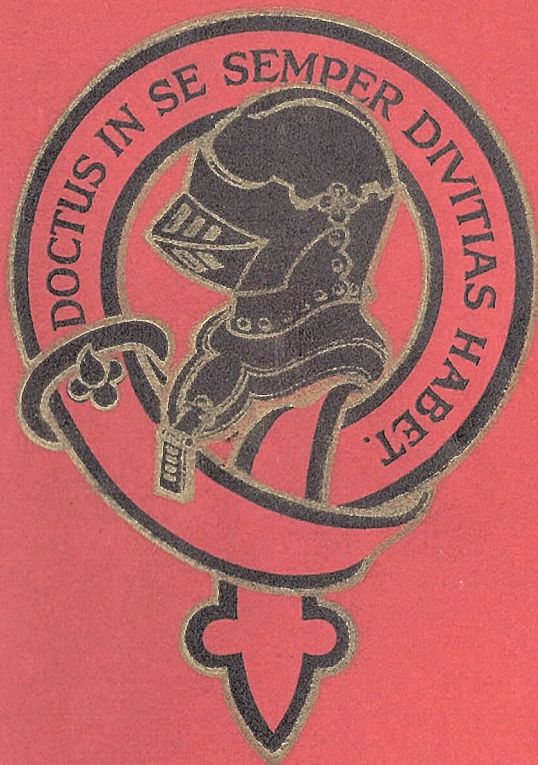


THE VISOR.



BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

CHRISTMAS, 1932.

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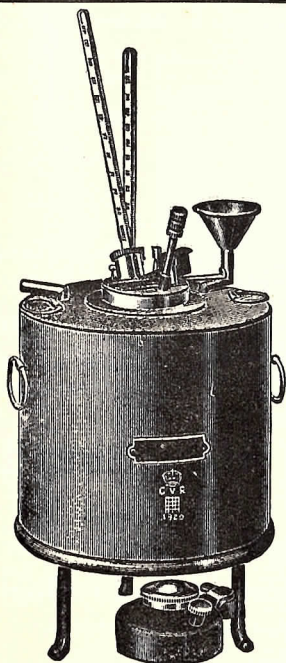
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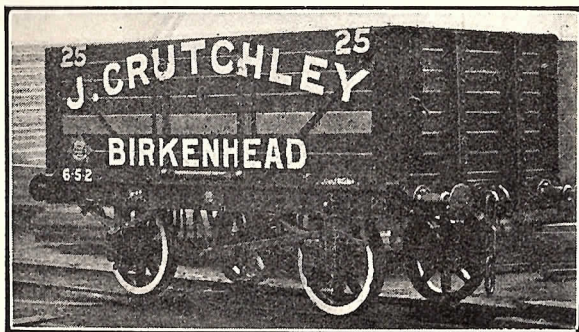
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THE VISOR

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

VOL. VI., No. I.

CHRISTMAS, 1932.

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Mr. DAVIES.**Patrol Leaders:**
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GRIMMETT.SUTTON.
WILSON.**23rd TROOP BIRKENHEAD WOLF CUBS.****Cub Master:**
Miss ASHCROFT.**Assistant Cub Master:**
Miss BOOTH.**Sixers:**
ASHCROFT.
GULLAN.SMALLPAGE.
HAMMAN.WILLIAMS.
ALLEN.

School Calendar.

Autumn Term begins	September 17th, 1932.
Swimming Gala	October 27th.
Half-term	October 29th—November 2nd.
Junior School Prize-giving	December 20th.
Term ends	December 22nd.
Spring Term begins	January 11th, 1933.
Half-term	February 18th—20th.
Term ends	March 30th.
Summer Term begins	April 26th.
Half-term	June 3rd—6th.
Term ends	July 25th.

Editorial.

THIS issue was to have set up another School record, to have gone down to History with Long Plunges and Fast Miles, but, alas! again we are doomed to failure. Put it down to late contributions, pressure of work (anything but Editorial slackness), but the fact still remains.

The issue itself, however, seems to be an improvement in various directions. The standard as well as the number of the articles submitted was considerably higher, and a keener interest has been taken in Magazine affairs. One contributory cause is the formation of a sub-committee of six members from the Library; although it was formed rather late in the term, we look for great things from this body in our next issue.

The term has been full of events, prominent among which was the Swimming Gala. This was the usual great success, and, as will be seen from the account on another page, two new records were established.

A somewhat less usual event, an exhibition of films at the School, which is also described elsewhere, arose from a scheme which is arousing much attention at the present moment, namely, the planting of trees round the School ground. Much help has been given by parents and other friends of the School, and the showing of the films was the generous contribution of one who can claim to act in both capacities. We hope that before *The Visor* appears this term the first hundred trees will be planted and flourishing.

Salvete.

IVa.—Stitt:—Colenso, G.

IIIa.—Atkin:—Bates, G., Greatrix, S. E. (J.), John, D. F. (J.), Jones, A.P.E. (J.), Jones, P. O. (J.), Macbryde, W. C. (J.), Thomas, R. E., Wood, I. L. (J.), Wood, W. F.; **Stitt:**—Clarke, J. (J.), Jones, P. H., Lewis, F. J. (J.), Taylor, W. R. (J.); **Tate:**—Bartley, E. L., Dean, A.T., Fitzmaurice, G. A., Harland, J. R. (J.), Jones, W. E. (J.), Mortimer, K., Parry, J. H. (J.), Shaw, S. (J.); **Westminster:**—Carr, K.W.R. (J.), Henshaw, R. (J.), Hughes, H. G. (J.), Huxley, K. W. (J.), Lorimer, C. (J.), Smedley, K. J. (J.), Wilde, R. (J.)

IIIb.—Atkin:—Austin, H., Heaps, W.H., Hill, R.L.M., Rawsthorne, M., Rushworth, B. J., Powell, G. S., Taylor, P. T. O. (J.); **Stitt:**—Bridges, J. S., Casey, W. A., James, A. K., Jones, L. W., King, R. A. G. (J.), Ridout, G. P. (J.), Robinson, R. S., Porter, L. J. (J.); **Tate:**—Altham, G. H. T., Franka, E., Halliday, B. S. (J.), Smith, J., Pierce, A. R. (J.), Williams, A. C., Williams, E. G. (J.); **Westminster:**—Blackburn, G. A. P. (J.), Davies, W., Jones, E. G. (J.), Macklin, L. C. (J.)

IIIj.—Atkin:—Hurst, W. S., Hutchinson, E. E., Lidgate, R., Macadam, A. M. (J.), Roberts, I., Williams, S. K. (J.); **Stitt:**—Adams, C. R. (J.), Bawden, H. R. (J.), Heritage, T. E., McLeod, G. A. W., Morris, W. G.; **Tate:**—Banks, D. J., Booth, D. E., Hughes, J. N., Hughes, V. R., Leyland, R., McDonald, A. P., Robinson, A., Simpson, P.P., Taylor, A. J., Williams, J. A.; **Westminster:**—Ceha, R. H., Edelsten, J. (J.), Lowson, R. C. (J.), Moore, S., Paterson, R., Shipley, T. E., Vick, E. S.

II.—Atkin:—Tarpey, S.; **Westminster:**—Gurney, F.W., Kennedy, A. D.

Ia.—Westminster:—Melbourne, R. H.

Ib.—Westminster:—Humphreys, T. G.

Upper Prep.—Atkin:—Gibson, P. A. R.; **Tate:**—Thacker, S. D. J.

Lower Prep.—Atkin:—Bibby, D. W., Brecknell, K. M., Pemberton, W.; **Tate:**—Harris, R. G.; **Westminster:**—Baxter, H. G., Bower, H. C., Haughton, J. D., des Landes, W.L., Marsden, D. C.

Valete.

Upper VIa.—**Atkin**:—Bridge, W. (1920—1932), *Headmaster's Prefect, Matric., 1930, H.S.C., 1932, Captain of House, Financial Secretary for The Visor, Member of Scientific Society Committee.* **Stitt**:—Williams, A. H. (1923—1932), *Matric., 1930, H.S.C., 1932, Member of Scientific Society Committee.* **Tate**:—Stanley, V.A. (1925—1932), *Prefect, Matric., 1930, H.S.C., 1932.* **Westminster**:—Jellicoe, G. (1925—1932), *Head Prefect and Captain of the School, Matric., 1929, H.S.C., 1931 and 1932, Editor of The Visor, Captain of the Chess Club, Member of the Debating Society Committee, Treasurer of Rifle Club, Vice-Captain of House.* Jenkins, G. N. (1922—1932), *Prefect, Matric., 1930, H.S.C., 1932, Member of Debating Society Committee, Member of Scientific Society Committee.* Sarginson, R. R. (1924—1932), *Prefect, Matric., 1930, H.S.C., 1932, Member of Chess Club Committee, Treasurer of Scientific Society.* Wetherell, J.H.D. (1921—1932), *Prefect, Matric., 1929, H.S.C., 1931 and 1932, Secretary of Badminton Club, Secretary of Scientific Society, Troop Leader of School Scouts.*

Upper VIb.—**Stitt**:—Currie, C.R. (1924—1932), *Prefect, Matric., 1931, Letter of Success, 1932, Captain of House, Member of Football Selection Committee, Captain of Football, 1931—1932, Football and Cricket Colours, Captain of Cricket, 1931—1932.* **Tate**:—Anderson, E. S. (1926—1932), *Matric., 1930, Letters of Success, 1931 and 1932.* Tomlinson, F. E. (1922—1932), *Prefect, Letter of Success, 1932, Patrol Leader in School Scout Troop.* **Westminster**:—Gill, E. P. (1926—1932), *Prefect, Letter of Success, 1932.* Griffiths, H. (1926—1932), *Matric., 1931.* Miller, J. W. (1924—1932), *Letter of Success, 1932, Member of Chess Club Committee, Member of Debating Society Committee.*

VIc.—**Atkin**:—Angelman, H., Richards, P. T., Seville, T., Smith, J. A. A. **Stitt**:—Cutbill, D. W., Henderson, D. G., *Matric.* **Tate**:—Jones, T. A., Miller, F. L., Rees, W. N. **Westminster**:—Miller, K. G., Rice, K. J. (1927—1932), *Matric., 1932, Captain of House, Member of Football Selection Committee, Victor Ludorum, 1932, Football and Cricket Colours.*

VIa.—**Atkin**:—Gaulter, J., Jackson, T. A., Jones, T. L. **Stitt**:—Cockbain, W. L., Reade, W. J. **Tate**:—Barlow, W. R. F., Cross, H. L., Ince, W., Jones, A. M., Shaw, C.A. **Westminster**:—Thornton, A., Tweedie, A., Wright, J. H.

Vib.—Atkin :—Andrews, L. T., Birch, G. L., Campbell, Marsh, C. A., Morrell, E. **Stitt** :—McLeod, H., Phoenix, J. I. **Tate** :—Lilley, F. H., Macdonald, D., Meakin, L. **Westminster** :—Lucas, H. T., Snelson, T. E.

Vij.—Atkin :—Griffiths, E., Todd, G. **Stitt** :—Cowell, A. D. V. **Tate** :—Brame, H. R., Ramsay, B. T. **Westminster** :—Marsh, A. J., Roberts, N.

Va.—Tate :—Pringle, J. R.

Vb.—Atkin :—Ellis, W. K., Hall, W. O., O'Leary, A. H., Smith, R. **Stitt** :—Wallace, E. **Tate** :—Edwards, H.

Vj.—Tate :—Nicholas, J. R.

IIIa.—Atkin :—McKechnie, A.

IIIb.—Tate :—Wall, J. L.

