



AMBASSADOR COLLEGE ... .. BRICKET WOOD, HERTS.

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## Chorale Concert Success!

On Monday, 22nd December, 1969, vision was realised. The Ambassador Chorale Concert, "Say it with Music", introduced a totally new and daring concept of musical presentation to Britain.

The setting — ancient Greece; the music — selections and arrangements spanning from the Classical 18th Century to the Modern Era. But the feature of the evening was the sheer magnificence of the performance.

An exceptional new amplification system featuring ultra-modern stereophonic equipment constructed by the College's Radio Studio enhanced and magnified superb singing and *exquisite* instrumental accompaniment. And the overall effect was both pleasing and dynamic.

With Mr. Portune and Mr. Pickering at the Stereo Controls, Mr. Leo Bogdanchik masterfully directed the Ambassador Chorale and Band in numbers ranging from a Ward Swingle arrangement of a Mozart Sonata to the brief, but haunting refrain of the Israeli Anthem, "Hatikva".

The concert opened with Irving Berlin's "Say it with Music", followed by

*(Continued on page 4)*

### The Story Behind

## THE TWELVE-OUTPUT MIXER

by Orest Solyma

The December Chorale Concert — and many were perplexed.

How were such dynamic and exquisite sounds produced? And what was that "operations cockpit" — with its ganglia of wires, dials, knobs and switches — set in the very centre of the audience? Was there a connection?

Yes! For this "cockpit" was the vibrant *nerve centre* of the stereophonic amplification at the concert. Here were the master controls which governed the output from the twelve microphones to the giant speakers to produce such absorbing effects.

Mr. Leo Bogdanchik had conceived the idea for a revolutionary presentation of the Chorale Concert. And with only four weeks to go Mr. Portune had accepted the challenge!

Mr. Pickering was called in. Mr. Portune presented him with the idea: "I want a 'twelve-output mixer' — as adaptable and expandable as possible!"

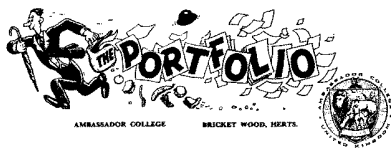
Mr. Pickering got to work. Complicated circuit diagrams were designed. Japanese control units were imported from Germany via Mr. Schnee! The equipment was fully transistorized with a capacity including echo and reverb effects — AND the potential power to SHATTER *all* the glass in the Gymnasium!!!

Fortunately only one-twelfth of this power was used during the performance.

And so, within two days of the Concert, the equipment was completed. Just time enough for the final rehearsals — with Mr. Portune and Mr. Pickering manipulating 92 knobs!

The Bricket Wood Chorale "says it with music."





**FACULTY ADVISOR**  
Robin G. Jones

**EDITOR**  
Peter Butler

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**  
Neil Earle

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Tony Morrell

**STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Barry Short  
Dennis Parkes

**REPORTERS**  
Richard Elfers                      John Meakin  
Bob Gerringier                      Pat Nelson  
Peter McLean                      Barry Short  
Barbara Wilson

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Colin Cato

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\* \* \*

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## IT COULD HAVE BEEN YOU

by Peter Butler

"Won't this old buggy go any faster, Rog! Put your foot down, man!" Roger did — and the needle skipped — 65, 75, 85, 90! Now they were *hurtling* through the night! Five men crushed into one small, red Mini! Their's was a singleness of mind. They had a *purpose*, a *goal*! So fervent were they to attain it, their lives *depended* upon it.

It was already 11:30. The night was dark. Mist patches hindered Roger's vision. But they made it!

Yet to what avail? Sure, they were welcomed by friends — friends who had had too much to drink! Yet this party was no more lively than the one they left half an hour ago.

It wasn't worth staying. They had a drink or two and then left... to gatecrash the next party — the last on their list. The last chance to make their Saturday night "*worth-while*" — to make life "*worth living!*"

But this time they didn't make it! The country highway was narrow, winding... Roger put his foot down again... at the *wrong moment!*

A story? Yes, but a familiar story!

It may have happened to someone you knew. It may yet happen to some of your former friends.

It *could* have been *you!*

But now you are isolated from such a futile way of life — and death. Cut off from "society" by the protective environment of Ambassador College. Here you are *free*. You can *learn* to help those still enmeshed in lives leading to inevitable misery. You can *learn* to help your former friends... *later on!*

But right now, remember, it could have been you!

### Behind-the-scenes report on

## SUCCESSFUL STAGING STUNT

by Fred Martin and Neil Earle

Chorale Concert '69 — now just a pleasant memory.

But what about those Corinthian Pillars set against that vast black velvet backdrop, and those rich tapestry carpets — all designed to add tone and colour to the performance.

Just what was involved in arranging this stage?

First, there were the efforts of John Meakin and Peter Hawkins. They had to persuade M.G.M. to provide the props and curtains.

