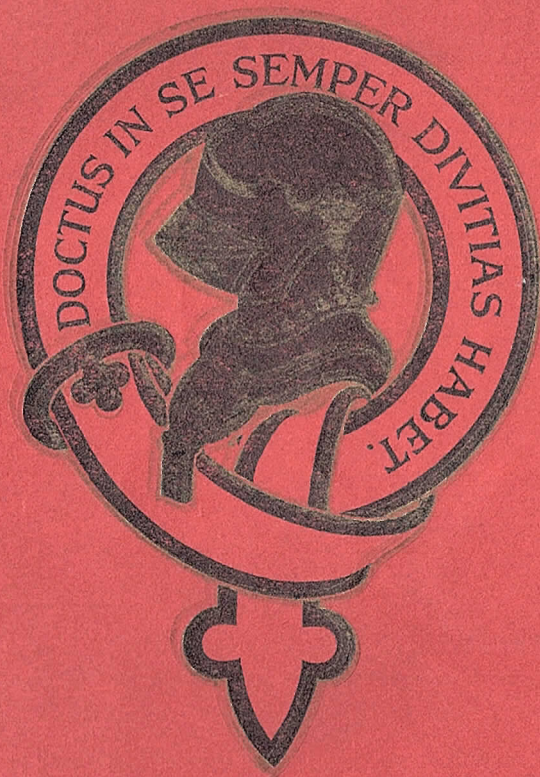


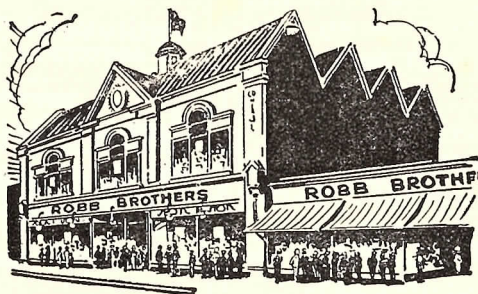
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THE VISOR



BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

CHRISTMAS, 1930.



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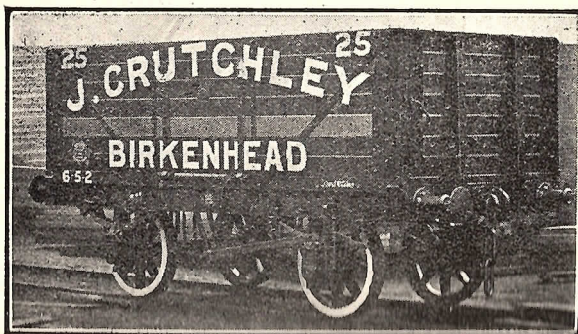
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THE VISOR

THE ORGAN OF THE BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

Vol. IV., No. 1.

CHRISTMAS, 1930.

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A THIRD FORM A, B, C.

- A** is for Art, with a pencil you scribble;
B is for Break, when your biscuits you nibble.
C is for Class, "Cherubs" paying attention;
D is for Dunce, and also for Detention.
E is for English, which we can all gabble;
F is for French, Oh, what a babble!
G is for Geography, far behind games;
H is for History, learning kings' names.
I is for "Impots," which all boys detest;
J is for "Janny," who is one of the best.
K is for Knowledge our teachers impart;
L is for Lessons we learn off by heart.
M is for "Matric," years hence we shall meet;
N is for Nicknames, with which each other we greet.
O is for Oxo, secured in a scramble;
P is for Playground, where we frolic and gambol.
Q is for Question, Queue, Queer, and Queen;
R is for Rubbish, not fit to be seen.
S is for School, for whose honour we strive;
T is for Tuck-shop, where our spirits we revive.
U is for Unison, in which we all live;
V is for Vent to our feelings we give.
W is for Work, which none of us fear;
X is for 'Xmas, Cheers! holidays draw near.
Y is for Yell, what a row, dear me!
Z is for Zeal displayed by IIIb.

C. V. BELL, IIIb.

EDITORIAL.

After much labour, care, and trouble, we are at last able to give to the School, to Birkenhead, and to the World, the first part of the fourth volume of the "Visor." We have striven to make this issue popular, and have included as many different types of articles as possible. The standard of these articles, too, is unusually high, and we hope that they will all prove interesting and amusing reading.

The magazine is also a valuable record of the School activities during the last term. The Gala, the Armistice Service, the Examination results, the Football reports, and the accounts of all the numerous Societies will, we hope, serve to remind us in later years of all we have done and viewed whilst at School.

As may be seen from these various reports, the School is still holding its own in all inter-school and external activities. For the first time in many years we obtained one of the first three places in the Inter-School Sports, and, although the second eleven has had some very bad luck, the first eleven is continuing its good play of previous years. The examination results, furthermore, show a large number of Matriculations and School Certificates. Wood is to be congratulated upon gaining his Higher School Certificate.

The School itself has witnessed many changes this term. Chief of these was the alteration of the different forms. Under the new system, the old ignominy of a "C form" has been abolished, and now there are only A's and B's, and the Removes for all those boys too young for either of these classes. There are also four "matric" forms, Senior Sixth, Six A., Six B., and Sixth Remove, while, in the case of the thirds, young boys now enter III. Junior. Most momentous of all these changes, however, has been the joining of the old Cubby Hole and the Library, and, although this may abolish the traditions attached to these abodes, the new régime is certainly more productive as regards hard work.

The Swimming Gala again proved a great success and much enthusiasm was shown by all present. Atkin is to be congratulated upon winning the Senior House Championship, Westminster upon winning the Junior, and Todd upon gaining the School Championship. Mr. Jackson, one of our Governors, distributed the prizes at the close.

The Armistice Service, which was made much more impressive this year by the increased ceremonial, was also attended by the utmost success. Full accounts of this function

and the Swimming Gala will, however, be found elsewhere in this issue.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Lord and Mr. W. E. Williams, who joined the staff at the beginning of this term. They have both shown great interest in all School activities. Mr. Lord has joined the Badminton and Chess Clubs, while Mr. Williams has spoken at the Debating Society and formed the long-awaited orchestra.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who have contributed to this issue and we are only sorry that we have not been able to include all the articles sent in.

THE SWIMMING GALA.

The usual enthusiasm was shown at the Swimming Gala this year, especially during the School Championship and Squadron races, when it alarmed those residing in the vicinity of Livingstone Street, in the form of loud roars of encouragement to the swimmers and clamorous exhortations to "Come On." Atkin succeeded in winning the Senior Squadron race and Westminster the Junior. Todd won the School Championship and C. A. Smith, the Old Boys' race, the latter finishing the course in record time.

The Mop Fight was perhaps the most popular event of the evening and it is impossible to say whether it was enjoyed more by the spectators or by the Mop Fighters. Many a laugh was raised by the way in which the latter, perched precariously on the end of the spring-boards, poked and thrust, dodged and ducked, and finally lost their balance and stumbled forward into the water. Occasionally an unlucky combatant would lunge forward to strike, miss the mark and fall headlong, to the great amusement of the spectators.

Various new strokes were used in the Novices' race, including the sword stroke, the leg-glide, a special-imitation-of-an-antiquated-paddle-boat stroke (with which only one swimmer was good enough to oblige us) and the stroke of good luck which Griffiths had in winning the prize.

A novelty was introduced in the form of the Nightshirt race, in which the competitors, clad in long nightshirts, dived in and made the best of their way to the other end. Remaining in the water, they divested themselves of their nightshirts and returned to the starting point. Much amusement was caused by the way in which the obstinate, sodden nightshirt refused to come over the head of the swimmer who earnestly fought to rid himself of it, yet was unwilling to relinquish his hold of

the bar lest, both hands being occupied, he should "sink to rise no more."

The medals were distributed, at the conclusion of the Gala, by Mr. Jackson, one of our Governors.

We should like to express our deep regret at the death of Mr. Moore, the Baths Superintendent, who has for years attended our Galas and helped Mr. Clague to judge such events as the Neat Dive and the Neat Breast Stroke race.

We take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Clague and all who helped to make this Gala a success. G.R.

THE ARMISTICE SERVICE.

Both Senior and Junior Schools assembled at 10-30 on November 11th, in order to observe the Armistice. The Service was the most impressive yet held—a success largely due to the more elaborate preparations of this year, every boy receiving a printed copy of the Order of Service and of the Roll of Honour.

The ceremony opened with the hymn "God the Omnipotent," which was followed by prayer. A lesson from Ecclesiasticus preceded the hymn "O Valiant Hearts." The reading and commentary on a lesson from Corinthians gave all reason to consider the futility of the Great War, which has given, as a result, nothing but hardship to the countries concerned.

The Roll of Honour of our Old Boys, who gave up their lives for the Allied Forces, was read, partly before and partly after the two minutes' silence. The singing of the "Recessional" closed the service, which was immediately followed by a March Past the Memorial Tablet. Wreaths were presented by the School and by the Old Boys, who were represented by Messrs. Nichols, Lockyer and Dodd.

R.B.L.

EXAMINATION RESULTS, JULY, 1930.

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

Wood, L. B. (Distinction in Physics).

LETTERS OF SUCCESS.

Humphreys, A. V.; McNeill, J. M.; Ovens, G. V.; Piggott, J. W.; Wright, G. W. D.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

FORM LOWER VIA.

m Anderson, E. S., m Benson, C. W. (M.C.), m Bibby, E. G. (M.), m Brecknell, W. A., m Bridge, W. (M. C.), m

Burnet, A. W., m Chisholm, J. W., m Connor, A. J., m Dutton, T. S. (C.), m Eames, P. A. (C.), Evans, W. A. m Glaister, G., Green, T. H. H., m Hardie, J. P., m Hardie, W. R., Hughes, L., m Jenkins, G. N., Jones, H. W., Jones, W. S., m Lacey, D., Loxam, R. C. (M.), Manley, W. H., m Minns, M. A., m Pemberton, J., Powl, K. L., Pugh, R. D., m Richards, F., m Sarginson, R. R. (M.), m Stanley, V. A., m Townson, F. B., m Wallace, A. R., m Williams, A. H. (C.), m Wood, J.

FORM LOWER VIB.

Andrews, S. C., Baxter, J., Chalkley, A., Collins, F. B., Currie, C. R., Edwards, A. E., Elton, S., Enescott, J., Gibson, J. O., Gill, E. P. (A.), Griffiths, H., m Grundy, W. G., m Horne, A. C., Lawton, K. R., Lea, B. W., m Lewis, A. J., McBride, T. N., Middlemiss, H., Pierce, J.E. (H.), Rowlands, J. F., Smith, G. W., Todd, E., Ward, T. K., Wharton, P. B.

FORM LOWER VIC.

Andrews, T. J.

SEPTEMBER, 1930.

m Jones, W. S.

