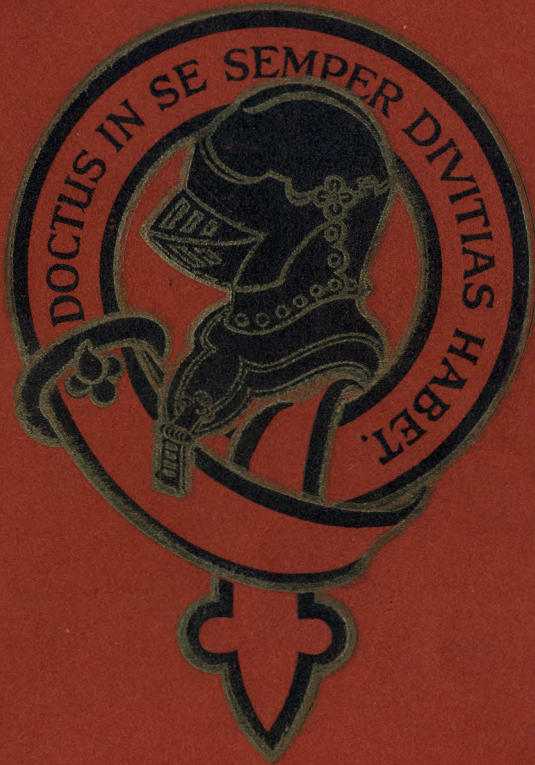
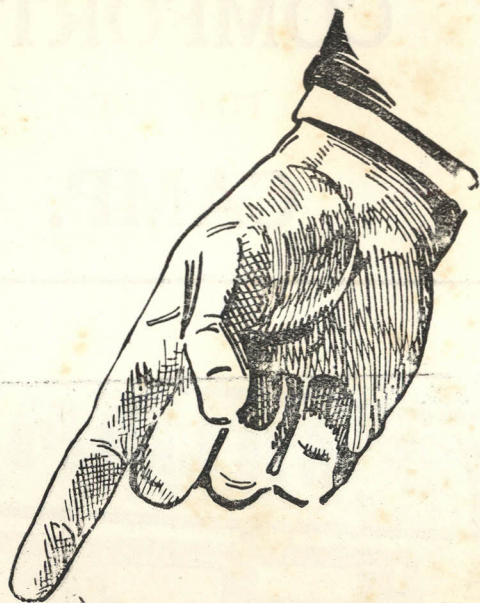


"THE VISOR"



**BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.**

SUMMER, 1929.



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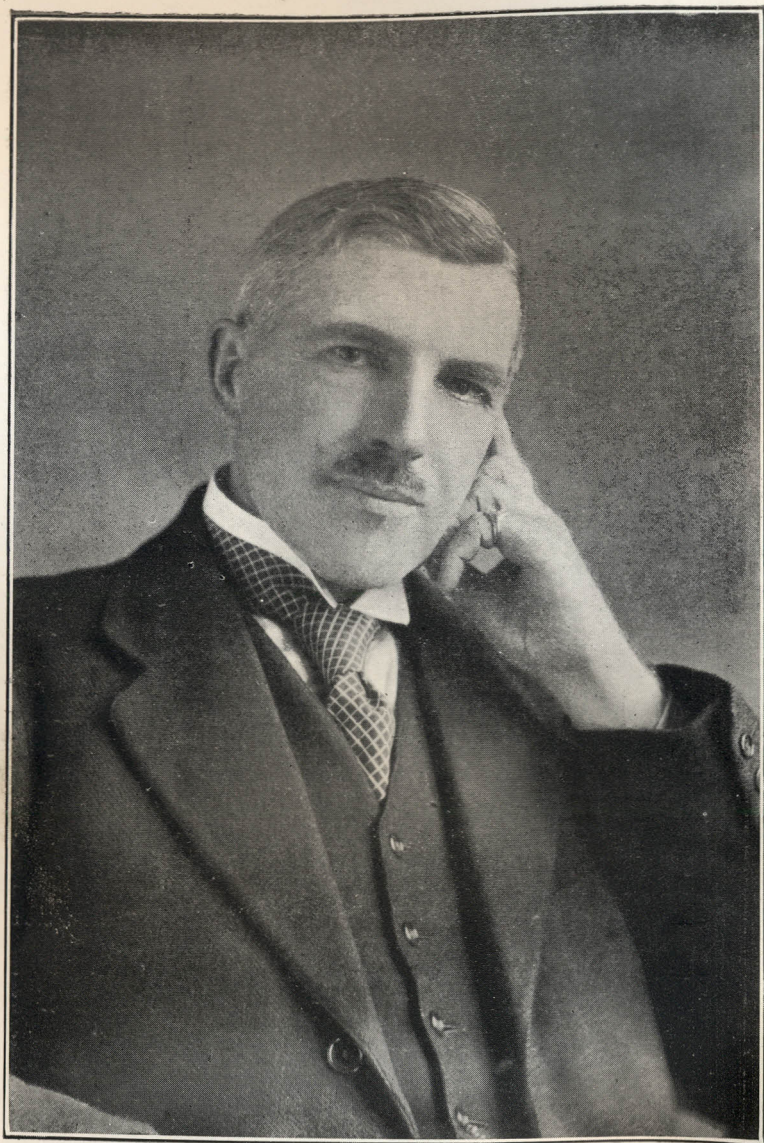
CAMP.



