, it is realised that County Associations must be more self-supporting and more fully in co-operation (not in overlapping) with the work done by the Local Education Authorities. We are definitely conscious of more suc-

cess, from both sides, in this latter duty, within our own County. For achieving the former, a Jumble Sale was successfully held in January, a second Boxing Tournament is under consideration, and there is talk of the possibility of a Ball. Especially we ask any reader of this Report to consider a subscription, or the conversion of an existing subscription into a "covenant" that almost doubles its value (see page 40), or the suggestion to a non-subscribing friend that here is an opportunity for assisting a work of critical importance to the rising generation, and one of which the discontinuance, through lack of funds, would be quite literally a public disaster. Recreation is, of course, a big factor in all our Clubs; but the work does not and must not stop there. Nowhere else, in present circumstances, can large numbers of growing boys learn so well, if at all, co-operation, responsibility and disinterested service, which together with an appreciation of the spiritual side of all energies make up the building of such a character as our Country more than ever needs in an age of swift material, and largely materialistic, development.

H. H. HARDY.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There were twenty-eight active Boys' Clubs in Gloucestershire affiliated to the National Association of Boys' Clubs at the time of writing this report—the end of March, 1952. These Clubs constitute the Gloucestershire Association of Boys' Clubs.

In addition, there are six Clubs at present in abeyance and awaiting reconstitution by the Association. They have a high priority in the list of work to be done in the coming year, and they will re-open as soon as leaders can be found and trained for their responsible task.

As already stated by the Chairman, Stow Boys' Club is well on the way and it is hoped that the newly-formed Interim Management Committee will be able to open in the Autumn of 1952 this new Club which is to take the place of the former mixed Club which previously existed.

Leckhampton Boys' Club is also scheduled to re-open in the Autumn, for a voluntary leader has been found and is being trained for his job.

The Association has been responsible for the re-opening of Oddington Boys' Club under new management and experienced leadership.

Four Clubs have become newly affiliated to the N.A.B.C. during the year: Tetbury Boys' Club, Hawling Boys' Club and the boys' sections of Gloucester City Youth Club and Archdeacon Street Youth Club, Gloucester.

It was with regret that the Executive Committee decided to cease all development work in Herefordshire early in 1952, and to confine the Association's activities in that county to inviting the Hereford Lads' Club to take part in all Association events as though it were situated in Gloucestershire. Development work in Herefordshire is now in the hands of the N.A.B.C. Regional Officer in the South West.

(A full list of affiliated Clubs appears on pages 36 & 37)

TRAINING

Broadly interpreted, training means the giving of advice to those actively engaged in the running of the individual Club in the Association, whether they are boys, leaders or committees, so that their efforts shall be more fruitful and their Clubs more efficient. Training courses have been run, and these are presently to be described, but they constitute the smaller part of the Association's training activities. A far larger proportion of the training programme is carried out by the Secretary in informal conversation with leaders, helpers and senior boys—particularly Boys' Committee members—on his frequent visits to Clubs as the Association's representative, whilst they are in session, or in attending Management Committee meetings where he frequently serves as an ex-officio member. More time is given to this most important aspect of Club work than to any other.

Individual Training

Willingness to devote several evenings voluntarily to the leadership of a Boys' Club is not sufficient qualification for the prospective leader. The coaching of such men and arranging for them to work in established Clubs with experienced leaders as a preparatory step is another aspect of training which is not shewn in reports of formal courses. Two men are receiving this attention at the present time, and it is hoped that both will lead Clubs in the Autumn of 1952.

Training Courses

(a) *N.A.B.C. Mobile Training Wing.*—The Wing with its staff of three Instructors spent three days in Gloucestershire at

the end of October, 1951. Three evening training sessions were held; one at the Cirencester H.Q. of the Army Cadet Force; one in Tewkesbury in collaboration with the District Youth Service Officer, and a third in Gloucester in conjunction with the City Youth Committee. In all, some 30 adult leaders and 60 members attended these sessions.



THE N.A.B.C. MOBILE TRAINING WING VAN AT 17 BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON

Each evening was divided into three sessions, one on N.A.B.C. Services, the second on Handicrafts, and the third on Physical Activities, the aim in each case being to bring new and practicable ideas to the notice of the Clubs represented.

