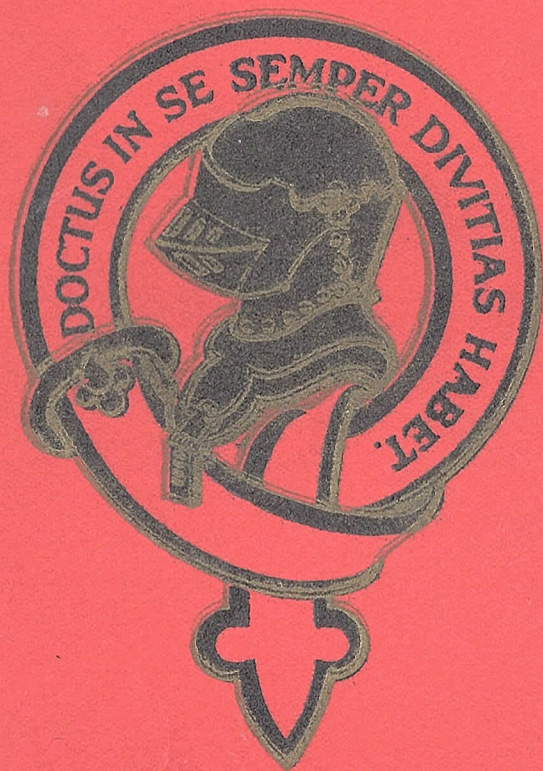


# THE VISOR

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**BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE  
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.**

---

EASTER, 1932.

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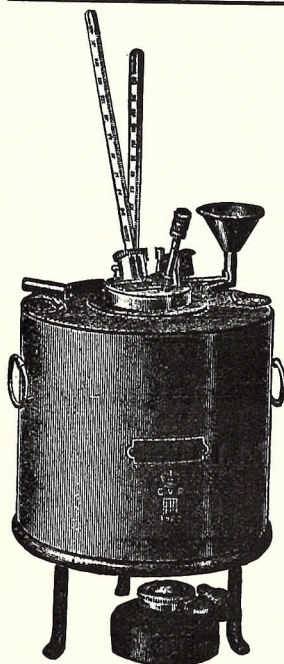
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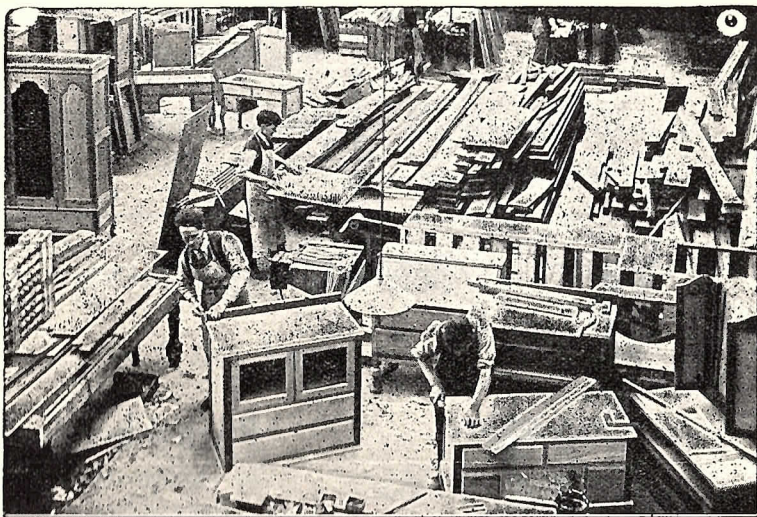
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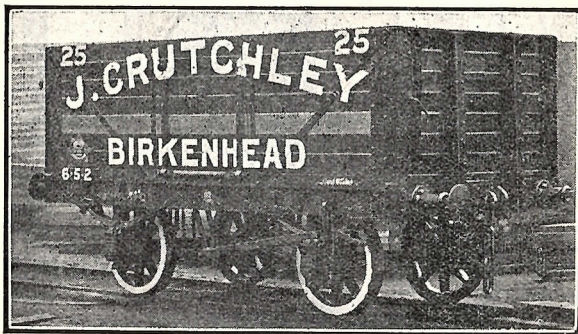
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**The MAIN CORRIDOR.**



# THE VISOR

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

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VOL. V., No. 2.

EASTER, 1932.

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## EDITORIAL.

We trust that this issue will be accepted as a definite step towards the standard of School Magazine we have set out to establish.

Reports have been reduced to the barest minimum, and, though their appeal is never universal, we have attempted to make them as interesting as possible by excluding unnecessary repetitions, minor details, and information of very limited interest. This portion of the magazine is a whole hearted attempt on the part of the Editors, Committee, and writers to meet well-founded criticism.

How far the magazine is to be enjoyed, however, rests with the subscribers. The Committee, on its side, is only too willing to include such popular features as illustrations, provided the necessary sales are maintained. But these items alone will not make a magazine. Articles must be submitted of such merit and in such numbers that we can avoid including the mediocre merely to fill up the extra pages we have added in recent issues. And again, if *The Visor* is to be considered as a periodical of real merit, not only for the light reading it provides, but also for its serious and thoughtful contributions, it is on the Sixth Form more than any other that we must depend. How far they have realised this we leave the readers of this issue and the sixth forms themselves to judge.

There is another feature of the magazine which we have long been attempting to bring before the notice of our Old Boy subscribers—namely an Old Boys' Section. The Old Boys are not only part and parcel of the School, but many of them are regular subscribers to the magazine. Naturally, then, we wish to include something in *The Visor* which will be of special interest to them. We already print Notes on the various Old Boys' Societies: now we wish to print articles from their members. The Secretaries will send in the Notes: it remains for the Old Boys themselves to contribute the articles.

---

**SALVETE.**

- IVb.—Tate :—Entwistle, G.  
 III.—Atkin :—Johnson, H. T.  
 IIIb.—Atkin :—Ruegg, H. T.  
 IIIj.—Tate :—Hamilton, W. K. ; **Westminster** :—Edelsten, J.  
 IIa.—Atkin :—Jones, E. A. ; **Westminster** :—Edelsten, J.  
 I.—Tate :—Dean, R. H.  
**Lower Prep.**—Atkin :—Vincent, K. J. C.
- 

**VALETE.**

**Upper VIa.**—Stitt :—Pemberton, J. (1926—1931), *Matric.*, 1930.

**Upper Vlb.**—Atkin :—McFarlane, A. P. (1926—1931), *Matric.*, 1931. Powl, K. L. (1922—1931), *Matric.*, 1931, *Secretary of Football Selection Committee*. Robinson, G. W. (1926—1932), *Prefect*, *House Captain*, *Cricket Colours*. **Tate** :—Ashton, D. K. (1925—1931), *Matric.*, 1931. **Westminster** :—Hempsall, G. (1926—1931), *Matric.*, 1931.

