MID-TERM EXAMS

By W. E. Hill



Harassed prep school instructor wading through one of those longwinded exams from a dull junior who hopes to cover up what he doesn't know with a lot of

that a little humor did a lot

for an examination paper, meaning an

English exam. But Wolcott thought

he meant any exam and wrote "Nuts to

you" on his chemistry.)

Sidney spent hours of his valuable time compiling an elaborate crib that could be sequestered in the lavatory and referred to each time he went for a drink of water. But none of the questions was expected, and the crib is useless.

here." Showing kind-hearted instructor trying to give

Ogden the benefit of the doubt on his English paper.

Ogden isn't sure what he meant, which is too bad, because they need him on the basketball team and he

has to pass in something.



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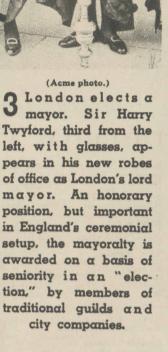
This is no hatchet burial scene. It is the 1937 renewal of a 700-year-old English custom-just one of the many traditions that form an important, if sentimental, strand in the warp and woof of the empire. The bewigged gentleman is a court official called the king's remembrancer. Traditionally he reminds various of the king's officials of their duties. He is receiving a hatchet from the solicitor of the City of London corporation, representing a traditional payment of two knives, ten horseshoes, and sixty-one horseshoe nails to the crown for use of certain lands. The payment is called quitrent. Quitrents were abolished in 1922, but the tradition lingers on.



• Even farther back in English history goes this custom—"beating the bounds." In Anglo-Saxon times parish priests on Ascension day would lead a group of boys bearing willow wands on a walk around the parish boundaries, beating the boundary stones to designate the official property line. Sometimes the boys were switched or bounced upon the stones to make them remember. That's why the choir boy is being up-ended during this year's observance at a London church.



(Photo from Tribune London bureau.)



At left: Another mayor. Councillor A. J. Gibbs, new mayor of High Wycombe, goes through an age-old weighing - in ceremony.



(Acme photo.) More modern than the others is the annual all-England basket-carrying race for market porters.