Senior Boy Training

"I feel that the past week-end was a grand effort and should prove very profitable to all those intending to make progress either as club members or leaders. Would that we could have more!"

A letter which included this sentence arrived in the office shortly after the most recent meeting of the G.A.B.C. Weekend Club held at Cowley Manor. The writer is a young man of 21

who for years has helped to run his Club as a member and is beginning to assume the responsibilities of an assistant leader. There are perhaps half a dozen young men like him, in other Clubs in the county, who are gradually emerging from membership to leadership. This process is being accelerated and consolidated by the Weekend Club meetings, held periodically during the season, which now constitute the Association's Senior Boy Training programme.



A MEMBER OF LYDBROOK BOYS' CLUB PUTS THEORY TO THE TEST IN A PRACTICAL SESSION DURING THE FEBRUARY WEEKEND CLUB AT COWLEY MANOR

—Photograph by Mr. J. Willink

The aim at each of these Weekends is threefold: to provide an adventure designed to challenge courage and tax the mind, to enlarge the experience of each individual through sessions and talks on new activities, and, through the carefully devised programme to give boys an insight into the purpose and method of Boys' Clubs.

Three week-ends were held during the year:—

(1) APRIL 21/22, 1951. An "Adventure" Weekend was held at the N.A.B.C. Centre, Nash Court, Tenbury Wells. The

motif was "fitness of body mind and spirit." Grit, determination and a spirit of adventure were needed for the rigours and the very real dangers of this weekend. Activities included a night scheme by map, starlight and compass, an assault course, a man-hunt and a high-speed camp pitching competition. 12 boys took part. They represented three Clubs.

(2) JANUARY 26/27, 1952. 26 boys from six Clubs.

(3) FEBRUARY 29/30, 1952. 22 boys from six Clubs.

Both these meetings of the "Club" were held at Cowley Manor. Activities included Handicrafts, Archery, Canoeing, Music, Badminton, a night raid, a six mile expedition in the worst blizzard for 87 years, and talks and discussions on the problems and working of Boys' Committees.

Training at Ford Castle

Through the efforts of their Leaders four Gloucestershire boys were able to attend Junior Fitness Leaders' Courses at Ford Castle, Berwick-on-Tweed—the N.A.B.C. Senior Boy Training Centre, during August, 1951.

The programme dealt with general fitness training and leadership practice and also provided specialist training under national coaches in Association Football, Basket Ball, Golf and Agilities.

The boys were drawn from the following clubs:—

Cirencester Boys' Club—D. Porch.

Leckhampton Boys' Club—B. Claridge.

Bledington Boys' Club—A. Wannerton, L. Acock.

Adjustment to Industry

The Chairman has mentioned this course in general outline already. As it does however represent a new and important departure in G.A.B.C. activity and further courses are planned, some further details are given here.



ADJUSTMENT TO INDUSTRY COURSE, COWLEY MANOR, DECEMBER 1951 : STUDENTS, STAFF AND VISITORS

The course was organised and administered jointly by the County Association and the Training Staff of the National Association of Boys' Clubs.

The aim of these courses is to help boys develop a right attitude to work. It is only if boys have some basic knowledge that they can achieve a degree of understanding of the factors involved, and without that understanding a right attitude is impossible. A subsidiary, but none-the-less vital aim is to give the boys some ideas about how to use their leisure time constructively, with a chance to put them into practice so that by the end of the week they have something to show for their efforts.

It is essential to build up in the group of boys attending a course, a sense of community and a sense of individual responsibility to the course as a whole. This is achieved in two ways :—

- (a) By dividing the boys into four groups.
- (b) By setting up at the earliest opportunity a course committee which has real responsibility and real executive authority.

It is necessary to ensure that each boy actively takes part in every session. For this reason, speakers were asked to limit their talks to 20 minutes. The boys then went into their groups for 10 minutes and formulated with the guidance of an adult group tutor, the questions they wished to put to the speaker. The full sessions was then resumed for a further 20-30 minutes of questions and answers.