**VIa.**—Atkin :—Seed, W. L. **Westminster** :—Bennett, W. A.

**VIa.**—Atkin :—Dunning, L. E. **Westminster** :—Hailey, W.

**Vlb.**—Stitt :—Stephens, R.

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**UNIVERSITY LETTER.**

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL,

February 23rd, 1932.

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Visor*.

Sir,

To those who have passed out through its doors, and into the wider portals of the university, news of the old school is always refreshing. It is so easy, amid the multitude of new interests, to lose touch with the past; yet it is surely for the good of all that the bond between past and present should be preserved. It is with this thought in mind, Mr. Editor, that I am moved to contribute without invitation an item which was sadly missed from last term's *Visor*.

It is pleasing to observe the progress the Magazine has made since its humble beginnings in 1927. I suppose there are now many large-limbed sons of B.I. to whom *The Visor* has seemed an old-established institution ever since their

third-form days. It has evidently achieved a popularity which at first was difficult to induce, and for which the pioneers of its early days hardly dared to hope. May it go on from strength to strength, maintaining the high reputation it enjoys among the school magazines of Merseyside.

To the 'Varsity aspirant of the Institute, I would say that there is no place like a University for widening one's outlook. Make the most of the short and precious years. Do not neglect the social life, for in so doing you will miss the friendship, the experience, and the views of a vast number of fascinating fellow-men and women, representative of widely-differing spheres of activity.

At a recent Inter-'Varsity debate the House decided by a large majority that it did not envy its grand-children. It is for you who follow to give the lie to this opinion and to become a generation which shall look back with pity on this age of disillusion and despair.

Yours very sincerely,  
G. CLARK.

### RARAE AVES.

My muse! Your inspirations fail,  
I scorn your cloying, hackneyed wail  
—" Sweetly sings the nightingale."

The youthful poet on the prowl  
Must seek a less conventional fowl;  
—" Heartily hoots the great horned owl!"

Exempli gratia—Dark seas toss,  
And storm-clouds sweep the moon across,  
Yet brightly booms the albatross!

When maiden fair enquires, "What ails ye?"  
Reply, when Philomela fails ye,  
"Carelessly cackles the capercailzie."

And he, who would sweet Phyllis woo,  
Must take an ornithological view.  
Chattily chirrup the cockatoo!

And once more his refrain he'll vary,  
Saying, with grace, and accents airy—  
"Cheerily chortles the cassowary."



**“ REDDY.”**

Reddy was born in May. True, he was only one of a family of five, but he was stronger and more determined than any of his brothers and sisters. His mother, a beautiful, bushy-tailed red squirrel, soon got to know the pertinacious youngster, and seemed to bestow special care on him. Reddy's earliest memories were of the cosy 'dray' or nest, where he was born. He was very comfortable in this nest, which was spherical in shape, and carefully woven of twigs, leaves and moss. The entrance was in the side, and a roof of twigs and moss covered it; not even the chilliest blast or the most driving rain could harm Reddy as he snuggled down into the dray.

Swiftly the days passed, until he was a month old, still tended by his careful mother; although the nest was now becoming a trifle small for the quickly-growing family. Then one glorious day they left the nest. Reddy clung to a swaying bough, just a little frightened, just a little dazzled by the sunlight filtering between the leaves. The dray was only twelve feet from the ground, in the fork of a thick holly bush, but to little Reddy the whole wide world seemed composed of swaying branches and prickly, rustling leaves.

Reddy's father now took a hand in his education, and he might be seen in the sunshine, leading his timid offspring from bough to bough, and from tree to tree. Little by little he taught them the familiar tree-trails, for the beautiful little creatures have their aerial runways, just as the earth-dwellers have recognised tracks. Reddy loved to frisk in the sun, and soon became an adept at leaping from tree to tree, leaving far behind his more timid brothers and sisters. How he would scamper about the trees until he was tired, then, stretching out along a stout limb, or in a convenient fork, bask in the luxuriant warmth of the sun. He soon knew the territory around his home—the sunny glade, through which, between green, mossy banks, murmured the gentle rivulet. He knew, too, the tall shady beeches, the hazel with promise of a fine nut-harvest to come, and, further afield, the sombre but sweet-scented pines. He soon developed a roving disposition, and though he was to be seen frisking about the glade, and scuttering along the familiar runways, he was not too often with his family. Less and less time was spent with his parents, and finally, he left them, to continue his life alone, well able, by now, to provide for and look after himself.

His favourite haunt during the hot summer weather was the cool, green, glade. He would romp in the trees above the stream, never minding a fall, for he had no fear of the clear water beneath. One day he was playing in an old oak above a deep, dark pool in the stream. Running nimbly along a bough, he leapt lightly towards a limb high over his head, but he misjudged his distance, and, twisting violently, he fell, to land with a splash in the pool below. Rising to the surface, he shook the glittering drops from his little head, and struck out strongly for the shore, giving an occasional jerk of his tail as he moved along. Suddenly a heaven-sent impulse caused him to spurt forward. The great, white pike, shooting from the depths in a swirl of green water, missed that jerking tail, and sank, thwarted, to the bed of the pool. The little red squirrel crouched frightened and quivering in the fork of a friendly elm, and thenceforth deserted the sunlit glade and rippling stream.

Instinct now played a great part in Reddy's action. Nobody had taught Reddy that, when the leaves began to lose their colour and when the days became shorter, he must collect nuts. He knew, however, and was to be seen in the early days of autumn, scampering amongst the trees, then back to a weather-worn beech. Here, in the old trunk, Reddy had found a comfortable hollow, and here he commenced to store up his nuts. True, he was not a very consistent hoarder as he would eat on one day many of the recently stored nuts—there he would sit with the sun glinting on his fur, and gnaw the small end of a nut, then split it down vertically and devour eagerly the tasty kernel. Gradually, however, the food piled up in the hollow tree till, as the days became shorter still and cooler, Reddy decided that his larder was full. Now he pursued a different plan, rushing about after his nuts as before, but then carrying them to a bare patch of ground a little way off. Here he would delve down into the soft loam, pop the nut down amongst the dead leaves and cover it up. This he did, not knowing that the first frost would freeze the surface leaves, so forming a layer that would protect the nuts from all the bad weather that might follow. He did not, however, rely on nuts alone for his winter food, he laid by a store of mushrooms. These he stored in a very different manner. He would carry them up to a safe fork among the tall trees, and there leave them. By this means they would dry up and be kept in good



condition protected from the deer and field-mice which would steal them. Then, as the days became still shorter and the wind, that brought the dead leaves rustling to earth, became keener, Reddy rose later in the morning and retired earlier to his comfortable home in the beech-tree. Soon he emerged only for an hour at mid-day and when the weather broke and the first frost showed that winter had come, he did not come out at all. Reddy was sleeping his winter sleep.