Matriculation—m.

Distinction—Art—A., Chemistry—C., History—H., Mathematics—M.

SALVETE.

IVa.—Atkin :—Halling-Jones, D. C.

IVb.—Stitt :—Edwards, J. R., Milligan, R. H. ; **Tate** :—Simpson, A. B.

IIIa.—Atkin :—Ellis, A. R. (J.), Kinnear, W. (J.), Rogers, H. E. (J.), Snelson, A. S. (J.), Thomas, F. H. (J.), Search, E. J. ; **Stitt** :—Davies, S. (J.), Fannon, H., Phoenix, F. D. (J.), Smith, J. C. ; **Tate** :—Davies, A. L. (J.), Jones, T. M. (J.), Mason, R. F. (J.), Tong, H. B. (J.), Wadlow, R. P. (J.) ; **Westminster** :—Cook, G. R. (J.), Hayward, P. (J.), Leeman, W. L. (J.), Shaw, T. E. (J.), Titchmarsh, H. S. (J.), Wetherell, G. A. (J.), Young, J. H. P. (J.),

IIIb.—Atkin :—Buckley, G., Croxton, T.R. (J.), Gover, E., Meneely, R. R., Winter, H. E. (J.), Yates, A. ; **Stitt** :—Bell, C. V. (J.), Blair, J. A. (J.), Bray, W. C. (J.), Evans, K. (J.), Goodwin, L., Jones, H. M., King, W. J. M. (J.), Matthews, F. J., Mercer, W. I. N., Pemberton, F., Smith, N. B. (J.), Williamson, M. A. ; **Tate** :—Elliott, C. H.,

Ternent, A. T., Watkins, R. V. (J.), Wheat, K.; **Westminster**:—Barker, D. R. (J.), Buckwell, E. R. (J.), Freedman, H., Hollerhead, R. A., Rowlands, H. (J.) Roylance, K. H., Walker, S. B., Yates, I. V. (J.)

IIIj.—**Atkin**:—Hubbold, J. E., Johnson, R. G., McKechnie, J. J., McKinlay, J., Procter, M. L., Taylor, K.; **Stitt**:—Gallagher, J. (J.), Melville, I. S., Russell, E. R., Smart, T., Young, D. H.; **Tate**:—Burrell, P., Coughtrie, C. K. (J.), Crowhurst, J. K. (J.), Dalziel, A., Evans, J.F.R., Lea, W. R., Reid, K., Snell, D. L. (J.), Stelfox, G.H., Stott, J. G. (J.), Theobald, A. G., Wood, W. K.; **Westminster**:—Allen, W. K., Moore, J., Moxley, E., Smyth, C., Woolman, W. J.

(J.) Denotes Ex-Junior.

VALETE.

Upper VIa.—**Atkin**:—Ovens, G.V. (1923—1930), *Head Prefect and Captain of the School, House Captain of Atkin, Matric., 1926, Captain of Football, 1928-29, Captain of Cricket, 1928-29, Football and Cricket Colours, Member of Football and Cricket Selection Committees, Member of Chess Team.* Piggott, J. W. (1924—1930), *Prefect, Vice-Captain of Atkin, Matric., 1928.* **Stitt**:—Wood, L. B. (1924—1930), *Prefect, Matric., 1928, H.S.C., 1930, Member of Chess Team.* **Tate**:—McNeill, J. M. (1924—1930), *Editor of "The Visor," Prefect, Matric., 1928, Captain of Chess Team, Member of Committee of Debating Society.* Wright, G. W. D. (1925—1930), *Prefect, Matric., 1928, Member of Chess Team, Secretary of Scientific Society.* **Westminster**:—Humphreys, A. V. (1924—1930), *Financial Secretary for "The Visor," Prefect, Matric., 1928, Vice-Captain of Westminster, Secretary of the Debating Society.*

Upper VIc.—**Atkin**:—Garrigan, J., Reece, W. J.; **Westminster**:—Hutchinson, J. W., Lamb, J. E.

Lower VIa.—**Atkin**:—Connor, A. J., Lacey, D., Townson, F. B.; **Stitt**:—Chisholm, J. W., Eames, P. A., Glaister, G.; **Tate**:—Bibby, E. G., Burnet, A. W. (1920—1930), *House Captain of Tate, Prefect, Matric., 1930, Captain of Cricket, 1929-30, Football and Cricket Colours, Member of Football and Cricket Selection Committees, Treasurer of Rifle Club,* Green, T. H. H., Pugh, R. D., Wallace, A. R.; **Westminster**:—Hardie, J. P.

Lower Vlb.—Atkin:—Middlemiss, H., Wharton, P. B.; **Stitt:**—Boston, W. E., Braide, B. C., Edwards, A. E., Gibson, J.O., McLennan, I.M., McBride, T.N. (1926—1930), *House Captain of Stitt, Football and Cricket Colours*, Pierce, J. E., Rowlands, J. F.; **Westminster:**—Baxter, J., Lawton, K.R., Lea, B. W., Ward, T. K.

Lower Vlc.—Atkin:—Clarke, J. G., Furniss, R. W., Hughes, R. J., Johnson, W. M., Kennedy, D. M., Robinson, S., Tinsley, W. H.; **Stitt:**—Chalkley, K., Holland, J. W.; **Tate:**—Brown, H. L., Parry, A. S., Symons, R. C.; **Westminster:**—Hough, R. G., Tweedie, A., Viggers, W. G.

Va.—Tate:—Winters, A.

Vb.—Westminster:—Walker, C. E.

Vc.—Atkin:—Clampitt, T. H., Maxwell, C.E.; **Stitt:**—Barker, K. E.; **Tate:**—Barton, R. N., Elliott, K. P., Laird, W. D., McKenzie, H. B., Symons, S. C.; **Westminster:**—Craig, M. J.

The School is to suffer a great loss by the departure, at the end of this term, of Miss Harkness, who has been appointed Maths. Mistress at Calder High School for Girls, Liverpool. Miss Harkness came to the Institute in September, 1927, and was on the staff of the Junior School before taking on her secretarial duties.

UNIVERSITY LETTER.

One's first impressions of 'Varsity life are not easily forgotten: the ragging at the "Freshers' Social," or the ignominy of having to walk in a procession to St. George's Plateau, arrayed in a green hat, and daubed with green paint, are all amongst one's first experiences.

The new student (better known as a Fresher) is introduced to the "Students' Union" with its lounges and billiard room; he meets old boys of the B.I., wearing superior expressions, and superior plus-fours. The Fresher notes the regiments of janitors who adorn the corridors, or the apparatus in the labs., that really works.

All sorts of activities are at hand, debates, chess (everybody seems to be able to play this game), music, and every known sport; even beetle-hunters will find a society to welcome them; and even with all these distractions we seem to be doing a lot of work.

J. W. PIGGOTT.

DEPLORING THE FAILURE OF THE GUNPOWDER PLOT.

Dusk creeps over all the land. Silently, the room darkens around the earnest student poring over his books. The study grows darker, darker, then—peace is sacrilegiously broken. A flaming meteor shoots through the open window, to explode in an aurora of light on the opposite wall, enveloping the startled student in a halo of falling stars. The student, with language unstudied and undignified, darts to the window to behold a howling mob of dervishes making the night hideous with their shrieks, and their infernal thunderous inventions. The student staggers back, and, in the light of a blue cascade, reads above his desk, "November the fifth."

In a better frame of mind, he sits down and thinks. "On November the fifth Guy Fawkes failed in a momentous attempt to destroy the English Constitution." Now why? Surely it was a scurvy trick of Fate, if nothing else. After hiring a cellar, digging a tunnel, and obtaining vast quantities of explosives, Guy Fawkes was certainly entitled to the brilliant spectacle of aged statesmen mingling with brickbats for a lesson on aviation. Shy fate bid otherwise.

Secondly, think of the troubles that would have been removed with the Houses of Parliament. The daily political questions that worry and perplex us would have been swept away. No labour candidate with convincing promises would seek to capture the erring vote that had been influenced by the equally convincing liberal prospects. No weary worker would rack his brains as to the meaning of 'protection' or worry over the alluring prospect of 'Empire Free Trade.'

Then, think of tax collecting. Think of the hours spent in toiling over an income tax sheet, in a vain endeavour to discover where the total comes from. Think of the worry when the final notice informs you that the matter of income tax has been forgotten. How much more simple it would be if Guy Fawkes had blown away the constitutional government. One would hear the tramp of heavy boots in the street, a gentle knock would sound, and, on opening the door, one would find an officer backed by a troop of soldiers. This man would state and collect the amount needed, and march away. All over in a few minutes, none of the hours of groaning and worry felt to-day.

Then, lastly, this terrible ceremony on November 5th. Alas! think of what might have been. A normal night, on which the student could study in peace the question of "Shakespeare, the bard of the English nation," or wrestle with moderate success with the enticing problems of Euclid. It was not to be, however. Parents have been previously cajoled into expending large sums of money on fireworks (money which would have been usefully spent had Guy Fawkes succeeded). Then the night of the fifth is rent with ear-splitting detonations. The pallid rays of the moon are eclipsed with glimmering green flame, sheets of red fire envelop the sky. Ghastly stars efface the wonders of the heavens, the wondering night owl crouches in his daylight hole, and twittering birds are afraid to go to rest. To-night, there is discord in the spheres, indeed: the music of the heavens is broken and rent.

The bitter student throws aside his books, neither rest nor work is possible this night. Running from the house, on deadly purpose bent, he enquires from a youngster standing near—"Where can I buy lots of fireworks?"

ANANIAS JUNIOR.

SPRING.

(By our Mad Poet).

The twinkling bulrush bristles in the dell;
A coconut emerges from its shell;
The dainty sago licks its lips;
And lolloping turtles dine off chips.

Two courting macaronis slide and slip
Through groves of loafahs, where they dip
Their slippery fins and greasy chins
In downy gorse, and empty lobster tins.

A scaly walrus yodels for its young;
And icy pedagogues on poles are strung.
Hard by, the tripe has lost its onions;
And horticulturists are growing bunions.

A blossoming oyster-tree is bearing soap;
And saintly niggers form a Band of Hope.
The skies above are raining paint;
And, altogether, the World just ain't!

BIRDS OF WIRRAL.

It is not generally known that the tawny, and long-eared owls, the little grebe, and the king-fisher, are not very rare in Wirral. In Storeton woods, I have found eight nests of the long-eared owl, though only two pairs live in the wood, and use these nests alternately. The tawny owls are commoner at Great Saughall, where, in the spring of this year, I found four nests, three of which contained young. These have been successfully reared. The young owls are fine little things, balls of fluff, with pale blue, blinking eyes. They have a habit of clapping their beaks, as soon as anyone appears on the edge of the nest. They seem to be asking for food, which they readily accept. At least, they ate a piece of my meat sandwich.