The course opened with an historical review of Gloucestershire including a general survey of the industrial background over the past 50 years. The latter was concerned mainly with engineering because of the nature of the work in which the firms sending boys to the course are engaged.

Alongside this, various experts, e.g., a Youth Employment Officer, a County Assistant for Further Education, a Managing Director, Works Manager, Foreman, Shop Steward, Trade Union Official, a Works Accountant and many others explained their particular function so that the boys realised not only "How a Factory Works" but also that a host of experts are available to help them with their particular problems if they will take the trouble to ask. There was also a session on "Factors of Production" and how taxation is used.

At the course already held the boys responded quickly to the invitation to become a live community and undertook their re-

sponsibilities seriously. By the second day of the course the Boys' Committee decided that they were prepared to act as chairmen for the visiting speakers, and from the third day onwards the committee members took it in turn to act in this capacity. It is significant that many boys said that what they will remember most about the course, is that they were treated as responsible people by the staff.

The boys learnt a great deal—this was borne out by the results of the examination held at the conclusion of the course. The daily programmes were heavy: eight full sessions are concluded in a day with meals at 8.15 a.m., 1.00 p.m., 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. The last session commences at 8.15 p.m. No complaint has been made of overworking and it may be concluded that the method of presentation is attractive and stimulating. Each day ends with cocoa and buns at 10.15 p.m. followed by prayers and then to bed.

The County Association and the National Association of Boys' Clubs is concerned with the welfare of boys of 14-18 years of age and sincere appreciation is recorded for the manner in which the following firms have accepted and adopted the service afforded by these Adjustment to Industry Courses:—

- Williams & James, Ltd.
- Hoffmann Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
- Impregnated Diamond Products, Ltd.
- George Waller & Son, Ltd.
- Mawdsley, Ltd.
- Permali, Ltd.
- Dowty Equipment, Ltd.
- Redler Conveyors, Ltd.
- Rotol, Ltd.
- Fielding & Platt, Ltd.
- Tungum Sales, Ltd.

REGIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Although the N.A.B.C. Regional Arts Festival has reached its fifth year, Gloucestershire in common with other counties in the S.W. Region is slow to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by this event for Clubs to measure their individual

achievements in Music, Drama, Handicrafts and Art against a standard of finish and polish set up by the N.A.B.C.

The St. John Bosco Boys' Club, Longhope, submitted a concert, a play and individual musical items for adjudication. As there were no entries from other Clubs in Gloucestershire, adjudication was performed by Mr. R. G. Carter, County Music Adviser and Mr. H. E. Higgins the S.W. Regional Officer for the N.A.B.C. on April 14th, 1951 at Blaisdon Hall. Second class awards were made for all entries.

CANOEING

Particular attention has been given to popularising Canoeing and canoemaking as a Club activity. The Association's objective is to encourage and assist Clubs to undertake camping voyages on rivers and canals. The Secretary has built a 14ft. canoe and has taken it round to Clubs in varying stages of completion. Film shows and talks have also been arranged in various centres. The response is slow but on the whole gratifying. Five Clubs report that a start has been made on their own craft.



A 'USE OF LEISURE' PERIOD DURING THE FIRST ADJUSTMENT TO INDUSTRY COURSE
AT COWLEY MANOR

—(By courtesy of *The Cheltenham Echo*)

SPORT

1951-52 has been a season showing little response on the part of affiliated Clubs to the facilities for competitive sport offered by the Association. There are many possible explanations for this state of affairs. In the case of Boxing, declining interest and activity in schools over the past five years is reflected in boys who left school during that period and joined Clubs with little or no desire to box. Increasing activity in the field of amateur football whereby Clubs are now offered more facilities than they can encompass in a season. In other spheres it is believed that shortage of playing fields accounts for a lack of response. Recent events, however, indicate that this section of our report will be more encouraging in 1952/53.

Boxing

Only seven entries were received from a total of five Clubs for the County Championship arranged for March 1st, 1952. The event was therefore cancelled. Four of the entrants elected to enter the S.W. Area rounds of the N.A.B.C. Boxing Championships held at Bristol on March 8th, 1952:—

- R. Cowle—Wotton-under-Edge Boys' Club.
- D. Robbins—Upton St. Leonards Boys' Club.
- A. Jacques—Fairford Boys' Club (Sealow Club).
- J. Williamson—Parry Hall Youth Club, Gloucester.