IIa.—Tate :—Beckett.

I.—Westminster :—Wilson, M.

The Swimming Gala.

ANYONE visiting the School to-day would notice a rather curious phenomenon. The air is redolent of throat-pastilles, and the majority of us converse with one another by signs and facial contortions; there is an atmosphere of lassitude, a 'morning-after' air, about the place.

'The-night-before,' of course, was the annual swimming gala, which took its usual toll of voices. The thirty or so events were carried through in what seemed an amazingly short time, thanks to the organising work of Mr. Clague and his colleagues, and there was not a single hitch in the proceedings. Some confusion was caused, however, by one of our number, who, apparently striving to emulate the chameleon, changed his costume at least three times during the evening. The officials, however, pierced his many disguises, and prevented his making off with any awards to which he was not entitled.

Our old friend Peckham caused a mild sensation by winning the Senior and Junior Mop Fights, the Long Plunge, the —, well, quite a lot of things. Todd won the School Championship for the third year in succession, in the very fine time of 70 seconds, thus reducing his own previous record by 2 ³/₅ seconds. Smith, starting with a handicap which would have caused many stout hearts to quail, won the Old Boys' Race by a touch from Dubois; this event is said to have raised the temperature of the water about twelve degrees. The event of

the evening was, of course, the Senior House Squadron ; hearing the applause, the Chief Constable rushed a special squad to the scene, thinking that Price Street was in a state of riot. The many friends of the School who were present joined heartily in the applause, having apparently quite caught the spirit of the evening.

The medals were then distributed by Mr. Hargreaves, who, in his few short remarks, disproved the theory of infallibility of Headmasters, much to the delight of IIIj. The proceedings were very fittingly concluded with applause for the Staff, who organised the gala, and for Mr. Hargreaves for his kindness in attending to present the prizes, after which we went straight (?) home. R.F.B.

RESULTS.

Form VI. Handicap, Final: Kelly (T.)

Form V. Handicap, Final: Pringle (T.)

Form IV. Handicap, Final: Goodwin (S.)

Form III. Handicap, Final: Lowson (W.)

Senior Neat Dive: Wylie (W.)

Junior Neat Dive: Peckham (W.)

School Championship: E. Todd (A.)

Object Diving, Final: Barker J. (W.)

Novices' Race, Final: Tweedle (T.)

Junior House Squadron: Tate, Westminster, Stitt.

Junior Neat Breast Stroke: Husselbury (S.)

Senior Neat Breast Stroke: Smith, G. W. (S.)

Senior Back Stroke, Final: C. A. Shaw (T.)

Junior Back Stroke, Final: Cook (W.)

Senior Obstacle Race, Final: Smith (A.)

Junior Obstacle Race, Final: Goodwin (S.)

Long Plunge, Final: Peckham (W.)

Junior Mop Fight: Peckham (W.)

Senior Mop Fight: Peckham (W.)

Novelty Race, Final: Taylor (A.)

Junior Breast Stroke Race, Final: Cound (S.)

Senior Breast Stroke Race, Final: Barker, H. (W.)

Old Boys' Race: R. Smith.

Life Saving Race, Final: Darlington (A.), Tweedle (W.)

Senior House Squadron Race: Tate, Atkin, Stitt.

Examination Results, July, 1932.

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

Bridge, W. ; Jenkins, G. N. ; Jellicoe, G. ; Sarginson, R. R. ; Stanley, V. A. ; Wetherell, J. H. D. ; Williams, A. H. (Distinction in Geography).

LETTERS OF SUCCESS.

Anderson, E. S. ; Clarke, G. H. ; Currie, C. R. ; Gill, E. P. ; Miller, F. W. ; Shaw, G. W. ; Smith, G. W. ; Tomlinson, F. E.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

FORM VI.

m Angelman, K. ; m Barker, H. B. ; m Barker, J. K. ; m Benson, B. W. (M.) ; m Brewster, E. W. G. (G.) ; m Cathcart, A. ; m Cogan, L. (F.) ; m Cutbill, D. W. (M.P.) ; Davies, S. ; m Evans, L. (F. M.) ; m Goodwin, T. W. (F.C.) ; m Hayes, W. J. ; m Henderson, D. G. ; Jones, T. A. ; m Laver, H. N. (C.) ; m Lilley, F. H. ; Lilley, R. E. ; May, W. D. ; m Miller, F. L. ; m Miller, K. G. (H.) ; m Rees, W. N. ; m Rice, K. J. ; Richards, P. T. ; m Robinson, J. N. ; Rogers, A. D. ; m Seville, T. ; Smith, J. A. A. ; m Weston, G. H. (M.)

FORM LOWER VIA.

Barlow, W. R. F. ; Cockbain, W. L. ; Condon, J. ; Craig, E. S. ; Cross, H. L. ; Cumming, W. ; Darlington, A. C. ; Davies, J. ; Gaultier, J. ; Green, J. G. ; m Ince, W. L. ; Jackson, T. ; Jones, A. M. ; m Jones, T. L. ; m Kelly, H. L. ; m Kirkland, F. (M.) ; Mackinder, R. ; Parry, T. A. ; Penlington, W. H. ; Reade, W. J. ; Shaw, C. A. ; Slinn, J. N. ; Stelfox, L. F. ; m Tweedie, G. C.

FORM LOWER VIB.

Andrews, L. T. ; Arthur, N. ; Bird, G. L. ; Blair, T. W. ; Davies, F. W. ; Davies, L. M. ; Francis, F. A. ; McLeod, H. G. ; Squires, R. ; Wood, A. ; Wylde, P. R.

SEPTEMBER, 1932.

m Broadhurst, J. (M.) ; Davies, S. ; m Lilley, R. E. ; m Lythgoe, N. F. (P.) ; Mackinder, R. (M.) ; Shaw, C. A. ; m Smith, J. A. A.

Matriculation—m.

Distinction—Chemistry—C. ; French—F. ; Geography—G. ; History—H. ; Mathematics—M. ; Physics—P.

A Visit to the Meccano Factory.

DURING the half-term holiday, a party of boys from the School paid a visit to the Meccano factory in Liverpool. Under the direction of a guide, we made a tour of the factory, which has a complete internal telephone system joining each department to the main offices.

So numerous and varied were the different departments, that to describe them all would be impossible, but as one passed through the different "shops," one could not fail to be struck by the number of machines, each of which did the work of several people.

A notable example was provided by the machine for painting the small leaden figures used in miniature railways. In one hour alone this machine painted over 3,000 figures, thus saving time and labour, since it required only two girls to attend it.

During the tour we were able to see the different stages in the building of locomotives and various accessories, and finally the assembling of the parts. But perhaps the room most interesting to the younger members of the party was that in which the engines and racing motors were tested. Every loco' and motor is subjected to a searching test before being put on sale.

A rather fitting close to our visit was provided by our being shown the store rooms, in which were Hornby and Meccano sets ready for despatch to different parts of the world. Judging by the number of packages, it would not seem that there existed any depression, whether over Iceland or elsewhere.

SARGINSON, IVb., A. H. COGLAN, IVj.

Night.

WHEN the night is drawing nigh,
When the twilight fills the sky,
When good people go to bed,
All the world seems still and dead.
O stars, that twinkle in the night,
And do not wait for morning light,
Moonbeams, whose little prancing shadow
Goes streaming through the open window;
With the coming of the dawn,
Of all Nature's mystery shorn,
At the coming of the day,
Dies away your cheerful ray.

'Ikin' (orl over!)

I DON'T know why he suggested it; I don't really know who *did* suggest it; but it undoubtedly *was* suggested, and, further, it was carried out. The Hike, I mean.

For a long time, we had been discussing the possibilities of a Literary Hike and it was at last decided to hold it on half-term Monday. We were to start from Eastham at an hour when most of our readers were probably enjoying a well-earned sleep. Eastham at 9 a.m.!--which of course meant leaving Birkenhead at 8-30 a.m. But this was not all. There were two good meals to prepare, and many other details to attend to, so that the hour at which we actually arose was appalling. Well, I mean to say! However, by dint of Herculean effort, we managed it,—only to wait in Eastham for at least half an hour for the other two lazy—anyhow, we did.

With its typical 'cussedness,' the weather played us a very low trick; the few days previous had been cold and wet, and so we came prepared, even to woollen gloves and sweaters, only to find the weather almost sultry, and our outfit unbearable. The first few miles proved uneventful, but once we passed Stanney the fun started. The stream across which we had waded in the summer was now registering thirteen feet of water on the mill sluice, and the lane itself was at least three feet deep. Guided, however, by a kindly farmer, we made a large *détour* (too large as we afterwards found), and our troubles began. I would have given pounds to have had my camera then. In springing from the top of a wire fence, I slipped, and found myself sitting up to my waist in ice-cold water; the other three were convulsed with laughter, but I could not quite see the joke. A few seconds later, moreover, when Comrade Gordon disappeared up to his neck, I felt my spirits returning and 'Voici votre paquet,' I muttered grimly. Only Mr. P. G. Wodehouse could do justice to the ensuing scene. In a few minutes our extinguished friend was restored to *terra firma*, and began to divest him of his sodden clothing. There are three people who will always think of the august Gordon in the aspect he presented on that memorable day. Picture one of that select body of PREFECTS, one too high up to name, dressed in a white shirt, roll-collar sweater, black single-breasted morning coat, bright crimson bathing-slips, and thin rubber shoes; a sartorial nightmare! Yet such was our companion in distress. As soon as we emerged, hardly victorious, from the breath-taking struggle with hysteria, we

continued on our way. For about two miles we followed various streams, keeping always on the wrong side, until at last we arrived where two trees overhung from different banks, allowing for a very precarious crossing, with a thin mass of twig between us and some fifteen feet of boiling, brown water. I had never noticed the cast of countenance of our friend Chris. so pronounced as when he hung in midstream by one hand, and clutched dexterously with the other for the neighbouring tree. An interesting study for the evolutionist!

But I must pass on, or this article will become as long and tedious as the events which it seeks to chronicle. Apart from 'R. H.'s' desire to change his footwear at every conceivable excuse, and his smashing of a thermos flask of coffee in transit across a ditch, we arrived in Elton Green. Incidentally, I had had a good drink of that coffee beforehand. From Elton Green, which is visited by civilization, in the form of a bus, every Saturday, the going is comparatively tame, and we reached Helsby in fairly good time.

From the summit of Helsby Hill there is a magnificent panorama over half of Wirral, which on this occasion was mainly under water. After a meal such as we shudder to look back upon (all our food was consumed at a sitting), three of us went off to scramble about, leaving 'R. H.' to guard the property (including Gordon's trousers!) We arrived back in time to find him having an altercation with an individual who having drunk his lemonade and tried to 'touch' him for some cash, was showing every sign of starting to be decidedly nasty. So, bidding him a polite, if hasty, 'good-day,' we set off at once for home.

Just on the fringe of the marshes, having trespassed into a field, the lane being impassable, we encountered an irate individual who informed us that the path to Stanney was 't'other side that 'ere (adjectival) 'edge!' Which was as true as it was picturesque. Poor old Gordon! We had gone about two miles before he suddenly realised that this was not a kindly offer of information, but a piece of bitter bucolic sarcasm!

We just managed to cross the marsh before darkness fell, and as we looked back over the treacherous watery wastes, now enveloped in a sinister, curling mist, we felt heartily thankful. Some two hours later we trudged wearily into Eastham, where we changed into the spare raiment we had so thoughtfully provided, and, having drunk several cups of Mrs. Jones's excellent tea, we departed for home, leaving the world to darkness and 'R. H.'s' band practice.

R.F.B.