If you stay at the nest too long, the old owl comes and slaps you across the head with her wing. Then it is time to climb down the tree in all haste.

The little grebes are very elusive birds, as they noiselessly dive under water when they hear anyone approaching. The nest is especially hard to find, unless you know how, for it is nothing more than a pile of rotting rushes, and the old bird has the foresight to cover up the eggs, which are white and usually number about six. I know of at least a dozen pairs which nest in Wirral, one nest being in Prenton.

I saw the king-fisher on two occasions, once at Shotwick, and once at Saughall. At Shotwick, I was fortunate enough to find a nest. This was a hole in the bank of a stream, and smelt horribly of fish-bones. There was one egg in the nest, a glossy white egg with a slight tinge of pink, which disappears when the egg is blown. A.H.W. (Upper VIb.)

MY FIRST TROUSER PRESS.

I have, on many occasions, been informed by books of etiquette that the distinctive mark of a well-dressed gentleman is to have the bottom waistcoat button open and to have a good crease in the trousers. It is easy enough to leave the last button of your waistcoat unbuttoned, but it is a very much more serious matter to keep a permanent crease in your trousers.

I, of course, desired to have a good crease, and I chanced to notice an advertisement in a paper to the effect that a firm in Hull were prepared to distribute a number of presses at the very low price of seven shillings and sixpence.

I immediately sent off a postal order, rejoicing that mattress days were over, and that I should soon be a well-dressed man. The press was about three weeks in coming, so I began to fear that my order had gone astray. One day my Mother heard a clink of something like tin falling in the letter-box, and, on going to ascertain what it was, she saw a small envelope in the box.

"Your trouser press is a fraud," she exclaimed, but on opening the envelope she saw that it was a metal calendar, with the compliments of a well-known coal firm. This shock rendered me somewhat nervous for a few hours, but I recovered, and the trouser press arrived next day, just as I was sending a curt letter to Hull about its non-delivery. I immediately put my Sunday trousers in the press, and my desire to retire at 9-30 (which has never been equalled before or since) was owing to my longing to place my everyday trousers in the press as well.

The next morning I arose fresh, for my trousers had not been under the mattress, the bed had none of the usual irregularity of surface, all the mountain ranges had subsided into a coastal plain. I immediately rushed to the press, unscrewed it, and inspected the trousers; they looked fine. So I had breakfast, and set out for School in a state which I had experienced only when I put on a new suit for the first day.

But, horror of horrors, gymnasium knocked all resemblance of a crease from my trousers, and I became an ordinary VIb. boy once again. I spoke to all my friends on the way home; I spoke to people whom I had always ignored before, for I was no longer the well-dressed gentleman of 9 a.m., but a shabbily-dressed boy with some very shabby books.

I use the press still, but not for its original purpose; it now holds up the bottom of my bedroom window, because the cord is broken; and, if in future I do want creases in my trousers, I shall get the tailor to put them in for me.

S. C., Form VIb.

MEDITATIONS IN SCHOOL.

It is a History lesson. We have to read some dry work on Julius Caesar, or Caractacus, or somebody in whom I take not the slightest interest. I try to concentrate, but in vain. Suddenly, the shrill siren of a large liner reaches my ears. Instantly all my work is forgotten, and I am miles away, on board the ship, heading swiftly for foreign lands, lands where copper-tinted skies and blazing sun reign during the day, bright moon and myriad stars during the night; where yellow-skinned people in quaint, brightly coloured garments, and wearing long earrings, bustle about the narrow streets; where water-carriers go up and down with their carts and bottles, shouting in a language unknown to me.

The boat slides through the clear, blue, tropical water, while seagulls scream and wheel above our heads, following us to warmer lands. China and Japan are calling me, and the graceful liner is nearing the bay, which is dotted with little canoes, full of staring natives. As the boat glides into the bay, they come paddling up to the sides of the ship, shouting to us to buy their fruit. One boat comes right up to where I stand, and the swarthy native shouts up to me; but, somehow, his voice seems to change, and say in English: "S*o*t, take a detention for not attending!" J. S., Form IIIj.

HISTORICAL LIMERICKS.

When Henry VIII. here did reign,
Of wives he had a great train.
Their heads he did sever;
The Pope said, "Well, I never!
My orders how dare he disdain!"

There once lived a sea-dog called Raleigh,
Who with Good Queen Lizzie was pally.
His cloak, new and neat,
He laid at her feet,
And he rose up *Sir* Walter Raleigh.

There once lived a fellow named Guy,
Who tried to blow Parliament high,
But the soldiers of James
Soon had him in chains,
And *his* head came off by and by.

Form IIb.

IT IS RESPECTFULLY SUGGESTED:—

1. That Parliament be requested to drop the Education Bill, as it was defeated at a recent School Debate.

2. That an attempt should be made by the County Council to civilise the pupils of this School coming from the village of Eastham.

3. That prefects be compelled to give audible warning of their approach, and also, in the dark, to carry head and rear lamps.

4. That this article be inserted in the "Visor."

5. And, further, that someone take courage from this success(?), to start now on an article for the next issue!

R.F.B., Form VIa.

VENDORS OF LIFE.

It had been the same ever since I had left the House. All the way down the street, I had been awed by the shadow, which, at intervals, seemed to jut into my existence. In the gutter, there stood a man with something around his neck . . . I hurriedly walked the other way.

I had reached the bottom of the street, crossed over the market place, and was now walking up High Street. There was not a sign of the man whom I so hated. I mingled with the crowd, looked in shop windows, and, literally, lost myself.

It had commenced to rain, not a sudden shower, but a steady English downpour. Slowly, the roads and pavements became muddy and damp. I wasn't going to stay out in weather like this, so I hit the trail, and hied myself home.

The flow of pedestrians was against me, and it took about half an hour to reach the market place. I started to cross it.

Horror of horrors! I was dazed. There was the same individual whom I had, but an hour ago, left behind. He had seen me! I was doomed! I awaited my fate with patience and indifference. He had reached my side. I shuddered! Then he spoke—"Matches, Guv'nor?"

THE SCHOOLBOY'S LEXICON.

(Written especially for new boys).

Art, A special class for discussing Press topics, and drawing comic pictures.

Borstal, Read "Life in a Modern Secondary School."

Boy, A common ejaculation.

Chess, "A game that two can play."

Dinner-Boy, A boy who is privileged to scatter form-room floors with ink-pots and miscellaneous rubbish.

Gym, A bakehouse.

Joint Board, Remains of the old Ku Klux Klan.

Library, See "Slacker."

Masters' Room, A smoking den where plots and plans are matured.

Mathematics, Cannot be described in decent English. For further information see "Torture through the Ages," £30 net (wooden back).

Matric., Vile oath or swear-word.

Rotter (Flabby), An abuser of French.

Slacker, See Shakespeare's famous poem—"Come day, go day . . ."

Swot, (a) Boy who does his homework.

(b) Boy who remembers his work for more than three days.

Swedish, Anyone who can suck his toes without bending his knees. For further information see "Games of the Swedes."

Woodwork, The art of wasting wood.

X, A term of mystery and witchcraft.

H. A., Form VIa.

THE SONG OF OUR SCHOOL BELL.

Ding, dong,
Hear my song.
Hurry, hurry,
What a scurry!
You'll be late
Detentions wait
Prefects come
Subdue your hum.
Ding, dong,
That is my song.

Ding, dong,
Hear my song.
Break is done,
And ends your fun.
Some boys sigh.
Oh! to fly,
For lessons are here,
Dull and drear.
Ding, dong,
That ends my song.

J. R. MAYO and G. E. POWL, Form IIa.

OUR OLD BOYS.

J. S. Bellis, who is Third Officer of the M.V. "William Wilberforce," has just taken his First Officer's "ticket" and obtained a commission in the Royal Naval Reserve. He writes from Hamburg, "This boat (the William Wilberforce) is a fine single-screw vessel, with Burmeister and Wain solid injection Diesel engines, generating 10,000 B.H.P., and giving a speed of thirteen and a half knots. Though primarily a cargo vessel, she can carry about twenty-four passengers, and, as she is only six months old, she possesses every convenience and comfort that the modern shipbuilder can give.

Another fine specimen of the skill of the shipbuilder is in this dock, in the Norddeutscher Lloyd's S.S. "Europa," the sister ship of the "Bremen." As she is open to public inspection, an endless stream of German people is at present visiting their "crack" ship.

Just ahead of us in the dock is the German School Ship "Padua," with her thirty-two officers and crew, and her forty cadets. She is a wonderful craft, a four-masted barque (equipped with wireless), and has just been re-rigged after carrying away her fore topmast, which fell and killed five men, when she was rounding the Horn. These German cadets do eighteen months in a sailing ship and then eighteen more in a shore school before taking their Third Officer's "ticket." A necessary qualification, also, is the speaking and writing of English.

Hamburg is a town of beauty as well as of maritime commerce, and I like it better than any other town on the Continent which I have visited, so I shall be able to settle down and spend contentedly the nine months which every officer on the Continental—North Africa service must put in before he is entitled to three weeks' leave in England."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "VISOR."

Dear Sir,

We think that if the School took up Rugby, there would be greater support for games, since many of our boys take a keen interest in this sport.

We have several other clubs in the School, and, we do not see why there should not be a Rugby Club.

Yours truly,

J. C. CAMPBELL, Form VIb.
G. C. B., Form VIIb.

(We have received oodles of letters similar to the above, urging the formation of clubs for those interested in Spillikens, Noughts and Crosses, Crown and Anchor, Ring-a-Ring-a-Rosy and Wild Goose Chasing, to mention only a few of the more popular suggestions. We are all for it. Always have been. Our ultimate aim is: One club per head of the boys in the School and the sooner they meet the better. Everyone knows that if you want to start a new Club you write to *The Visor* about it and it starts. So as we are short of space we have printed the above, and must defer consideration of the rest to a later issue. Ed.)

VARIA.

The School is still hoping for its new Assembly Hall, which was promised last year, and everyone anxiously awaits the laying of the first row of bricks.

* * * *

Who was the Sixth former who asserted that the spread of Christianity in Scotland commenced in 563 B.C.? And who afterwards stated that he meant 563 "After Death?"

* * * *

The School has said good-bye to the C Forms now, so that no boy has any excuse for slacking.

* * * *

Our Swimming Gala was a great success this year, the most notable feature being the smartness with which the events were carried through, with the result that we got home much earlier this year (there was even time for some homework to be done after the Gala).

* * * *

Two lots of loyal Latinists have visited Liverpool Institute this term to listen to lectures more learned than lively, though illustrated by a lantern.