There he lay, cosy and dry in his warm bed with a good supply of food to hand. Yet it is to be feared that the little rascal did not take his winter sleep too seriously. When the bright winter sun, darting through the leafless canopy overhead, brought a little extra warmth to the wintry world, Reddy would come forth, drowsy at first but soon rushing about in his normal manner. Now he would scratch amongst the leaves for his hidden treasure, and if he did not find nuts, the bulbs of woodland plants, preserved among the moist leaves, served his purpose. These excursions served to preserve Reddy's rapidly diminishing store for the harder weather that followed, when he stayed at home undisturbed by blustering wind or whirling snow.

Soon the warm winds began to sweep across the countryside, the snowdrop and crocus began to give place to bluebell and daffodil, and Reddy emerged from his winter sleep. The trees were a fresh, verdant green, and the excited twittering of the birds told of mating time at hand and cosy little nests to come. Reddy was full of life, a furry shape darting from tree to tree, basking in the sunlight, and chasing any marauding squirrel from his preserves, angrily chattering and hurling abuse. Reddy had little to fear, now, from owl or merlin as he was a healthy, fully developed squirrel: there were no gales to blow him from the high trees, and he had no family to attract the attention of stoat or weasel. Yet the wild animal must be always on the alert, always alive to danger. Reddy had never seen a pine-marten: they are rare in Britain; yet when he saw the chocolate-brown tree-weasel with its flaming orange breast, touched at the sides with a lighter shade, he knew danger. Off he flew among the pines, for failure to escape meant death. The squirrel is no sluggard among the branches, but compared with the marten it is but an indifferent climber. Reddy's only hope was that his heavier foe, having



to leap earlier from the swaying boughs, and land later, would miss his footing and hurtle to his death eighty feet below. instinct told him this, and he sought the slenderest branches, and made the longest leaps possible. All in vain! The chase tended quickly earthwards, then the marten flashed head-first down a trunk—.

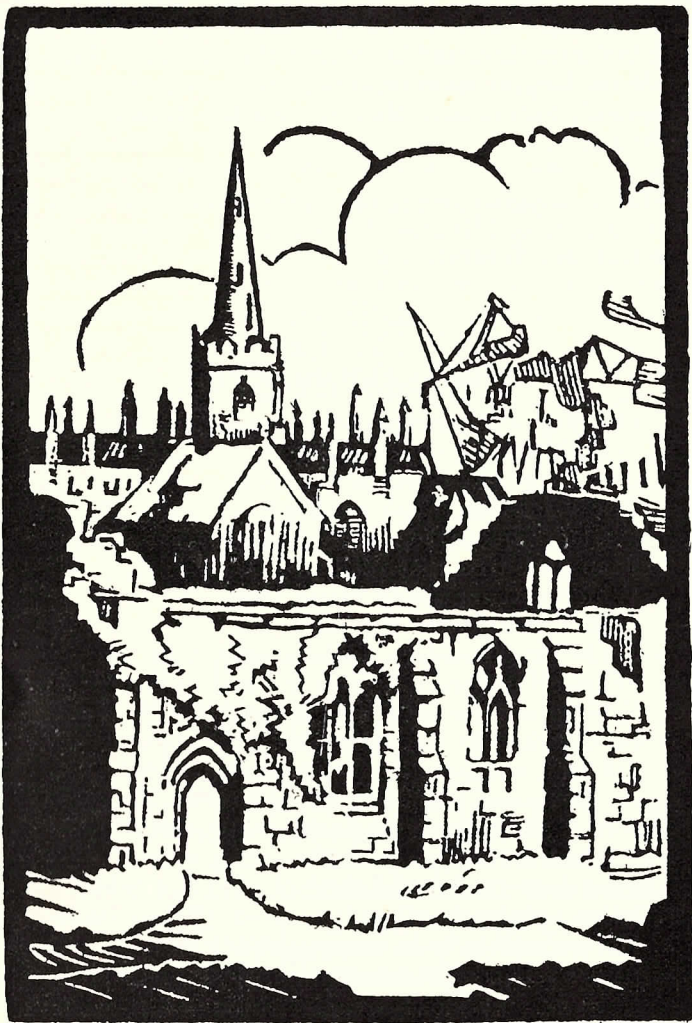
\* \* \* \*

Reddy's mangled corpse was carried off to a high fork amongst the pines. His short life was over. Nature's inexorable law had been fulfilled.

### THE FORSAKEN EDITOR.

One day when morning fair appeared,  
 With slow and slower tread  
 The *Visor* box he sadly neared:  
 The Wise One shook his head.  
 "Alas," quoth he, "for many years  
 I too have trod that road,  
 Which cost me many bitter tears  
 'Till I transferred the load  
 On to thy shoulders, luckless one,  
 Who, all unwittingly  
 Said 'I'm your man, I take it on,'—  
 Soon fades thy youthful glee."  
 "I fear me so," the youth replied  
 As he turned round the key;  
 But as the lid flew back, he cried,  
 "Aha! Behold, and see!"  
 He raised the article aloft  
 With holy veneration:  
 He crooned to it in accents soft  
 And swelled with admiration.  
 But when he slowly read it through  
 He could no more rejoice.  
 His features took an ashen hue,  
 And chilly waxed his voice  
 Like as the bitter winds do blow  
 That prophesy a blizzard.  
 He said in accents faint and slow—  
 "'Tis copied from the 'Wizard'!"

R.I.P.



*From a Lino-cut.*

**BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.**

**BIRKENHEAD PRIORY.**

Birkenhead Priory was founded in or about the year 1150 when Hamon de Masci, third baron of Dunham Massey, founded a convent at Birkenhead, for sixteen monks of the Benedictine Order. The land all around was woodland, with a little stream to the north of the Priory. From a bend in the shore of the Mersey, south of the Priory the boats of the monks plied for hire to the "hamlet of Lyverpole." The descendants of the house of Dunham seem to have been generous towards the Priory; for we find it obtained the manor of Claughton, lands in Moreton, Tranmere, Overbebyton, Salghall and Bidston, also the rectories of Bidston and Backford, whilst the rectory of Bowden was given (by Hamon, the fifth baron) in 1278. One of the duties that fell upon the monks of Birkenhead, was to provide hospitality for travellers, and, as a result, an inn was set up. For two hundred years very little of importance is heard of the Priory, and we may deduce that its life flowed on peacefully. Then came the dissolution of the monasteries, and the Priory was one of the first places to suffer. The monks were scattered, and the lands, after a short period in royal hands, were granted "to one Ralph Worsly."