Then — the *crunch* — SET-UP! And that spelled work!

The first teaser — how to hang that 90' x 30' curtain with 15 pulleys and 45 feet of return rope. Undaunted, John Meakin and his Merry Men set to work. Yet, in spite of Chuck Zimmerman's trapeze act, hanging the pulleys from the struts supporting the Gym roof proved an impossibility. But there are chains suspending those lights in

the Gym! They could be used! Up went the tower. Down came the chains. A twist, a wind, a securing tug and — *presto* — the chains were in place. From these they hung the pulleys. Phase One successfully completed!

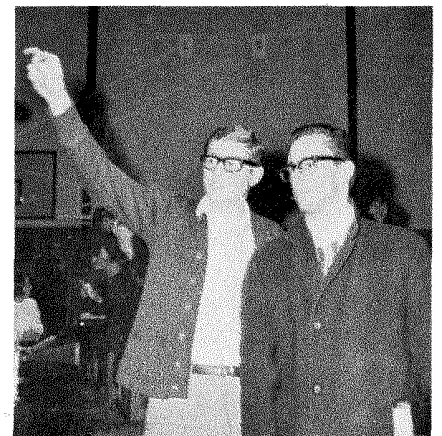
Meanwhile, on ground level, Dave Odor and his "Steel Drivin'" team were hammering together a 90' frame work. To this the return ropes would be secured to hold the curtain fast.

Then, the fearless Eight stood shoulder to shoulder and gave a mighty tug. HOORAY! The half ton of curtain fluttered upwards. The "Big Hang-up" was a reality!

"LIGHTS — CAMERA — ACTION!!!" We musn't forget the Electricians! Theirs was the task of converting a pre-Cambrian 2 K.W. Dimmer into a functional floodlight — spotlight system. The problem of elevation had to be solved. So they hooked the spotlight up to the tower and positioned it in the

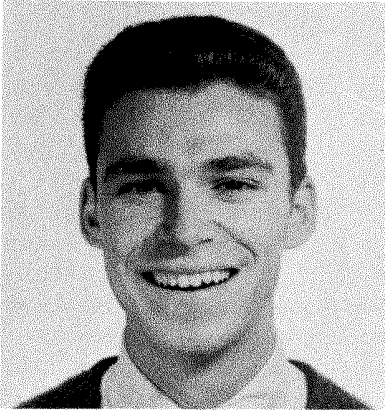
corner of the gym opposite the stage. It worked! With Russ Lock dipping the dimmer and Fred Martin manipulating the spot, the lighting effects were magnificent!

And so all was set for the big night. But afterwards — operation "Tear-down" — everything was dismantled — sports were resumed.

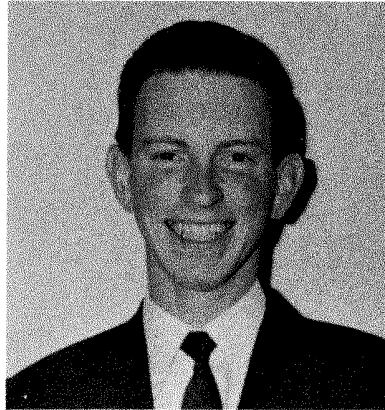


General Gerringier surveys the scene.

# FIELD ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED



Tom Harrison



Jim Bennett

by Neil Earle

"Now we have some heart-stopping announcements for two of our men!" said Mr. McMichael at a special tea on the 1st January.

Heart-stopping? Yes! And how the delighted audience roared their approval as the Dean of Students dropped his bombshell — Tom Harrison and Jim Bennett! — in the field — for a year!

The men, both Juniors, are even now in their respective Church areas gaining a valuable year of specialised on the spot training.

Tom, a Junior transfer from Pasadena, is second-man to Mr. Mitchell in the Warrington area. He replaces Jake Toews whom we now welcome back as a Third Year.

Jim Bennett came to Bricket Wood from Wanganui College in New Zealand two and a half years ago. Now he is adding practical experience to his undergraduate education by assisting Mr. Seaman in the Leeds Area. And Bob Justus also returns as a Third Year Student.

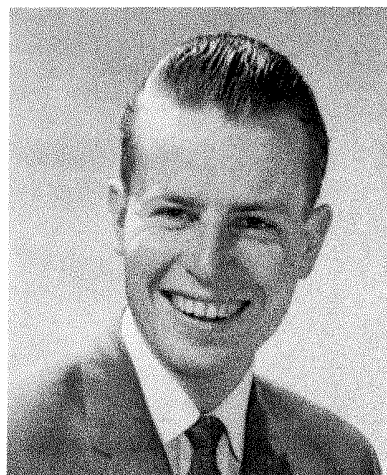
But that's not all!

