

---

**On the British Education System**  
**and**  
**The State Schools in Cambridge (Vol. XXVII)**  
**—The Silver Jubilee of The Manor Community College—**

Minoru SHIGETA\*

In the preceding essays (Vol. XIX-XXIII), I mentioned, according to the school brochure and my son's notebooks and school letters, the school lessons my son received at the Manor Community College. And in Vol. XXIII, I mentioned one subject called "Personal & Social Education," and in Vol. XXIV, I finished explaining "Activities Week 1987," one of the school events. Then in Vol. XXV, I told you about academic progress check of my son by the teachers at the college. In Vol. XXVI, I explained the "Awards Presentation" entitled "Awards Afternoon" and my son's academic record called "The Manor School Report."

As above-mentioned, so far I have finished explaining the whole outline of school education at the Manor Community College. However, I found two interesting brochures in the miscellaneous things given by the college; the brochures called "The Jubilee" and "Year Book." Therefore, first of all I will tell you about "The Jubilee" and then "Year Book" if the space of this essay allows.

### The Jubilee

This brochure was published by the Manor Silver Jubilee Committee maybe in 1984-85 and may have been handed out in 1986 when my family and I went to Cambridge. The brochure with a scarlet cover says "Silver Jubilee 1959-84," which shows it was published in

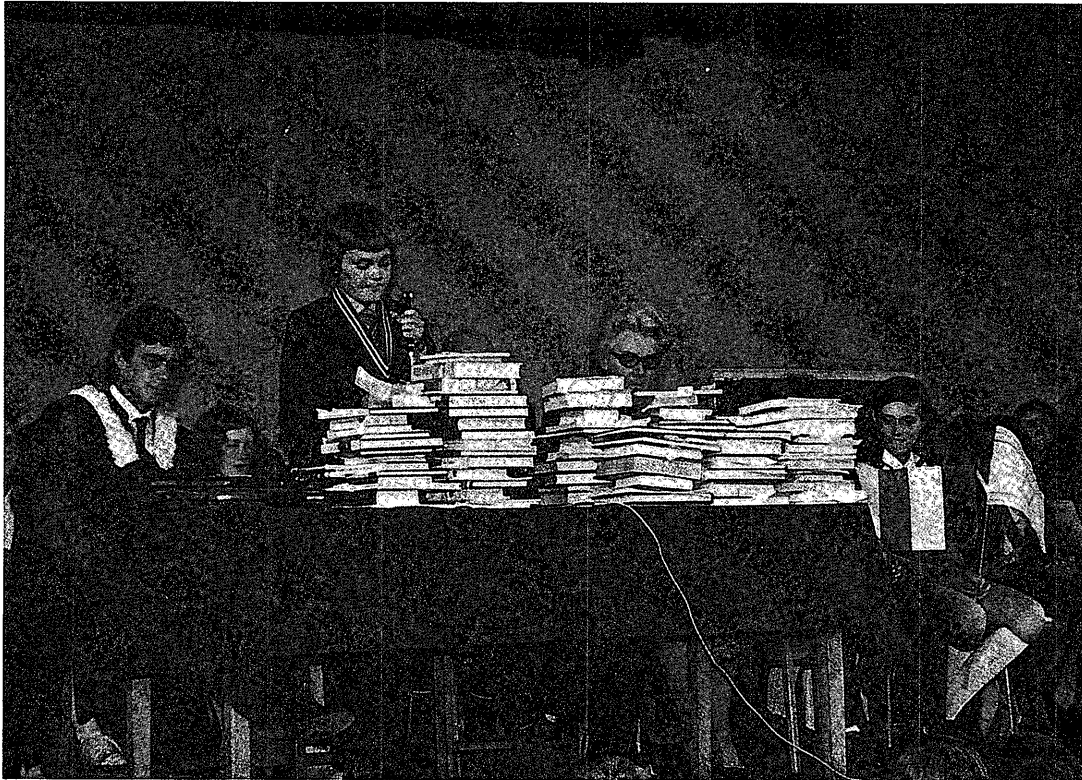
commemoration of twenty five years since the college was founded. The preface says, "For some months now a number of us have enjoyed the privilege of planning a week of 'birthday' celebrations. At a very early stage the phrase 'mark the occasion' gave way to 'celebrate the occasion' as we realised that this was going to be fun, a week when old and new could come together, when past friendship could be renewed, past triumphs and traumas relived. As we have browsed through the memorabilia, the Reports, the Punishment Books, the Play programmes, the Hundreds of Photographs, it has been interesting to ponder on the plight of all those who have been prisoners of the exam desk or have given their all on the playing fields on a Saturday morning. And what of the hundreds of Staff? Where are they now? If the walls could speak what tales would they tell? The site has changed, and is changing. Attitudes and expectations shift constantly. Exit the cane, Posture badges and Prizegivings— Enter Senior Students, Year Tutors and Computers. The jubilee will give us all the chance to get together and compare notes. Whatever our vintage the Manor has played an important part in our lives and it remains the pulse of a very large community so let's pay tribute to twenty five years of achievement by supporting the event of Jubilee Week."