SNACKS

FOR THE

EMERGENCY.



E. WYNNE-HUGHES, Esq.,
Headmaster Elect.

"THE VISOR."

THE ORGAN OF THE BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

VOL. I., No. 6.

SUMMER, 1929.

EDITORIAL.

For once in a while, the Sports were attended by brilliant weather. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Wynne-Hughes, who we hope will be with us next term.

A new and very popular event was the open relay race.

T. J. Andrews proved by his splendid all round performance that he was the worthy winner of the Victor Ludorum medal. He won the 100 yds., 440 yds., 1 mile, and 120 yds. hurdles.

Few phenomenal scores have been made in cricket this term. The only two innings of note have been a dashing 52 not out by Richards, and a 64 by Ovens, who put on 91 for the first wicket in partnership with Burnet.

The Old Boys' Match was played on June 1st. If this is made an annual event, we hope that there will be more parents present.

Yet another "Matric" has come round. We wish the candidates good luck, and trust that once more our school will appear near the head of the list.

May we ask our readers for more literary articles next term? We cannot hope to produce a respectable magazine out of the meagre contributions sent in at present.

Once more may we thank our advertisers for their support, and ask our readers to support the advertisers in return?

Our thanks are also due to H. Wilson, who has kindly designed the posters for the "Visor."

Boys who are leaving school will notice that order forms are enclosed in this issue of the magazine. We hope that they will make the most of this opportunity of keeping in touch with the "old school."

Congratulations to Private H. J. Perkin (Liverpool Scottish), an Old Boy, on winning the Arkle Cup awarded to the best shot in Regimental Teams.

The committees of the "Whetstonian" and the "Visor" have decided to publish their magazines separately again, after two experimental numbers of the joint magazine.

Congratulations to our school troop on winning the cup at the Birkenhead Scouts' sports, held at Port Sunlight Recreation grounds.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following magazines:—Holt School Magazine, The Quarry, The Inkwell, Oulton, Esmeduna, Tranmere High School Magazine, Towers (Overbrook High School, Philadelphia, P.A.), Nautilus (Holmes Junior High School, Philadelphia, P.A.)

ATKIN HOUSE NOTES.

House Master—Mr. F. BLOOR.

House Captain—G. V. OVENS.

Cricket, which has aroused much enthusiasm by all members of the House, received a good send off when our Senior XI. defeated a strong Stitt XI. In this match Atkins batted first and ran up the good score of 133, of which 73 were claimed by Ovens. Stitt fought gamely after a bad start and thanks to Clark, 24, and McBride, 33, compiled 81. Considering that we lacked the service of two such sound players as Smith, P. R., and Robinson, G. W., this victory was quite complimentary towards the house. The second senior house match v. Tate proved to be rather exciting. Burnett won the toss for Tate and decided to bat. The opening batsmen fared none too well, and, except for a timely stand by Hartley and Laird, would soon have been dismissed. The innings realised 77 runs.

Atkins started none too well, Robinson being run out before he had opened his account, but Ovens, 18, Phillips, 15, and Thornton, 21, considerably improved matters and eventually Tate's total was passed in a last wicket stand by Rushton and Houghton. Atkins scored 78 and thus won by one run. As may be seen from this result, we are well placed for championship honours in the Senior Section.

Intermediates. In this branch of school cricket Atkins has been far from successful, having won only one match out of three. Fortunately our boys in this section are young and consequently have much time for development.

Foresight.

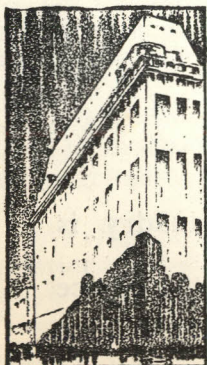
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THE Third Floor is a complete Shop in itself, where you can get clothes of all kinds for boys and girls at school. There is no difficulty about getting the correct things and no doubt about their good qualities ; prices are surprisingly low.