The School Films.

ON Thursday, November 17th, we were given an entertainment which was rather out of the usual run of School activities—a display of films of a varied and very interesting nature. Parents and other friends of the School were invited, and arrived in good numbers, so that by seven o'clock the hall was well filled.

The films themselves were highly entertaining, fare being provided to suit all tastes. They began with a series of detached 'shots,' including a bull-fight and a dirt-track race, both of which were hugely enjoyed by the thirds and fourths. For Hornby and Meccano 'fans,' there was a tour of the Hornby factory, and a photographic record of the construction of a Hornby locomotive, from a mass of metal to the finished product. Melodrama (for the benefit of VIj. ?) was provided by a "thriller" entitled 'The Unknown.' The plot seemed to us a little complicated, but the photography was excellent, and the light effects very striking. We think that not a few of our younger members entered their bedrooms very cautiously that night, retaining vivid memories of a young man being strangled by a blood-stained corpse—but enough! The shots of the Zoo were splendid, and the actions and attitudes of the 'stars' speak volumes for the patience and artistic sense of the photographer.

The item of the evening, of course, was the record of the School Sports, with an all-star cast. For fifteen to twenty minutes the calendar was put back, and we stood in the blazing sunshine, watching the finish of the Mile, the struggles of the competitors in the Obstacle race as they wrestled with the barrels, the High Jump, the Hurdles, the House Tug, then the distribution of prizes by Mrs. Tweedle. Several times we heard a stage whisper of "That's me!" which was probably accurate if not grammatical.

The other series of shots of a topical nature depicted the School Scout Troop in camp. The pictures were splendid, and gave a good idea of camp life, but unfortunately the light had not been too kind.

A good second in point of popularity was a Charlie Chaplin comedy, entitled "The Adventurer." Several august members of the Staff were observed to 'unbend' almost to the point of hysteria over this item.

Music was provided throughout the evening by a gramophone coupled to an amplifier, and, knowing the acoustic

'cussedness' of the gym, we considered it remarkably clear. Incidental music was rendered in the interval by Mr. W. E. Williams, G. W. Shaw, J. J. Keates and A. B. Simpson.

Such was the entertainment but who was the Fairy God-mother? None other than Mr. Harold Hirst, the well known photographer and optician, and a parent of one of our boys. Hearing of the tree-planting scheme, he volunteered to run this show absolutely free of charge. He willingly gave not only his services and his apparatus, but several hours of his valuable time to fitting up and preparing the gym, long before the actual display itself, the like of which few cinemas could offer for the same modest sum. Through his kindness, the whole of the proceeds may now be devoted to the cause, and in the name of the School we would offer him our sincerest and most grateful thanks.

R.F.B.

University Letter.

EXETER COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

Present-day Oxford life resembles in many ways that led by the undergraduates of centuries ago. Not only are the buildings themselves pervaded by the atmosphere of other days, but old customs are religiously observed and old privileges zealously maintained.

Of repeated description has by now made most people familiar with the mediæval appearance of Oxford itself. Let it suffice if I mention the ivy-clad Colleges, dating back many centuries, each with its Chapel and Quads; the Halls with their monstrous fireplaces and minstrel galleries, decorated with portraits of famous men who have been connected with the University; the silver tankards, presented for the most part by men well known to history, and the curious sight of gowned undergraduates in busy modern streets.

In Oxford, the Vice-Chancellor of the University is the most important official, taking precedence over the Mayor at all public functions. He can claim any member of the University from the hands of the police, and try him in his own Court. He has even the power to hang him from Magdalen Bridge.

He has also his own police force. These are the Proctors—University Dons who patrol the streets in caps and gowns. They are each accompanied by four "bulldogs," whose main duty

seems to be the capture of detected culprits who take to their heels.

The story is told of five undergraduates who dressed up as Proctor and "bulldogs" and started on an ambitious course of arrests. Disaster came when a policeman, noticing their levity, telephoned to the real Proctor, and the two parties met.

In remarkable contrast with these features of Oxford life is the enormous number of attractions and activities which—to quote a well known *Visor* phrase—lure the student from his labours. Every known form of sport is indulged in, from jeu-de-pomme* to ju-jitsu, and each has its College or University team. To quote two instances, the Soccer team has played this term against Aston Villa and the Arsenal, and the Ice Hockey team against France and Germany.

It is, however, in the number of its clubs and societies that Oxford proves a serious rival of the Birkenhead Institute. Of these perhaps the most famous is the Oxford Union—the debating society of the University—where spoke such men as Gladstone, Wilberforce, Lord Morley and Randolph Churchill, while they were Oxford undergraduates.

The various other Societies are too numerous for an exhaustive list, but the following may provide hints for letters to the Editor: The Air Squadron, The Archaeological Society, The Film Society, The Riding Club, The Yachting Club, The Travel Club, The Operatic Club, and the now famous Oxford Group.

* Yo-Yo? [ED.]

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Visor*.

THE LIBRARY,

BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

Sir,

As the initial stage in an attempt to form a Hobbies Club in the School, I write this letter to you in the hope that, if it is accepted, I shall obtain support from your readers. I admit there are already a great number of clubs in the School, but none of these appears to cater for home diversions.

A Hobbies Club would include those who collect foreign stamps and coins, any who are interested in wireless construction, or those who are keen on woodwork, to mention but a few. We require in the School a club where members can meet to exchange or obtain information, not a one-subject club.

Interest in hobbies is stimulated by the meeting of people of like interest. Often, when boys take up hobbies, they lose interest, because they have no kindred minds with which to exchange views.

I personally am interested in stamp-collecting, and I find it much easier and more pleasant to collect, when there are others with whom to exchange stamps and ideas. Those who have other hobbies surely find a similar condition of things, so that as a remedy I suggest the formation of a Hobbies Club.

If this letter is ever put into print, I should be pleased to receive all the support possible, since the greater the support is, the better will be the chances of forming a Club.

Yours, etc.,

N. LAVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Visor*.

Sir,

Judging by the results of our football teams, especially those of the first eleven, I am sure you will agree that there is something radically wrong. This state of affairs is, I think, largely due to the Selection Committee, and, with all due respect to the present members, I suggest that an improvement would be observed if the Committee were composed of the following:—

1. Mr. Bloor, the Hon. Secretary.
2. The member of the Staff who either referees the match or travels with the team.
3. The Captain and Vice-Captain of the first eleven.
4. The Captain of the second eleven.

Yours, etc.,

IJAY.

THE EDITOR,
The Visor.

Sir,

Last year we sent a Senior Relay team to the Inter-School Sports. The boys were chosen to run the standard B.I. distances, i.e., 100, 100, 220 and 440 yards.

On arrival we were informed that the requisite distances were 440, 220, 220 and 440 yards. This resulted in three of our four runners doing a distance for which they had not trained.

Surely it would be better to adjust our Senior Relay to that of the Inter-School, so that we might send a stronger team.

Yours, etc.,

G. SHAW.

**Birkenhead Charity Organisation
Central Relief and Provident Society.**

46 HAMILTON SQUARE,
BIRKENHEAD.

22nd November, 1932.

The Committee beg to acknowledge the receipt of several parcels of clothes with compliments and thanks.

EDITH MACIVER,
Hon. Sec.

E. Wynne-Hughes, Esq.,
Headmaster,
Birkenhead Institute,
Whetstone Lane.

Others as We See Them.

OWING, perhaps, to the depression, we have received very few magazines in exchange since last term. Of course this may be partly due to our failure to acknowledge all those we did receive, an omission for which we heartily apologise. It was not unconnected with a species of *lapsus visoris* which affected other portions of our summer number.

* * * *

The Girls' Secondary School Magazine (No. 22, July, 1932) is a very readable and interesting number. It is probably masculine conceit, but we cannot help feeling that some of our criticisms of the 1931 issue have produced an effect. For example, the Speech Day programme is not tucked in between the middle pages; neither are the contributions in verse all concentrated in one part of the magazine. But the most marked change—a noticeable improvement in quality—may be readily set down to the credit of those responsible for the production, and to a long list of contributors.

Groups of poems on a single subject by members of the same form are not always a success. To begin with, they are not entirely spontaneous, as the subject is prescribed for the whole class, and is not as a rule the writers' own choice. If, as sometimes happens, the verses are written as a part of school work or home-work their style, in the case of boys at any rate, is still further cramped. There are two such groups in this magazine, and they are admirable. Both Form III. Arts

and Lower Va. have shown considerable skill in versification and a genuine feeling for their subject:

Admirable also are two literary articles, which give this number real body and substance, whereas they might easily have made it stodgy and dull: *Famous Friendships among Men of Letters*, in particular, is a masterly little essay in *belles lettres*. The verses on *Death* by the same writer show an eye and an ear for the beauty of English words, a lively imagination and traces of much travel in the realms of gold; in such environment, sometimes, poetry is born.

Among other points of interest and excellence, brief mention must be made of the tricky *Portraits of Self*, by *Snowdrop*, which illustrate a clever account of a school tour in the Lakes. Apart from the layout, which might still be improved, only one point seems to invite criticism: the correction of proofs is evidently not all by the same careful hand. The level of interest and quality is high and well sustained throughout.

* * * *

The Wallaseyan (July, 1932) presents the unusual feature of a University letter in heroic couplets, a commendable device for enlivening what is often a dull business. Less successful is the attempt of Liscard House to take out a poetic license for its house notes. This ill-advised effort calls to mind some half-forgotten lines which apply both to this particular case, and to the generality of cocksure poetasters:

Excuse a frank hint,—why not alter your trade?

You may drive, none to hinder, some cabman's quiet jade

If you have but a license and show it;

But your Pegasus proves an intractable steed;

Better loose him: believe me there's more that you need

Than the license to make you a poet.

A pleasant meditation on *Quotations* has an unfortunate phrase describing thought as 'spirituous and transcendental.' It is to be feared that the younger readers of *The Wallaseyan* have mistakenly interpreted this as a reference to the extravagant delusions incidental to alcoholic excess.

Between 4,000 and 5,000 words of this issue are taken up with a discussion on Science v. Literature, or Science v. Art, or Truth v. Beauty,—call it which you like. The brows of the contributor on Art and Beauty may be high, but not so high as the specific gravity of the scientific matter, which makes very heavy reading indeed. We learn from the scientists that artists are often wicked people, and that a little daily dose of science would go far to make them good. Masters at Wallasey

Grammar School are informed that those on the Arts side 'confinethemselves' in their reading 'to their own subjects, while certain of the science masters are very widely read.' 'We find nothing to fear,' says one optimist, 'in a scientific world.' Not even high explosive and poison gas!

Moreover, if literature, and poetry in particular, would only 'co-operate' with science, they could regain their lost power and inspiration, and their influence on the general public. And how? Listen! 'The only poem, of recent years, which has created much interest is the *Testament of Beauty* by Robert Bridges, which does reflect many truths of physics and biology.' There follows a quotation from the *Testament*, in which the late Laureate treats analytically of carbohydrates. This passage is 'a credit to both chemistry and poetry.' A credit, possibly, but not a distinction.

* * * *

The Caldeian (July, 1932) contains a short account of the doings of the Neo-Caldeians, about whom our curiosity was aroused twelve months ago. It appears that this polyhedral organisation already comprises within itself an independent scout troop, a horticultural society, a sort of field club, an amateur city office and a culinary department. The very allspice of variety.

* * * *

We beg also to acknowledge the receipt of the following:—Park High School Magazine, Birkenhead High School Magazine, St. Edward's College Magazine.



Varia.

IN reply to numerous enquiries, the last four letters of the title of this column are *not* pronounced as in *Maria*.