The ruins of the Priory, although neither extensive nor imposing, are decidedly picturesque. The buildings are arranged round an open court, the south side of which is composed of the Priory Church. This red stone building was two storeys high, the top storey being a dormitory. The lower room was spanned by a double row of arches, supported by pillars down the centre, and comprised the offices of the Priory. The west side of the court is occupied by the refectory, and the abbot's lodgings. The refectory was lighted by two elegant pointed windows, one of which is now a ruin, but the other moderately well preserved. The abbot's lodgings communicated with the refectory by a covered passage, which also gave access to the court or quadrangle, and a small spiral staircase led from the abbot's lodgings to the Priory. The eastern side of the court was occupied by the Chapter House. This was an oblong building of two storeys, the lower of vaulted stone, and by far the most ancient part of the Priory.

Imposing it may not be, but the shadow of antiquity lies upon its weathered stones and ivied walks. Let none say that Birkenhead is entirely a city of the future; there, out of sight,



ruined, and old, stands the Priory that has seen Birkenhead grow from a small hamlet to the town of the present day.

J.E.H.

### THE PEBBLE ON THE BEACH.

I am lying on some wet sand where the tide just covers me when a wave comes in. I have been thrown out into the water by a small boy, but I know that when a few more waves come along, I shall be washed back again. As I lie here I begin to think of my past adventures and all that I have seen. About seventy years ago, I remember seeing some splendid full rigged, sailing ships come sweeping into the harbour. They had brought tea from China, and the brawny sailors sang an old sea-shanty as they carried the tea-chests ashore. Farther back still, I recall ships with carved handrails and high poops, with rows of port-holes bristling with guns, and splendid ships of Queen Elizabeth's day, which used to plunder the Spanish galleons, rich in gold from the Main. In the days of the Crusaders, I remember ships with curious figureheads carved on their bows, with gaudily painted sails; they carried soldiers in glittering chain-mail to the Holy Land. I recollect ships in which fierce, blue-eyed Danes and Norwegians came to our land to burn and pillage, carrying off the golden vessels from the monasteries. Shrouded in the mists of the past, huge triremes of ancient Rome sail towards me with their colourful hulls and long perspectives of oar, with curious engines of war ranged along the decks. Shadows of time obscure my memory. Dim in the haze of the past, I see men clad in rough skins, sailing in rude dug-outs of hollowed wood, harpooning fish with stone-headed spears. Through the darkness of thousands of years, I see a great shape come gliding noiselessly through the water. It is one of the many prehistoric monsters of that time. Beyond this I can hardly recall anything. I have vague memories of being in thick mud. A titanic explosion hurled me out of boiling, bubbling waters and I fell to earth. Thus was I born! Through how many more ages shall I lie here on this beach watching the passing of the years?

R. TAYLOR, Form IIa.

## VARIA.

Hearty congratulations to Jellicoe on winning a Training Grant at Oxford. Now that the supply of clerks for 'big' business in Liverpool exceeds the demand, perhaps more of our brainy ones will consider the call of even the older universities.

\* \* \* \*

When asked for his opinion an experienced matriculant in VIs. told our representative that any university, however old, would have to make a very favourable offer in order to compete with the solid attractions of a bowler hat, daily journey over/under Mersey plus *Post* and cigarette, and daily return ditto (under contract with the Mersey Railway or Birkenhead Corporation) plus *Echo* and cigarette. A fellow, he argued, wanted to see *LIFE*.

\* \* \* \*

During the recent campaign of the Merseyside Youth Movement we received a welcome visit from a Mr. Goodman, a London solicitor, who addressed the School on the aims and principles of the Movement.

\* \* \* \*

The aims and principles of the speakers to whom we listen occasionally after prayers are all excellent and beyond reproach; but even were they less lofty, they would still receive the support of a large majority, because of the valuable time they subtract from the first period.

\* \* \* \*

We are confidently looking forward to the erection of a new assembly hall towards the close of the present century. To which we add, with a suitable gesture, the classic American expression of disbelief.

\* \* \* \*

Without Comment:

A contribution has been received from VIs.

\* \* \* \*

It is not often that members of a busy school staff have much energy left for the pursuit of further academic distinction. All the more honour to Mr. W. E. Williams, who was recently awarded the Prince Consort Medal for Historical Research at Cambridge.

The Editor is very keen on having a section of *The Visor* devoted entirely to the Old Boys' Association, their societies, news, and original contributions. Grand, but what about a corner for Tiny Tots edited by Uncle George?

\* \* \* \*

Everyone present at the Scout Entertainment in the Gym. said it was a great success, and the statement of accounts lately published says the same thing in another way. A very profitable evening for all concerned.

\* \* \* \*

Our old friend Miss Dropstitch writes asking us why we do not follow the example of the Juniors and brighten up the School premises with flowers. We could group daffodils about the detention sheets, train rambler roses round the blackboard, and to complete the scheme, request the staff to wear gowns of flowered chintz.

\* \* \* \*

Keates and Snelson deserve special mention for the way in which they delighted their audiences with their musical talent at the End of Term Concert and the Scout Entertainment.

\* \* \* \*

The display of *Visor* posters this term has been dazzling. From the lack of response one would think B.I. meant Institute for the Blind.

\* \* \* \*

We regret to state that we have failed to obtain B\*i\*g\*'s old suit for the School museum, but as one of our sub-editors came away from the interview with a piece of his mind, we are presenting that instead.

\* \* \* \*

The School has acquired another silver cup, this time for the Harriers. It will be presented for the first time to the victorious team on March 18th, when the Inter-House Run takes place.

\* \* \* \*

Our form representatives complain that the term has been so short that before they had got used to looking forward to half-term, it was time to re-write the exam. papers in which they failed. If they have had to resort to fiction in writing their notes, it is only for lack of facts.



## Fairy Tale :

Once upon a time there was a form called VIs., who, hearing that *The Visor* was short of material, all sat down and wrote original contributions of great brilliance without being asked.

\* \* \* \*

With its new House Captain, Atkin should be able to bridge over its detention and other difficulties.

\* \* \* \*

Local brewery shares dropped several points on the announcement that the Prefects' Re-union Dinner would not take place.

\* \* \* \*

It has been established by an authority in Vlb. that the principles at stake in the French in the French Revolution were *Liberty, Freeequality and Eternity.*

## HISTORY.

The Ancient Britons had their homes  
In caves upon the rocks,  
Their weapons they were made of stones  
Their lives were full of shocks.  
The mammoth had a fearsome tusk  
With which he killed his prey,  
And when they met him in the dusk  
They tried to run away.