According to the preface, perhaps the Silver Jubilee of the Manor was celebrated in 1985 and they must have held a celebration and a variety of events throughout one week in 1985, though I am not quite sure of the details because we did not settle in Cambridge then. At any rate, I will show you some of "the Reports, the Punishment Books, the Play programmes, the hundreds of photographs" which I took much interest.

First of all, I have selected two photographs "Lower School Prize Giving" which I mentioned as "Awards Presentation" in the preceding essay (Vol.XXVI), and "Early School Uniform, 1960" in the next page. As for the present school uniform about which I told you in my essay (Vol.XVI), they prescribe it clearly. Now we will examine it once more:

Every child should wear School Uniform.

BOYS:	<u>Shirt:</u>	— A neutral tone such as grey, blue or white.
	<u>Pullover:</u>	— Navy-blue or grey (not polo-neck and no slogans).
	<u>Trousers:</u>	— Black, grey or navy-blue (not denim).
	<u>School Tie:</u>	— (Optional in the summer season).



**Lower School Prize Giving, From left: Mr Hanscombe, Mark Chase, Miss P. Hapgood.**



**Early School uniform, 1960. Some of those present: D. Claton, M. Farrow, R. Mitchell, C. Peck, I. Skeels, R. Potter, G. Paine.**

It seems that the boys wear the same blazers, shirts, trousers and ties as the present school boy as far as we can see in the picture, but almost all of them wear blazers and shorts, and only one boy wears pullover.

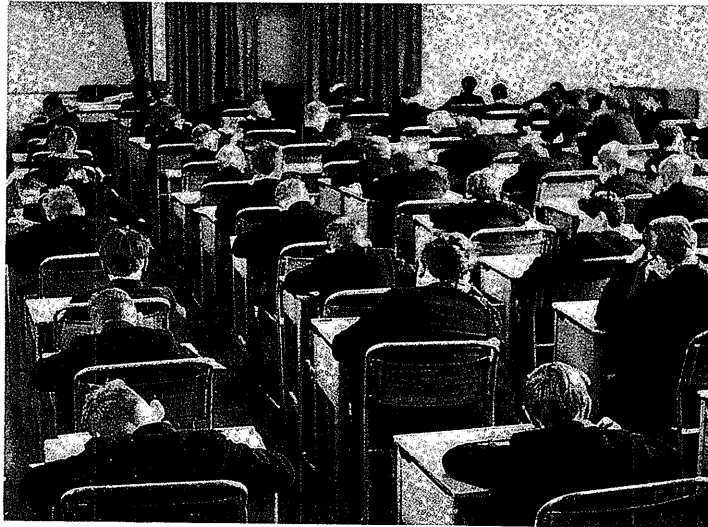
Now we will see a picture of "School Examination, 1960" and a copy of rare certificate. According to the explanatory note under the copy seems, "School Examination" seems to have been held at the end of the Fourth Year until 1965, but now this kind of examination is abolished.