* * * *

Professor Ormerod, on the geography of Greece, did not interest us greatly. He knows all about ancient pirates, but would not be persuaded into telling us anything about them.

* * * *

'The Daily Life of a Roman Family' was a more interesting title, but the lecturer quite failed to make his family live and seem real to us. He did not even give them names!

It is a pity that we have no time to go home for tea before these lectures, and that no one provides any. Some day, perhaps, some one will.

* * * *

With the alterations to our Labs., one is able to make Chlorine with greater vehemence, or to prove Archimedes' Principle with more composure of mind. The only complaint that may be offered is that the atmosphere in the "Chemistry Lab." is still as thick as ever.

* * * *

The collection this year for the wreath for the School War Memorial realised £2 9s. od., and, by the sale of poppies, we were able to send a donation of £4 11s. 4½d. for the relief of distressed ex-service men. This latter was much appreciated by the British Legion.

* * * *

This term has been remarkable for the number of socials held, some of which are past and gone, others still to follow. It is to be hoped that, as a result of these feeds, the Janitor has now been able to see his way to commence keeping a few hens or guineapigs in his capacious garden.

* * * *

Anatomy:—"Blood gushed from a cut on her eyelash and her right leg hung loosely at her side."

"He fell from a swingboat and broke his skull."

Fourth form attempts at describing "An Accident."

* * * *

More use is made of the School playing fields this term owing to the addition of a football pitch, so that we have now four pitches. The new flag which flutters supreme (Wednesdays and Saturdays only) considerably brightens the outlook.

* * * *

One bright youth from a Junior form, when asked which newspapers was read all over the world, said, "The News of the World."

One naturally wonders whether the cannibals and head-hunters of Central Africa are allowed to join their free insurance scheme.

* * * *

Times are harder than ever this winter, and we are expecting a generous response to the Head's appeal for the Goodfellow Fund. Even the money usually devoted to toys and presents is required this year for food. If we have already given all we can, there is still time to give a little more.

This term has witnessed the introduction of games into the School time-table. The last period every afternoon—in the lower forms, the last two periods—have been devoted to football, so that each form has the chance of at least one game a week. This is a move in the right direction, and will be appreciated still more in the summer. But some of us, advanced in years though not in views, look on all change with a cold and suspicious eye and prefer the solid comfort of old-fashioned arithmetic to the delights of football in school hours.

* * * *

“It is to be hoped that the future government of India will give expression to her aspirates.” Sixth Form Essay.
Their slogan should be: Hindia and the Hempire.

* * * *

As a result of the Headmaster's appeal for unwanted books for the play centre at Brassey Street, we are pleased to announce that 220 books were sent from the Institute and were much appreciated.

The following boys brought books:—Magee, Richardson, Jenkins and Williams from the Upper Sixth; Marsh, VIs.; Hayes and Welch, VIa.; Allan, Anderson, Campbell, S., Cockbain, Collinson, Cross and Rogers, J. F., Vlb; Collinson, Miller, and Robinson, Va.; Campbell, Mackinder, Martin, J. G., and Wright, Vb.; Hawkes, Vr.; Alldis, Bozier, Hughes, and Hunt, IVa.; Davies, Dewhirst, Gould, and Hughes, IVr.; Coughtrie, Russell, and Woolman, IIIj.

The following is a copy of one of several letters sent to the Headmaster in appreciation of the gift of books:—

Brassey Street Play Centre,
Birkenhead,
December 3rd, 1930.

The Headmaster,
Birkenhead Institute.

Dear Mr. Wynne Hughes,

May I thank you again, very much, for the splendid collection of books you so kindly brought us on Monday, and will you convey our thanks to your boys for their kind gift? Both the girls and the boys are delighted as our little store was sadly depleted and rapidly becoming very ragged. Your kind thought has given a great deal of pleasure.

Yours sincerely,

ENID M. YARDLEY.

Many of us, perhaps, think of Miss Harkness only in connection with extra homework and attendance slips. But those who know, and especially the Staff, will realise the loss her going means to the Institute. A school as big as ours is only kept in good working order by infinite thought and care expended on a thousand little details of which we know next to nothing. Miss Harkness has worked them all out in her cupboard at the end of the corridor, and made the machinery run so smoothly that we hardly knew there was any to run. *The Visor*, in particular, has often been grateful for her help.

* * * *

Form Notes provide a number of deserving characters with an opportunity of seeing their names in print without getting into a police court. Hence it would be a great pity if they were discontinued. But when, as in the case of Vb. and IVa., the efforts of three successive members of the form produce nothing better than—well, read them and see, and then finish the sentence, paying careful attention to spelling and punctuation.

* * * *

In future, Form Notes will be judged just like any other contribution, and only those worth reading will be printed. Hard? Cruel? Cruel hard! But every page of *The Visor* costs money, and we have to ask ourselves what our advertisers will think!

* * * *

A letter recently arrived at the School addressed to Mr. P. S. Plaice.

We wish to make it as widely known as possible that the aim of the Institute is rather to fill the mind than to fillet the sole.

* * * *

We acknowledge the receipt of the following magazines:—
The Trumpeter, The Towers, The Inkwell, The Oultononia,
The Quest, The Wallaseyan, Park High School Magazine,
The Caldeian, Higher Tranmere High School Magazine.

THE SWISS HOLIDAY.

The holiday in Switzerland last September, under the able direction of Mr. Allison, was an unqualified success. There was only one thing to be regretted, namely, that Mr. Davies was unable to accompany us owing to an accident at camp two weeks before. We are glad to see that he has now

recovered, and hope he will not be so unfortunate another time.

The programme, as set out in the last magazine, was followed in the main, with one or two alterations. We set out from Woodside Station at about 11-30 p.m. on September 1st, carrying all our luggage on our backs.

We had a very smooth crossing to Ostend, and from there we travelled to Basle on wooden seats. Those who had luggage racks or corner seats in which to sleep were very fortunate. One of our number even slept under a seat, and could not be found when the party was counted.

On the evening of our arrival we attended a cinema performance at the Hotel, at which most of us fell asleep. The following day we ascended the Stanserhorn by mountain railway, and secured a number of photos of the party at lunch (just to show we really *did* lunch at over 6,900 feet). When we returned to our Hotel in Wolfenschiessen, we found that one of the party had been left behind at Stans. He followed, however, by a later train and arrived at the Hotel after we had all finished dinner.

The following day we visited Engelberg, a picturesque village about eight miles from where we were staying; on Saturday we were shown over a timber sawmill; and on Sunday we ascended the Burgenstock, a mountain above Lake Lucerne. The ascent was made by road, not a difficult matter, but the descent was made by a steep and slippery path through the woods, the party strung out in line, and hanging on to trees and tufts of grass for all they were worth.

On Monday morning we tramped to Oberickenbach, a village in an adjacent valley. And in the afternoon we visited the electric power station which supplies power to the canton and the town of Lucerne.

On Tuesday morning we departed from Wolfenschiessen, astonishing the natives with the School "war-cry." We stopped for lunch in Lucerne and were shown over the town, and then proceeded on our journey home. We made two other stops, one in Basle, and one in London. When in Basle, some of us were fortunate enough to see the Rhine.

All thanks are due to Mr. Allison for the trouble he took in organising this holiday, and we hope we may have many such successful holidays in years to come. M.

INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS.

The Liverpool and District Secondary Schools Athletic Championship was held at the Collegiate Ground last July. There were fewer B.I. caps visible than there should have been, but, although there was this deficiency in the number of spectators, the actual participants did much better than they have done for some years past.

That there was keen competition can be gathered from the fact that over fifteen schools entered, representing Liverpool, Birkenhead, Wallasey and Southport.

Walker was the first to flaunt the B.I. colours, by winning the long jump with the magnificent result of 19 feet 6 inches.

Then came the mile, in which Horne finished second by about 5 yards. For the first 3 laps, he lay about 6th, then rapidly moved up, until at the beginning of the last half lap, he reached 2nd place. This position he held to the end. Judging from his last sprint, it seemed that he could have obtained 1st place if the final dash had been started earlier.

Our Relay Team was weakened by the absence of Andrews. However, with Walker and Horne each taking 110 yards, Carter 220 yards, and Rigby the 440 yards, we finished third in the final.

We were third school on points. Thus, although the B.I. results cannot be called brilliant, they certainly have improved.

A.C.H.

ATKIN HOUSE NOTES.

Changing the House Colour seems to have had an improving effect upon the House. Perhaps Magenta touches our inmost souls and stirs us on to great deeds; perhaps it excites us to a zealous exhibition of our prowess. At any rate this term has been more successful, as far as Atkins is concerned, than any of last year's.

Most of the honours of the Swimming Gala came to members of our House. Our Senior Squadron team came in first and our Junior team second. E. Todd won the School Championship; R. Smith, the Nightshirt Race and the Third Form Handicap; H. Darlington, the Fifth Form Handicap; C. Darlington, the Junior Neat Breast and the Junior Neat Dive; and E. Griffiths, the Novices' Race. There is no dearth of swimming talent in the House.

Football, however, has not improved, and, if we wish to gain more points, we must try to turn out better teams. We have few representatives in the School Elevens, and it is probably due to this fact that we have a weak Senior Team. Shipley plays for the First Eleven; G. W. Robinson, J. A. Smith and K. Powl play for the Second. The Inters., however, are strong, and have won two matches out of three. The Juniors have won one out of two.

We intend to have a Social at the beginning of next term, so that the whole House will be united for at least one evening, and, after feeding on the delicacies with which the Janitor will try to tickle our palates, a more homely (or Housey) feeling will be established.

G.R.

STITT HOUSE NOTES.

After making a very gallant attempt, Stitt just failed to carry off the Cricket Championship last term, as Tate, whom we congratulate, defeated us in the last match of the season.

Once again, we expect to be champion House in football, and so far we are fully justifying expectations. We have now gained a lead over our nearest rivals, Tate, of three points.

In the Senior House Matches we have been fairly successful, having defeated Atkin by 7 goals to 1, and Tate by 11 goals to 2, but we lost to Westminster by 4 goals to 2. We have thus gained four points out of six.

The Intermediates are our strongest department, having gained six points from three games. We overcame Atkin by 8 goals to 5, Tate by 5 goals to 3, and Westminster by 5 goals to 4.

The Juniors have played two games so far, but have obtained only one point. This is evidently our weakest department. Now, you Juniors, buck up and gain more points for the House in future.

The full table of matches played this term is as follows:—

| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|---------------|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----------------------|
| Seniors | 3 | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 0 ... 20 ... 7 ... 4 |
| Inters. | 3 | ... | 3 | ... | 0 | ... | 0 ... 18 ... 12 ... 6 |
| Juniors | 2 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 ... 7 ... 14 ... 1 |

We have a very large number of representatives in the School elevens this season:—

First Eleven:—Currie, Anderson, Smith, G.W., Harrison, Jones, W. S., Neil.