When William left his ships of war  
And jumped upon the land  
He tripped upon the English shore  
And grabbed a lump of sand,  
His followers were quite upset  
To see their leader fall  
But William said "that land we'll get;  
You need not fear at all."

MALLY, U.P.  
G. DAVIES.

---

### ATKIN HOUSE NOTES.

House activities have slowed down somewhat during the course of this very short Easter Term, but on the whole Atkin has maintained its level of excellence fairly well. Football has been all-important this term. The Seniors lost to Stitt 7—0; but a weak Atkin team drew with Tate 1—1. It is in the Juniors however, where our strength lies; they have beaten Stitt 6—1; and Tate 8—3; and so far have been undefeated throughout the season. We suffered a great loss when our Captain, Robinson, left early in the term, but Bridge has so far capably discharged the duties of House Captain.

We are glad to see that the number of detentions accumulated by the House is steadily diminishing, but we have not yet been top in the Mark Sheets this term.

The House-run is drawing near, and it is to be hoped that a good muster of Atkinites will turn out. We do not possess a "crack" runner in the Seniors, but—who knows? E.T.

---

### STITT HOUSE NOTES.

As this term has been so short only four inter-house matches have been played.

The Seniors have won both their matches, beating Atkin 7—0 and Westminster 6—0. The Juniors are still very weak, having been beaten by Atkin 6—1 and by Westminster 5—3, although in the second of these matches they showed some signs of improvement.

We heartily congratulate G. W. Smith on being awarded his football colours, an honour which he certainly deserves.

In the Mark Sheets we have followed up our success in the first term by being top every time; incidentally we have had the least number of detentions.

We have a large number of members in the Harriers Club, and have every hope of once more carrying off the Cross-country championship this year. J.W.

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### TATE HOUSE NOTES.

Owing to the shortness of the term, the activities of the House have been very limited, and there are few definite results to record.

Two Senior House matches have been played, but both have proved disappointing in view of the improved display against Stitt at the end of last term.

Westminster defeated us by 5—0, and although our forwards were often attacking, their shooting was never dangerous. Westminster, on the other hand, used their chances and deserved their win. We gained one point against Atkin, but the fault was evident, for we attacked incessantly. The result was 1—1 after Atkin had scored first, and Minns scored the equaliser.

No Intermediate games have been played, but two Junior games have been lost, Atkin beating us 8—3, and Westminster 5—3.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to C. A. Shaw, on obtaining his football colours.

We continue to hold our own in School work, having been first once, and never below second in the Mark Sheets. There are still however, one or two, who must pay less frequent visits to the detention-room.

F. L. Miller and Wadlow represent us in the Chess Team, and we hope they will be successful in bringing the House championship to Tate.

M.A.M.

### WESTMINSTER HOUSE NOTES.

We are pleased with ourselves. Why not? With a lead of six points, we are practically certain of the House Football Championship. The Juniors have continued the good work they started last term. The Inters. are still the strongest section of the House, and the Seniors are good.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
Seniors ... ..	4	2	2	0	12	16	4
Inters. ... ..	4	3	0	1	17	11	7
Juniors ... ..	5	3	1	1	21	16	7
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	13	8	3	2	50	43	18

Though we cannot hope for a high place in the Inter-House Senior Run on March 18th, we stand a fair chance with the Juniors. The Cricket season and Sports Day will not find Westminster unprepared. Our hopes are already soaring. In conclusion, we must congratulate our Vice-Captain, Jellicoe, on obtaining a Training Grant to Oxford University. If the good wishes we extend him can be of any material advantage, he will not fare badly.

W.H.M.



## OTHERS AS WE SEE THEM.

*The Cowleian* (Cowley School, St. Helens, Christmas, 1931), has a racy description of a visit to Italy by a party from the school, which prompts the suggestion that room be found in the B.I. Swiss expedition for a competent reporter. Apart from this the magazine contains little beyond accounts of school activities and correspondence, the latter including letters from old boys at no less than *seven* universities and colleges up and down the country. Evidently there are people in St. Helens with an eye beyond the parish boundary, and an ideal higher than the worship of the Great God Matric.

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*The Log* (Hobart High School, Tasmania, December, 1931), maintains a standard far above the level of the average school magazine. We congratulate the school, not without envy, on the way in which it supports its own venture.

\* \* \* \*

*The Lion* (Rock Ferry High School, November, 1931), was received too late for review in our last issue. It is edited by a master, so we proceed with caution, slipping quietly under the noses of the 16-inch Editorial guns for'ard, and hopping inboard further aft. *This metaphor must now cease.* Publication is annual, and the contents are mainly a review of the school year. This gives writers of House and Form Notes a good deal to talk about: the latter are in most cases well done and show originality and variety of treatment. House rivalry is apparently so strong that one fervid scribe cries out for the blood of members of the other houses, breaking into malediction in the words of the *Marseillaise*—

Qu'un sang impur  
Abreuve nos sillons !

But perhaps he too is a master.

Noteworthy among the literary contributions are an interesting and informative account of Liverpool docks and shipping south of the Landing Stage,—we look forward to reading the promised sequel—and a Wellsian fantasy dealing with an alleged conquest of gravity, which though ingenious, does not quite succeed in producing the necessary illusion.

References to whole and half holidays, granted at the instance of various notabilities, occur at pleasantly frequent intervals. This is unquestionably a Good Thing. We salute

all Mayors, Chairmen of Governors and other Personages and hope they are looking in our direction.

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In addition to the above *The Visor* Committee gratefully acknowledges receipt of *The Caldeian*, the T.G.S. (Teignmouth Grammar School), *The Quest*, *The Towers*, *Oulton*, *Esmeduna*, *Wallaseyan*, *Inkwell*, *The Log*.

## LIBRARY NOTES.

### News in Brief.

War is raging over a wide front in Libria, between the Umpteenth Commercial Army and a battalion of the B.I. Editorials. The Commercials are led by Capt. G. W. Shaw, while the Editorials are under the command of F. M. Lord Jellicoe. The Shavian troops have just captured the Editorial second line trench, and are steadily forcing their opponents into a corner. The firing so far has been light, twelve-ounce Piers Plowman being the heaviest calibre, but the Editorials, retreating on their ammunition base, are opening fire with Larousse and Lewis-and-Short twenty-five pounders. It is feared that the Coms. are calling in the aid of the Scientia, a fierce and warlike race, who have already shown their hostility to the Editorials by a boycott on their produce. They are stated to be secretly manufacturing poison gas in the adjacent Kemi. Labb. territory. The Geneva Conference had a picnic on the Rhine to discuss the matter, and Herr Holzkopf, the president, stated to-night that the League regards the situation as "grave."