R. Cowle was defeated. The remaining three boxers went forward to the 1/8th Championships held at Slough on March 22nd. Two were defeated by superior opponents, the other was disqualified.

A fund-raising tournament held at Cheltenham Town Hall has already been referred to by the Chairman.

Football

(a) *Godman Cup Competition*.—The entry for this eliminating inter-club competition was four. The competition is not yet completed, but progress is shown here:—

SENIOR (16-18)

Nailsworth B.C.	}	Longford won, 8-1	} Winner
Longford B.C.	}	Bye—Longlevens Y.C.	

JUNIOR (14-16)

Longford B.C.	}	Longford won, 4-3	} Winner Longford B.C.
St. John Bosco B.C.	}	Bye—Painswick B.C.	

(b) *N.A.B.C. National Football Championship*.—Nailsworth Boys' Club and Hereford Lads' Club jointly nominated players

of inter-county standard for the team to represent Gloucestershire and Herefordshire in the first round of the N.A.B.C. inter-county championship.

The match was played in Bristol on December 8th, 1951 against a team representing the Bristol Federation of Boys' Clubs. After a tough struggle for supremacy in phenomenally bad weather Bristol won the match. The score was three goals to two. Here is the team:—

John Hill (Hereford Lads' Club)			
John Duff (Nailsworth B.C.)		Ralph Oliver (Hereford Lads' Club)	
John Taylor (Hereford Lads' Club)	Keith Edwards (Hereford Lads' Club)	Gordon Smith (Hereford Lads' Club)	
Clive Terry (H.L.C.)	C. Catley (Capt.) (H.L.C.)	John Wallace (H.L.C.)	W. Lewis John Owen (N.B.C.) (H.L.C.)

Reserves: John Griffiths (H.L.C.); J. Clarke (N.B.C.)
Players and reserves were presented with County Colours.

Cricket



DOWN HATHRLEY YOUTH CLUB TEAM AFTER WINNING THE CRICKET CUP AT THE
SISSON ROAD GROUND

—Photograph by Mr. R. K. Parsons

The entry for the Fourth Annual Cricket Competition is given below:—

SENIOR SECTION

Down Hatherley Y.C. Winchcombe Y.C.	} Down Hatherley	} Down Hatherley Y.C.
Cirencester B.C. Longlevens Y.C.	} Longlevens	

The G.A.B.C. Cricket Cup was presented to the winning team by the Chairman of the Association.

It is perhaps a little previous to announce in this report that the entry in this competition for 1952 is 16 Senior teams and three Junior teams.

Cross-Country Running Competition

The Fourth Annual Cross-Country Race was held at Rotol Sports Ground, by kind permission, on April 28th, 1951.

JUNIOR (14-16)

St. John Bosco B.C.
Longlevens Y.C.
Baker Street Y.M.C.A.
St. Mark's Y.C.
Ramblers' L.C.
Parry Hall Y.C.

SENIOR (16-18)

St. John Bosco B.C.
Baker Street Y.M.C.A.
Ramblers L.C.
Parry Hall Y.C.
St. Gregory's B.C. (A)
St. Gregory's B.C. (B)
Bledington B.C.

The Junior event (14-16 years) held over a course approximately 2 miles long over roads, fields, and woodland, was won by the St. John Bosco Boys' Club team who gained 23 points; Longlevens Youth Club (who had the first three men home) came a close second with 25 points; Baker Street Y.M.C.A. Boys' Club, Cheltenham were third with 48 points and St. Mark's Youth Club came fourth with 52 points. J. Gill of Longlevens who was first man home completed the course in 13 minutes 3 seconds.

The Senior course (16-18 years) was a little over three miles. St. Gregory's Club won easily with 16 points; Baker Street Y.M.C.A. Boys' Club were second with 23 points and St. John Bosco Boys' Club were third with 50 points. Finlay of Baker Street Y.M.C.A. finished first in the Senior event—covering the course in 19 mins. 50 seconds.

