

A.R.W. HAYES, D.F.C., B.Sc., A.R.C.O.

The school was shocked and saddened to receive the news of the sudden death of Mr. Hayes on 26th February.

Educated at Colchester Royal Grammar School, he left there to join the Royal Air Force for the 1939-45 war. He served much of his time as a navigator, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

After the war, he went to Kings College, London where he graduated in Physics, and then to St. Catherine's College, Cambridge to take his Diploma in Education.

He began his teaching career in 1951 at St. Albans School, where in addition to his excellent academic record he contributed very largely to the musical life of the school. He became closely involved with the music of St. Albans Abbey, where he sometimes played the organ.

After a short spell at Nottingham High School, he came to Queen Elizabeth's in 1957 as Head of Physics, in which post he succeeded another physicist and musician, Mr. Richard Shewell. In 1968, he was appointed Head of Science and was closely involved in all the changes both in buildings and in science curricula, that followed upon the school's becoming comprehensive.

As a teacher, Mr. Hayes ('Gabby' to his pupils) was outstanding in his subject, particularly at the Sixth Form level. His book on 'A' level Physics ensured success for many a struggling candidate. The strength of the Science side owes not a little to his ability and devotion. In his work, as in all his life, he required of everyone the best and would not be satisfied with less. He had an ability too to recognise potential in his pupils. It really pleased him when that potential came to fruition, just as it genuinely saddened him, if it went to waste.

Outside the classroom, music was his chief and only love. A sensitive and caring musician, he played a large part in the school musical life training choirs and soloists, accompanying concerts, encouraging all who were interested. It is typical of him that despite all this he never appeared as a conductor being only too willing to let others take over what he had prepared. Founder's Day had the quality of its music much improved by his skill and concern.

Outside the school, he was, until shortly before his death, organist and choirmaster at the church of St. St. Mary the Virgin in East Barnet. For most of his time there he shared the work with another former Q.E. physics master, Mr. D.W. Fairbairn. His achievements here, as at school were considerable.

Quiet and reserved as he was, he will long be remembered by his colleagues and his pupils for his kindness, his gentleness and his sincerity.

At a Memorial Service in his church, the Revd. H.E. Steed in an appreciation said 'He served his country with courage, modesty and distinction. He served the cause of education and science with singlemindedness and care. He served music and the Church with due sense of the value both of the means and of the ends to be achieved.' It is perhaps a mark of the man that he would have been genuinely surprised that so many people feel a real sense of loss at his untimely death.