(HOOPER).

Consternation was caused in financial circles by the news that National Magazines Ltd., hitherto a safe investment, had suddenly collapsed. It was announced at noon on March 4th, that most of the shareholders had withdrawn their capital, and consequently the shares dropped below par. An extraordinary meeting of shareholders was held, however, later in the day, and on the understanding that an entirely new line of business was to be carried on, confidence was again restored, and the shares returned to normal.

A meeting of the tribunal of the W.R.U. (Work Restriction Union) was held on March 5th, to enquire into the case of Comrade E.T., charged with exceeding Union hours. Several witnesses were called, all of whom agreed that the accused had been known to start work *less than ten minutes*

after the period opened, and to go on at least three minutes after the bell. A second charge of surreptitious swotting was dismissed, but on the first count the prisoner was sentenced to three years' service on the *Visor* staff (an extreme form of penal servitude).

#### Late Advertisement:

To LET.—Large roomy belfry. Would suit pair respectable bats: Apply A.H.W. Box 25 B.I.

[Special.—The Editorials, by a flank attack, have driven the enemy back into Kemi Labb., but owing to the approach of exams., an armistice has been patched up]. R.I.P.

### FORM NOTES.

#### Vis.

We have played only one match this term against Vb., winning by 12 goals. We have also had a table-tennis tournament amongst ourselves, the first prize being 1s. 6d., the second 1s. I believe there is great difficulty in collecting the entrance fees, due mainly to the depreciation of the pound.

Our hearty congratulations are extended to Weston, who has won the School Chess Championship. Smith has also done very well in gaining his position at the top of the 2nd division.

Meat lovers may be pleased to know that the French for corned beef is "cornes des bœufs." "Il cacha brusquement" has been translated as "he spat brusquely." No more jokes are apparently forthcoming from VIs. this term, as Matric. is suspended, like the sword of Damocles, above us. Sharp instruments, penknives, and other objects suitable for committing suicide with (except braces and suspenders), have been removed from the form-room, as several boys seem to be feeling the strain of overwork.

A real 1932 calendar has been fixed on the form-room wall—oh no, it is not one of those common English Calendars. It is a real Italian one. There is no truth in the rumour that it is adorned with Mussolini's autograph.

Tales have been circulating that a strange man loiters about VIs. form-room door at 2-15 every day. He is said to carry a little black note-book in one hand, and a pencil in the other. He entices boys to his side, and inscribes their names in this small volume. The report has caused much anxiety, and anybody giving information concerning the aforesaid unknown person will be rewarded.

ANGELO, VIs.



## VIa.

Hark ! 'Tis a master's voice,  
Says, " Learn that,—quick !"  
And VIa. has no choice ;  
Such is matric.

" C equals 10 HR tan theta over 2 pi n. A plus B all cubed squared A, B, C—Oh, heck !"

Such are the pre-matric mutterings of VIa. The masters' conversation consists mainly of : " Do you want matric ? Then take this down." Or again, " Poor stuff, poor stuff, you'll never get it at that rate !" Alas !

But to turn to the lighter side of life. We have not been without excitement, owing to the strange behaviour of one of our windows. It happened thus : a certain master, objecting to the draught from the sash windows, instructed us to open the fan-lights at the top. This we were proceeding zealously to do, when one of them leapt from its frame, almost braining (?) Jackson. Hence, the next foggy morn, we groped about the room in a wet, cold, mist. Insult was added to injury when Mr. \*\*\*\*\*, practically hugging the radiator, enquired if we were cold ! During this Market Drayton period, it was a treat to emerge at break and find the tingling warmth (by comparison) rushing through our veins.

We have just learnt that bigamy means ' having two wives ' and trigonometry ' three wives.' Saints preserve us from geometry !

Keates, one of the art-editors, seems to take a malicious and fiendish delight in plastering the school with malignant ' shielded ' scutcheons ' and nightmarish ' dim emblazonings.' Watch out Keates ; Epstein might get jealous. J.C.

## VIb.

We are to be found in the Geography Room, struggling beneath the heavy burdens of our long (?) and arduous (?) studies. We are situated between the two labs. ; and every Tuesday we receive a fresh supply of  $H_2S$ , the crude product of Advanced Chemical Industries (1932), Ltd., manufacturers of rytagen re-sultphake and other s(ul)purious commodities.

Early this year we had the pleasure of welcoming Campbell, Phoenix, and Pott from VIr. This change may not have had much effect on our scholastic output, but Phoenix has taken a delight in showing us the Art of Boxing, or Administering Black Eyes.

We are pleased to be able to say that detentions are not very frequent in VIb. Our honourable form master has only to threaten the form with 'on lines for a week,' and good conduct is at once restored.

G.C.

### VIr.

Although this term is the shortest of all, we are having enough enjoyment out of it.

Our pet donkey M\*r\*h still brays during Chemistry and French.

When learning one fact about magnetism we were told that it had to be taken with a "dose of salts."

Being asked if he had 'rewritten' on his book, B\*a\*e replied, "No sir; it says 'Do again.'"

We still believe that Q\*a\*le and W\*1\*i\*ms are going to sea.

After collecting for the hospitals one of our Old Boys gave us a tune on the saxophone, whereupon we were told that it gave us a good idea of the French Revolution.

The next items on the school programme are the exams. and Speech Day at both of which we hope to do well.

R.E.M.

### Va.

"La di da di da, la di da di di.

Five A calling; a jolly good form are we."

So sang the Va. oracle from his exalted position of four stars on the mark sheet.

Of a truth, this form can produce famous men, from journalists (e.g. myself) to country yokels like J\*\*\*s. During Latin, an 'antique' was defined as a valuable old article; "But," protested friend J\*\*\*s, "A rich old man is not called an antique." When this worthy grows older, he will be such an antique that we shall have to put him in a glass case. Pr\*\*\*\*\*e still takes all his books home for study. He must be very far ahead of us, because he has forgotten the work we are doing at present!

Ch\*\*\*an shows that he is impatient for the coming swimming season, the waves in his hair becoming more and more turbulent. In the meantime he still plays with his "puffers." "Black Dick Howe," the historic gent, was once christened

" Dirty Dick " by that misguided youth Po\*\*\*r. " Fatty " W\*\*\*\*\*ms still wields the board duster with a mighty hand, and Tishy A\*\*\*\*\*t still guffaws throatily.

That's all now.

L.W.

### Vb.

The frequent disappearance of the detention sheet has been a prominent feature in this term's activities ; it has been found in all sorts of unlikely places, such as behind pictures, up the chimney, and under the master's desk Va's. sheet has even found its way behind our pictures !