Colonel Godman's Cup was presented to the winning team by Mr. Larry Cummins the former Olympic runner who congratulated the Leader and members of Down Hatherley Boys' Club on their work of setting out and marking the course.

The whole event was run under the auspices of the Glos. Amateur Athletic Association, and with the assistance of the

following officials: Judges, Mr. R. L. Parsons, Mr. P. Taylor; Rev. Father W. Boyd; Referee, Mr. L. Cummins; Timekeeper, Mr. M. Wilce.

Rugby Football

Only three affiliated Clubs show any considerable interest in Rugby Football; the Executive Committee have therefore decided to suspend all activities in this direction for the time being in order that more time shall be available for the more important Club development work.

N.A.B.C. SERVICES

Much use continues to be made of the services freely provided by our parent body, the National Association of Boys' Clubs.

Ten Clubs have taken part in the Insurance Scheme and thus have been protected against all eventualities.

A new interest is being shewn in the Picture Scheme whereby Clubs may select from a catalogue prints of famous pictures which are then supplied by the N.A.B.C. and are framed by the Club concerned.

Throughout the year the Executive Committee has been in constant touch with the N.A.B.C. Field Staff, and particularly wish to acknowledge the helpful advice and support forthcoming from the South West Regional Officer of the N.A.B.C., Mr. H. E. Higgins, J.P.

THANKS

The number of people, firms, trusts and organisations which helped the work of the Association during the past year was considerable. To mention each one by name would be an immense task, but our gratitude expressed in this report is none-the-less wholehearted or sincere. Every voluntary organisation ultimately depends in typical British fashion on the loyalty, enthusiasm and generosity of its supporters, and we ask all our friends to accept this corporate expression of the Executive Committee's appreciation and thanks.

The Association is aware that the Local Education Authorities play a considerable part in the Youth Service of the City and County, and has been gratified at having been able to co-operate with the respective Committees in general youth work, but par-

ticularly pleased to have been able to co-operate with District Youth Committees, in certain areas, in the interests of Clubs locally.

The Association is grateful to the Authorities for their readiness to co-operate in this way and will do its utmost to reciprocate when occasions arise.

Particular acknowledgement should here be made of the County Education Committee's generosity in aiding our administrative costs to the extent of £300 and more especially for their readiness to meet our needs by giving a guarantee of £100, in addition to their grant, for the second year in succession.

Acknowledgement should also be made to King George's Jubilee Trust for a substantial allocation of funds available for training and development purposes through the National Association of Boys' Clubs, who have also supported the Association generously.

H. E. HALL, *Secretary*.

9th April, 1952.

Statement of Accounts

AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1952

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries (including P.A.Y.E.)	652	17	2			
„ National Insurance	33	1	3			
				685	18	5
„ Office Expenses :—						
Rent	33	11	3			
Cleaning	7	5	0			
Telephone	35	12	4			
Printing and Stationery	60	7	6			
Heating and Lighting	12	2	9			
Postage	35	4	7			
				184	3	5
„ Travelling, etc. :—						
Petrol and Oil	90	12	5			
Subsistence, Garaging	28	17	5			
Car Repairs	93	5	0			
A.A. Membership	2	2	0			
Car Licence	12	10	0			
Car Insurance	18	10	6			
Train and Bus Fares	3	13	6			
Committee's Travelling Expenses	4	1	0			
Hire of Motor Coaches	22	0	0			
				275	11	10
„ Cost of Senior Boy Training (Weekend Clubs)		16	0	6		
„ Loss on Boxing Tournament		22	10	9		
„ Loss on Football			9	0		
„ Cost of Adjustment to Industry Course		7	1	6		
„ Cost of Duplicator		10	10	0		
„ Hire of Room—Church House		1	1	0		
„ Hire of Film Projector			10	6		
„ Cost of Canoe		5	9	6		
„ Cost of Insurance of Cups		1	0	0		
„ Advertisements in Gloucestershire Echo		4	0	0		
„ N.A.B.C. Contributions, Publications, Staff Conference Fees, Badges and Handbooks		86	10	9		
„ Deposit for Appeal Organiser		20	0	0		
„ Petty Cash Expenses		1	9	5		
„ Bank Charges		4	2	8		
„ Cheque Books		1	8	0		
„ Depreciation :—						
Car @ 15% on Cost (£40)		36	0	0		
Office Furniture 10% on Cost		9	8	9		