Everything else needed for school is to be had in the store—the finest school sports requisites on the Fourth Floor ; bags and cases, notebooks and stationery on the Lower Ground Floor.

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Juniors. The Juniors started quite well, for against Stitt they compiled 84 for 6 wickets, but could not get Stitt out in time. Stitt compiled 40 runs for 5 wickets. In their second venture they were beaten by 19 runs by Tate.

Sports. Considering the number of entries of boys from Atkin house, the results obtained were good, as we were second to Westminster. Ovens was our most successful candidate, being runner up to Andrews, to whom we proffer our heartiest congratulations, for the "Victor Ludorum."

Tug-of-war. In this event we were beaten by Westminster by 2 pulls to 1 our team being Alldis, Ovens, Allen, Smith, P. R., Latto, McFarlane, Robinson and Hosker.

Inter House Relay. The House was represented in this event by Croft, Latto, Smith and Ovens. Croft took the first 100 yds., and Latto the second, Smith taking the 220 yds. and Ovens the 440. Morris gave Westminster the lead in the 220 yds., and Baxter kept the advantage thus beating Ovens who came in second.

STITT HOUSE NOTES.

House Master—Mr. W. H. WATTS.

House Captain—G. CLARK.

Cricket. As our House is poorly represented in certain departments, Stitt's success in the cricket field this season has been rather limited.

In the Seniors, we surprised Atkin by compiling 91, of which McBride made 33, and Clarke 24, as against Atkin's 133.

In the Intermediates, we defeated Atkin by 66—55, and Westminster by 2 wickets.

So far, the Juniors have not been the success we looked for, for although they forced a draw with Atkin, they were badly beaten by Westminster.

The batting averages of the House are headed by Clark, with 24, followed by McBride, with 22.5, and Blackwood 14.5.

The House is represented in the School 1st XI. by : Clark, Richards and McBride; in the 2nd XI. by : McIver (Capt.), Blackwood, Carter, W. S. Jones and Glaister; and in the Colts XI. by Silcock.

We have still to play Tate, in all departments, and are hoping for a triple success against them.

Athletic Sports. Stitt occupied the fourth place in the House Championship, with the disappointing total of 17 points, of which R. King (Junior School) gained 6.

Our Relay Team finished in the fourth place, although Carter made a desperate effort to recover lost ground. In this race, we were represented by:—Anderson, S., 1st 100 yds., McBride, 2nd 100 yds., Anderson, J. E., 220 yds., Carter, 440 yds.

The following Tug-of-War Team gained two points for the second place to Westminster: Blackwood, Clark, Barker, Jones, W. S., Currie, Glaister, Holland and McIver.

We earnestly hope that all who "wear the green" will do their best to redeem the fortunes of their house in next year's sports.

School Colours. Congratulations of the School, and House are due to G. N. Richards, who gained his 1st XI. Colours on May 29th, 1929, for an excellent innings of 52 not out, against Holt Secondary School (Away). We are also pleased to note, that Richards made 46 against the same school at Ingleborough Road, on June 19th.

Prospects.

Cricket. The House can look forward next season to a strong Senior Cricket Team, as some excellent material will then be available from the Intermediates.

Football. As was stated in last term's magazine, our prospects of winning the Senior House Championship are particularly bright.

"Farewells." To our House Captain, G. Clark, and to all who are leaving us this term, the House says a "Regretful Farewell," thanking them for their loyal support, and wishing them success in their careers.

TATE HOUSE NOTES.

House Master—Mr. HARRIS.

House Captain—A. W. BURNET.

This term, Tate has met with remarkable success in the cricket field.

In the school elevens, the house is well represented by Burnet (Vice-Captain), Mason, Watkins and Maddocks in the first XI., by Hartley, Laird, Peel, Barton and Minns in the second XI. and by Allsopp and Goodwin in the Colts' XI.

In the Senior House matches, we have played one game against Westminster, whom we defeated by 7 wickets, the score being 42 for 3 to 37. In this game, Burnet made 20 not out and Mason 10, while Dutton and Peel each took 2 wickets for 3 runs and Burnet 3 for 14.

In the Intermediate matches, we have beaten Atkin and Westminster by 25 for 2 to 20 and 33 to 20 respectively. Atkin, Dutton made 14 not out, and Peel made 7 against Westminster, while the same player took 6 Atkin wickets for 5 runs.