At the beginning of term, a certain member of the Staff said that he had traced to our form the culprit who pours ink into desks, but we trust that his powers of detection are at fault.

To those élèves who are " swotty " at French, it may be interesting to note that, selon M\*s\*n, " la foudre vient d' éclater " means, " The thunderbolt came with a clatter."

Mr. H\*ll evidently believes in trisyllabic substitution, as he now spells ' burglar,' ' burgular.'

Out of five matches played this term, we have won three, drawn one, and lost the other.

M.

### Vj.

There has been keen competition this term for the first place on our mark sheet, and Cumming's position has been valiantly assailed by Parry, Lowry, Simms, and others.

We have a few members who are so fond of the form-room that they have to be forcibly (?) ejected by S\*r\*i\*s\*n at the close of school. This may (or may not) explain how the detention sheet becomes pinned on the ceiling, pushed behind the blackboard, or even inserted under the flaps of Mr. P\*r\*s' desk. S\*r\*i\*s\*n seems to think it does.

Some time ago Trigg, had a dispute with Mr. P\*r\*s as to whether ' column ' or pillar were the better word to use in an essay. Mr. P\*r\*s thought ' pillar ' was, but Trigg objected, as he thought it might be confused with ' piller ' (on a bed) ! H\*l\*on was hit in the mouth with a ball, and came to school next morning with his lower lip looking like a second Carnera's. M\*r\*h had the misfortune to drop a fender on his toe, but is now quite recovered.

T.M.J.



## IVa.

This term has been fairly uneventful for us, the only happenings of importance being matches against the other fourths. In the first game, against IVb., we were rather unlucky to lose by 5 goals to 4. We did better against IVj., winning by the enormous total of 13 goals to 0.

Our sole representative in the Junior Shield team is Tong, who, we are sorry to hear, may be leaving shortly.

We were well represented at the Scout concert, seven members of the form taking part.

Great interest is taken in Chess, many of the form belonging to the school club.

We are often represented in 'another place' by H\*\*\*\*\*n, who, it is rumoured, is out to break the record.

Certain 'witty' remarks are made in class. In French, K\*\*\*\*\*r asked if "coup d'oeil" meant "a punch in the eye." He also defined a rhombus as a squashed square.

The form are all very indignant as we have not yet had a form tea, and as our library has not started. K.

## IVb.

'We've heard of forms where no one talks or whistles,  
And the air is never full of inky missiles;  
Where shiny boys sit silent, row on row.  
But where they are—alas, I do not know.'

The catapult craze has spread even to IVb., where many doughty warriors, particularly in the corners, kept up such a bombardment that the unfortunate neutrals in the line of fire (who suffered most in loss of life and property) are thinking of sending an S.O.S. to the League.

We must congratulate Wetherell (our budding G.B.S.) on being the only boy in the school to obtain over one thousand marks in the exams.

At football, under the able captaincy of Roylance, we have done very well, having won all our six matches. We hope to keep up this standard in future games. I.M.

## IVj.

Although this term has been so short and uneventful, we all agree that it has been very satisfactory,—except, perhaps, in football, in which department we have played only two matches. They were both against IVa., and each time we

were beaten by rather an overwhelming score, but this, no doubt, was due to the fact that on neither occasion did we have more than half the proper team out. However, we were well represented in each Junior Shield match by Mackinlay and Wheat.

In singing we are trying :

(a) to burst our lungs, and

(b) to master the Speech-day songs.

Of course, we are all looking forward to Speech-day, but some say it would be better without the songs !

Stamp-collecting is now the latest craze and it is going along in full swing. Everybody is mad on it, and one enthusiast was so eager to obtain stamps that he very nearly "traded" a genuine stamp for a "home-made" one !

Mr. D—— still amuses us, and he has christened two members of the form "The Chemical Twins"; while Sm\*\*\* still continues to ask ridiculous questions, and T\*y\*o\* often has us laughing in his attempts to "get round" some long words.

The other day someone asked what a "pitcher" was, the answer was "an earthenware vessel probably used for carrying water—and not the sort of thing you go to see at the cinema !".

What an atrocious pun for a master.

J.S.

### IIIa.

Not Received.

### IIIb.

IIIb. are making good progress, chiefly at football, beating IIIa. and IIIj. and losing against the Juniors. Mr. Wilde baffled the IIIa. forwards by playing full-back for us, while Mr. Thacker played for IIIa.

In a recent paper-chase, Clare and Tweedle, the hares, outwitted the pack and came home untraced.

We have nine members in the Chess Club, and Sarginson won the Third Division Tournament.

The form is top of the list in *Visor* sales, subscriptions being paid more quickly this term, owing to our form-master's enthusiasm.

Anderson often oversleeps, and rarely turns up in the mornings (perhaps he does not like French). Mr. M\*\*t does

not like the alarm bell which the Janitor installed, as it interrupts him in the middle of a discourse on French verbs.

Mr. W\*\*\*e must think that IIIb's. spare parts are detachable; at any rate, he is always telling us to glue our eyes on the board!

### IIIj.

To get the unpleasant part of our form-notes over first, we must report that we have been unlucky enough to lose both our football matches by 7—8 and 0—11. We hope, however, to vindicate ourselves.

The sudden craze for "clappers" was brought to an abrupt end by threats from our form-master of detentions for the users thereof.

Although most of us find it easy to obtain the density of various substances in the Physics Laboratory; yet in the classroom the density of some of our members is beyond human calculation!

Our new motto: "Notre vie est trop courte pour perdre ainsi nos instants" suggested by our French Master, was evidently not to our taste, for after a few days it was forcibly removed from the notice board (and consequently from our memory) and transferred to the waste-paper basket.

In the recent debate (trams v. buses), IIIj. were well represented, as we supplied two out of the four speakers. A number of our members also took part in the paper chase, and apparently found it very enjoyable.

We all look forward to the time when our form prefect, S\*\*w comes in to keep order before lessons commence!

G.E.P.

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### JUNIOR SCHOOL NOTES.

The only event of any importance since the last issue of *The Visor* is the Annual Prize Distribution which took place in Beechcroft Hall, on December 17th. Lady Bates presented the prizes and stayed afterwards to see "The Wind in the Willows," the play performed by the Juniors. As the Prize-giving, for the first time, was fixed for the afternoon, the embarrassed actors, dressed in their costumes, had to walk down the road in full daylight; but at any rate we were spared the usual ordeal of dressing hurriedly and yet noiselessly in the very limited space of Beechcroft "kitchen." The play



received a great deal of praise and finished without any mishaps. The parts were quite long, but no prompting was necessary, though "Mole" at one moment had his mouth so full of bread and butter that he could not respectably seize his cue.