£1373 6 0

OF BOYS' CLUBS

INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Subscriptions and Donations :—						
General	262	4	6			
Anonymous Charitable Trust	250	0	0			
				512	4	6
„ Grants :—						
Gloucestershire County Council	300	0	0			
King George's Trust	195	0	0			
N.A.B.C.	65	0	0			
				560	0	0
„ N.A.B.C. under Deed		24	9	3		
„ N.A.B.C. overpayment Annual Conference			1	10	0	
„ Share of N.A.B.C. Affiliation Fees			4	10	0	
„ 1d. a Week Fund			8	6	0	
„ Sunday Cinema Contributions			30	1	4	
„ Profit on Flag Days			18	17	0	
„ Profit on Handbooks			34	10	0	
„ Commission on Car Insurance			2	3	0	
„ A.A. Refund			1	5	0	
„ Proceeds of Raffle			1	6	0	
„ Proceeds of Jumble Sale			51	13	4	
„ Income Tax Refund—Deed of Covenant			39	10	9	
„ Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income			82	19	6	

£1373 6 0

BALANCE SHEET

LIABILITIES	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Lloyds Bank Limited	273	12	9	
				<u>£273</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>

MARCH 31st, 1952

ASSETS	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Motor Car as at 1/4/1951	96	0	0	
Less Depreciation 15% on cost price	36	0	0	
				<u>60</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Office Furniture and Equipment at at 1/4/1951	52	12	6	
Less Depreciation 10% on cost price	9	8	9	
				<u>47</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
Cash in hands of Secretary	3	10	3	
Deficiency Account as at 1/4/1951	79	19	3	
Add Excess of Expenditure over Income 1951/52	82	19	6	
				<u>162</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>9</u>
				<u>£273</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>

We have examined the foregoing Accounts with the Books and Vouchers produced to us, and certify the same to be correct and in accordance with these.

T. G. COOKE, TORTONESE & PRICE.

Rodney Chambers, Cheltenham.
May 15th, 1952.

(Signed) G. A. MARSHALL,
Certified Accountant.

**LIST OF AFFILIATED
CLUBS AND THEIR LEADERS**

ARCHDEACON STREET YOUTH CLUB

Mr. D. Spink, c/o Belsize House, Brunswick Square, Gloucester

BAKER STREET Y.M.C.A. BOYS' CLUB

Mr. V. Dymock, 85 Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham

BLADINGTON & FOXCOTE BOYS' CLUB

Major C. S. Jackson, "Byways," Bledington, Kingham, Oxford

BROADWELL BOYS' CLUB

Mr. H. S. Williams, 1 Long Drive, Broadwell, Coleford, Glos.

CIRENCESTER BOYS' CLUB

Dr. R. Hill, "Barbary," Abbots Road, Cirencester, Glos.
and Mr. R. Green, 29 Laurence Road, Cirencester, Glos.

COLLEGE CLUB IN WHADDON (CHELTENHAM)

Mr. R. Batchelor, 2 Cheltenham Villas, Orrisdale Terrace, Cheltenham

CONEY HILL BOYS' CLUB

Mr. R. Pugh, 31 Ashgrove Avenue, Coney Hill, Gloucester

DOWN HATHERLEY YOUTH CLUB

Mr. H. Priday, "Peacock Cottage," Down Hatherley, Glos.

GLOUCESTER CITY YOUTH CENTRE

Mr. R. Rodger, c/o "Belsize House," Brunswick Square, Gloucester

HAWLING BOYS' CLUB

Mr. M. Leyland, Hawling Lodge, nr. Guiting Power, Glos.

LONGFORD YOUTH CLUB

Mr. W. J. Massey, "St. Vina," Longford, Gloucester

LONGLEVENS YOUTH CLUB

Mr. R. K. Parsons, 21 Fourth Avenue, Lower Tuffley, Gloucester

LYDBROOK BOYS' CLUB

Mr. D. L. Somme, "Greystones," Lower Lydbrook, Glos.