Next we will see a picture of "the Schools' Cycle Rally" and of "the Dining Area, 1960." As a part of education, the school authorities in Cambridgeshire seem to have begun the cycle rally and to have wanted to teach how to ride a cycle rightly.

Now we have come to one of the most interesting items of the brochures. It is a copy of "Punishment Book." They have taken up two examples out of "Punishment Book," 1960 and 1961. I have taken much interest in what kinds of bad things the pupils in England do. I think the two examples can satisfy my question to a certain extent; they describe the nature of offence briefly and to the point. The bad things the pupils at Manor did are, in my opinion, rather trifling deeds on the whole. I will enumerate some of the mischiefs the pupils did; "Misbehaving despite correction several times by boys' school staff," "Pricking boys with a sharpened stick during lesson," "Dangerous behaviour on the stairs," and "Feet on desk / talking whilst teacher was teaching," in 1960. "Fighting with blackboard rulers and breaking same," "Constant evasion of P. E. and games kit," "Insolence to the teacher," and so on in 1961.

Next we will find an old academic report of a pupil. As we have seen in the preceding essay (Vol. XXVI), this report differs in form from the academic report my son received from the teachers at Manor at the end of the school year, and is composed of one sheet of paper for each pupil. In my opinion, "Poss" in the column of "Marks" is the abbreviation of "Possible" and means full marks, and "Obt" is the abbreviation of "obtain." At any rate, I think the present academic report is more concrete and specific.

Now in the following pages, I will illustrate by some photographs all the topics I took up from the brochure and finish this essay by adding some photos of other rooms and library at Manor.



School Examinations, 1960

Exam. No. CF 016/49 Age 15

**The College of Preceptors**  
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

This is to certify that  
BARRY GORDON RAYMOND STARR  
*became qualified to receive this*  
**COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS CERTIFICATE**  
*at the examination held in*  
November 1965  
*by passing in the undermentioned seven subjects*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE	WOODWORK
CHEMISTRY	METALWORK
MATHEMATICS I	TECHNICAL DRAWING
MATHEMATICS II	...
...	

Subjects passed with distinction are named in red.

*B. E. Lawrence*  
Dean

*J. Vincent Chapman*  
Secretary

The College of Preceptors Certificate, this was the last year of this exam which was taken at the end of the Fourth Year.



**Beginning of the Schools' Cycle Rally, 26th October 1963** The Team: J. Howlett (No. 1) W. Holmes and S. Purves. We came second.



**A view of the Dining Area, 1960**

Year 1960		PUNISHMENT BOOK.				3
DATE: Month & Day	NAME OF SCHOLAR	STD. OR CLASS	NATURE OF OFFENCE	PUNISHMENT	SIG. TEACHER WHO ADMINISTERED THE PUNISHMENT	SIGNATURE (OR INITIALS) OF TEACHER WHO ADMINISTERED THE PUNISHMENT
26/1/60	C. Godling	3	misbehaving - despite correction several times		3	} P.P.L.
26/1/60	W. Prime	3	by boy's school staff.		3	
26/1/60	G. Hamman	3	"		2	
26/1/60	C. Godling	3	Deliberately breaking school rules.		2	J.D.C.
"	H. Prime	3	"		2	J.D.C.
"	B. Newman	3	"		2	J.D.C.
26 Jan	R. Walker	2B	Pricking boys with a sharpens stick during lesson		1	W.P.C.
28 Jan	T. Jones	14(3)	Roughness behaviour on the stairs		1	A.P.P.
28 Jan	A. P. Skelton	2B	Disobedience to (10)		1	W.P.C.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	B. Wolfe	1C	Saw and I clean in wardrobe (12)		2	P.P.L.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	J. Jones	14(6)	Misbehaviour in the dining hall		1	A.P.P.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	C. Steven	14(1)	"		1	A.P.P.
4 Feb	T. Jones	10(2)	Extremely bad behaviour, for (9)		2	W.L.M.
15 Feb	R. Corby	3	Damaging wall with lighted match (14)		2	W.L.M.
17 Feb	Watson	2B	Throwing a school text book in classroom. Administered by (14)		1	W.L.M.
2	B. Newman	3	Feet on desk / Talking whilst teacher was teaching.		2	W.L.M.

