
On the British Education System
and
The State Schools in Cambridge (Vol. XXVIII)
—Manor Community College Yearbook—

Minoru SHIGETA*

In the preceding essay (Vol. XXVII), I told you about “The Silver Jubilee of The Manor Community College,” one of the two interesting brochures in the miscellaneous things given by the college. So in this essay I will mention “Manor Community College Yearbook, 1984-85,” the other of the two interesting brochures.

Yearbook 1984-85

The Year Book contains six items; Headmaster’s Message, Silver Jubilee, Ironbridge, Form Photos and Candids, Staff Photos, and Community Pages. First of all, I will introduce you to Headmaster’s message:

At the Manor Community College it is usual for us cheerfully to attempt the impossible. To capture all the exciting activities and events of one year within the two covers of a single book is as impossible a task as pouring the Atlantic Ocean into a bottle. Too much has happened to too many too often in too many places for any record to be complete.

BUT because we have achieved the impossible so often in the past, we always expect success. I must congratulate Mr. Brown and his team of Editors.

I’m sure that as you trace your way through this year’s “Manor Community College Yearbook 1984-85” you will agree with me that they have kept up our tradition.

Success has followed the bold attempt.

Congratulations.

As is known by the Headmaster's message, this brochure was edited by Mr. Brown, librarian, and some students. According to the order of the contents, I will make explanatory comments on some articles in the following.

Next to "Headmaster's Message," comes "Silver Jubilee," about which I told you fully in the preceding essay (Vol.XXVII). They show us some photos, which have a caption "The Low Low Budget Show." Therefore, these series of shows performed in the anniversary may have been done with low budget, and so they called each show "The Low Low Budget Show."

Next we will see a picture of ironbridge with some photos of the students entitled "3RD YEAR HISTORY." Maybe this is the photo taken by someone when third-year students went to Ironbridge, heart of the Industrial Revolution, for the historical study.

Next we will find some "Form Photos and Candid." As we can see from form photos, one form has about thirty students or so. The same is the case with every form from 1st Years to Fifth Years.

Now we have come to the page entitled "Second Year Torture Chamber." The picture was taken, in my opinion, during Physical Education. And "Torture Chamber" is admirably put! In addition to "Form Photos," they provide "Cosmopolitan Pages." In these pages, they show us all the candid of the students from overseas, but we cannot find any Japanese students there. Now I remember Mr. Hunter, pastoral care for the 1st Years at Manor, said that my son, Yoshihiro, is the first Japanese student that they admitted their college.

At the end of the brochure, they provide some pages of "Community Education." As I have mentioned in the preceding essay about the education system in England, it may be seen that the Manor Community College also gives a great deal of encouragement to community education. The preface says:

The Manor Community College offers an extensive community education programme. We cater for all ages from toddlers to senior citizens by offering a wide range of activities. Why not come and join us? You are welcome to come and join our evening classes or affiliated clubs and societies. Our programme for adults this year includes daytime and evening courses in examination, practical, recreational and sporting subjects. We are sure to have something of interest to you so why not call in at the community office in the College and pick up a brochure.

The Youth Centre is now open four nights a week and has a thriving programme of activities for the 11 to 21 age group. Senior club nights are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. and Junior club is held on Wednesday from 6.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

Activities offered at the Youth Centre include discos, video, judo, trips out, indoor games, football training, arts and crafts, outdoor summer games, fishing, ice skating, weekends away etc. The youth leaders are trained to work with young people and look forward to meeting you.

Here is something for everybody at the Manor Community College, but we are always pleased to discuss new ideas with anybody, so why not call in and speak to the Community Tutor, Peter Shipley, or Jackie Leyshon. Room and halls at the College can be hired for evening meetings and at the weekends for dances, wedding receptions and other functions. Details of this service are available at the Community Office which is open every weekday morning and Monday-Thursday evenings.

In this way, the Manor Community College opens door to the public by offering a wide range of activities, such as evening classes or affiliated clubs and societies. The same is not the case with junior and senior high schools in Japan.

At the end of the brochure, you will find the afterword of the chief editor, Mr. Brown and the editorial staff of the Yearbook. Mr. Brown says:

Our first Yearbook has been produced against a background of chaos and confusion, if you have found either parts of the Domesday Project or lumps of rubble from the new library among the pages, I apologize. I would like to thank our photographers for providing the basic ingredient for our book, pupils who have given their free time (including holidays), colleagues who have allowed pupils out of lessons and finally Gerald P. Murphy for his help, expertise, encouragement and friendship.