* * * *

The reasons why *Varia* did not appear last term are various. The late editor is understood to have attributed the omission to the co-operative movement, or lack of it—we forget which.

* * * *

This reminds us that Jellicoe, who was awarded a training grant to Oxford University, also won the Tate Exhibition of £90, tenable for three years. He is now at Exeter College, where he is reading for the Honours School in History.

* * * *

Jellicoe's activities during his last few years at school are well known to most readers of *The Visor*, and particularly so to members of the Committee. The younger Juniors, third formers and mere outsiders may be interested to know that in his last year he was head prefect, captain of the School, and editor of *The Visor*. We wish him every success in his career.

* * * *

On behalf of the School we tender our deep sympathy to VIj. whose little friend, Micky the Mouse, recently passed away. We learn that the cremation ceremony was private, attendance being strictly limited to members of the form. VIj. are justly proud of having done their bit in Rat Week.

* * * *

Our thanks are due to Mr. Claxton-Turner for a most informative and entertaining lecture on the work of the League of Nations.

* * * *

It is comforting in these times of Unparalleled Economic Stringency to find that we are not entirely forgotten by a harrassed Town Council, who this term brightened our exterior with a new coat of paint.

* * * *

VIa. could not fail to notice the football artistry displayed by the painters while off duty. Indeed, our 1st XI. are said to have picked up many valuable hints, which doubtless have had their effect on the results of this term's matches!

* * * *

The scheme for planting trees round the school field progresses apace. Trees have been promised by a large number of boys, by several parents, and in one case by the parents of an old boy who was killed in the war.

* * * *

Many of these trees have already been paid for, and it is hoped to plant the first batch this term. Those boys who provide a tree are distinguished by a special badge, and are to be privileged to help—under expert guidance, of course,—in the planting of their tree, which will bear their name.

* * * *

Looking ahead, as ever, VIj. in anticipation of rare sylvan joys, have already formed a bird-nesting club.

The Swimming Gala was once again attended with great success, and we are grateful to Mr. Hargreaves for finding time during a very busy period to come and distribute the medals. Congratulations to Todd on winning the school championship for the third time in succession. In the championship race and the back-stroke race Todd and C. A. Shaw set up new records of 70 and 38 seconds respectively.

* * * *

The more absent-minded among us seem to cherish the belief that their assorted movable property, such as school-bags, books, pens, pencils and rulers, has been feloniously taken from them if, when left in distant parts of the building, it fails to walk, run, hop, skip or jump back to its owner.

* * * *

Found, in the Library, a Girl Guides badge. Any person claiming the same should apply personally to Uncle Eric, The Library.

* * * *

Early in the term, Mr. R. Hudson-Pope gave us an interesting talk on the Scripture Union with the object of stimulating interest in Bible reading. As a result many new members have been added to the School Branch of the Union.

* * * *

A slight change in the order of service marked our celebration of Armistice Day this year, making possible an atmosphere of greater reverence throughout the ceremony. The march-past, in particular, was more effective.

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Our best thanks are due to Mr. Hirst for his excellent exhibition of films, the entire proceeds of which went towards providing trees for the School field. The gym was filled with a large number of boys and parents, to whom we also tender our thanks.

* * * *

In an Inter-school squadron race at a Wallasey swimming gala, our team came second to Wallasey Grammar School. Although one of our boys hesitated at the turn, we lost only by a matter of inches.

Rumours of an imminent musical outbreak in the Thirds and Fourths have been persistent throughout the latter half of the term, but what exact form it will take is still a matter of conjecture. We can only warn the cautious to look out for signs of developing soloists, duettists, waits, glee parties, crooners, choristers and what not.

* * * *

A new addition was made last term to the sports trophies of the School in the shape of a large silver cup, presented by Miss Susan Atkin, daughter of the late Mr. Geo. Atkin, one of the founders of The Institute. The cup is to be held by the Victor Ludorum at the annual sports, and is engraved with the school crest and the names of past Victors since 1910.

* * * *

We desire to express the sincere gratitude of the School to Miss Atkin, not only for her generous gift, but for her unfailing interest in all that concerns our welfare. If she will do us the honour to visit us on some public occasion, we shall be glad of the opportunity to voice our feelings in a less formal manner.

* * * *

In the mark-sheets this term, Tate House seems to be almost unchallenged. The "detention-hogs" in the other houses are apparently not alive to their responsibilities.

* * * *

Now that Alderman Solly has retired from professional life, we hope that his interest in us will not diminish but increase, and help to fill a long and happy period of active leisure.

* * * *

The sale of poppies in the School this year, on November 11th, realised the sum of £3 15s., only a very little less than last year's collection.

* * * *

In addition to the School Scout Troop, a Rover Crew has been formed for Senior Boys of the School, under the direction of Mr. Thacker.

Atkin House Notes.

TO revert to the long summer days when King Willow reigned unchallenged may seem rather incongruous when we are shrouded by the unfriendly gloom and murkiness of winter. But we have good cause to do so, for the summer term ended in triumph for Atkin. We were once more successful in regaining the Cricket Championship, mainly through the success of our Intermediate team. That this achievement was due in no small part to Hall and Todd may be judged from the fact that both were awarded their First Eleven cricket colours at the end of the season. Hearty congratulations!

We thus began this term with considerable confidence and expectations of further success. But as yet these have not been fulfilled. Our new junior members have twice failed to show any superiority on the football field.

We congratulate Todd on his election as House Captain—an honour he deserves, were it only for his unflagging interest in Cricket and Swimming. Walker was chosen as Vice-Captain.

Atkin, moreover, has its fair share of prefects. In addition to Todd and Walker, Broadfoot, Cathcart and Richards have received the gold braid, and to them we must also extend our congratulations.

The Swimming Gala has provided our first disappointment. We lost the Senior Squadron Championship which we had held for the last two years, our team:—Todd, Smith, Jones, R. H., and Aslett, taking second place to Tate in a close finish. Our Junior Squadron team, composed of Black, Aslett, Taylor and Johnson, finished last. These failures were in some way balanced by the success of Todd, who won the School Championship for the third successive year. His time of 70 secs. was $2\frac{3}{5}$ secs. better than his previous best. Hearty congratulations!

The prowess of the House is usually judged according to its performance on the field of sport, and our football displays have so far been disappointing. In the Seniors we lost 5—1 to Stitt and 3—2 to Westminster. The Inters, however, have proved our main strength, beating Stitt 4—2 and Tate 18—2. Either our team deserves unwonted praise or Tate our heartfelt sympathy. The Juniors have yet to win a match. They drew with Stitt 3—3, but were beaten 10—3 by Tate. This is rather disappointing, and we hope to see a decided improvement in the near future.

K.W.

Stitt House Notes.

IN most of the School activities Stitt House seems to be suffering a temporary eclipse. This is perhaps due more to our misfortune than to any lack of enthusiasm, but a little extra energy in one or two directions would help matters greatly.

In the mark-sheets we are deprived of an exalted position merely by a small number who pay unnecessarily frequent visits to the detention room. Apart from these few, however, our results during the past term have been most satisfactory.

In Football, our Seniors have succeeded in winning one match quite easily, by 5 goals to 1, against Atkin; but they lost the second to Tate, 2—4, being obliged to play a weakened team. The Intermediates have lost to Atkin, 2—4, and beaten Westminster, 3—2. The Juniors have not been so successful, having drawn, 3—3, with Atkin and lost to Westminster, 3—7.

We have G. W. Smith, Christian, Milligan, and Silcock in the 1st Eleven, and Cumming in the 2nd Eleven.

This year we are well represented in cross-country running, and should manage to carry off the Senior Championship, at least, in the Inter-house run next term.

We have the following members who run for the School :—Shaw, Arthur, Christian, Hawkes, Smith, G.W., and Wood.

In the Swimming Gala, both our teams took third place in the House Squadron events. However, they must be congratulated upon their splendid efforts. They were :—

Senior : Smith, G. W., Currie, Wood, J., Goodwin.

Junior : Iveson, Cound, Goodwin, Simms.

We have one representative, Hunt, in the School Chess team.

Finally, we must congratulate three of our number, Christian, G. W. Smith and Wood upon becoming prefects.

J.W.

Tate House Notes.

IF we are not running away with the Football Championship, we have done one thing to uphold the name of the House. We have regained the Swimming Championship, lost to Atkin two years ago.

We were successful in winning both the Senior and Junior Squadron events, the latter by just a touch. Congratulations to both teams on their gallant efforts. We were represented in the Senior event by :—Shaw, Kelly, Pringle, Minns, and in the Junior by :—Wheat, T. M. Jones, Watkins and Burrell.

Other events were won by Shaw, Kelly and Tweedle, the first-named breaking the previous record for the 50 yards Back Stroke.

Football has not produced much success. The Seniors lost to Westminster 3—0, but all-round improvement enabled us to record a good win by 4—2 against Stitt. The Inters have lost both their games, against Westminster 7—2 and against Atkin 18—2. The Juniors atoned for this terrific defeat by defeating Atkin 10—3. They lost 4—3 against Westminster.

We have 7 members in the School teams, namely:—1st XI.: Minns, Wheat, Harrahill; 2nd XI.: Venables, Kelly, Simm, Stelfox.

We have had unchallenged success in School, where we have headed the three weekly mark-sheets each time. It is pleasing to note also, that we have had less detentions than any other House.

If the House will make full use of its extra games, perhaps we shall be able to remedy, to some extent, our deficiencies on the football field.

M.A.M.

Westminster House Notes.

AT a House meeting held early in the term, reference was made to the high position Westminster holds in the School. Westminster's old blood expects the young braves to carry on the good work. For two years, we have provided a Head-Prefect, and for four years, a Victor Ludorum. In addition, we have gained the House Championship in Athletic Sports for six years out of the last seven.

Our football is as good as ever. By winning five out of the six matches played this term, we gain 10 points, a lead of five over the nearest rival, so that we may well expect to emulate our feat of last season by gaining the Football Championship.

At the Swimming Gala, luck went hard against us, for we lost the Junior House Squadron by the merest touch. However, our reputation was ably upheld by Edelsten, Peckham, Ward and Wylie.

Four of the seven members of the School Chess Team are proud of their connection with Westminster, Weston, Marsh, W. H., Young and Collinson, while Leigh, Sarginson and Marsh, F., are also promising players of the House. W.H.M.

Library Notes.

ALAS, truly "our house is left unto us desolate." We are bereaved; we mourn; we seek various solaces for our grief — (did someone say 'work?'); but time alone will heal the breach.

The stalwarts of yesteryear are all gone, called to higher service; they are passed out through our portals and beyond our ken. They are too numerous to mention here, but it will suffice to say that the greatest wrench was the parting with George and 'P.C.' Bridge, whom we regarded almost as part of the furniture. As to the others, their obituary notices are to be found under the heading 'Valete.'

Thus Todd is left in the proud position of oldest inhabitant. There he sits, a venerable figure, his white beard flowing over his chest, his toothless gums moving feebly as he chants Latin declensions (horrid thought!), or, with a twinkle in his still bright eye, recounts anecdotes to an appreciative audience. He hopes soon, with the aid of Rayner, to be able to recall the Crimean War. The scientists retain one of the old generation in Richards, who still remembers dimly the blood-feud in which he so furiously participated. The G.O.M. of the commercial set is, we think, old man Shaw (G.W., not G.B.) He too, is a recounter of anecdotes, but not a chanter of Latin verbs. He retains much of his former fire, but his occasional lapses into delirium cause one to fear for his mental welfare.