PUNISHMENT BOOK

DATE: Month & Day	NAME OF SCHOLAR	STD. OR CLASS	NATURE OF OFFENCE	PUNISHMENT	Spikes	SIGNATURE (OR INITIALS) OF TEACHER WHO ADMINISTERED THE PUNISHMENT
Year 1961 1st Nov	R. Brinkles	3D	Tripping Barber & remaining trousers to be lifted Sent by Mr Furness. Given by W.H.T.		1	W.H.T.
7th Nov	Terar-Hanson	3B	misbehaving - in Mr. Savage's class.		2	R.P.L.
"	Mansfield	4	Fighting with blackboard rules and breaking same		2	W.H.T.
"	Wheddon	4	"		2	W.H.T.
16 Nov.	Clarke	3AY	Throwing pot out of Mr Mortons Room		2	W.H.T.
16 Nov.	McGinity	3AY	Admin by W.H.T.		2	W.H.T.
15th Nov	David Anderson	1A*	Curious evasion of P.E. lesson (triple wing)		1	R.P.L.
21st Nov.	T. Butler	4	Insolence to Mr. Moore. Admin. by W.L.M.		2	W.L.M.
24 Nov	A. Holmes	3C	Administered by Mr. Moore. Admin. by W.L.M.		2	W.L.M.
27th Nov.	David Wellin	Rem.	misbehaving in Mr. Moore's class.		1	R.P.L.
30th Nov	Philip Melbort	3A	Misbehavior in Mr. Moore's class - Sitting 1722 across row		2	APP.
1st Dec.	David Dadds	2C	Poor conduct - then doctor (re reporting to Mr.)		2	R.P.L.
12th	David Leave	2L	Recklessly forgetting P. 6 and games kit		1	W.L.M.
"	Roger Day	4	Insolence to Mr. Wellin. Admin. by W.H.T.		2	W.L.M.
12-12-61	Arnos Chapman	2A	Reckless misbehavior in class		1	R.P.L.
14-12-61.	Howes	3AX	Insolence to Mr. Townsend. Admin. by W.H.T.		2	W.H.T.
15-12-61	Shattery	AB	Disobedience - sitting in Mr. Moore's room Admin. by Mr. Moore.		3	W.H.T.



SUBJECT	Marks		Position Grade	TEACHERS' COMMENTS
	Pos.	Obt.		
English	220	122	27 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret has sometimes done good work but often does not seem to bother. G.C.
Mathematics	150	39	30	Finding math. increasingly difficult but Margaret could make a determined effort to improve. <i>claw</i>
Religious Education	100	49	26 <sup>th</sup>	Disappointing. Margaret must learn her facts. R.C.
General Science/Biology	100	62	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Margaret must sacrifice speed for accuracy and neatness. Tiff
Housecraft	100	66	24 <sup>th</sup>	works hard, but more care is needed. <i>My</i>
Needlework	100	30	32 <sup>nd</sup>	Very poor standard; exceedingly careless. Poor written paper. <i>HW.</i>
History	100	92	4	very good work; always shows great interest. <i>gr</i>
Geography	100	51	28	Works well
Art and Crafts			Av+	Disappointing. Margaret could do so much better with more care & thought. <i>My</i>
Phys. Education and Games			Av+	Margaret works hard and has achieved some good results in Athletics. J.R.B.
Music	100	56	27 <sup>th</sup>	A disappointing exam result. Margaret could do better. R.C.
	1170	567	26-29	