In the Juniors, Westminster were beaten 59—20, and Atkin 39—17. In both matches, Minns was the outstanding batsman, with 18 to his credit against Westminster and 10 not out against Atkin. In the latter match, also, Stelfox took 3 for 1 and Minns 3 for 6.

We have still to play Stitt in all departments, and we are hoping for success against them.

In the Athletic Sports, Tate occupied a higher position than they did last year, rising to third place with 22 points. Chief among successes by members of the house, was Peel's victory in the high jump, while in the tug-of-war, Tate was defeated by Stitt in the first round, and in the relay, occupied third place.

The House, then, has enjoyed signal success in the cricket field, but still has some leeway to make up in the Athletics department. In spite of this, however, there is much good material in the lower forms, which should prove its worth in the next two or three years.

WESTMINSTER HOUSE NOTES.

House Master—Mr. F. W. JONES.

House Captain—T. J. ANDREWS.

Sports. The house as a whole, has good cause to congratulate itself on the fine performance put up at the Sports. For the second year in succession we have gained the honour of being Champion House, with an aggregate of 60 points, as compared with the 36 points gained by Atkin, who were second. Our athletics record is one of which we may justly be proud, for in 1926 we were Champion House, in 1927, we were runners-up and we have held the former position, ever since.

Andrews is to be congratulated on his victory in the mile, and also on the fine all-round performance which gained him the Victor Ludorum medal, and incidentally a further honour for the House.

After an exciting race, we won the House Relay Race from Atkin, by 10 yds.

In the final of the Tug-of-War, after previously pulling Atkin (2 pulls to one), we beat Stitt with two comparatively easy pulls.

Cricket. It is with reluctance that we must turn from the relating of our feats in the Sports, to the telling of the poor results which we have recently been obtaining at Ingleborough Road.

In the **Senior** section, we lost to Tate; but since this has been the only match played, to date, we hope to alter this state of affairs in the succeeding two matches with Stitt and Atkin.

We have fared no better in the **Intermediate** section, although luck has been against us in some of our matches. In the last match, with Atkin, we declared at 50—4, but Atkin, playing longer than we had expected, managed to compile 51—8.

Of the **Junior** matches played, we have won one, an overwhelming victory being gained over Stitt. Roberts is to be congratulated on the fine score of 51 not out, which he compiled in this match.

It is gratifying to note the keen interest that is being shown in these Junior matches, by the younger members of the House. It bodes well for the future of Westminster House cricket.

At present, we can boast of having 3 members of the House in the 1st XI.—Lea, Andrews, Rice, two in the 2nd XI.—Roberts and Griffiths, and 2 in the Colts XI.—Roberts and Barker.

In conclusion, we would like to thank L. Theaker for the able way in which he conducted the affairs of the House, during the short period in which he held the position of Captain.

B. I. ATHLETIC SPORTS RESULTS.

Long Jump (under 14)—1, Kirkland, F. (S.) ; 2, Hall, W. O. (A.) ; 3, Wright, J. H. (W.)

100 yards (under 15)—1, Walker, C. E. (W.) ; 2, Watkins, J. (T.) ; 3, Porter, K. W. (W.) ; Time 11 4/5 secs.

100 yards (Open)—1, Andrews, T. (W.) ; 2, Coughtrie, J. (T.) ; 3, Smith, P. R. (A.) ; Time 11 2/5 secs.

100 yards (under 13)—1, Jones, J. (A.) ; 2, Kendrick, W. (W.) ; 3, Davies, L. (T.) ; Time 13 1/5 secs.

100 yards (under 14)—1, Dunning, L. E. (A.) ; 2, Walker, K. (A.) ; 3, Pott (S.) ; Time 13 1/5 secs.

Cricket Ball (under 14)—1, Barker, J. K. (W.) ; 2, Rice, K. J. (W.) ; 3, Shaw, C. A. (T.)

80 yards Junior School—1, King, R. (S.) ; 2, Mayo, J. (T.) ; 3, Barker, D. (W.) ; Time 8 2/5 secs.