Second Eleven :—Pott, Silcock, Ambler, McKenzie.

We were unsuccessful in our attempt to regain the Swimming Championship. The Senior Squadron must, however, be congratulated upon its valiant effort. The team, which gained third place, was : Ambler, Smith, G.W., Campbell, J.C., and Barker.

There is, unfortunately, a lack of Junior swimmers in the House. Consequently, we had difficulty in obtaining a representative team and gained only fourth place in the race. Simms must be congratulated on his splendid effort in swimming twice. Our team was : Simms, Iveson, Chalkley, and Simms swam also at fourth place.

We have one member, Greaves, in the School Chess Team. W.S.J.

TATE HOUSE NOTES.

The House must once more be congratulated on carrying off the Cricket Championship, but we must give credit to Stitt for being a close second.

The Football season is only half over, but we have not done particularly well so far. In the Senior House matches we lost to Westminster 8—6, and to Stitt 11—2. The result of the game with Atkin was 7—3 in our favour. The Intermediate team have done no better, as far as points are concerned, but the match with Stitt, which we lost by 5 goals to 4, was very close. The team also lost to Atkin 7—2, but won their match against Westminster 11—6.

A very pleasing feature is the increased interest taken by the Juniors, who beat Westminster 12—8, and Atkin 4—2. These results speak well for the future Football activities of the House, for in this department we have several promising young players.

Here is the table of results to date :—

| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|---------------|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----------------------|
| Seniors | 3 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 0 ... 15 ... 22 ... 2 |
| Inters. | 3 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 0 ... 17 ... 18 ... 2 |
| Juniors | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | 0 | ... | 0 ... 16 ... 10 ... 4 |

The House is represented in the School teams by :—

First Eleven :—Allsopp, Minns.

Second Eleven :—Shaw, C. A., Fryer, Andrews, S. C. W. R. Hardie, who has now left, also figured in some Second Eleven matches.

In this year's swimming gala we gave up the School Championship, and House Squadron honours to Atkin. Cross, Watkins, Allsopp, and Symons, who composed our Senior team, put up a fine fight, however, and it was in the last length that we lost our lead to Atkin, whom we must congratulate on their victory. The Junior team finished third.

The House is represented in the School Harriers team by Rigby, Jones, T. A., and Rees, who has, this term, risen to be one of the Running Club's most valuable members. We also have a large proportion in the Junior pack, and hope for successful seasons in the future.

Halliday, Miller, F. L., and Pritchard are Tate's Chess team representatives. R.B.L.

WESTMINSTER HOUSE NOTES.

The House extends a hearty welcome to Mr. Lord, who joined us at the beginning of the term to take the place of Mr. Finn.

It also welcomes back T. J. Andrews, its House Captain, who had announced his intention of leaving last term.

With the exception of the Seniors, we have fared rather badly at football, and we sincerely hope that better results may be forthcoming in the future.

The Seniors are to be congratulated on winning all three matches played; they beat Tate 8—6, Stitt 4—2, and Atkin 5—3.

If, however, the Intermediates hope to pull their weight for the House, they must, in future, do better than lose three matches out of three. They were beaten by Tate 11—6, Stitt 5—4, and Atkin 6—1.

The Juniors, too, have not done so well, losing to Tate 12—8, and drawing with Stitt 3—3.

The table at present is:—

| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|---------------|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----------------------|
| Seniors | 3 | ... | 3 | ... | 0 | ... | 0 ... 17 ... 11 ... 6 |
| Inters. | 3 | ... | 0 | ... | 3 | ... | 0 ... 11 ... 22 ... 0 |
| Juniors | 2 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 ... 11 ... 15 ... 1 |

We are represented in the First Eleven by Andrews, Kirchin, and Rice, and in the Second by Barker, Jellicoe, and Roberts.

Our Seniors did not distinguish themselves in the House Squadron Race, finishing fourth. Our team was:—Horne, Rogers, Williams, Wylie. The Juniors, however, are to be

heartily congratulated on winning the first Junior House Squadron Race. Our team was: Peckham, Barker, Sampson, Edelsten.

We are represented in the School Chess Team by Jellicoe, Marsh, and Sarginson.

Horne, the Captain of the Harriers, is our chief representative in this Club.

Horne and Walker represented the House in the Relay team at the Inter School Sports. Walker, moreover, was first in the long jump, and Horne was second in the mile.

Last term we were top of the Magazine Sales. See to it, Westminster, that we are there again this time. D.M.

LIBRARY NOTES.

"Change and decay in all around I see," sang the poet, and I, on looking into the Library at the beginning of term, sang a similar tune for a somewhat different, though no less saddening, reason. For, alas! where were the ancient tables, the elbow rests of generations of work-wearied Librarians, and the antique chairs and forms which had graced this seat of learning from time immemorial? Where? Echo answers "Where?" (Or is it the lab. boy breaking a beaker?) Desks—row upon row of them—had taken their place—common or garden desks. Could I be dreaming? No, it was a sober fact. There were desks in the Library. Well might I sigh, "Old times are past, old manners gone!" Of all its former glory there remained only two lonely candlesticks, ghosts of its one time greatness (and already these have been used as weapons by those who do not realise their associations). The Latin Dictionary, too, lies as of old, untouched and thick with dust upon the highest shelf.

But we are not dead yet, in spite of the fact that L*w*s, our budding saxophonist, perpetrates pathetic renderings of "Dancing with tears in my Eyes" at least thirty times per day. Some of the more juvenile members—bless them—may be seen skipping gaily, as, under the able direction of "Hank," they play at battledore and shuttle-cock, and our artist, too, daily adorns the black-board with original sketches and impressions. Thus it will be seen that, while we are doing about twenty-five hours of work per day (perhaps), we still find time to turn our attention to the lighter things of life. Even football has been indulged in, and, of course, our team maintained the usual high Library standard, beating Vb. 7—6, and Vr. 3—1. At present our hopes are fixed on

our forthcoming social, which we hope will provide a splendid opportunity of displaying our talents (and appetites). It is rumoured that the Economics Class is already dieting strictly, in order to take full advantage of the occasion.

We have been asked by the Library to broadcast the following:—Can any person or persons give any information whatsoever concerning the misguided individual who produced, amongst the legitimate "Visor" articles, a seditious pamphlet directed again the sacred realm of the Library and its inhabitants? He is thought to be residing in IVr. under a fictitious name.

While the newspapers have been full of peace conferences and similar excuses for speech-making, we have set the world an example by combining in one room two bodies which last term were deadly enemies. There is no longer a separate Cubby Hole, and all the Upper Sixths are grouped together in the Library. Opinions have differed concerning this change, but as we are living peaceably with one another, I think it may safely be considered a success. D.M.

FORM NOTES.

Senior Sixth.

After bouncing all over the School at beginning of term, we at last settled down in respectable quarters, hard by the Art Gallery, and are leading peaceful lives, thanks to the splendid influence (?) of our two prefects.

We have played but one football match, only to suffer defeat against VIb. by seven goals to five. However, if we don't make a decent show for the form, we are well represented in the First Eleven by Currie, Andrews, G. W. Smith, and that eminent custodian, Arthur Kirchin (watcher grinning at?). S. C. Andrews, Hughes, G. W. Robinson, and Powl play for the second eleven.

Although, as yet, unable to publish the results of our recent put and take tournament, eminent historians have handed to posterity the facts that Ashton, Walker, and Clarkson are the flower of the second division of the School Chess Club, while Manley and Marsh are wont to adorn the first division.

In the Chemmy Lab., recently, one of our real bright sparks received a rare burst of inspiration—he told Mr. X, "Add some flame to the test tube; if it goes bang, it's hydrogen."

Via.

We have a splendid football record. Of three matches played, we drew the first, against VIb., 4—4. But, soon afterwards, we met them again, and administered a crushing defeat of 16 goals to 2! We then gave the Remove food for thought by scoring 14 goals against 3. In this match, Acton obliged with a goal—for the Remove!!

On November 19th, we were to have played VIs., but they, evidently thinking discretion the better part of valour, scratched the game—at 12-45 on the Wednesday.

We are ably represented in the First Eleven by K. Rice, N. Shipley, and G. Neil, and in the Second Eleven by H. Barker, and J. A. A. Smith, all of whom, we feel confident, do their utmost to uphold the honour of the form.

The chief social event of the term was the form "feed," which took place on Friday, November 21st. After one of "Janny's" excellent teas, we settled down to a most enjoyable evening. Retreating to the end of the School farthest from the evening classes, we flung ourselves, with pardonable zest, into the task of making the night hideous.

The concert, to our minds, was an unqualified success, although the Scouts, who occupied the gym, must have thought that murder was being committed, and they were with difficulty restrained from rushing in a body to the rescue.

R. H. Jones, at the piano, displayed a hitherto unsuspected genius. He led off with two solos, which were applauded to the echo. Neil then obliged with a Hebrew monologue, illustrating an entirely new system of wage cutting.

Welch gave a pianoforte solo, which was followed by a charming rendering of "Londonderry Air" by Shipley, Shaw (violins), and R. H. Jones (piano). Then Mr. Haime, assisted by Miss Dyer, at the piano (and also by his "good old deep bassoon") gave us a rollicking few minutes, which made us clamour for more. Shaw then played a violin solo, which was followed by a comic recitation by Welch. Bird then rose to the occasion with some exceedingly "tall" stories. Cutbill gave another piano solo, and then we proceeded to the community singing(?) This item was a successful conclusion to a splendid entertainment.

We then retired to the dining room and proceeded with the table-tennis tournament. After some brilliant play, and much brilliant back-chat, two winners were finally sorted out by a process known only to the umpires. The winners were pronounced to be May and Ambler. A consolation game was then played, and Roscoe was adjudged the winner.

After cheering for everyone we could think of, and anyone we might have missed out, we came to attention for "God Save the King." And so to bed.

We regretted that, owing to a previous engagement, the Head could not be with us in our revels. R.F.B.

Vib.

At the beginning of the term we had the pleasure of changing our form room, and, a little later, we were supplied with new desks. As yet, they do not appear to have had much effect on our scholastic output, but, still, the year is young.

The choice for captain and vice-captain fell on F. V. Harrison and J. Watkins. As a form, Vib. does not lack football talent, for S. R. Allsopp, S. E. Anderson, and F. V. Harrison play for the School's First Eleven, whilst Fryer plays for the Second.

So far the form team has not had a perfectly successful term. Whether this has been due to the fact that our best players have been playing elsewhere cannot be said, nevertheless, the fact remains.