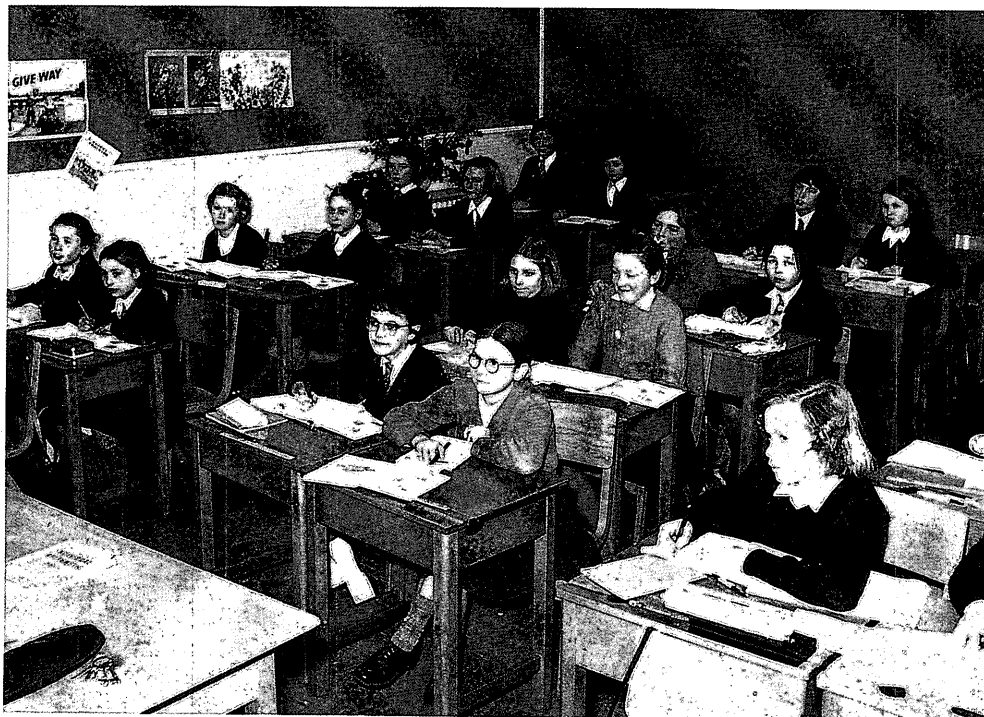
Grading: VG—Very Good; G—Good; Av—Average; W—Weak; U—Unsatisfactory.

General Report:

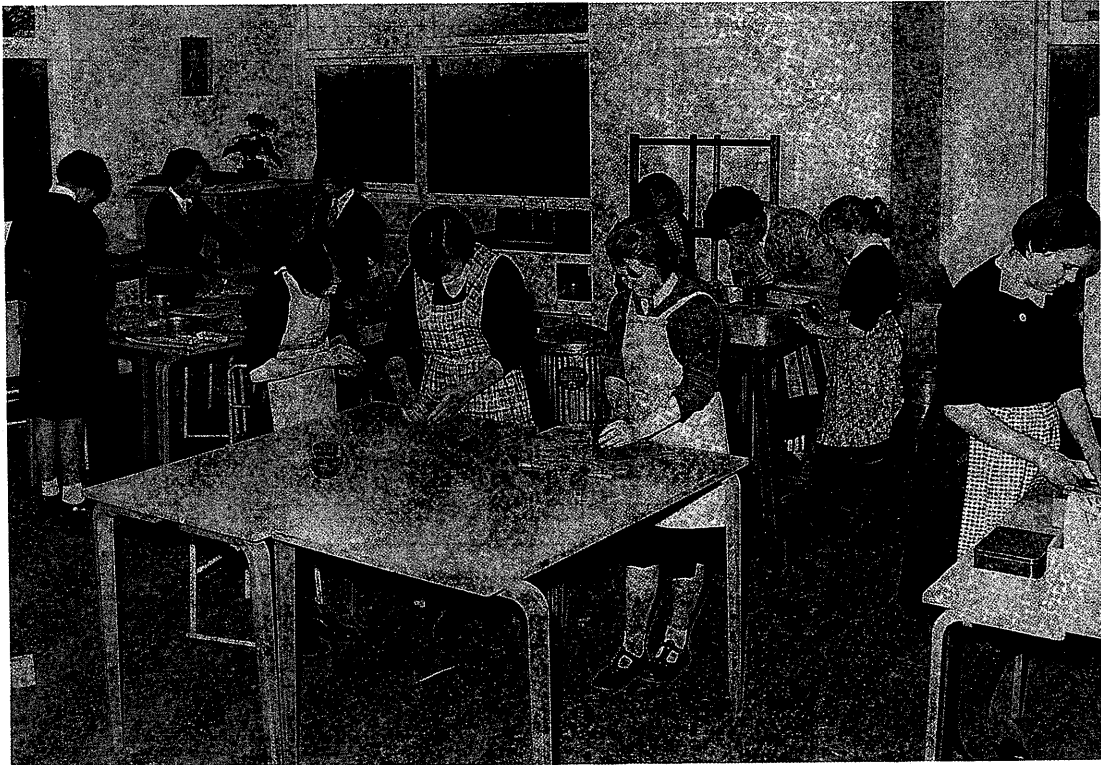
There has been a serious drop in position since last year. Margaret does not seem to have heeded the warnings on her report at Christmas. This is a pity. With more effort Margaret could soon regain her former standard. *E. Carden*  
 Form-Mistress.