- 220 yards (Open)**—1, Ovens, G. V. (A.) ; 2, Coughtrie, J. C. (T.) ; 3, Morris, L. C. (W.) ; Time 26 secs.
- Cricket Ball (Open)**—1, Rushton, T. (A.) ; 2, Ovens, G. V. (A.) ; 3, Hosker, N. (A.) ; Distance 82 yards $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.
- 220 yards Handicap (under 15)**—1, Walker, C.E. (W.) ; 2, Watkins, J. (T.) ; 3, Anderson (S.) ; Time 27 secs.
- 220 yards Handicap (under 13)**—1, King, R. (S.) ; 2, Jones, J. (A.) ; 3, Blair, J. (S.) ; Time 29 $2\frac{1}{5}$ secs.
- High Jump (under 14)**—1, Rice, K. (W.) ; 2, Brame, H. (.) ; 3, Kirkland, F. (S.) ; Height 3 ft. 11 inches.
- High Jump (Open)**—1, Peel W. (T.) ; 2, Ovens, G. V. (A.) ; 3, Walker, C. (W.)
- Obstacle Race (over 14)**—1, Mason and Kirchin (dead-heat) ; 3, Colley, H.
- 440 yards (under 14)**—1, Walker, K. (A.) ; 2, Rice, K. (W.) ; 3, Cowell, D. (S.) ; 1 min. 10 $2\frac{1}{5}$ secs.
- 440 yards (Open)**—1, Andrews, T. (W.) ; 2, Morris, L. (W.) ; 3, Ovens, G. V. (A.) ; Time 1 min.
- 440 yards (Handicap)**—1, Barker, D. (W.) ; 2, Rigby, D. (T.) ; 3, Horne, A. C. (W.) ; Time 1 min. 1 sec.
- Long Jump (Open)**—1, Walker, C. E. (W.) ; 2, Smith, P. R. (A.) ; 3, Anderson, J. E. (S.)
- Three-legged Handicap**—1, Barker, F. and Barker D. ; 2, Barker, H. and Henderson, 3, Phoenix and Wadlow.
- Old Boys' 220 yards**—1, Reid, R. W., Time 25 $1\frac{1}{5}$ secs.
- Mile (Open)**—1, Andrews, T. (W.) ; Home, A. C. (W.) ; Watkins, H. (T.) ; Time 5 mins. 20 secs.
- Open Relay Race**—1, Parker's Team ; 2, Allan's Team.
- House Relay Race**—1, Westminster ; 2, Atkin ; 3, Tate ; 4, Stitt ; Time 1 min. 52 $1\frac{1}{5}$ secs.
- 880 yards Handicap**—1, Home, A. (W.) ; 2, Elton, S. (S.) ; 3, Thomas, C. D. (T.) ; Time 2 mins. 28 $2\frac{1}{5}$ secs.
- Obstacle Race (under 14)**—1, Henderson, D. ; 2, Kirkland, F. ; 3, Chalkley, E.
- 120 yards Hurdles (Open)**—1, Andrews, T. (W.) ; 2, Croft, E. (A.) ; 3, Parker, S. (S.)
- Tug-of-War**—1, Westminster ; 2, Stitt.
- Tug-of-War (Open)**—1, Parker's Team ; 2, Hallett's Team.
- Victor Ludorum**—T. J. Andrews (W.)
- Champion House**—Westminster.

CRICKET.

So far the School has had quite a successful season, although we have felt the need of a bowler to replace Robinson. Indeed, if there has been any weakness this year, it has been in the bowling, which at times has been distinctly loose. The batting, which at first opened rather feebly, improved as the season wore on, and there are now batsmen in the team who show that it is not beyond their powers to punish loose bowling. The fielding of the 1st XI. has maintained the high standard of last year, and it is pleasing to note the keenness of the team in this important branch of the game. The 2nd XI. have fallen far short of their seniors in this respect, most of them expecting the ball to come to them rather than they should expend any energy in going to meet it.

There has been a falling off in the attendance at net practice during the past month, which is rather to be deplored, and it is hoped that this defect will be remedied in the near future. It is essential that members of the teams should attend at least one practice a week.

A gratifying feature of the season has been the enthusiasm shown, especially in the lower part of the school, in the House and Form Matches. The batting and bowling average tables displayed in various classrooms seems to point to the fact that the interest displayed on the field does not end there.

In conclusion, we should like to congratulate the school on their win this year over the Old Boys. The match also proved quite a social success, and it is hoped that it will in future become the social event of the year.

1st and 2nd XI. FIXTURES.

Date.	School.	1st. XI. Scores.		2nd XI. Scores.	
		For	Against	For	Against.
May 1—	Quarry Bank School	33	43-4	...	23-6 22
4—	Bootle Secondary School	32	76	...	
11—	Waterloo Secondary School ...	44	40	...	22 66
15—	Liverpool Collegiate School ...	99	59	...	51 88-6
22—	St. Edward's College	31	41-7	...	33 37
25—	Oulton Secondary School	17-5 50
29—	Holt Secondary School	92-9	60	...	78-6 47
June 1—	Old Boys	48	42	...	
8—	Rock Ferry High School	135-4	44	...	80-9 24
12—	St. Edward's College	72	49-8	...	66-3 60
15—	Waterloo Secondary School ...	13	92	...	35 36-6
19—	Holt Secondary School	126	92	...	39 66

**Other Matches.
2nd and 3rd XI's.**

May 4—School Ship Conway 84 95 ... 48 74

3rd XI.