The departure of the old generation has left us with little trace of the fierce vendetta, and you, gentle reader, by comparing these Notes with certain which left our pen in the heart of battle, will notice that we have buried the hatchet. We have marked the spot, however, and keep a spade continually within reach.

There would appear also to be a subtle change in the atmosphere of the Library; life has no longer the sparkle it once had, while certain evil-disposed persons begin to display a liking for Latin and French in preference to all-in wrestling and Cubby-Hole carousals.

Our wit, however, still bubbles up clear and sparkling from the depths of our noble intellects. Witness Smith's punning; it is simply atrocious. But some have said the worst puns are always the best; in that case we get nothing from Smith but the very best. Todd, too is well to the fore: "Object of my heart's most tender affections," he declaimed lyrically one French lesson. "Good!" was the comment, "Is that

given in the notes?" "No sir, it's quite original!"—And really, we see no reason to doubt it.

Mention must be made here of our tame Librarian or Keeper of the Keys. His capacity for work is appalling, and his activities are curtailed only by lack of books on which to operate. Here, in closing, is a little problem for the scientists:—'If the Library be added to at the rate of, say, twenty volumes per term, and yet is observed steadily to decrease in size, can you find *y*?' R.F.B.

Form Notes.

VIIs.

WE are to be found, by anyone who is interested (antiquarians, psychologists, ultra-modern sculptors, and second-rate rag-and-bone merchants), struggling with a matriculation curriculum which has been specially disarranged, and confused, to provide for the most horrible variety of candidates seen since last year. Two-thirds of the form have experienced an S.C. examination, but the remainder are quite helpless, with the exception of one candidate, who holds three or four School Certificates, and many unpleasant memories. We respectfully suggest that, in view of the great preponderance of these veterans in the form, a Christmas exam. is uncalled for.

At Football, so far, we have played only two matches. We lost to the Advanced but beat VIb. One of our remaining fixtures is with the Advanced on December 7th, and on that date our team will cease to be humanitarians. The form is represented in the Second Eleven by Collinson, Cumming, Penlington, Slinn, and Stelfox, two of whom have played in the First Eleven.

Our only harrier is N. Arthur, whom we congratulate on having run regularly.

We hope, shortly, to hold an Eisteddfod for the benefit of our four ruffians named Davies.

Once, having been told that, in French, nearly all countries were feminine, C*mming, a stern, and critical comrade, wanted to know why they had not made them all feminine, and explained, to an incredulous audience, that it would have saved a great deal of trouble.

There is no truth in the rumour that the German set have been seen doing German, but here, finally, is a serious matter which requires the attention of all. During an argument to decide on a symbol for acceleration, Mr. W*tt's informed us that he had been brought up on "a."

Vla.

WE are all intent, at the moment, upon the Matric., although the ordeal is at a comfortable distance. Still, coming events cast their shadows before, as the strained looks on our faces show.

However, this dark menace has not, as yet, sullied our sparkling wit. Simpson created a diversion in the Chemi Lab.; when asked what was given off when sulphur was heated, he retorted, with lyrical spontaneity: "Phosphorous pentoxide." The *Visor*, we feel, would have no reason to complain of the lack of articles, if all attendance monitors behaved like ours, who placed his attendance slips in the Visor Box. However, he was brought to book, and the School Magazine lost an interesting article.

Five of our members are in the First Eleven, and so it came as no surprise when we beat Six Senior 7—2. We hope this will spur us on to further conquests.

And oh, Mr. Editor, a word with you before we close! Should these notes find no place in the pages of the *Visor*, there are, in the slightly adapted words of the old song, thirty stout Vla. lads who will know the reason why. *

(* I have actually become so depraved as to care more for my personal safety than for the standard of the material inserted in the *Visor*; hence these notes have had to remain.—ED.)

Vlb.

THIS is the Vlb. live-wire reporter writing for his snug (?) little nest between the two labs. Outside, the birds are singing, or else it is perhaps the butcher's boy on his rounds. At regular intervals, various obnoxious odours are wafted in, but as the Guardian of the window, namely P*ckh*m is always on duty, we are not down-hearted. Hist, listen for this spot of news which I will pour out. You will say "Amazing! Incredible!" But it is true! Here it is: "Vlb. have not yet filled their first detention sheet!!!" A couple of old lags are doing their best to achieve this object, but their efforts are not favoured by the rest of the form. Our pet humorists are still

in action. B*lt*n says that besides there being Jews in Palestine, there are Jews in Jerusalem. He also declares that an English institution for rest and meditation is the work-house. I sent out a reporter to interview one of the leading lights of the form, but I don't know whether he's trying to pull my leg or not. Anyway, here we are :—

E. Matthews : “ I positively love school and I think that it would be a good thing to continue going to school until the age of 19. By the way, what are these Wednesday afternoon detentions. . . . ? ”

D. Peckham : “ What ? Mop-Fight ? My dear fellow, what do I know about mop-fighting ? ”

As for the rest of the form ; Collinson still shakes with laughter, Peckham still wins mop-fights, Jones plays for the 1st XI., Martin and Venables for the 2nd XI., Powell for the 3rd XI. Collinson, Hawkes and Bennett run for the school, and Shannon stills makes funny noises. But as the poet says : “ We wouldn't leave our little wooden hut for you.” And that's that.

L.W.

VIj.

ALTHOUGH our number has dwindled to twenty, we have settled down quite peacefully to our new routine.

Hughes, our road-hog, informs us that his ‘ Boko,’ or mechanically propelled trolley, will soon be completed. The same fellow, this proud displayer of motor-cycle badges, this valiant catcher of defunct mice, has actually had the effrontery to define Parry as a “ Surd of the Lowest Imaginable Order.” *

The guardian of our detention-sheet, one S. Jones, saw fit to mislay it some little while back ; a certain member of the Staff threatened him with detention that very night, should ‘ Dennis ’ (the sheet) not appear. Dennis, however, saved the situation by emerging from a very cunningly-contrived *cache* behind the notice board.

Much anxiety was caused, about mid-term, as to the welfare of our pet mouse, who dwelt for so long beneath the pipes. it was decided to destroy the poor beast ; a piece of ripe cheese, placed under the master's desk, had the desired effect. The mouse was found next morning, suffering from acute ‘ rigor mortis,’ and beside him the cheese, crooning softly and emitting blue sparks. According to time-honoured VIj. tradition, the victim was cremated at dead of night in the boiler-room.

* He is even lower ! [E.D.]

To ex-Comrades Eldin and Todd we send our wishes that they may prosper in their future callings. Let Eldin remember it is unwise to count one's chickens before they are hatched. We are sorry to hear of Pipon's illness, and hope that he and Thomas will soon re-join us.

The Football team, under the able captaincy of Parry, has been fairly successful. We hope to do better next term, but until then we wish you good-bye.

J.B.

Va.

CAN we do any work? Oh no, no.

We're far too busy playing yo-yo.

Up and down, and round and round,

We never let it touch the ground.

We can scarcely eat our dinner,

For practising the tricky "spinner."

We forsake our French and Maths

To "walk the dog" up the "gangway" paths.

But Geography we learn quite gaily,

Going "round the world" twice daily,

And Botany we can get over

By studying "three-leaf clover."

The ancient and venerable game of Yo-Yo was introduced into our select company in this year of grace A.D. 1937 by H. M. Jones, a skilful and practised player in this noble sport. Since his advent we have directed our brains and energy to acquiring a consummate skill in this intriguing pastime.

Goodwin is to be congratulated on winning the fourth form handicap, and the junior obstacle race in the Swimming Gala.

At Football, we have won four matches and drawn one.

I.M.

Vb.

THIS term we were put into our new places, and so one section of the form were strangers to the other section. The form consists chiefly of old IVa. boys, the remainder coming from the old IVb. We, however, soon grew accustomed to one another and began to understand each other better, and now are successfully thriving, as one of the best forms in the school.

The first mark-sheet resulted in Matthews coming out top, with Gover second; the following fortnight Yates displaced Matthews, while in the third list Yates and Matthews share first place.

Only two members of the form were successful in the Gala, although we were represented in the Junior Squadron by Lee-man.

At football, we have been very successful, having lost only one match, which was fortunately unofficial. We are represented in the First XI. by Holme, and in the Second XI. by Roy-lance. Several members are hoping for places in the Junior Shield Team.

We have several sheets of cardboard hung around the room, on which we place interesting pictures. S****n is the chief contributor (he takes the " Illustrated London News ") and it is rumoured that he has worn out two pairs of scissors already.

We must now close as far as *The Visor* is concerned, for the dreaded exams. are in the offing, and require immediate attention.
G.R.C.

Vj.

ALTHOUGH the term has been fairly short, we all agree that it has been very satisfactory. In football, however, we have not done too well; one reason for this weakness is the fact that Wheat and Mackinlay are usually playing in School games for the First XI., and four of our members play for the Third XI.

The mark-sheets have shown a fairly high standard, while Johnston has had us all gasping by obtaining five stars.

We enjoyed the Gala immensely, and a number of us were successful. It may be said that three or four of the Tate Junior Squadron (which won the race) were members of Vj. We congratulate Taylor, who was among the prize-winners of this event.

Certain of our members persist in amusing us, especially Smart, who, coming across a description of " the wide freedom of Dartmoor," wondered if it can be a prison and still a wide freedom. We would like the opinions of some of the convicts on this phrase.

IVa.

THIS term we have lost 6 matches and won 3, but we hope to do better in the coming cricket season. Our games have been cancelled by the Headmaster, owing to the noisiness and the poor work of the form. This fortnight, however, the work of the whole form has improved a great deal, as was shown by the mark-sheet. There were twice as many stars, and only half as many underlinings. If we can keep this up, our games will be returned to us. Now P**le has come back Sh*rr*f thinks he will take another holiday. After the examinations have finished, the fourth forms are going to have a concert. Our form is acting a play called "The Princess and the Woodcutter." R**gg and H*gh*s are singing a duet. F.B.

IVb.

HUMPHREYS was elected Captain of football, and under his able leadership we have won every match this term. Three of the Junior House Captains, Leighton, Lowson and Mayo, are also members of IVb.

We have six of our members in the Chess Club, and Sarginson is in the Second Division. So far he has not lost a single match in the Tournament. Two others are near the top of the Third Division.

Evans, appropriately enough, represents the form in the Debating Society, while two others were the chief speakers in the debate on "Compulsory Games."

Davies has managed to beat Clare twice in the fortnightly mark-sheets.

Two boys have managed to break their spectacles at convenient periods this term, while Anderson still forgets (?) to come to school these wet mornings. Professor Dean is reported to do his Latin in odd corners; Leighton discovered one morning, that he had seven detentions to work off! R.M.

IVj.

WE all extended a hearty welcome to Hamilton when he returned to school in the early part of the term, after his serious illness. Simultaneously with his return, the painters arrived, and for some time IVj. learnt more about painting than about anything else.

IVj. have not yet won a match this season, owing no doubt to the fact that only half the team turns out.

We must congratulate Husselbury on being the only member of the form to secure a medal in the Swimming Gala.

We as a form much appreciated the lecture on the subject of Disarmament, although (or perhaps because) it tore us from our labours.

On hearing the name Pekin mentioned once K^{*y} enquired whether the inhabitants of that city were known as Pekingese.
G.E.P.

IIIa.

SOME of the new pupils have both amused and horrified us. Early in the term, the painters arrived to daub the school, and alas! they were the cause of many a detention, through their lesson being more interesting than the master's. By the time they had finished, the building was like a glue pot, being dabbed with sticky paint which striped most of the black blazers with green.