Dave Fraser — appointed to visit his Scottish "kith and kin" with Mr. Sanderson in the Glasgow and Newcastle Areas for the three weeks of the January break. And at the same time Dave "O'Odor" — selected to assist Mr. Bedford in turbulent Belfast!

Congratulations men!



David Odor



David Fraser



## FASHION FORUM

Two-piece suits, Vogue design dresses, beautiful, captivating formals, pure Scottish wool, contrasting plaids — the first and second-year Domestic Science classes presented their fashion parade. We saw girls in scrumptious lime-green, dazzling red, and elegant black. Vivienne Le Gac in "Japanese sleeves, English wool, and a French smile", and Linda Clapp in her own version of "sackcloth and ashes"! For girls who "couldn't machine a straight stitch when they started" — they all did very well!

## "MNEMONICS"

What is a SLEFAVG? A new Walt Disney creation, or perhaps the Loch Ness monster? No, none of these, Sincerity... Logic...

OBEPS? A new cure-all indigestion tablet? No! Build the Personality of a King!

And what about S.R. LEDEN, a new English Cabinet member mentioned in International Relations class? No, Song of Solomon... Ruth... Esther... Third-Year Bible class!

And so Mnemonics help Ambassador students study for exams.

## HAGGIS EVENING

... but where was that "Great Chief-tain o' the puddin' race" — the long-awaited Haggis?!

At the sight of the bewigged Laird Gordon of Clan McMuir, in kilt and sporran, they must have fled back over the border! But one was captured! And how it *shook* and *trembled* upon the platter as Laird McMuir quoth the ceremonial ode to the slaughter of the Haggis — and wi' a mighty flourish drew his fearsome dirk to slice it "up wi' ready slight". And, "with gushing entrails bright", the traditional ceremony was over!



General Yadin (left) and colleagues

## Lament for Dead Heroes

by Alan Corrie and Barry Short

Biet Agron may sound like the brand name for a special Portuguese wine. But in reality it's the official title of the Press Building in Jerusalem. And it was here that a very special press conference was held last summer.

Press representatives from Israel, and major news sources, world-wide, were there. So were two from Ambassador College! We had arrived early. We had to make our own preparations for the important speakers before the other reporters arrived.

Those curtains had to be drawn. Otherwise the speakers would have their backs to a large sunlit window. That makes photography a headache! We had to set the microphone up for recording. Best place was to tape it to the speakers' desk! Everything was in its place. We took our positions.

The doors swung open. Enter Professor Yigal Yadin, former Commander-in-Chief of the Israeli army.

But what was the reason for the conference? To discuss the burial of men who died nearly 2,000 years ago!! You

see, Professor Yadin is not only a great military man but also an eminent scholar and archaeologist. And it was he who led the excavation of Herod's desert lair, Masada; defended by the Jewish zealots during the Roman siege.

In forceful, punchy phrases General Yadin told of the excitement and the problems they encountered in the Dig at Masada. And he explained that, in discussions with the Chief Rabbinate, it had been decided to give the 2,000-year-old remains of the heroes of Masada a full military burial, on a small hill at the base of their wilderness stronghold.

So it was that a few days later a small convoy snaked through the Judean Hills. Three coffins draped with the blue and white Israeli flag, were solemnly borne from Jerusalem to Masada. A guard of honour raised their rifles — and the Masada sand received her heroes. And as the fusillade seared through the silence, Israelis remembered once again those who fight on *now*, determined that Masada shall not fall again.

## Chorale Concert

(Continued from page 1)

two lyrical Czechoslovakian folk songs. Next the Women's Chorus thrilled an enrapt audience with a beautiful rendering of Joseph Roff's arrangement of "Clair de Lune" by Debussy. And soon the whole Gymnasium reverberated to the cheerful frivolity of "Seven".

"Blacker than a hundred midnights down in a Cypress swamp" boomed Narrator Tom Harrison in James Weldon Johnson's awesome yet delightful impression of "The Creation". And after the intermission the Men's Chorus miraculously resurrected "them Dry Bones" to the *bizarre* instrumental accompaniment of the Band.

Harry Simeone's "Dark Eyes" gave the Chorale an opportunity to excel and the lively rhythm bounced blithely around the gym. Afterwards, Narrator Ken Smylie launched into a earnest and empathic appeal to guard against the evils of the Pool Table — otherwise "Ya Got Trouble!"

The Finale? Mr. Duncan McLean's arrangement of Ernest Gold's "Exodus". And the Chorale rose to the occasion with an enthralling performance providing a tremendous climax to a wonderfully successful Concert.

And even then there was still the encore to crown the triumph — a selection from the "Music Man". And as the audience left, many realised that Ambassador College has paved the way for a new and dynamic approach, full of potential, for Chorale Concerts in Britain.

The greatest undeveloped territory in the world lies under your hat.

## SUPER STUDENT by JDS