May 8—Wallasey Grammar School 43 44-2

June 12—Wallasey Grammar School 55 103

Senior House Matches.

Date.	Houses.	Result.	A.	S.	T.	W.
April 27—Atkin v. Stitt			133	91		
May 25—Tate v. Westminster					42-3	37
June 26—Atkin v. Tate			78		77	

Intermediate House Matches.

Date.	Houses.	Result.	A.	S.	T.	W.
April 29—Atkin v. Stitt			55	66		
May 13—Tate v. Westminster					33	20
May 27—Atkin v. Tate			20		21-2	
June 10—Stitt v. Westminster				42-8		40
June 24—Atkin v. Westminster			51-8			50-4

Junior House Matches.

Date.	Houses.	Result.	A.	S.	T.	W.
May 3—Atkin v. Stitt			84-6	40-5		
May 17—Tate v. Westminster					59	33
May 31—Atkin v. Tate			20		39	
June 14—Stitt v. Westminster				29		71-6
June 28—Atkin v. Westminster			22-5			21

A SCHOLASTIC CATASTROPHE.

A schoolboy sat in the form-room,
 And deep in thought was he.
 "I think I'll write for the 'Visor,'
 What can I write?—Let's see!"

He wrinkled his brow as he murmured,
 "If I but try, I can."
 But his comrade came to find him,
 And away to cricket they ran.

When he returned to the form-room,
 He sat and scratched his head;
 Then throwing the pencil from him,
 "Hang it, I can't," he said.

I might quote dozens of cases,
 And yet I quote but one.
 If we get no contributions,
 The good old 'Visor's' done.

That's why if things don't buck up soon,
 The "Mag" must shut up shop.
 And, as no-one wants that to happen,
 'Get going'—'with a hop.'

R. B. IVa.

Moral:—

You write something for our next issue and make the
 "Visor" a great success)—R. B.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

sospitem, divi validumque nostrum
 principem servate boni, diuque
 imperaturum patriae, potentem
 semper et aequum.

laudibus donisque oneratus idem
 iura defendat pater, ut libenter
 ore per longos iubeamus annos
 vivere salvum.

funde, Mars o bellipotens dolosas
 hostium fraudes celeri ruina,
 remque conturba: tibi supplicantes
 nos tuearis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[We invite letters for this page, but do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed, nor do we necessarily agree with them].

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "VISOR,"

SIR,

This letter is written in order to draw attention to the need for reform in the present system of selecting the school teams, whereby the Captain chooses the 1st, 2nd and 3rd XIs., under the supervision of the Hon. Secretary.

May we suggest that, as in other schools, a Games Committee be appointed whose duty it would be to watch and report on as many matches as possible, in order to discover any talent which might otherwise pass unnoticed.

It would be interesting to know the general feeling of the school on this question.

Yours, etc.,

G. N. Richards.
 J. A. Coughtrie.
 G. E. Smith.
 J. M. McNeill.
 J. H. Johnston.

ODE ON THE CHESS-PLAYER.

He thinks, yea verily, he thinks;
 Sits motionless as Father Sphinx,
 Then suddenly the brain-wave came;
 This haughty foe, he soon would tame.
 He gazes on his army bold,
 'The bravest on the earth, we're told.
 At his command the knights advance,
 And infantry with sword and lance.
 Nobles, bishops, infantry are slain;
 He presses on with might and main.
 Now, lo! he halts, and "Mate!" he cries,
 The proud Black King, he fettered lies.

BY EN PASSANT.

"BETTER HEALTH."

The Cubby-Hole has a roof. So have most buildings; but this is a flat roof. From it a magnificent panorama of a large part of Birkenhead unrolls itself before the eyes of the wondering spectator—at least it would do if certain buildings were not in the way, and if smoke did not hide everything.

If one should venture between the Gym and the Woodwork room roof, along the wooden "pathway," (evidently constructed for the convenience of the scholars) one could obtain an unprecedented view of Beache Crofte. Some boys—obviously born naturalists—have been known to spend long periods patiently watching the brilliant bird life of the Crofte.