During the football season, we have done very well. We beat IVj. (18—1), IIIj. —, IIIb. (11—1), and IIIb. and IIIj. combined. The chief goalscorers are P. Jones, P.O. Jones, W. E. Jones and Mortimer.
W.E.J.

IIIb.

OUR football team has played two matches, lost one, and won one. We lost to IIIa. by eleven to one, but were luckier against IIIj. scoring seven goals to their three.

Five boys from the form are members of the Chess Club, and Ridout is our prominent (?) and persevering runner.

We entered the room one morning to find the blackboard covered with pictures of Mr. Ghandi. Our prefect, evidently taking the cartoons to represent himself, speedily erased them.

An unusual ' spoonerism ' came out in the Lab. the other day, Pierce affirming that a crystal was suspended from a broken ' funter finnel.'

We have several ' Yo-Yo ' experts, so that you have really to " mind your eye " when they are about.
B.H.

IIIj.

WE have played only one football match this term, and this we lost to IIIb. by three goals to seven. We are soon to play IIIa. however. Lowson is Captain and Simpson Vice-Captain.

Mr. Morris is now our form-master, and we feel sure he finds us in many ways superior to VIs.

Heritage represents the form in the Debating Society, and we have Lowson and Moore in the Chess Club. In the first fortnightly mark-sheet Simpson was top, while he shared this honour with Bawden in the second. The Library is flourishing, and, so far, no books have been lost or forgotten. H.R.B.

Junior School Notes.

OUR outlook at the moment is "Novemberish." Even the nasturtiums have ceased to brighten the garden bank, and the holly trees are dripping forlornly on the sodden grass. It is rather difficult under the circumstances to recall the events of the summer term. We seem to remember a sunny July day when the cubs entertained their parents. The little jungle story they acted received much applause, and a considerable sum was collected towards the cost of the tent which was proudly displayed in another part of the garden. All cubs who went to camp this summer seem to have enjoyed it in spite of bad weather. The stream in the camping field was a great attraction, in fact, strange though it may seem, the chief past-time of the cubs was washing! However, we understand that the *real* dirt was removed—under inspection—at least once a day.

Sixty pounds of tinfoil have been collected by the Juniors and sent to the Royal Northern Hospital. The letter of thanks returned was addressed to the Birkenhead Institute "Infants" School. After such a valiant effort for the hospital, we hardly deserved this! Certainly some of the Lower Prep. *have* been seen in pinafores, but this innovation has something to do with the mysteries of clay-modelling.

The Junior School Prize-giving is to be held on Tuesday, December 20th, and we are devoting much of our energy and time to rehearsals of "Alice in Wonderland," which is to be presented complete with songs and lobster quadrille!

Some mention should be made of the strange erection to be seen outside Form I.'s window. Its appearance suggests the more inflamed style of Hyde Park oratory, but as yet none of the Junior School staff have shown any such tendencies. Nor is it a new form of pillory designed to shame the shameless and teach the "wont-be-taught." It is merely a bird-table where blue-tits and starlings gather crumbs of bread—and knowledge perhaps, since they perch there throughout lessons!

H.M.D.

A Visit to our Great Airport.

IF those people who still consider flying dangerous were to spend a day at Croydon Aerodrome, seeing the great airliners arriving and leaving, they would soon change their minds.

In the control tower at our great air-port, there is a large magnetic map, on which are arrows indicating the direction of the winds. Dotted over the map are a number of small flags, which give from time to time the positions of aeroplanes on the different air routes, as they are ascertained by wireless.

To the right of the map is a wheel like a motor-car steering wheel. The control captain explained that it controlled a large arrow, which, when lit at night, indicates the direction of the wind, for, if a pilot landed in any direction other than "up wind," he would crash. As I watched several 'planes land, I noticed that each one swung round into the wind before landing.

L. GALLAGHER, Form II.

Do You Yo-Yo?

THERE is a rumour that a "Cheerio Yo-Yo Club" is to be started by, in, and for the benefit of that well-known abode of learning, the Library.

The Yo-Yo seems to have completely ousted that famous game of skill "Snakes and Ladders," which has been enjoyed by the Upper Sixths for so many long years.

I understand on reliable information that many members of the above forms are daily haunting, with anxious looks on their young faces, Allanson's and Woolworth's, piteously begging Father Christmas, with tears in their eyes, to send them a "99 Yo-Yo, solid turned maple, made in Canada," with ball bearings, such as is used by Joe Young, of international fame. As many of the Library inmates have been learning all the tricks from a prominent daily paper, we must look to them for big things.

A badge is to be produced for those interested. On it is Yo-Yo rampant with the magic inscription "99."

Lets hope that the Upper Sixths do not get "Yo-Yo hand, and arm."

“De Gustibus.”

A WORD with the Anti-Jazz Friends, another with those of the “Drown the Classics” movement.

At the present moment, a fierce controversy is sweeping the correspondence columns of the cheap press and is penetrating, yea, percolating even into the most august portals of the Library. All those with any pretensions to musical skill throw in their lot with one or the other party.

The majority of the older generation side with the Anti-Jazz protagonists; “Give us the good old waltzes,” etc., ad lib, ad nauseam. They dilate in harrowing terms on the “blaring cacophony” and “childish antics” of modern dance bands. Their tone is “harsh and metallic,” their rhythm is a reversion to “aboriginal tom-tom thumping.”

On the other hand, lovers of dance music find fault with the monotony, the lack of emotional excitement, the general similarity of symphonic and “heavily” classical playing, the “top heavy” effect given by 100 or more players “shrieking in unison.”

I will take Lewis Armstrong as the exponent of the extreme school of rhythm playing. At the first hearing, his recordings are rather incomprehensible—you scent the “blaring cacophony” of the critics. At a second audition, the music becomes less a confused, jarring medley, and the melody, with its variations or “hot choruses,” can be picked out. You can understand how the “hot chorus” is improvised from the original melody, and feel its aptness or inaptitude as the case may be. But, come what may, it makes interesting listening. Remember to hear the tune more than once.

Now, for the “Classics.” It seems to me that the main criticism to be levelled against the anti-classicists is that their knowledge of the “Classics” is confined to symphonies, concertos, etc. To be a critic of classical music, a knowledge of everything from the Dance to the Symphony is essential. How can anyone include under one sweeping generalisation a collection of composers ranging from Bach to Stravinsky, from Beethoven to Strauss? In any case, given the time and space, it would be easy to dispose of critics of the Symphony. Admittedly, the Symphony’s appeal is limited, but it has its appeal. I can recommend any Jazz maniac to Sibelius’s work “Finlandia.” If he cannot discern any beauty in that, I yield.

Broadmindedness is essential. Dance music has its place in the scheme of things, and, to an intelligent thinker, it is worthy of its place. It is the expression of modern youth, and the hurdy-gurdy of present-day conditions. The Classics stand for the thoughts and emotions of the past, all its beauty, its fragrance.

Classicist, remember that your adored music stands only for the good in human nature. Dance music, "hot rhythm," presents both good and evil aspects.

Ambrosian, remember that sometimes the jarred nerves need to be soothed, and you must turn to Liszt, not to Nichols.

Above all, when delivering your "thumping ultimatums" that "there is much to be said on both sides."

WOULE-BE MUSICIAN.

A Visit to the Operating Room of a Cinema.

THE visitor, on entering the operating room of a cinema, is greeted by a discordant medley of sound, and a rush of hot air. His first impression is one of great noise, and intense light.

As the door of steel and asbestos closes behind him, he feels that he has lost all touch with the outside world. On going further in, he sees two projections, one of which is still and silent, the other a mass of moving wheels, from which most of the sound seems to emanate.

On the latter are two spools of film, one above, the other below. After coming out of the top spool case, and passing through fire-traps, the film seems to become lost in the maze of cogs, over which it passes with a sound like that of a machine gun in action.

It then passes through a box from which a bright light is seen emerging. The box contains machinery for producing the sound when the film is S.O.F. (sound on film). The film comes out through the bottom of the box, over more cogs, and eventually through the fire-traps to the lower spool, on which it is wound.

On stepping back, the visitor notices a second operator who has entered the room, with a full spool of film under his arm. He makes his way to the silent machine, places the film in the top case, and threads it through the cogs. Having finished his preparations, he switches on the machine, and

when the visitor examines the front of it, he sees what looks like a fan whirling round. This piece of mechanism separates each little picture on the film.

The first operator now opens the top spool case, looks in, and, turning round, nods to his mate, who changes over some switches on the big switch board.

The latter returns to his own machine, and "strikes up his arc." As the second machine strikes up, the meters on the board swing violently and come gradually to rest. Through the noise the visitor hears the first operator say, "Over." His mate answers "Right," and there is a double click as the shutter on one machine closes and the other opens.

Those in the operating room know that the next part of the film is from a different machine, but the audience below in the theatre cannot tell when the change-over takes place.

As the visitor looks round for the last time, he thanks the operators, opens the door, and slowly descends into the cinema as he used to know it. What a contrast ! R.E.D., Va.

Chess Club Notes.

ONCE more, Apollo urges his gleaming chariot through the gathering cumulus of gloom and—but we may as well come to earth and talk business. The club membership has soared above 60, which is a creditable figure when one thinks of the number of other attractions connected with the school. But the main cause of my jubilation is the fact that we have "spotted" in our younger members the nucleus of a strong team, which might soon bring back to us the Wright Challenge Shield, which we held for the first three years of its existence.

The four Division Tournaments have not yet been played out, but the progress in the second Division is proving very interesting in view of the keen competition between Burrell, A. L. Davis, F. Marsh and Sarginson.

Although the performance of the School Team is not particularly creditable, it is an improvement on last year's figures, for, out of five matches played, we have won one and drawn one; we were only just defeated by Liverpool Institute, and we have a chance to win two more matches. The team has usually been: Weston (capt.), Marsh, Hunt, Robinson, Wadlow, Young, and Green or Collinson. W.H.M. (Sec.)

The Debating Society.

A WEARY but loyal Chairman and a harassed Secretary here give vent to heart-felt sighs of relief. The proud banners of a once great movement, slipping from the feeble grasp of nonchalant sixth-formers, have been seized and borne aloft with renewed vigour by enthusiastic Third and Fourth formers. On the 3rd October, an optimistic committee, Mr. Allison presiding, sat together and ruminated; great were the ruminations thereof. Marsh proposed; firstly, that a system of form representatives be inaugurated; secondly, that every third debate be a junior debate (Forms III and IV.); and, lastly, that a programme be pre-arranged for the session. These words of wisdom were as sweet music to the ears of a very agreeable committee.

On the 10th October, Messrs. Marsh and Cogan proposed the motion: "That the modern man does not make the best use of his leisure." Messrs. Loxam and Cullen stoutly opposed the assertion, but in vain, for the motion was carried by 25 votes to 20. The next debate on Japanese Foreign Policy promised to be a real attraction when we secured, as a principal speaker, R. E. Lilley, from Shanghai. Several unfortunate circumstances, one being the illness of Lilley, caused the postponement *sine die* of the debate.

At this juncture, the enthusiastic Junior section made its presence felt, and, on November 14th, debated the subject, "That compulsory games should be a feature of every secondary school," a chairman, G. Evans, being selected from among them. Mayo and Sarginson proposed, while Winter and Bryant led the opposition, the former pair carrying the motion with 27 votes against 17.

W.H.M.

The Harriers.

AT the beginning of this term the Harriers found themselves in a bad state. Nearly all last year's runners had left, and only three members of last year's school team remained. A great improvement was soon shown, however, and at the end of a few weeks we had formed a strong team.