Our first match was with VIa, and resulted in a draw. With VIs. we had more luck, managing to beat them. Our next game was with VIa, and, judging from their great victory, they were out to win.

In the School Gala, J. Watkins, our principal swimmer, won the Senior Neat Breast Stroke, and the Back Stroke Race, J. W. Allan and J. F. Rogers won the Life Saving Race, while H. Darlington won the Fifth Form Handicap.

As a matter of interest it might be added that Mr. D***k**n was momentarily dazed when a youth, without any hesitation, translated "une femme du peuple" as "a woman of purple."

J.N.

Vr.

At the beginning of term the form was very mixed, but we soon united in our efforts both at work and sports. At work we have been very successful, having gained a quite creditable number of stars. So far, Coglán has been first every fortnight.

The first topic of interest to occur was W*ll**m*'s informing a master that he kept a scrap book, and after that he often found it convenient to leave his homework. With this fact in view, he was officially christened "Scrap Book" W*ll**m*. Our champion boxer this term is A**r*w*, who shows great promise, and a marvellous science in footwork. He was also officially christened 'Lashing Len, the Red-Haired Boxer.'

By far the most important event in our opinion, however, was the form feed. This was a great success, and we were pleased to have the Head with us. After we had finished tea, the ping-pong contest began, and Hughes, R., became champion, beating Kirkland in the final.

We have played two football matches this term, and have lost both, the first against VIb. and the second against Vr.

In the second eleven we are represented by Shaw and Morrell.

In the Harriers, Rees has distinguished himself, and is a member of the School team.

In the Chess Club, we have Miller and Green.

The form has to thank Mr. Bloor, our Form Master, for the help he has given us all throughout the term. F.M.

Va.

I am sure that the members of Va. will agree with me when I say that we have had a very satisfactory, if not a very eventful, term.

At the commencement of the term, Taylor was unanimously elected football captain. Since then we have played two matches, one against Vb., which we won 7—4, and the other against VIb., which we lost 3—4. A match arranged with VIs. was scratched.

We held our form social on November 7th, and it proved a great success. After the fine feed we had pleasure in having an "adjective letter" compiled by Mr. Moat and Laver. This was followed by some card tricks, performed by Mr. Moat. An entertainment in the gym, by a few of our boys, finished off the evening in fine style.

From time to time there occur some sparks of wit which are most often forgotten, but we remember that a "viper" is a Jew's handkerchief, and that "gazeeka" and "gazooka" are Arabic characters which help one most marvellously in Algebra, as seen by our recent mark sheet.

Witticisms are still coming from Miller, as this conversation shows:—

MILLER: "B*rk*r's got a glass eye."

EVANS: "No! Did he tell you?"

MILLER: "Oh no! It just came out in the conversation. That's the worst of these cheap eyes."

Vb.

Our football has not been up to our expectations, and, although we have scored eleven goals, we have lost both matches, the results being:—

| | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|---|
| Va. | 9 | Vb. | 5 |
| Adv. | 7 | Vb. | 6 |

At the recent swimming gala, two members of our form gained a medal. McKenzie won the "long plunge" and Wylie, the 4th Form Handicap.

During this term, we had a very enjoyable tea and social, which included a ping-pong tournament, won by D. McKenzie, with W. Cumming as runner-up. After this, we adjourned to the Gym for a sing-song, and thus concluded a well-spent evening.

As the exams are again approaching, the members of our form are feeling "swotty."

A.B.

Vr.

Five Remove is now situated in last year's Cubby Hole. There are only eighteen in the form, as Wylie and Wright, who occupied first and second places in last year's promotion exams, have been promoted to Vb.

In the School Second Eleven, the form has three representatives; namely, Pott, who played one game for the First Eleven, Roberts, and Silcock.

At the beginning of the term, Pott was voted Football Captain, and Roberts Vice-Captain. Our results are only moderate. The first match was played on October 25th, when the Advanced beat us by 3 goals to 1, Pott scoring our only goal. In our next match, we were more successful, defeating Six Remove by 13 goals to 2. Our third match was most unfortunately abandoned, owing to the ground being water-

logged. The captain has difficulty in getting together a team, as one or two of the members are not too enthusiastic about playing. It is hoped that next term they will take more interest in form games.

At the School Swimming Gala, although Griffiths won the Novices' Race, the other competitors of the form were not so successful.

It has not yet been decided when to hold our Form Social. It is hoped that everybody will contribute to the programme, so as to make a successful evening.

Boys are so eager to contribute to the magazine that C*w*ll, who, during Brame's absence, looked after the attendance slips, decided to have them put in the "Visor" and placed them in the "Visor Box." F.S.

IVa.

We were well represented in the Gala and gained four medals. Peckham won the Junior Mop Fight. It is interesting to note that in the Semi-Final of the Mop Fight, three out of the four boys were in IVa. Pringle won the Senior Dive by one point, while Peckham and Edelsten each won a medal in the Westminster Junior House Squadron, of which Peckham was captain.

Although IVa. is famed for its wise boys, this does not prevent our giving some "howling" answers. For instance, O**n translated "les poires rousses" by "the rusty pears." Pr**g*e, when asked why he did not have his Chemistry Book at School, said that the dog had eaten it!

A few weeks ago we held our Social. The Janitor supplied us with a very good tea which everybody enjoyed. After tea there were some competitions. Then we had a concert, the best turn being Rennie, who proved to be an excellent conjuror. Another important item was the Form Song, which was composed by Hunt and Barker. It was sung to the tune of "John Brown's Body."

In Football we are not successful. At the beginning of the Term Boggie was elected captain, Iveson, vice-captain, and Leigh, secretary.

The first match was against IVr. in which we lost 4-1. The second was against IIIb. in which we drew 4-4, and the third was against IVb. in which we won 15-0. IVb. however, were unlucky, having only eight men; the best of their eleven playing in a Junior Shield Trial. D.B.

IVb.

We have undoubtedly had a very successful football season. Out of six matches played we have won five, with a goal aggregate of 73 against 17, and lost one, with a score of 15 to none. This was against IVa., in which game seven only of our team put in an appearance; naturally, with such a big handicap, we were heavily defeated. It is to be hoped that the conscience of the four missing players will be somewhat troubled.

We also had a very good night at the Swimming Gala, Smith, in brilliant form, winning three medals, and Sampson one.

There has been a streak of unconscious humour running through the form. The following gems are the efforts of some of our boys. B****tt, a bright youth, thinks Brazil is a fishing port of Canada, while M****t has the notion that Ontario's gold fields are in British Columbia.

The Form Social was held on November 24th. It was a great success, the fun was fast and furious, and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. C.E.D.

IVr.

Although we are all finally settled down, there are still "men unknown." We still have M*r*h, the far-famed chess player, who thinks that all Latin verbs of the first conjugation are feminine, except those that aren't. Pipon, moreover, has now finished with racing cars, and has started the detention craze. Again, we have been told that the vowel 'o' is the only vowel which can be heard, "because all the others are in audible." I'm not sure whether Nicholas has finished making his six foot engine yet, but we hear of nothing else now. When asked who founded the police system, one worthy on the back row answered, "John Peel, sir." Master T*i*g, the other day, had the misfortune, when reciting the 23rd Psalm, to say, "And He maketh us to lie down on the still waters."

Luckily, we find Parry in our midst, and he has been voted 'footer' captain. We lost our first match, against IVb. by 11 goals to 1, the solitary one being scored by Davies; but we beat IVa. by 4 goals to 1, two being scored by both Parry and Simms. To add to our misfortunes we were beaten by IIIb., our single goal being scored by Simms. Our final match, against IIIb., which was to have been played on Saturday, the 22nd, was scratched on account of rain. S.H.

IIIa.

We have all settled down now in our new quarters in the Senior School, and most of us feel quite like old stagers. There has been a great struggle for the position of top of the Form, but we regret to say that there are some whose names are more frequently seen at the other end of the list.

We have the nucleus of a zoo in the form, for we have a Gee Gee and a "Tiddler." We also have a salesman who peddles aeroplanes. His profits are said to be enormous. We have learnt this term that "Laban's daughter was called "Leech," and one of our number has discovered "an imagination noun."

In football, we have been unfortunate with the weather, and our record to date is 1 win, 2 draws, 2 losses. Hobbins scores goals as centre-forward, Tong careers swiftly down the wing and Rogers keeps goal in quite good style.

We supply a fair number of boys to the other activities of the School.

Our two Joneses, H. D. and T. M., both swam well at the Gala—must be something fishy about their name.

Wadlow plays chess, while Andrews and Sutton are enthusiastic scouts.

The manufacture of speed boats goes on apace in the Woodwork Shop, but so far we have not heard of any serious opposition to Miss England II.

IIIb.

There are in our form eighteen new boys and twelve ex-juniors. We are now all acquainted with each other, and are settling down for the Christmas exams.

We had a form tea on October 20th, in the dining room, and after we had taken our fill, we went to the gym and played games till 6-30. All enjoyed the evening, and no boys were absent the next day.

We must congratulate H*ll*rh**d on gaining first place in the half term run, and W*e*t on being first on another occasion.

In football we have done very well, having won 2 matches, lost 1, and drawn 1.

Strenuous work is often relieved by a few howlers; B*ll in Geography said nitrates grew on trees, and B*r*er said the market was at the bottom of the pond. I suppose the market people have fins and swim about. D.R.B.

IIIj.

Recently, Ta***r found great difficulty in pronouncing the word "Caractacus." First, he said "Caracitus," and then "Caraticus." However, he thought he would alter it to "Cataricus," but, seemingly, not satisfied with that either, he said "Caractitus." Finding that that was wrong, he decided to sit down, think it over, and have another try a bit later on.

The matter of sex is growing bigger. Bu***ll, in a French lesson, had to say something in that language to Me***lle. He started with "Elle est——;" perhaps he thought that Me***lle really was a little girl! If so, I must say that I greatly sympathise with him, because he must be a little wrong sighted, you know.

Ru***l, our famous top-at-the-wrong-end member, had to write a composition on "A Daedalus and Icarus of 1930." He said: "The boy and his father went for a ride in a train to the seaside. Why didn't he say "dadda," and "puffer," if he said "seaside"? Still, I'd better not make fun of him, or he might get vicious!

A few weeks ago, we were reading about Julius Caesar. (Bear in mind that St***ox has straight hair hanging over his eyebrows!) Now Julius Caesar had very little hair, and so he used to brush it forward to make it look more. "What about St***ax, sir?" cried C****trie, joyously rising to the occasion.

The Form, as a whole, does not seem to be very enthusiastic about swimming. Two or three only are able to accomplish this feat at all. In the School Swimming Gala, we had only one entry, in Smart; and he is indeed, the "smartest" at swimming in the whole form.