What an ideal place for lessons! Here we could recline, (after the manner of Mr. George Bernard Shaw), taking our sun cure, while listening attentively to the master explaining the theory and practice of bimetallism, the intricacies of double-entry book-keeping, or other interesting subjects. Here, fanned by the gentle breezes (Zephyr or otherwise), we might recuperate from our long incarceration in places like the Cubby-Hole (if there are any such places). Down there, with both windows wide open, and the door wide open, winds approaching gale force have been known to blow covers off inkwells, and even to carry away a desk-lid!

Of course, masters who would "come in amongst us" would have to be careful where they stepped, but we should soon get used to little difficulties like that.

Those masters who could not squeeze through the Gym would have to be hauled up by a rope, or by a small steam crane, but doubtless they would get used to that, too.

Why, you ask, do we not have lessons up there? I ask the same question— Why not? J. A. C. (Upper VIc.)

THE WAY THING ARE DONE.

[With apologies to all who desire them].

Oh! have you heard the plan absurd,
That the Examiner's now conceived?
'Tis based on such fantastic lines,
As scarce can be believed,
Yet here you see, its details be
Set out as ne'er before.
They take A B and they multiply
By half of the square of X and Y.
They then throw in some ad hoc weights.
And that is the way they decide our fates.
And if you get, say, "passes" three,
But fail in French or History,
A lovely good bye, your hopes are vain.
You'll have to sit matric again.

He! He! Ha! Ha!

How do you like their formula.

PRESSMAN (Lower VIb.)

EPITAPHE D'UN PARESSEUX.

Ci-dessous Antoine repose;
Il ne fit jamais autre chose.

J. A. H. (Lower VIa).

THOUGHTS WHEN OUTSIDE THE MASTER'S ROOM.

The punishments of other times were terrible enough,
The guillotine—the pillory—the stake;
If you wanted to out-live them you'd have to be a tough,
And keep your cerebellum wide awake.

In modern times it's different because we're more humane,
And all our corp'ral punishments are quick;
The only great exception is the lingering of the pain
When a "tender-hearted" master gives the stick!

BILL BAILEY (Lower VIb.)

SO THIS IS EDUCATION!

Now take this education business, for example. Has it ever struck you, how senseless and useless are the subjects which we learn? Take Geometry, now. "Things that are equal to each other," so we are told "are equal." How wonderful! Isn't it marvellous to know these things, and yet so unneeded?

Why should we be made to learn that if 3 sides of 1 triangle be equal to 3 sides of another standing on the same arc, and between the same bases, then the triangles are congruent? Any fool can see that, and at any rate, they would be funny, if they weren't wouldn't they?

Why should I be required to prove that $A^2 = B^2 + C^2$?

It probably doesn't, if the truth were only known. Even if it does, what of it? I have never seen one A. I don't mind what it's equal to, even if it is. Leave it alone, I say, Leave it alone!

Algebra to me is a putrid subject, the most useless of the useless.

$$X^2 = \frac{4 + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}}{Y^2}$$

I don't care. For all the information that it conveys to my mind, the answer might as well be a lemon. More so, in fact, because I can visualise a lemon, but have you ever seen a square x, or a 3 with a root hanging round it? I doubt it.

$$X^2 + Y^2 = 0$$

Why speak of it then, if it equals naught? Oh! Algebra! you utterly, absolutely, confound me, with your ridiculous anomalies.

Turning now to the sciences. Physics! What is the use of knowing that a faulty balance will act, if you shove sand on one pan. Any grocer could tell you that. Why bother about the Mechanical Equivalent of Heat, which is always less than 1. Serves it right, it deserves to be less than one. Why trouble our heads over the fact that H_2S is the formula for water? Would our national prestige suffer in any way if it wasn't? I think not.

And English. Rosalind was a generous and lovely female, so Mr. P. r. s. told us. I expect she wasn't really. Probably she was an ugly old hag who bribed Shakespeare, if there ever was such a person, to tell lies about her.

History! Art! Arithmetic! Trigonometry! French! Oh! shades of Jove! When shall we stop learning these futile subjects and in their place, learn knitting.

Knitting! Ah! What visions of adventure and hectic enjoyment does that word conjure up for me. Think of the innumerable thrills to be gained in hunting for dropped, strayed or lost stitches. Think of the fun to be had by prodding M-tth-ws with 2 long, sharp knitting needles. But enough! I hear your mouths watering. As Shakespeare says, "Let us pass on to more congenial subjects. PRESSMAN (Lower VIIb.)

PITHY PASSAGES.

The Prefects have recently had their photographs taken. A rumour that they have received tempting offers from the proprietor of a travelling menagerie, is absolutely unfounded.

A well-known school official had his moustache shaved off a few days ago. In my opinion, a society ought to be formed for the preservation of these ancient landmarks.