Margaret should reach a higher standard than this — I hope she will really strive next term to do full justice to her ability. *M. Forman*  
 Head-Mistress.

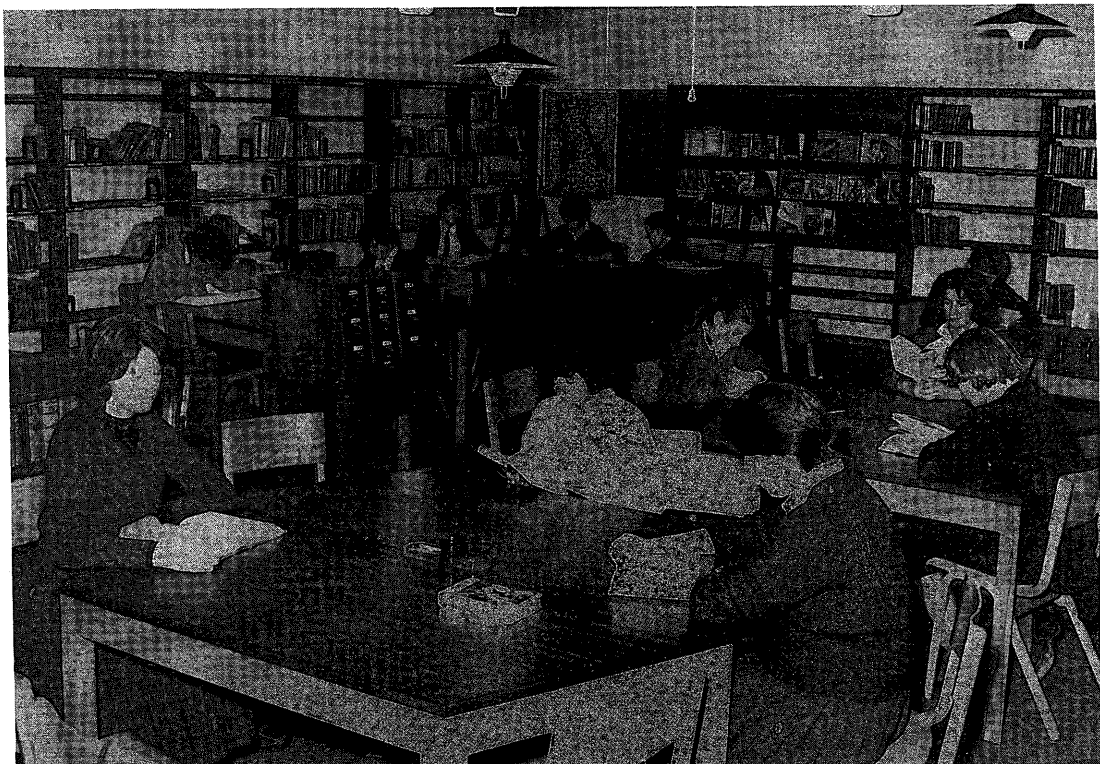
Page from an old report.



Form 1C of the Girls' School in Room 2, 1961



1A working in Art and Craft room (now Art Room 1)



The Girls' School Library with 3b using it.