A friend of mine wrote a radio play some years ago called "We Did It! We Did It!"—I now know what he meant.

Comments from the Students are:

My main involvement in the school annual was taking photographs of community activities in the evenings and helping do the page layoutsseeing the book come together at that stage was probably the most rewarding part of my involvement...like all the students who worked on the annual I am especially grateful to Mr. Brown for all the time he has spent helping us produce this book.

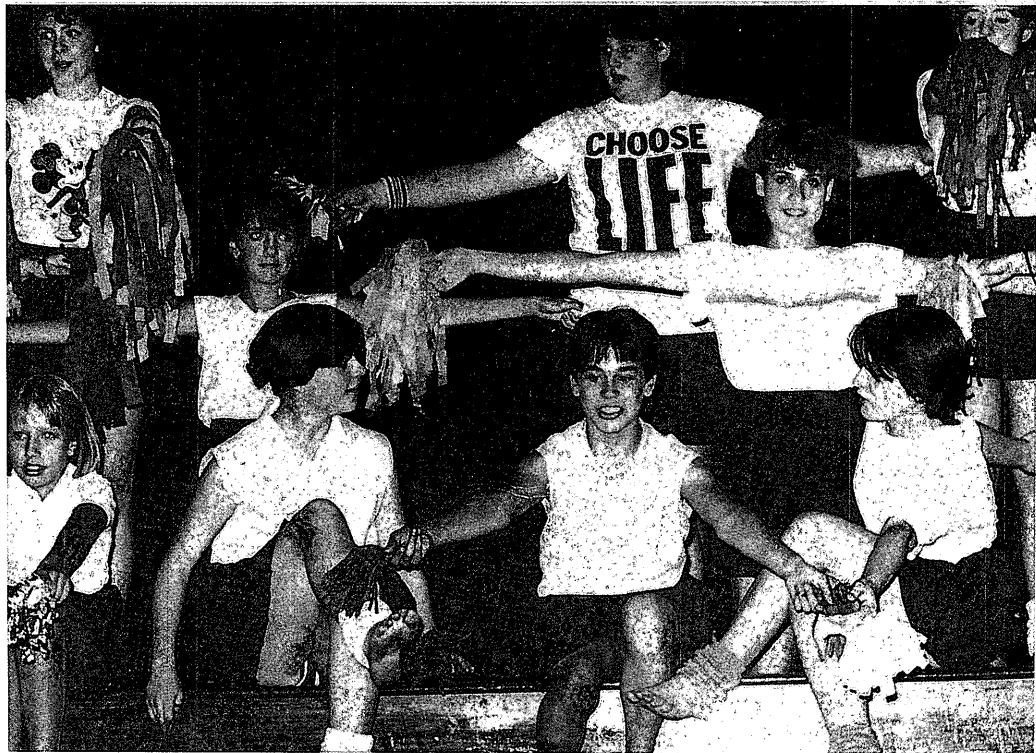
The book would not have been possible without his patience, interest and organization.

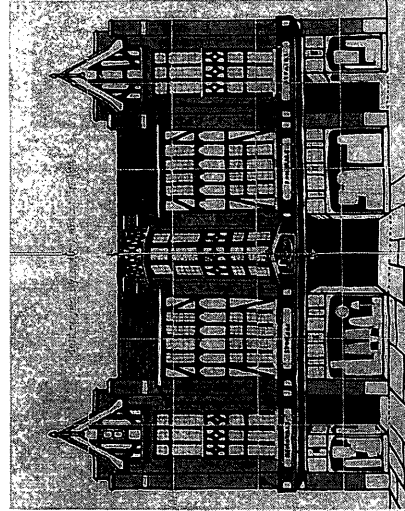
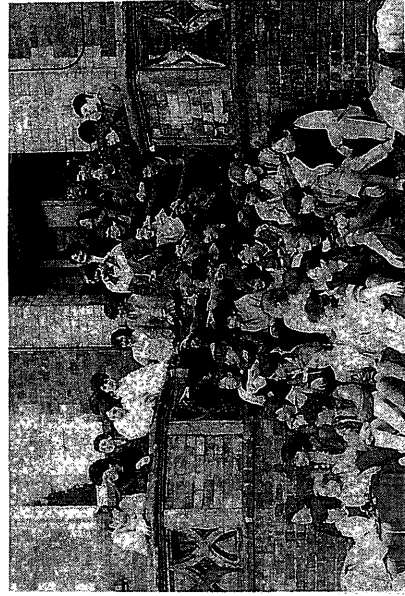
Thanks J. E. B.