Of the two matches which we have run to date, we have lost one and won one. The first was against Liverpool Institute Harriers, and was run on our own course. We were favoured with unusually fine weather conditions, the atmosphere being clear and dry, and the temperature low. In spite of a fine effort

on the part of our team, we were beaten by 33 points to 22. However, as this was the first match of the season, perhaps we were not quite on form, and we await impatiently our revenge in the return match next term. Our team was: Shaw (capt.), Hayes, Collinson, Hawkes, Walker, Wood, Bennett.

The second fixture was with the Alsop High School, on their course. The weather on the day of this run was cold and rather misty, and the mud was plentiful. After a fast run, we won by 19 points to 36, securing the first three places. This result gives us reason to hope for more successes in our remaining match of this term and in our four return matches next term. Our team was: Shaw (capt.), Collinson, Hayes, Hawkes, Wood, Hamilton and Bennett.

Our runs from the School ground on Wednesday afternoons of course still continue for both seniors and juniors. A new pack has been formed, which is called the 'health pack.' Members of this pack, as the name implies, run purely for health's sake, without any idea whatsoever of racing. They simply trot over a stretch of countryside at a pace easily within the reach of the slowest member of the pack.

Anybody who wishes to run, whether fast or slow, is heartily invited to turn out.

J.W.

National Savings Association.

HARD times are at last beginning to be reflected in the returns of the Association, though not in any marked degree. In fact, the regular weekly contributions show only a slight decrease: the chief falling off is in the number of certificates purchased outright.

This is partly accounted for by the reduced rate of interest, but it should be remembered that Savings Certificates still provide a higher yield than any other British Government security, higher than the much advertised Conversion Loan, and considerably higher than the Post Office Savings Bank or the joint stock banks.

Those boys who have large balances lying idle in any of these concerns, or who have recently been left fat legacies by wealthy relatives, should at once consult the Secretary with a view to investment in Britain's premier gilt-edged security.

R. HALL (Hon. Sec.), J. W. HAIME (Hon. Treas.)

Table Tennis Club.

THE above club has had a quite successful term. Owing to most of last year's members leaving, the playing standard of the club has suffered. However, with constant practice we are rapidly improving. At present we have not played any matches, but we hope to play several before the end of the term.

There are a few vacancies for sixth form boys at an entrance fee of 2s.

In closing we should like to thank Mr. Morris for his interest and practical help in making the club a success.

W.D.M.

Badminton Club.

THE Badminton Club has been handicapped by a lack of new members. Despite this, it has enjoyed a successful term, and has the distinction of being the School club most patronised by members of the Staff. Boys from the sixth forms willing to pay their entrance fee of half-a-crown immediately on joining would be greatly welcomed as members of the club. They should apply to Mr. Sorby. "SHUTTLECOCK."

Scout Notes.

SINCE the last appearance of the Scout Notes in *The Visor*, the summer camp has been by far the most outstanding feature of Scout activities. The site chosen was at Stainforth (near Settle) and about thirty boys availed themselves of the opportunity to become acquainted with this part of the country. During the first few days we were not favoured with ideal camping weather, but patience was rewarded in the second week by days of hot sunshine which more than compensated for the many soakings we had endured. The site was excellent in every way, the scenery magnificent, the cooking of a very high standard, and the camp a complete success and one of the most enjoyable we have had.

The activities this term have been confined mostly to badge work, and considerable progress has been made in this direction. Several 1st class badges have been obtained, while Sutton and Grimmett are to be congratulated on qualifying for the King's Scout Badges, 1st All Round Cords.

The number of new members joining this term was a little disappointing, but we have five patrols, each at full strength, and the attendances this term have been very satisfactory.

A football team under the captaincy of H. Barker plays regularly in the Inter-troop Football League.

Rover Scout Notes.

THE School Rover Scout Crew is making satisfactory progress. A few members attended summer camp with the Scouts and had an enjoyable time, despite the wet weather during the first week.

Camp over, some Rovers were then engaged in preparing for the Rover Round Up, which was successfully held at the "Solly" Recreation Ground on August 27th.

Since the formation of the Crew, there have been two Investiture ceremonies. At the first, Mr. H. T. Davies and E. W. G. Brewster were invested, and, at the second, we are pleased to say that the Headmaster was invested as an honorary member of the Crew, while A. H. Williams and J. Wood became active members. Both these ceremonies were carried out by Mr. Thacker, and the Rover Scout A.D.C., Mr. Pearson, was present each time.

The main attention of the Crew has, however, been directed this term towards the production of three one-act plays and, at the time of writing, the players are finally attempting to perfect their parts. We hope that the performance of these plays, to be held on December 9th, will be a success. One must not close these notes without a word of thanks to Mr. Thacker for the time and trouble he has taken in supervising rehearsals.

R.M.

Cricket Results.

THE following tables should have appeared in our summer issue, but unfortunately they were omitted. We therefore insert them here for the benefit of those interested:—

FIRST ELEVEN MATCHES.

May 4th, v. BOOTLE SEC.**School.**

Rice, c. Stevenson, b. Donaldson	8
Minns, c. Kennedy, b. Stevens'n.	19
Smith, G.W., c. Jones, b. W'ward	5
Currie, b. Donaldson	19
Smith, J.A., b. Stevenson	0
Roberts, c. & b. Stevenson	2
Cross, b. Jones	12
Hall, l.b.w. b. Woodward	3
Pott, not out	7
Todd, c. Coventry, b. Jones	7
Jones, T.A., b. Stevenson	8
Extras	0
Total	90

Bootle 42. (Smith, J.A., 5 for 14;
Jones, T.A., 4 for 11; Currie,
1 for 9; Cross, 0 for 4).

May 11th, v. WATERLOO.**School.**

Rice, b. George	3
Minns, c. Edwards, J., b. McLean	25
Smith, G.W., l.b.w. b. E'w'ds, F.	3
Currie, c. & b. Edwards, F.	35
Smith, J.A., b. George	10
Roberts, run out	1
Cross, c. Worrall, b. Edwards, J.	7
Hall, not out	6
Pott, did not bat.	
Todd, did not bat.	
Jones, did not bat.	
Extras	8
Total (7 wickets)	96

Waterloo, 95 for 2 dec. (Jones, 1
for 3; Currie, 1 for 28; Cross, 0
for 13; Todd, 0 for 19; Smith,
J. A., 0 for 10; Rice, 0 for 12).

May 25th, v. ST. EDWARD'S.**School.**

Rice, not out	57
Minns, l.b.w. b. Ford	2
Smith, G.W., b. Doyle	5
Currie, b. Ford	1
Smith, J.A., c. & b. Ford	6
Silcock, b. Ford	5
Cross, b. Read	0
Hall, l.b.w. b. Redmond	8
Pott, b. Kenny	3
Todd, not out	0
Jones, did not bat	
Extras	1
Total (8 wickets)	88

St. Edward's 20. (Jones, 4 for 6;
Cross, 3 for 10; Currie, 3 for
0).

May 28th, v. QUARRY BANK.**School.**

Rice, c. Dodd, b. Pettit	25
Minns, run out	3
Smith, G.W., b. Beddoe	0
Currie, b. Pettit	1
Smith, J.A., b. Beddoe	1
Silcock, c. Dodd, b. Pettit	3
Cross, b. Pettit	0
Walker, b. Pettit	0
Hall, not out	0
Pott, not out	0
Jones, did not bat	
Extras	0
Total (8 wickets)	33

Quarry Bank 78. (Jones, 5 for 13;
Cross, 3 for 23; Rice, 0 for 14;
Currie, 2 for 13; Smith, J.A., 0
for 1; Hall, 0 for 5).

June 8th, v. WATERLOO.**School.**

Minns, l.b.w. b. George	5
Currie, c. Maddock, b. Edw'ds, F.	4
Smith, G.W., l.b.w. b. George	1
Smith, J.A., b. Edwards, F.	1
Silcock, l.b.w. b. Edwards, F.	11
Sarginson, c. Edw'ds, F., b. George	0
Cross, c. McLean, b. George	4
Hall, l.b.w. b. George	2
Walker, b. Edwards, F.	10
Todd, not out	14
Jones, b. Edwards, F.	0
Extras	6
Total	58

Waterloo 40. (Jones, 3 for 15;
Currie, 0 for 9; Todd, 6 for 12).

June 15th, v. BOOTLE.**School.**

Rice, c. Coventry, b. Donaldson	6
Minns, b. Donaldson	0
Currie, st. Coventry, b. W'dward	0
Smith, G.W., c. Coventry, b. W'w'd	0
Smith, J.A., c. Mackrell, b. W'ward	3
Silcock, l.b.w. b. Donaldson	3
Walker, run out	0
Hall, c. Kennedy, b. W'ward	0
Todd, run out	7
Pott, b. Donaldson	5
Jones, not out	2
Extras	3
Total	29

Boottle 48. (Jones, 6 for 26; Hall, 2 for 13; Smith, J.A., 1 for 5; Todd, 1 for 2).

June 22nd, v. LISCARD.

School.

Minns, b. Charlton	4
Currie, c. Sutton, W., b. Sutton, G.	4
Silcock, b. Charlton	2
Hall, c. & b. Charlton	5
Cross, l.b.w. b. Charlton	0
Walker, b. Sutton, G.	9
Todd, b. Charlton	32
Pott, b. Sutton, G.	0
Sarginson, c. Sutton, W. b. Mason ..	12
Sampson, not out	5
Jones, b. Charlton	0
Extras	6
Total	79

Liscard 44. (Jones, 1 for 9; Todd, 7 for 17; Currie, 1 for 6).

June 25th, v. ALSOP.

School.

Rice, c. Rushworth, b. Porter ...	5
Currie, c. Dyson, b. Newton	2
Silcock, c. Dyson b. Porter	51
Minns, c. Dyson, b. Porter	1
Smith, G.W., c. Baydell, b. Porter ..	6
Smith, J.A., c. Kinder, b. Porter ..	0
Cross, b. Newton	1
Todd, c. King, b. Newton	0
Walker, c. Dyson, b. Porter	4
Hall, not out	24
Jones, did not bat	0
Extras	5
Total (9 wickets)	94

Alsop 69. (Jones, 5 for 22; Todd, 5 for 26; Currie, 0 for 8).

July 2nd, v. COLLEGIATE.

School.

Rice, c. Carney, b. Simpson	14
Currie, b. Martin	14
Silcock, b. Carney	1
Minns, b. Simpson	0
Smith, J.A., c. Simpson, b. Martin ..	0
Smith, G. W., run out	13
Cross, b. Martin	1
Todd, b. Carney	5
Hall, b. Carney	5
Walker, not out	14
Jones, c. Manifold, b. Carney ...	2
Extras	8
Total	77

Collegiate 78 for 2. (Jones, 0 for 11; Todd, 0 for 14, Currie, 1 for 19, Cross, 0 for 9; Smith, J. A., 1 for 12).

July 6th, v. LISCARD.

School.

Rice, l.b.w. b. Woods	3
Currie, b. Charlton	12
Silcock, c. Woods, b. Sutton	13
Minns, l.b.w. b. Sutton	5
Smith, G.W., c. & b. Dobson	3
Cross, b. Sutton	0
Todd, b. Dobson	10
Hall, c. Keating, b. Sutton	5
Walker, b. Dobson	4
Smith, J.A., c. Keating, b. Sutton ..	0
Jones, not out	2
Extras	3
Total	60

Liscard 119 for 8 dec. (Jones, 2 for 17; Todd 1 for 24; Currie, 0 for 13; Smith, J.A., 0 for 13; Hall, 2 for 17; Cross, 2 for 23).

July 9th, v. CONWAY.

School.