Speaking about the famous Elizabethan writer, a master recently stated that there was a curious yellow streak running through Bacon.

Eggs—actly!

An experienced member of the Vths tells me that most punishment is dealt out after the end of May. The explanation of this may be that the masters "stick" to the old proverb:—

"Ne'er cast a clout till May is out."

There is absolutely no truth in the report that a member of the staff recently went home, attired in a prefect's cap, which he had absent-mindedly picked up for his own.

There is still less truth in the report that a lady intimately connected with the school is using one of the Chemistry Lab. balances for the purpose of weighing cooking ingredients.

Several members of the Upper VIth. have expressed their desire to enter the teaching profession. Many a promising lad comes to this.

A. V. H. (Upper VIb.)

THE INVENTION OF THE SAXOPHONE.

Many of you, who have heard the mournful, plaintive wail of the saxophone; which disturbs the silence, like a haggis lamenting its dead, or a lettuce whistling its young, must have wondered who invented this most unmusical of musical instruments. You have not! Why then you are superhuman; but nay! I see from the wobble of your nose that you are merely larking. Well now, list to me and hear this tale, exactly as it was told to me by a wondrous sheik whom I met last summer holidays near St. Helens.

'Twas long ago, most beloved one, before the moon became yellow with age, and before Oxford bags were dreamed of, when there lived in Wadi Bey Gorrah, a young and most illustrious sheik, one by name Mustapha Saxo. A sheik whose powers transcended those of even the great Mohomed Finna himself. And he! Oh most illustrious flower of my flock, was most wonderful at making things with his hands.

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And lo! in the days to come it did come to pass that a great English General, a liar, sorcerer, and a wizard, came nigh and seduced Saxo's tribe into parting with all their goods. And the elders and scribes of this tribe then called together a great meeting, to decide how to punish these white men. And many greybeards offered counsel, saying:—"Make war upon them, and kill their king." But no! these sheiks, had resolved, oh! most wondrous, to smite the English, tooth and nail. Then arose one, Bakin Tuff, who said, "Oh my fellow sheiks, and others, surely there is one way of hurting them hard. Verily, kidnap their leader, Sheik Ll*yd Ge*rge. Surely will they then be repentant." But Mustapha Saxo arose. His eyes flashed, his beard twitched, his ears flapped, and his hair stood verily, on end.

"Sheiks," called he, "Ye feeble crocs, there is only one way in which to avenge ourselves most truly. We must send unto them a music-machine which will rend aside their nerves and break down their systems. Ye have heard that it has been said, 'It's the daily dose that does you.' Verily I say unto you, let me make for you a machine which will do them, in one dose." And when he had concluded, the crowd rose shouting, "Even so, it shall be done."

And Saxo went away and worked for many moons, and at last he made a thing which he called the "phona." He went then and called a meeting and blew it there, hard and loud. And lo! three sheiks fell down dead. The crowd were verily much pleased at this, and fell upon him, kissing him and clapping his back. So much so that they killed him. Yea such was his fate! And if thou wilt but go to this sheikdom, to the Municipal cemeteries therein, you will see this epitaph on his grave:—

"Here lies the body of Mustapha Saxo
Reared on Nestle's, Virol, and Glaxo.
We laid him here without a groan,
For 'twas he who invented the SAXOPHONE!
Here he lies buried, aged twenty-seven,
His soul, we hope, has now gone to heaven."

"Ah," I murmured.

"Yes," murmured my sheik, "even so; thus was that most vile instrument invented, d'you follow?"

So now you know how it was invented.

BY PRESSMAN (Lower Vib.)

SCOUT NOTES.

In the last Scout notes which appeared in "The Visor" an appeal was made for ex-Scout and Senior boys to join the 23rd Group as Rover Scouts. The Rover Crew consists, at present, of two members but it is hoped that the numbers will be increased in the near future.

H. E. Wilson and J. H. Wetherell are going to represent the 23rd Troop at the Jamboree. We are sure that they will do great credit to the troop. Other boys will be camping in the Auxiliary Camp at Overchurch and will visit Arrowe Park daily to participate in the Jamboree activities.

The Annual Summer Camp is again being held at Hill Court, Ross-on-Wye. Invitations to this camp have been extended to all Scouts in the school.

The 23rd troop have won the Walter Harding Challenge Cup at the winter-troop Athletic Sports for the third year in succession. We must congratulate those boys who ran so well for us. Congratulations must also be given to the Wolf Cubs in the Junior School for winning the Championship Shield at their sports and so enabling the 23rd Group to carry off the Group Trophy a second time.

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