Our football team has not been very successful, but we hope to bring off better scores in the remaining matches. So far, we have played four; two against IIIa., the first we drew 4—4, the second we lost 3—1. Against IVb. we lost 6—5, and against IIIb. we lost 12—2. We have one more match this term, against IVr., on December 13th.

J.S.

JUNIOR SCHOOL NOTES.

There are few outstanding events to record, for, as usual, our energies have been reserved for the play which follows prize-giving at the end of this term. This year "The Rose and the Ring" has been chosen, and we are busily rehearsing Thackeray's merry "Christmas Pantomime."

Since the last issue of the magazine, the second forms have left us for the Senior School, and now form the exalted ranks of Form III. regard all "juniors" with disdain! Though quite a number of the cubs have therefore, become scouts, the cub pack is flourishing. In previous years only one or two cubs have camped, but during the summer holidays about sixteen cubs spent a jolly fortnight at Red Wharf Bay in camp with the scouts. Three mistresses accompanied them, and we believe that the help they gave in the production of savoury stews and giant suet puddings was much appreciated.

A question asked by one of the Juniors is perhaps worthy of note:—"Are there any other living writers beside Edgar Wallace?" The popular author in question would no doubt be flattered by this unsolicited tribute! H.L.D.

THE BADMINTON CLUB.

As this game seems to be growing in popularity, the limit of membership has been extended to include the Lower VI. We were unfortunate to play a weakened team against Prenton Congregational Junior Club, when we lost by 5 games to 4, but we hope to give a better account of ourselves in the return match, to be held shortly. An American doubles tournament is one of the future attractions of the Club.

CHESS CLUB.

The Club now contains sixty-three members, and most of these attend with great regularity on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to play tournaments and friendly matches.

In spite of this large membership, the Wright Challenge Shield Team has by no means maintained its fine record of former years. This we expected, however, as we lost the first five boards of last year's team at the end of the Summer term.

The results up to date are:—

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|
| Birkenhead Institute | 2½ | Holt Secondary | 4½ |
| Birkenhead Institute | 1 | Wallasey Grammar | 6 |
| Birkenhead Institute | 2½ | Liverpool Collegiate | 4½ |
| Birkenhead Institute | 3 | Liverpool Institute | 4 |

Out of the total of nine games won, Halliday has done very well in winning three, while Jellicoe and Pritchard have each won one and a half.

In the first Division of the Tournament, Halliday bids fair for the Championship, having won three and a half games out of four, while Jellicoe comes next with one and a half games out of two. The remainder have not as yet played sufficient games to indicate how their chances stand.

The result of the second Division is very open. Hunt has won four games out of five, Welch and Green four out of six, and Ashton three out of four.

The third Division result is still in doubt, as the semi-final stage has not yet been reached.

On October 24th, we played our annual match with the Old Boys' Second Team. This we lost by seven games to two, Hunt and Ashton being the only two of the Second team to win. The Old Boys, however, had four of last year's Wright Challenge Shield Team, and, with this big advantage, their win was naturally expected.

At a simultaneous display given by Mr. Znosko-Borovsky at the Liverpool Chess Club on November 1st, the School was represented by Halliday and Pritchard. Halliday managed to obtain a draw with this minor chess master.

Owing to a continuous series of Form Feeds and similar functions in the dining-room, the Club has lately met in the Physics laboratory. The new procedure has been quite successful, and there is talk of our continuing in the use of these new quarters. Thanks are due to Mr. Watts for allowing us to use the laboratory for so many meetings.

The whole club welcomes Mr. Lord, who, besides attending the weekly meetings, has also accompanied the team to Liverpool.

All thanks are due to Mr. Moat for his able guidance of the most flourishing club in the School.

BISHOP.

DEBATING SOCIETY NOTES.

We have now reached the middle of a session which promises to be as successful as those of previous years. There have already been four debates this term, and there is to be one more before Christmas.

The first debate of the session was held on October 6th, the motion being, "That, in the opinion of this House, Travel is a better means of Education than is Study." This was proposed by Mr. Bird and Mr. Cathcart and opposed by Mr. Pritchard and Mr. K. Miller. The opposers gained a decisive victory, defeating the motion by 35 votes to 16.

The next debate, on the subject "That Railways should be Nationalised," was held on October 20th. Mr. Jellicoe and Mr. Tweedie proposed the motion, while Mr. Halliday and Mr. Miller opposed it. The subject provoked a good deal of discussion, and eventually the motion was defeated by 24 to 7.

On November 10th, a third debate was held. The subject under discussion was: "That the Elizabethan age was greater than the Present age." The motion, proposed by Mr. S. W. Jones and Mr. Matthews, and opposed by Mr. F. L. Miller and Mr. Robinson, was defeated, the voting being 33 to 15.

The motion of the next debate, held a fortnight later, was "That if the new Education Bill now before Parliament becomes law, it will be greatly to the benefit of this Country." This was another victory for the opposition, namely Mr. Bird and Mr. Pritchard, who defeated the proposers, Mr. Magee and Mr. Matthews by 32 votes to 10.

Although the Society lost several of its most outstanding speakers last July, it has a number of new members, some of whom have made quite good speeches. We should like to see more boys from the fifth and sixth forms attending the debates, and at the same time we urge all those who do attend to come prepared to speak for one side or the other. M.

THE HARRIERS CLUB.

This is the second successful year of the Harriers Club. After the great enthusiasm with which the Club was inaugurated, much was expected from the Harriers this season. We have held about eight meetings, including one inter-school run with our old rivals the Liverpool Institute, with whom we drew last year.

This match took place on October 22nd. Rain had been falling for several days, and parts of the course were in a very bad state, one place being under water. Our opponents fielded their last year's first team, but we had only three of our veterans.

A very fast pace was set up from the beginning. By the time the half-way mark was reached, the teams began to straggle, and, although the first four of the B. I. team could hold the L. I. force, the last four were dropping behind. In the final dash along Ingleborough Road, Horne beat Rodgers (L. I.) by 2 seconds, in 34 minutes 12 seconds, a record for the course. The result was a loss for the School. (L. I. 39 points, B. I. 48 points).

We have, however, a return match at Liverpool next term, and this at least we intend to win.

Our next important event was the half-term handicaps, which were held on November 22nd, in wet and muddy conditions. The Junior event was won by Hollerhead ($1\frac{1}{2}$ mins.) with a time of $23\frac{3}{4}$ minutes. Todd (scratch) was second in $22\frac{3}{4}$ minutes, and Thomas ($2\frac{1}{2}$ mins.) was third in $26\frac{1}{4}$ minutes.

In the Seniors, Rees (3 mins.) was first in 39 minutes; Horne (scratch) second in $35\frac{1}{2}$ minutes, and Shaw (1 minute) third in 38 minutes.

There have been some big improvements this year in both packs. In the Seniors, Rees, Shaw and Roscoe have been very consistent, and Todd, Jones, Wheat, Hollerhead, and Barker have all been winners in the Juniors.

During the last few meetings our numbers have grown steadily, but we still need more Seniors. ALAN C. HORNE.

NATIONAL SAVINGS SOCIETY.

This society continues to flourish, despite the prevalent trade depression, and all members are to be congratulated on their achievements during 1930, when they have succeeded in saving no less than £385 18s. 6d. The grand total to date, December 1st, is £2,601 11s. od., in seven years.

Membership continues high, two hundred and six at present, but new members are always welcome, especially in the Junior School and the lower forms of the Senior School.

RIFLE CLUB.

Our weekly meetings are still held in the gymnasium and are fairly well attended, although one or two members might well favour us with their presence a little oftener in the future than they have done of late. Subscriptions, marvellous to relate, are almost complete!

As usual at this stage, our activities are confined to "grouping" practices, though, to judge by results, some members appear to have misunderstood instructions and to be engaged in solving by practical methods (so dear to scientific hearts!) the absorbing problem, "In how many ways can ten lead pellets be distributed over a target so that no one pellet may be within two inches of any other?"

THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The alterations to the labs. and other difficulties, which arose at the beginning of the term, prevented the Society's holding of any meetings until after half-term. Much progress has been made, however, since the business meeting on Monday, November 2nd, when Wetherell and Allan were elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The Committee has arranged all the lectures for the winter season, 1930-1931, and drawn up a syllabus card.

Meetings are now to be held, after School, on alternate Tuesdays, and all members of the Sixth Forms are cordially invited to attend these lectures, and to become members of the Society. A hearty invitation is extended to all members of the Staff who wish to attend the meetings.

Many members attended the meeting held on November 17th, when the session opened with a series of lectures given by six members of the Society. As they were not told the subjects until the beginning of the meeting, much enjoyment was derived from the impromptu nature of the papers.

Sarginson, talking on "Volcanic Eruptions," outlined very simply the causes and results of volcanoes, while Griffiths enlarged successfully on the hard and soft properties of "A Glass of Water." "The Caloric and the Degree Centigrade" was ably discussed by Angelman, who, though he got mixed with the degree Fahrenheit, clearly showed the difference between specific and latent heats. Coughtrie, with "Light as a Chemical Agent" as his subject, pointed out the importance of sunlight to human and plant life, touching upon the

effects of light on certain chemical reactions as exhibited by Photography. The fifth discussion, on "The Chemistry of a Candle Flame," was given by Wetherell, who discussed the burning of the ordinary candle and the need for wicks. In his talk on "Shooting Stars," Jenkins related their origin, composition, and fate. Finally, the short discussions which followed each talk rounded off the evening in a very pleasing manner.

Three more meetings are to be held this term, and we hope to see many present.

The Society is much indebted to the University Students, who have shown so much interest in the proceedings, and who have promised to give an evening next term.

SCOUT NOTES.

During the summer holidays about twenty members of the School Troop, together with a similar number of cubs from the Junior School, spent a very enjoyable fortnight in camp at Red Wharf Bay, Anglesey. We were accompanied by Miss Ashcroft, Miss Booth, Mrs. Davis, and Mr. Thacker. We are extremely grateful to them for their efforts in making the camp the success it was and hope to have them with us when we camp again. Under the supervision of the ladies the cooking was of an exceptionally high standard and the menus much more attractive than in the past.

In spite of the rather inclement weather we were able to indulge in various out-door activities. The bathing site was excellent in every way, and the bathing parade was thus one of the most popular features in camp. Cricket and football were played daily, and clock-golf proved a much appreciated innovation.

Visits were paid to Moelfra and Beaumaris Castle. We found the latter full of interest from both historical and architectural points of view.

Many parents came to see our camp, and the Headmaster and Mrs. Wynne Hughes stayed with us for a few days. We appreciate the interest they show in our activities.