NAILSWORTH BOYS' CLUB

Mr. F. Cook, Market Street, Nailsworth, Glos.

ODDINGTON BOYS' CLUB

Mr. W. J. Lyon, Brandon's School, Oddington, Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos.

PAINSWICK BOYS' CLUB

Mr. L. Smith, The Green, Painswick, Glos.

PARRY HALL YOUTH CLUB

Mr. D. Spink, c/o "Belsize House," Brunswick Square, Gloucester

PILLEY BOYS' CLUB

Mr. W. G. Barrett, 137 Bath Road, Cheltenham

RAMBLERS' LADS' CLUB

Mr. R. C. Pockett, 21 Tudor Street, Gloucester

SPARTAN'S BOYS' CLUB

Mr. B. Scuffins, 54 Sebert Street, Gloucester

STROUD BOYS' CLUB

Mr. R. Handyside, 50 London Road, Stroud

ST. JOHN BOSCO BOYS' CLUB

Rev. Father J. F. Connelly, Blaisdon Hall, Longhope, Glos.

ST. MARK'S YOUTH CLUB

Rev. E. Stubbs, 21 Brooklyn Road, Cheltenham

TETBURY BOYS' CLUB

Mr. R. Alcock, "Pike Cottage," Long Newnton Road, Tetbury, Glos.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS YOUTH CLUB

Mr. R. Pugh, 31 Ashgrove Avenue, Coney Hill, Gloucester

WICKWAR YOUTH CLUB

Mr. M. J. Pollard, High Street, Wickwar, Glos.

WINCHCOMBE YOUTH CLUB

Mr. E. E. Hughes, 8 Seymour Place, Winchcombe, Glos.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BOYS' CLUB

Rev. W. E. Dane, "Vennis Acre," Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.

G.A.B.C. CALENDAR 1952-53

1952

June 21st—

Eskimo Rolling Circus and Canoe Exhibition, Cheltenham Lido.

June 27th-29th—

N.A.B.C. Annual Conference, Oxford.

July 5th, 6th—

Canoe Camping Trip—Stratford to Bidford.

July 28th-August 6th—

G.A.B.C. Camp in Brittany.

August 4th—

Bank Holiday. Cirencester Boys' Club Fête and *Echo* Trophy Inter-club Athletic Sports Meeting combined.

September 21st—

Closing date for Godman Football Cup Entries.

October 24th-November 1st—

N.A.B.C. Club Week.

December 6th-7th—

G.A.B.C. Weekend Club meeting at Cowley Manor.

1953

February 14th-15th & March 20th-21st—

G.A.B.C. Weekend Club meeting at Cowley Manor.

April 4th—

Closing date for Cricket Cup entries.

May 30th—

Cross-Country Running Competition.

Other events to be announced by circular letter as they are arranged.

SUBSCRIBERS AND DONORS TO

G.A.B.C. FUNDS DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1951-52

The Committee hopes that those who subscribe by Bankers' Order will be willing to accept acknowledgement of their generosity through the medium of this Annual Report. Individual acknowledgements will, however, continue to be sent to all subscribers who send subscriptions by cheque, and to others who express a wish that receipts should be sent in respect of subscriptions by Bankers' Orders.

As a measure of economy, the amounts subscribed have been omitted in each case.

DEEDS OF COVENANT

Lord St. Aldwyn	Mrs. D. Follett	H. K. Nisbet, Esq.
Miss E. D. Atkinson	Brig.-General and	Lt. Col. R. S. Perry
Lt. Col. B. S. Browne	Mrs. J. L. Gordon	Sir Roy Pinsent, Bart.
Miss J. A. Brown	E. N. Gwyther, Esq.	Albert E. Reed & Co.
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Capt. E. G. S. Churchill	A. W. T. Hood, Esq.	Col. S. G. Simpson
G. R. Cobb, Esq.	Geoffrey Hoyland, Esq.	Stroud Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mrs. M. Colville	Brig.-General	J. D. Summers, Esq.
Sir Frederick Cripps	A. E. Irvine	Lt. Col. G. D. Timmis
M. G. Dawbarn, Esq.	B. S. Jelley, Esq.	United Chemists
T. E. Sothorn-Eastcourt, Esq.	C. S. Jefferies, Esq.	Association Ltd.
	Miss E. M. McLaren	Lord Vestey
	C. Mildred, Esq.	