Currie, b. Kendra	1
Silcock, l.b.w. b. Kendra	11
Minns, c. Vaughan, b. Allen	7
Smith, G.W., c. Smith, b. Kendra ..	9
Cross, c. Sutton, b. Allen	1
Todd, b. Allen	2
Hall, c. Allen, b. Kendra	4
Walker, not out	11
Pott, c. Deacon, b. Allen	1
Smith, J.A., c. Kendra, b. Allen ..	0
Jones, c. Vaughan, b. Kendra	0
Extras	6
Total	53

Conway 65 (Jones, 6 for 12; Todd, 1 for 16; Currie, 3 for 33).

July 16th, v. OLD BOYS.

School.

Rice, c. Andrews, b. Sutton	10
Currie, b. Thornton	14
Silcock, b. Thornton	0
Minns, l.b.w. b. Boyle	30
Cross, b. Thornton	0
Hall, not out	24
Todd, c. Boyle, b. Mason	3
Pott, b. Thornton	9
Smith, A., b. Thornton	1

Sampson, c. Wood, b. Mason ...	6
Jones, c. Evans, b. Mason	2
Extras	4
Total	108

Old Boys 89. (Jones, 6 for 22;
Currie, 2 for 19; Todd, 2 for 27;
Smith, J. A., 0 for 10; Rice, 1
for 2).

July 21st, v. ROCK FERRY.
School.

Minns, c. Ramsay, b. Baker	22
Currie, b. Ramsay	5
Silcock, b. Mills	8

Smith, G. W., b. Palk	13
Hall, b. Baker	2
Cross, c. Noble, b. Baker	0
Walker, c. & b. Baker	0
Todd, c. & b. Baker	15
Sarginson, c. Mills, b. Ramsay o	
Sampson, not out	9
Jones, T. A., b. Baker	0
Extras	6
Total	86

Rock Ferry 109. (Currie, 1 for
17; Jones, 3 for 12; Cross, 4 for
27; Todd, 2 for 35).

SECOND ELEVEN.

RESULTS.

School 94; Waterloo 61.
School 60 for 6; Alsop 31.
School 54; St. Edward's 48.
School 69; Quarry Bank 8.
School 44 for 8; Waterloo 27.
School 69; Bootle 92.
School 73; Alsop 66.
School 34; Collegiate 38 for 6.
School 99; Conway 177 for 7.
School 63; Rock Ferry 37.

AVERAGES.

Batting.

Ins. Not O. Runs Ave.

Sampson	9	1	91	11.4
Clarkson	6	3	31	10.3
Collinson	9	2	70	10.0
Sarginson	8	0	65	8.1
Goodwin	10	0	71	7.1
Shaw, C. A. ...	6	1	32	6.4
Miller, F. W. ...	9	0	52	5.8

Bowling.

O. M. R. W. Ave.

Shaw, C.A.	91	25	.206	37	5.57
Wadlow	31	6	.69	12	5.75
Miller, F.W.	100	37	.246	38	6.49

Acrostic.

*Haec, rerum domina, a te ducit, Romule, nomen ;
verte retro : en exstat pessimus ille deus !*

1. *haec* etsi redolet flore fragrantior omni,
caute fac carpas : horrida spina latet.
2. *hoc* est os minimum ; maius tamen ore videtur ;
adque hoc ora simul vix duo sufficiunt.
3. arma virumque canit, nec non Amaryllidis iras,
et fortunatis invidet agricolis.
4. alter humo exstructus, campo patet alter aperto.
longior hoc ille est : scribere utrumque potes ?

A prize of half-a-crown is offered to the sender of a correct solution of the above, accompanied by a translation of the verses. In the event of more than one correct solution being received, the prize will be awarded to the sender of the best translation.

J.W.H.

Football Notes.

SO far the football season has not been successful. The 1st XI. have won one match and drawn two, the 2nd XI. have won two and drawn one.

At the beginning of the season, G. W. Smith was elected captain and K. J. Rice, vice-captain. Unfortunately Rice left without playing in a single match for the School, but M. A. Minns, who came back after the captains had been appointed, took Rice's place as vice-captain.

Minns is to be congratulated also upon the efficiency with which he has filled the centre-forward position. Out of 21 goals he has scored 15; in the match against Bootle he scored 8 out of the 10 goals.

One new match this season was that with King's School, Chester. This was the first friendly game we have had with the Chester School, but we hope it will not be the last. Another new fixture is a match with Liverpool University 3rd XI., while the match with Liverpool Institute has been missing from our fixtures for some years.

Little can be said about the 3rd XI. or the potential Junior Shield team, as only two matches have been played. Moreover, the team was not at its strongest, as the 1st and 2nd XIs. claimed the services of several eligible players.

In the second part of the season we hope to improve our results, as the teams become more stabilised. W.D.C.

RESULTS :

	B.I. versus :—	1st XI.	2nd XI.	3rd XI.
Sept. 21—	Alsop High School	(A) L 2—6	(H) D 3—3	
	28—Liverpool Coll. School...	(H) D 2—2	(A) L 3—5	
Oct. 5—	Bootle Sec. School	(H) W 10—2	(A) L 2—5	
	12—Holt Sec. School	(A) L 2—6	(H) W 11—1	(A) L 1—5
	19—Quarry Bank School ...	(A) L 2—6	(H) W 2—0	
	26—St. Edward's School	(H) L 1—4	(A) L 1—5	
Nov. 5—	Chester King's School...	(A) D 3—3		
	16—Alsop High School	(H) L 2—8	(A) L 0—6	(A) L 2—4

Old Boys' Chess Club.

WE are again running two teams in the Liverpool and District Chess League, and have every prospect of a further successful season.

We have, unfortunately, lost two of our first team players, but the number of new members is encouraging, and the club's numerical strength is in excess of that of last year.

Our club night is Friday, when we meet in the School Dining Room, at 7-30 p.m., and a cordial invitation is extended to all past and present members of the School to visit us any Friday at this time.

The annual subscription is 5s., and it is hoped that all chess players will show their keenness by supporting the club.
L.T.

Birkenhead Institute Old Boys' A.F.C.

THE season as at present reviewed shows some disappointments but much that is encouraging. The Club took the bull by the horns when they decided to run a fifth team regularly in Old Boys' League football, and, further, to take over Birkenhead Amateurs' ground at Oxtou for the benefit of the newcomers. It is very gratifying that the influx of new members and the success attending the fifth XI. have fully justified the Club's enterprise.

The 1st team have not fulfilled expectations, and are still without an away victory. The 2nd team are vastly improved since last season, and occupy a high position in the Zingari Combination table. The 3rd team have proved their ability to win matches, and they should easily rise high above their lowly position of last year. The 4ths are likewise enjoying good success. The 5th team lost their first two games, but have won ever since, their biggest feat—a sixteen goals to one victory over Marlborough College Old Boys—bringing the "goals for" record in six matches to thirty-nine.

J. D. B. Thornton has proved a great goal-getter at centre-forward for the first team. Three times in the first month of the season he obtained five goals in a match, and he has been scoring steadily ever since. Everybody regretted Arthur Price's "au revoir." This fine goalkeeper has taken a post in India, and will, no doubt, join in the prevailing fashion and come home in a loin cloth, call himself Mahatma, and drink goat's milk. He is not, of course, properly acclimatised, never, as far as I know, using passive resistance or calling a hunger strike. I have, indeed, heard certain hospital cases call him aggressive.

Price, however, calls to mind another famous centre-forward, and a little story that will tickle the grime of years from the ears of many an Old Boy.

The Gentle Centre Forward.

MANY years ago, as several hoary Old Boys (who have better imaginations than memories) will no doubt recollect, a famous Old Boy centre forward, then in the heyday of his career, shocked the sporting world with his atrocities upon the football field. For seasons this malefactor had deceived the experts with his innocent conduct. No footballer suffered greater molestation than he. None had greater provocation. Yet through it all he preserved a gentleness of demeanour that endeared him to all Christian gentlemen and incensed his opponents. Occasionally, he flicked his head with the grace of an Apollo, and a goal would result; or again, with the agility of a ballet dancer, he would leap through a goalmouth melee, the ball at his feet, and dribble it into the net. The greater his success, the greater were the onslaughts upon him. Fullbacks rivalled one another in knocking little pieces out of him. Goalkeepers would knock him three feet in the ground with their great hams of fists, all under cover of a corner kick. But he remained unruffled, indomitable. Retaliate he would not.

Naturally, accidents had to happen occasionally. Of those whom he encountered, a few were crippled, some were temporarily embarrassed with fractured limbs, and there might even have been one or two cases of concussion, broken jaw and ear-bite—but nothing that could possibly stain the footballer's reputation for gentle, innocent play. Until—

The Old Boys were entertaining a team whom they had beaten heavily the previous week. Most of the visitors' defence were injured in the earlier game, and their reserves, for some obscure reason, had sworn vengeance upon our pacific hero. "And when we get 'im," they growled, "we'll eat 'im!"

Whether the referee would have allowed their indulgence in such blatant cannibalism is to be doubted. The centre-forward strongly reprehended such criminal and unnatural voracity. Nevertheless, he was grieved, but unafraid. Innocence will never be intimidated; and he marched on the field, ready for the worst, but prepared to do his best.

The backs were true to their savage dispositions, even if they jibbed, in the end, at tearing the flesh from his bones. Like all good backs, these gentlemen were burly. They rushed on him like bulls; they pounded him like herds of elephants; but he remained himself, clean and fair, unmoved by their bestial propulsions. And they it was, not he, who were crippled. So does all villainy recoil upon its perpetrators!

In the meanwhile, Adonis had twice impelled the leather into goal. The outlook was serious! The goalkeeper looked at the backs, and the backs looked at the goalkeeper. That worthy winked. A back demurely flicked his boot, dislodging, in the process, a lump of mud that found a billet in the goalie's eye. "That's it!" the custodian shouted ecstatically, and they had another wink all round.

So the fun started. Whenever our modest centre obtained the ball, the opposition merely flicked their feet and he found himself assailed by a mud storm. In those days the Old Boys wore white shirts with a badge on the chest, and the effect of mud on this garment can readily be imagined. In one minute he looked like a leopard—in two like a fakir who is sworn to remain unwashed. This treatment was more than any Old Boy could stand. His great ideals of gentility, his love of decent humility, his education at Birkenhead Institute—all were forgotten. The Spirit of Mud, the Spirit of the Land, the Spirit of an Old Boy—call it what you will—instilled into his soul an Unknown Urge. The ball was at his feet; the two backs were bearing down on him like cataracts; and he rose and moved, a heaving mass, a personification of Mud. He lowered his head and charged! The backs wilted—hesitated—too late! He crashed into one like Halley's Comet—that victim shot into the other—and they were so flattened and intermerged by the concussion that it was feared they would have to spend the rest of their days as Siamese twins.

But the centre forward went hurling on his course. The goalkeeper took one blink at the awful object squelching upon him, screamed and tried to flee. Again too late! The Uncontrolled Fury drove the ball with a sickening thud. Like a rocket it flew at the goalkeeper, caught him in the stomach and sent him flying into the back of the net. Man, ball, net, rigging, goal posts, cross-bar and two or three spectators went hurtling back in hopeless confusion. There was a shattering crash as they all landed together, animate and inanimate alike, in the middle of a blackberry bush behind the pitch.

The centre forward started, his fury abated. He recalled what he had done—indeed, he *saw* what he had done. He hung his head—and blushed with shame.

All was over! He resigned from football, bought the winning ticket in the Calcutta sweep, and lived happily ever after.

And the moral of that is (says our Oldest Player) look after the goalkeeper, and the goals will look after themselves.

Happy Christmas!

B.V.W.

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