At the Inter-Troop Swimming Gala held in August we were again successful in winning the Brewster Challenge Shield. As a result of this display of swimming several of our boys were chosen to represent the Birkenhead Scout Associa-

tion in the County Swimming Gala. R. Smith, our best swimmer, was selected, and is to be congratulated on winning the Junior Championship.

Since the beginning of this term the School Troop has increased in numbers from thirty-two to forty-five. This increase has enabled us to form an additional patrol with E. E. Tomlinson and J. Barker as leader and second respectively. Of the new comers, the majority of whom are ex-Cubs, eight have passed their Tenderfoot tests and have been enrolled as Scouts.

The activities of the troop at present are mainly confined to Second and First Class Badge work, the older boys acting as instructors. Several boys are engaged upon Handicraft work with a view to displaying their models at the exhibition next year.

BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT.

1st XI.

Despite the fact that the 1st XI. has won only three games and lost four, the form shown in the winning matches has been very good, and each has been won by a very clear margin.

If the team shows a little more consistency, a fairly good record should ensue by the end of the season, and it is hoped that the School will give every support.

As the team is built up of younger talent, we should have a good team for the Senior Shield Competition next February.

September 24th, v. Alsop High School (Home).

In their opening match, the School were unfortunate to play against a strong wind in the first half. They very seldom broke away, and in consequence the defence had a very trying period, during which the visitors were five times successful. In the second half, the School were slightly superior, although they did not take full advantage of the wind. Smith scored twice for the School.

Result: Birkenhead Institute 2. Alsop High School 5.

October 8th, v. Bootle Secondary School (Home).

With the wind behind them, the School soon took the lead, Smith scoring two goals. Unfortunately Bootle lost the services of their outside right, who broke his collar-bone in a

collision. Neil scored another before half-time, but the Bootle forwards scored two goals with unexpected raids. In the second half, the whole team played extremely well against the wind, and the forwards made up for their missed chances in the first half. Minns headed two goals, and Neil finished the score with a good shot.

Result : Birkenhead Institute 6. Bootle Secondary School 2.

October 15th, v. Quarry Bank School (Away).

The same team which beat Bootle lost against Quarry Bank by three goals to one. However, they showed very poor form, and deserved their defeat. Quarry Bank scored early on, and Birkenhead Institute should have equalised soon after, but for the poor finishing of the forwards. Minns equalised before half-time. After the interval the home team held the upper hand and scored two more goals. The forwards were poor finishers, while the half-backs and backs were very unsteady.

Result : Birkenhead Institute 1. Quarry Bank 3.

October 29th, v. Oulton Secondary School (Home).

The score of 8—1 by no means exaggerated the superiority of the School over Oulton, for they were a much more methodical side. The forwards over-ran the visiting defence and the first half produced a crop of five goals, the scorers being Harrison (2), Minns (2), and Shipley. It was unfortunate that one of the Oulton players should have to be sent off. Neil increased the lead soon after the re-start, and other goals were scored by Minns and Smith. The defence played quite well, and the half-backs supplied many passes, of which the forwards made good use. In this half Oulton replied once.

Result : Birkenhead Institute 8. Oulton Secondary School 1.

November 5th, v. Liverpool Collegiate (Home).

The School were beaten at home by a much cleverer side, who were far quicker on the ball and were superior in every department. Much against the run of play, Birkenhead Institute scored through Harrison, but Collegiate fought back, to equalise ten minutes later. Then Neil scored again, but once more the scores were levelled, when some fine dribbling by the visitor's inside-left paved the way to another goal. Smith, however, scored before half-time, and the School were distinctly

lucky to hold the lead. In the second half, Collegiate completely dominated the play, and the defence cannot be blamed for the two goals scored. Birkenhead Institute were beaten by a much better team.

Result : Birkenhead Institute 3. Liverpool Collegiate 4.

November 12th, v. St. Edward's College (Away).

If the School had taken advantage of the strong wind in the first half, they might have stood a better chance of winning. The forwards were too slow, although the wind blew most of the passes too far ahead. On the other hand the backs seemed unable to clear the ball, and their delaying methods were the cause of our reverse in the first half. At half-time St. Edward's led by three goals to one, Andrews having scored with a fine drive. Throughout the second half, Birkenhead Institute were constantly on the defensive, and could not get the ball away against the wind. The half-backs and backs saved many situations and Kirchin made some excellent saves. St. Edwards scored twice in this half, but the second was from a blatant off-side position.

Result : Birkenhead Institute 1. St. Edward's 5.

November 19th, v. Liscard High School (Home).

Birkenhead Institute made merry against Liscard, winning by the margin of 10—2. The state of the pitch and the greasy ball made accurate football difficult, and the mistakes in front of goal were due to the elusiveness of the ball. Smith scored a fine goal from about 18 yards, and Allsopp added another with a long shot. Other goals were scored by Minns (2), one direct from a corner, Andrews, and Smith. Liscard also scored once. After the interval Birkenhead Institute had all their own way, and Minns scored two more goals. The left flank particularly showed splendid combination, Harrison and Minns being well supported by Allsopp and Currie. Smith and Shipley also scored, and Liscard scored one more. The re-arranged team proved very successful, Neil playing a fine game at centre half.

First Eleven Appearances.

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|---|
| Anderson | 7 | Neil | 6 |
| Allsopp | 7 | Rice | 6 |
| Andrews | 7 | Smith | 6 |
| Currie | 7 | Shipley | 5 |
| Harrison | 7 | Pott | 1 |
| Kirchin | 7 | Jones, W. S. | 1 |
| Minns | 7 | Powl | 1 |

Goal Scorers.

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Minns | 10 |
| Smith | 9 |
| Neil | 4 |
| Harrison | 3 |
| Shipley | 2 |
| Andrews, T. J. | 2 |
| Allsopp | 1 |

2nd XI.

The 2nd XI. have not done well, so far this season, having won only one of the seven matches. They have drawn one and lost the others.

Results.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Sept. 24—v. Alsop High School (Away) | Lost 5—1 |
| Oct. 8—v. Bootle Secondary School (Away) | Lost 2—1 |
| 15—v. Quarry Bank High School (Home) | Won 8—3 |
| 29—v. Oulton Secondary School (Away) | Lost 4—2 |
| Nov. 5—v. Liverpool Collegiate (Away) | Lost 4—0 |
| 12—v. St. Edward's College (Home) | Lost 3—2 |
| 19—v. Liscard High School (Away) | Draw 2—2 |

Second Eleven Appearances.

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----------|---|----------|---|
| Andrews | 7 | Pott | 5 | Powl | 3 |
| Barker | 7 | Robinson | 5 | Bird | 1 |
| Roberts | 7 | Hughes | 4 | Jellicoe | 1 |
| Shaw | 7 | Silcock | 4 | McKenzie | 1 |
| Smith, J. A. | 6 | Fryer | 3 | Rice | 1 |
| Jones, W. S. | 5 | Hardie | 3 | Morrell | 1 |

Goal Scorers.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Andrews, S. C. | 5 |
| Pott | 3 |
| Hughes | 3 |
| Jones, W. S. | 1 |
| Fryer | 1 |
| Powl | 1 |
| Smith, J. A. | 1 |
| Barker | 1 |

THE OLD BOYS' SOCIETY.

These lines are written with a view to showing the present scholar at our Old School, who very soon will be one of us, what the Society is doing for the Old Boys and is also preparing for you. It is, therefore, obvious that the future of the Society rests largely with you all, and I want you to show an interest in it so that, as you leave School, you will join the Society straight away.

Now a very natural question will, I feel sure, be in your mind, and that is: "What is the Old Boys' Society and what does it offer the Old Boy?"

Well, first of all, the Society is the parent body of all other Old Boys' Associations, such as 'The Old Boys' Football Club (with four teams), 'The Old Boys' Chess Club (with two teams), or 'The Old Boys' Dramatic Society, and any Old Boy who has any talent for soccer, chess or drama, can join these organisations either directly or through the Society. There must be quite a number of scholars who hope to play football in the I. Zingari League, or, perhaps, take the lead in a play, so now they know what to do as soon as they leave School.

For those interested in Dancing, both the Football Club and the Society have two Dances each during the season. The Society also holds a Smoking Concert, a Mock Trial and other interesting events during the winter, and, as you know, also plays cricket with you in the summer. The Dramatic Section

are now well ahead with rehearsals for a splendid three act play entitled "The Sport of Kings," by Ian Hay; it will be produced about the middle of February, when I hope you will have an opportunity of seeing their first production.

The Old Boys' Society is also responsible for the origin of the Old Boys' Colours, and for the benefit of many present scholars, who do not know them, I may say that the colours which make up the Tie are those which represent the four School Houses.

The Old Boys held a very successful Smoking Concert on the 4th November last, over sixty members being present. Much talent revealed itself among the Old Boys who were mainly responsible for the musical programme. It was pleasing to see quite a number of new members present, particularly the younger members who have recently left the School. I hope this article has instilled in you all a desire to join the Old Boys' Society when your School days are over.

J. B. EVANS, Hon. Secretary.

THE OLD BOYS' CHESS CLUB.

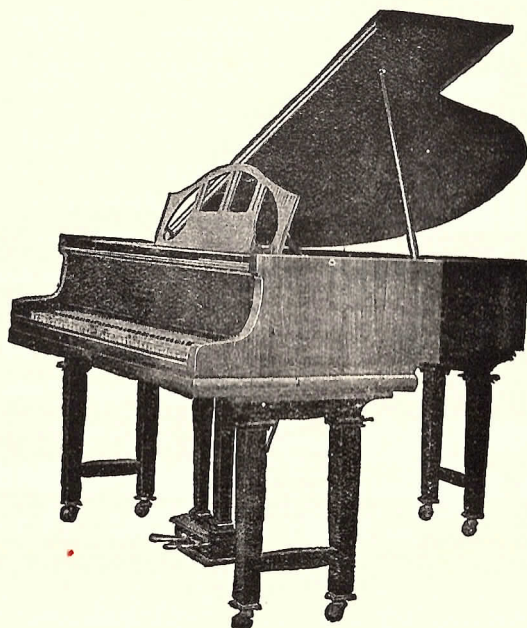
In this, the second season of its existence, the O. B. Chess Club has embarked upon a most ambitious programme in running two teams in the second and third divisions of the local "Silver Rook" Competition, but the ready co-operation of members foreshadows a very successful session.

To date, the first team has played two matches, against Central 2nd and against Chester, neither match showing a definite result, owing to several games being sent up for adjudication.

The second team, however, has won two splendid victories, one of 5—2 against David Lewis 2nd, and another of 6—1 against Southport 2nd. This team, composed mainly of last year's School Chess Club members, is achieving great results against the much older and more experienced players of the opposing teams.

In the matches yet to be played, both teams will meet with strong opposition, but with the strength already shown the O. B. should finish with a worthy record.

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