BANKERS' ORDERS

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Major W. Bonn	Lt. Col. J. Godman	C. G. Newman, Esq.
Maria Lady Bowlby	Sir Evan Gwynne-Evans	Major K. A. Shennan
Capt. P. H. Cookson		

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F. D. Armstrong, Esq.	Sir Henry and Lady Darlington	Capt. H. R. Millais
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C. E. Baker, Esq.	Chas. Dickins, Ltd.	Dr. and Mrs. H. Mould
Earl Bathurst	Dowty Equipment Ltd.	Major D. Percival
Bledington Boys' Club	Lord Dulverton	C. R. Rivers-Moore, Esq.
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Major Bishop	H. Ferguson, Esq.	Miss B. Saunders
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J. C. Cheetham, Esq.	Capt. P. M. C. Hayman	A. J. Wesbury, Esq.
Mrs. J. C. Cheetham	Major W. Hicks- Beach, M.P.	Hon. Anthony Wills
Cheltenham College Club	Miss C. Holt	Mrs. C. Winterbotham
Cheltenham & Hereford Breweries Ltd.	P. S. Hough, Esq.	Messrs. W. A. Woof, Ltd.
Mrs. F. M. Close	G. Hoyland, Esq.	Messrs. Workman, Bros.
Mrs. E. H. Cooper- Hawkesworth	S. S. Marling, Esq.	

DEEDS OF COVENANT

Subscribers, who are liable to income tax at the standard rate of tax, can also help the Association very considerably, **without additional cost to themselves**, if they will sign a Deed agreeing to pay an annual subscription for a period of seven years. The Association is then able to recover from the Inland Revenue the appropriate income tax in respect of the subscription. For example, with income tax at 9s. 6d. in the £, a subscription of £1 made under Deed of Covenant enables the Association to recover income tax amounting to 18s. 1d. **The subscription of £1 will thus yield a total of £1 18s. 1d. to the Association.**

Will subscribers willing to give this further support to the Association please write to us for a Deed of Covenant Form?

Whatever the Season — Whatever the Sport . . .

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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

	<i>Page</i>
DOWTY EQUIPMENT, LTD.	2
GLOSTER AIRCRAFT, LTD.	41
GLOUCESTER RAILWAY CARRIAGE & WAGON Co., LTD.	3
T. G. HALL, LTD.	43
W. G. HOOK	43
IMPREGNATED DIAMOND PRODUCTS, LTD.	1
PERMALI, LTD.	Inside front cover
GEORGE WALLER & SON, LTD.	Inside back cover
J. H. WILKES, LTD.	4
WILLIAMS & JAMES (ENGINEERS) LTD.	42
W. A. WOOF, LTD.	44

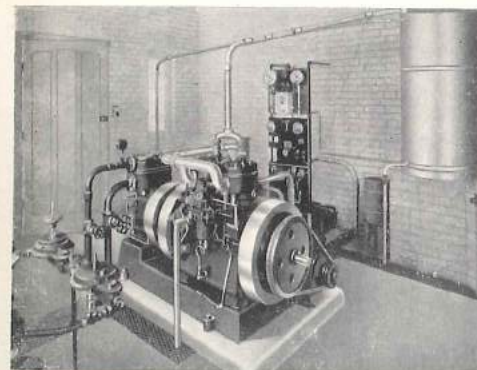
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Truck Tippers,
Special
High-pressure
Compressors
for H.M.
Submarines,
etc.

The Gloucestershire Association of Boys' Clubs is affiliated to the National Association of Boys' Clubs; also to:—

The Amateur Athletic Association.

The Amateur Boxing Association.

The Gloucestershire Community Council.

The Amateur Football Association.

The South West Canoeing Association.

The Standing Conference of National Voluntary Youth Organisations.