

EXAMINATION PAPERS

PART I: (Time allowed 60 mins)

Candidates must attempt at least four and **not more than six** questions. All candidates are expected to answer Questions I and 2.

1. Write brief notes on **SIX** of the following:
 - (a) Goring Post Office
 - (b) The 'warm comfort of the Christian Religion'.
 - (c) Exeter Station.
 - (d) Bread for the House of Lords.
 - (e) Philocasius.
 - (f) "He thinks I'm a Financier".
 - (g) "If it isn't bacon and eggs, its eggs and bacon!"
 - (h) "I hold no brief for Humanitarianism".
 - (i) The mystic word 'caboodle'.
2. Why are you the best map reader?
3. Distinguish carefully between a walking-tour and a walking-race.
4. In what sense may a Quirinal be said to be 'lovely'?
5. Describe the principal uses of EITHER (a) the British Camp OR (b) Offa's Dyke.
6. Under what circumstances are billeting *areas* permissible?
7. Complete the following formula: "And could we, in about ten minutes..."
8. "...centre de Tourisme incomparable!" MAUROIS. Justify this contemporary estimate of Cheltenham.
9. Give the (long) semantic history of the word 'Guiting'.
10. Describe in your own words an imaginary walking-tour lasting not less than 4 days with no more than 4 of the following:
 - Lytton Strachey
 - Big Bill Thompson
 - Percy Simpson
 - Father Ronald Knox
 - W. Force Stead.
 - Mahatma Ghandi
 - Lady Oxford
 - Sigmund Freud
 - G.K. Chesterton
 - Professor J.A. Smith
 - Benedetto Croce
 - Sir William Morris
 - King Alfonso
 - Mary Pickford
 - Lord Olivier
 - C.H. Wilkinson
 - The Dhali Llama of Tibet
 - Edgar Wallace

PART II (Time allowed 40 mins)

ENGLISH ESSAY

1. Bredon.
2. The Mechanization of the Walking Tour.
3. “The Early Start”.
4. My Favourite Soaking-machine, and why.
5. The Quirinal – its Uses and Abuses.
6. Milk-Float *versus* Steam.

PART III (Practical)

Candidates will be expected to show reasonable proficiency in the game of Darts, and to read a Chapter to the satisfaction of a recognised Bishop of the Established Church.

Candidates are recommended to make their own arrangements within their Diocese.

THE ALLUSIONS

Part 1

- 1 (a) Goring Post Office came into a walk taken by Lewis, Barfield, Harwood and Walter O. Field along the Berkshire Downs between 19-25 April 1927. Lewis described the walk in a letter to his brother, Warren, of 26th April 1927, and parts of it are found in *Letters of C.S. Lewis*, ed. W.H. Lewis (1966). The entire letter can be found in the eleven typescript volumes of 'Lewis Papers: Memoirs of the Lewis Family 1850-1930', a copy of which is in the Bodleian. Lewis, Barfield and Harwood had all reached Goring, Oxfordshire, by train before Field arrived. In the letter to his brother Lewis complained that Field 'turned up carrying a Tommies pack filled square like a tommy's pack, for inspection. On the way we extracted from it a large overcoat, a sponge, four shirts, a heavy tin mug holding about a pint, two strong metal cigarette cases... and a number of those insane engines which some people associate with holidays. You know – the adaptable clasp knife which secretes a fork at one end and a spoon at the other, but in such a way that you could never really use the fork and spoon together – and all those sort of things. Having recovered from our delighted laughter and explained that we were going to walk in an English county and not in Alaska, we made up the condemned articles into a parcel which we compelled him to post home from Goring. It weighed about seven pounds.' ('Lewis Papers', IX, p. 227.) For a memoir of Walter Ogilvie Field see *The Voice of Cecil Harwood*, ed. Owen Barfield (1979).

- (b) The same group of friends went on a walking tour from 4 – 8 April which began in Dunster, Somerset, and ended in Exeter. The tour is described in Lewis's letter to Arthur Greeves on the 29th April 1930 and it is found in: *They Stand Together: The Letters of C.S. Lewis to Arthur Greeves (1914 – 1963)*, ed. Walter Hooper (1979). On the evening of the 8th April, after a cold, wet walk during which they had paused to inspect some al fresco relics of paganism such as Standing Stones and Cromlechs, they went into Exeter Cathedral. Mr Barfield remembers Lewis – who was not yet a Christian – commenting on the warm comfort of the Christian Religion'.