From Vol. XVI to this volume, we have seen the general outline of the Manor community College, including the school organization, curriculum, extra curricular activities, and so on, according to the school brochure, and the school lessons such as mathematics, science, history, English, French, physical education, and the school events such as "Personal & Social Education," and "Activities Week 1987," and the miscellaneous things such as "Academic Progress Check," "The Silver Jubilee of The Manor Community College" and "Manor Community College Yearbook."

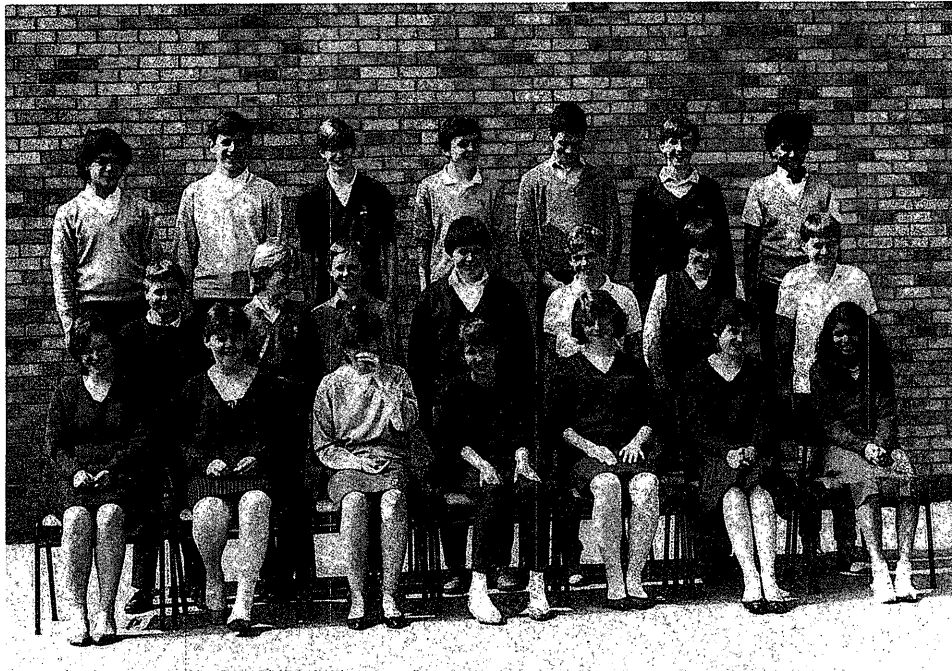
Looking back upon the school life my son spent at the Manor Community College, I keenly feel that he was very happy, as Mrs. Brown, form tutor at Manor, says in the school report, partly because he made every effort to learn a different language from Japanese, partly because he took a full interest in school life, partly because he participated in a variety of activities besides belonging to Chesterton Football Club, and partly because perhaps he took some happy memories back to Japan. Even now I am sure that he will feel yearning for the school life in Cambridge, and will miss his classmates and the teachers at Manor, and will want to return Cambridge again some day or other in the future.

Now in the following pages, I will show you some photos according to the order of my explanation about the Yearbook, and finish this essay, expressing heartfelt thanks to Mr. Hunter, pastoral care, and Mrs. Brown, form tutor, and other staff at the Manor Community College, whose generous, kind and friendly teaching and advice greatly helped my son to settle very well at Manor and to enjoy his school life and increase mutual understanding between his classmates and him, and to take happy memories back to Japan.





3RD YEAR HISTORY
IRONBRIDGE



3-1

BACK ROW M. Antivil, A. Williman, G. Thornton, S. Cassidy, C. Chapman, A. Butcher, S. Cham, MIDDLE ROW M. Harding, M. Gillett, T. Kemp, D. Gates, J. Smith, P. Knights, P. Doggett. FRONT ROW C. Saint, S. Cornwell, J. Garner, S. Law, K. Clay, A. Walker, S. Ladduwahetty.

