

EXTRACT FROM THE SUMMER 1946 "DOG WATCH" (Page 13)

8th June, " V " DAY.—This great day refused to be spoilt by the bad weather which has been consistent this term. Our programme started at 6 p.m., when some 150 parents and friends of cadets came on board; some paid visits to the *Cutty Sark* which, like the *Worcester*, was dressed over all (and was opened to the general public, with cadets acting as guides). But dancing on the main deck was the main attraction, and the " ballroom " looked gay with flags: the ship's radiogram provided the music. At 7 p.m. the regatta programme was opened by the Port v. Starboard Race, described fully in our sports columns. Mr. Wallrock, an old *Worcester* friend and donor of the Challenge Shield, presented it to the Starboard winning crew and afterwards made a short speech. This was followed by the lead-off of the " slew of the year " on the upper deck, by the winning crew, an ancient *Worcester* custom, which it was good to see revived again. Regatta events then followed in quick succession undeterred by the rain—the all-comers race was won by the boy-stewards who manned the jolly boat; the aquatic Derby, consisting of four rafts fitted appropriately with horses' heads by Mr. Woods, was won by Cadets Allen and Ross, who alone survived the passage ashore without a ducking. Then followed the " pirate ship," with Cadet-Captain Daniel at the helm and his pirate crew looking every bit the part, and making their prisoners walk the plank without any mercy. An interval was given for refreshments on the half-deck, dancing recommenced and was only interrupted by the firework display, consisting of rockets fired from the poop, coloured flares and, most spectacular of all, the brilliant naval flares at intervals along the foreshore which turned darkness into daylight. These were electrically fired by the Third Officer (" Master-Gunner ") and his Mates, and the display certainly rivalled some of the Pool of London set pieces. A party of nine cadets was given seats at the Victoria Memorial to watch the Victory Parade; they returned in time to take part in their own celebrations. Altogether it was a day we shall long remember.