- 10 The idea of Lewis on a walking tour with four of the people mentioned here excites as much mirth in me, and possibly others, as Boswell asking Dr Johnson ‘If, Sir, you were shut up in a castle, and a new-born child with you, what would you do?’ However, these people were listed because they were either in the newspapers (which Lewis didn’t read) at the time or because of some personal association. (1) Lytton Strachey (1880 – 1932) was the author of *Eminent Victorians* which book Lewis liked though he disliked Strachey’s Bloomsbury cynicism. (2) Big Bill Thompson was the nickname of William Hale Thompson (1869 – 1944) who, after three terms as Major of Chicago, was running for Governor of Illinois in 1936. (3) Percy Simpson (1865 – 1962) had been a lecturer in English and a Fellow of Oriel College from 1921 until his retirement in 1935. He was Mr Barfield’s tutor in English Literature. For some time he was a member of the Oxford Delegation for Local Examinations and he supervised those who corrected English Essays for School Certificates. (4) Father Ronald Knox (1888 – 1957) was Chaplain to the Roman Catholic undergraduates at Oxford from 1922 – 1933 and a writer of satirical and humorous verse. (5) William Force Stead (1884 – 1967) introduced Lewis to W.B. Yeats in 1921. He was ordained in 1917 and during his first year (1927) as Chaplain of Worcester College he baptised his friend T.S. Eliot. (6) Mahatma Ghandi (1869 – 1948) was much in the news at this time. (7) This Lady Oxford was the talented and vivacious Margaret, Countess of Oxford and Asquith (1864 – 1945). (8) Lewis had mixed opinions about the writings of Sigmund Freud (1856 – 1939). (9) although they never met, Lewis had long admired the writings of G.K. Chesterton (b. 1874) who died on the 14th June 1936. (10) Lewis enjoyed the privilege of living on the same staircase as John Alexander Smith (1863 – 1939) who was Waynflete Professor of Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy and a Fellow of Magdalen College from 1910 until his retirement in 1936. (11) Benedetto Croce (1866 – 1952) was an Italian philosopher and literary critic. (12) The intention was to cause Lewis to confuse William Morris (1877 – 1963), who became Lord Nuffield in 1934, and whom Lewis disliked for building his Morris Motors factory at Cowley in 1919. (13) Alfonso XIII (1886 – 1941) was the King of Spain. (14) Mary Pickford (1893 – 1979) was a film star Lewis probably never heard of. (15) Sydney Haldane Olivier, Baron Olivier (1859 – 1943), the one-time Governor of Jamaica, was the father of Harwood’s first wife, Daphne. Lord Olivier was the uncle of the actor Laurence, Baron Olivier. (16) Cyril Hackett Wilkinson (1888 – 1960), Dean and Vice-Provost of Worcester College, was from 1920 to 1947 the Oxford Secretary of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board and the one to whom Lewis was answerable regarding the School Certificates. (17) This was the 14th and current Dalai Lama who was born in 1935 and enthroned in 1940. (18) Edgar Wallace (1875 – 1932) was the prolific author of ‘thrillers’ which Lewis had no taste for.

PART II

- 1 Bredon is a village in Shropshire. Mr Barfield is not sure why Bredon was put in except for the fact that it is mentioned in A.E. Housman’s *A Shropshire Lad* (part XX) which opens ‘in summertown on Bredon/The bells they sound so clear.’
- 2 ‘The Mechanization of the Walking-tour’ alludes to the fact that a walking tour is a *walking* tour and how shamefaced Lewis, Barfield, Harwood and ‘Wof’ (as Field was called) felt when they entered Marlborough on a milk-float. Lewis refers to this incident in his letter to Warren on the 26th April 1927. Of the third day of this walk (21 April) Lewis said that at Avebury ‘We had tea gloriously, in the orchard of an inn: and took off our shoes, and ordered a fresh pot and more hot water... Then Wof –

he's the jack knife man – did a sensible thing by returning after a moment's absence and saying "If you're not very keen on *walking* to Marlborough there's a man here with a milk cart who will take us in." So we sat among milk cans... and bumped and rattled along the Bath road... into Marlborough.' ('Lewis Papers', IX, p. 228.)

- 3 The Cretaceous Perambulators were not unlike other travellers in beginning a trip with great enthusiasm for making an 'Early Start' every morning. And like so many others, that 'Early Start' got later and later every day.
- 4 Lewis had been the one to introduce 'Soaking-machine' into the vocabulary of the Perambulators. In his letter to Arthur Greeves of the 11th May 1915 Lewis said 'The word Soaking Machine can hardly be styled "slang", being, as it is, coined by myself for private circulation... The word "soak" means to sit idly or sleepily doing nothing, and a S'ing machine is [a] place for this operation, i.e. a comfortable seat.'
- 5 'The Quirinal' – see Part I, questions 4 and 9.
- 6 'Milk Float *versus* Steam [Penis].' In some of the School Certificates Lewis marked was the question 'What would you do if you were left a legacy of half a million pounds?' One answer he received from a young man was that he would buy a 'steam penis' when what he meant was a 'steam pinnacle'.

PART III

None of the walkers showed 'reasonable proficiency' in the game of Darts, and Lewis possibly less 'proficiency' than the others. It had become the custom of the Perambulators to stop at whatever church they came across in their tours. And there one would read a chapter from the Bible. One such occasion was the walk taken by Lewis, Barfield, Harwood and Field on 4 – 8 April 1930. In his letter to Greeves of the 29th April 1930 Lewis said 'We drank tea in the tiny hamlet of Stoke Pero where there is a little grey church without a tower that holds only about twenty people. Here, according to an excellent custom of our walks, one of the party read us a chapter of Scripture from the lectern while the rest of us sat heavily in the pews and spread out our mackintoshes to let the linings steam off.'

A Cretaceous Perambulator (The Re-examination of) is here published for the first time in an edition limited to 100 copies of which this is No. 3.