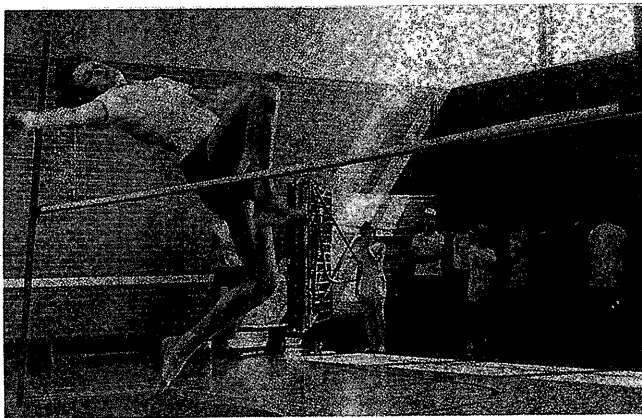
3-2

BACK ROW J. Woodrow, T. Harrison, M. Hopkins, H. Barker, C. Race, M. Kent, A. Noon NEXT ROW J. Drage, M. Easey, M. Mothersole, M. Kwango, C. Bishop, H. Oakman, G. Cave, R. Reynolds, D. Wisbey NEXT ROW S. Stanford, M. Holden, M. Taylor, Mrs. Curry, E. Collett, J. Chapman, P. Farrow FRONT ROW P. Newman, S. Easey, M. Holmes, A. Hardy, S. Gill, D. Nunn, D. Butcher, M. Nelligan



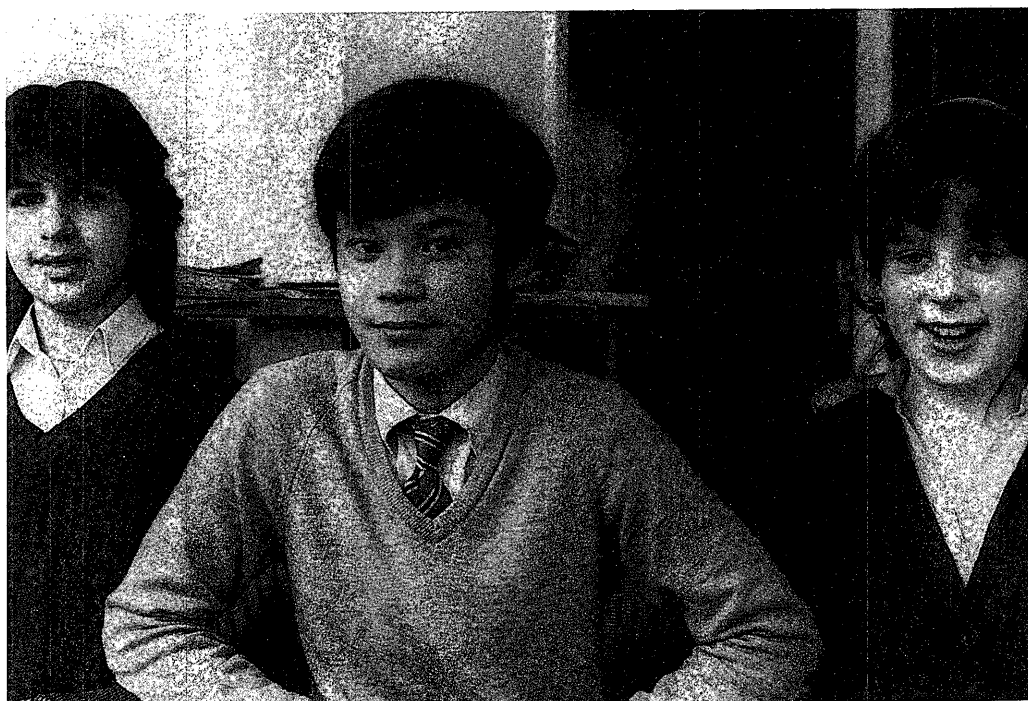


TOP RIGHT: Martin Price, BELOW:
Andrew Jeffries. MIDDLE RIGHT:
Mr and Mrs Jeffries. BOTTOM:
Edouard Amper



**SECOND
YEAR
TORTURE
CHAMBER**





TOP. Babak Naderi, Blake Roberts. CENTER. Uzma Anwar, Bao Hoang, Michelle Restzan. BOTTOM. Doris Rojas.





The sound of music is heard every night at the Manor. This small chamber group meets regularly in the visually impaired unit.

Manor musicians at work at Mayfield.

