

School leaves Handcross

Lease has expired

FOR the last time at Handcross term ended for the boys at Ashfold Preparatory School on the Thursday before Christmas. When they reassemble after the holidays it will no longer be in the building on the Horsham Road, which has been the school's temporary billet for ten years, but in a seventeenth century house near Aylesbury, Bucks., now to become Ashfold's permanent home.

With the traditional end of term call of "Three cheers for the partners, three cheers for the staff, three cheers for the matrons, three cheers for the hols., and three cheers for the food," 87 boys said goodbye to school days at Handcross.

Ashfold—a preparatory school attended by boys from all over the country between the ages of seven and 13—came to Handcross after the war, when the two schools of Abinger Hill and Akley Wood were joined together under the headship of Mr. G. J. K. Harrison.

£80 A TERM

Fees at Ashfold are £80 a term, and boys go from there to various public schools.

The school is now leaving because the lease on the building in which it has been housed—the property of Mr. John Smith, Slaugham Lord of the Manor—has just expired.

Leaving Handcross with the 87 boys, 11 teachers, 3 matrons and one secretary, are the three partners—Mr. Harrison, Mr. Truscott and Mr. Sykes—who own the school.

Mr. Sykes will be especially missed in the village, for he vacates the offices of president of the British Legion, commanding officer of the Home Guard, and chairman of the renowned Handcross Cart-Horse Derby.