Dramatics are so popular with the Juniors that once a week after school a "play-acting" meeting is held at which we hope to discover some new talent.

The Cub Pack has lately been devoting all its energies to obtaining funds for camp equipment. By selling home-made sweets in large quantities—and remarkable paper bags—they have already collected £4 towards the cost of a new tent. The cubs joined with the scouts in a belated Christmas party this term, and, like everyone else who went to it, greatly enjoyed the entertainment given recently by the scouts.

Only two matches have been played this term, as there have been a number of important events at the field on Wednesday afternoons. The Juniors have, however, beaten Form III. twice, and they have shown a lively interest in the Senior Shield matches.

H.M.D.

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### "THE SCHOOL VIOLINS."

Since our last notes were printed in *The Visor*, there have unfortunately been several gaps in our ranks. We therefore modestly refrain from using the word "orchestra," as now only "strings" remain.

Practices were started again at the end of last term, for the performance which we gave on the last day.

This term we gave our first public performance, at the Scout concert. The work we have been doing includes a Hornpipe by Handel, a Minuet by the same composer, an Andante from Haydn's Symphony in G, the "Waverley" selections of Scottish airs, and a selection of English airs, entitled "Old London." Judging from the applause received at the before-mentioned concerts, our efforts were appreciated, and our work has not been in vain. We must here again record our appreciation of the very able instruction and guidance we have received from Mr. W. E. Williams, under whose direction we have been able to carry on. We wish to make an appeal for more members.

J.G.K.

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**CHess NOTES.**

We received a severe set-back when Liverpool Collegiate defeated us heavily, in the first match we played after Christmas. A fortnight later, victory again eluded our team, though narrowly, when we drew with Holt Secondary School. A Junior team again defeated Claughton Higher Grade School.

Home affairs are decidedly brighter. Weston is to be congratulated on winning the School Championship with Sarginson, always reliable, runner up. With regard to the other divisions, J. A. A. Smith heads the list in the Second, Sarginson, J. R., in the Third, and a new star, Bunting, in the Fourth.

The keen rivalry and regular attendance of these younger boys has been a pleasing feature of the season's work. Let us hope for a speedy return of the Wright Challenge Shield to our trophy cupboard.

W.H.M.

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**DEBATING SOCIETY NOTES.**

Unfortunate delay, early in the term, somewhat cramped our activities, but the Society soon made its presence felt. In place of the annual Junior Debate, we organised one on "Trams v. Buses," in which the main speakers were Senior boys, and the seconders, Third Formers. "Trams" were victorious by 29 votes to 9. A. H. Williams made a good maiden speech in favour of Continental holidays as opposed to holidays in Britain, championed by Marsh. The home-lovers won by 23 votes to 7.

A Tariff Bill is in course of preparation to be put before the House on March 8th, when our old friends, F. W. Miller, the great Free-trader, and Angelman will once more do battle.

A limited programme for the summer term will probably include a debate on Disarmament.

W.H.M.

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**SWIMMING NOTES.**

The uninitiated would hardly think the winter term suitable for aquatic exertions; but in spite of the inclemency of the weather a hardy band of enthusiasts have been attending the baths regularly. The main activity has been the Life Saving Class. This is an annual institution whereby boys are coached for the Royal Life Saving Society's test for the Bronze Medallion. There is a small entrance fee payable, but instruction is quite free. The medallion and certificate which the

successful candidate receives are well worth having, and we should like to see an ever-increasing number of boys taking the examination. About a dozen boys succeeded last year, and this year ten are taking the test. Owing to the fact that the baths are now closed for repairs, the exam. itself has been postponed, but it is hoped that everyone will "pass out" in time for Speech Day.

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### THE HARRIERS CLUB.

The past term has been quite a successful one for the Harriers, numbers having increased appreciably, especially in the Junior pack.

Unfortunately several fixtures have been cancelled, and two inter-school runs only have been held, up to the time of writing. The first one was with Liverpool Institute, away. The School won this match by 31 points to 53. Our team was as follows:—Shaw (capt.), Smith, G. W., Williams, A. H., Christian, Wallace, Gill, Wood, Rees.

The second fixture was the return match with Liverpool Institute, over our course. On this occasion we were beaten by 32 points to 51, after a very fast run. Shaw was first man home, covering the course in 33 minutes. We fielded the following team:—Shaw (capt.), Williams, A. H., Gill, Wallace, Hayes, Rees, Wood, Marsh.

The other outstanding feature of the term was a paper chase held by the Junior pack. The hares were Clare and Tweedle, and the distance covered was about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles. A large number of runners turned out, and the run was very successful.

J.W.

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### NATIONAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

The sacrifices which many people are now being called upon to make have undoubtedly increased the difficulties of saving. On the other hand they have increased the need for it, and increased the value of savings in future years. On this account we strongly advise all members to make a determined effort to continue their weekly contributions. We issue an appeal to those who have been unwilling or unable to join us in the past.

We had hoped that the year 1931-32 would have been a record year, but the difficulties of the last few months have naturally shown their effect in decreasing the number of active



members and decreasing also the amount saved. During the last few weeks, however, a distinct improvement has been recorded, an improvement which we hope to see continued throughout the year.

R. H. (Hon. Sec).

J. W. H. (Hon. Sec.)

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### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY NOTES.

Unfortunately, owing to several difficulties the Society was unable to resume its meetings this season until nearly half term, but the late start has not spoilt the high standard of the papers. At the first meeting on February 8th, O. G. Hughes with "The Talkie" as his subject, gave an interesting lecture on how the 'sound' part of the talkie film is recorded and reproduced, with reference to the special apparatus and surroundings required for both these processes.

On February 16th, Mr. D. J. Williams spoke on "Soap Bubbles." He gave a general account of surface tension, soap films, and drop formation, and explained the formation and properties of bubbles, carrying out several illustrative experiments.

A talk on the "Cinema Organ" was given by Cathcart on March 1st. There are still two lectures to be given, and the season may be said to have been a successful one.

The thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Watts for the continued help he has given in organising and supervising the meetings.

J.H.D.W.

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### THE TABLE TENNIS CLUB.

Early in the term the Sixth Forms decided to form a Table Tennis Club, and, with the kind assistance of the Sports Fund were able to have a full-sized table made. Since then the fifteen members, under the supervision of Mr. Morris and Mr. Lord, have been assiduously practising the finer points of the game, as demonstrated by Messrs. J. and G. V. Ovens in a recent exhibition game.

On February 16th a School team was sent to play a strong Mersey Railway Social Club side, which figures in the Liverpool and District League. B.I. did exceptionally well to win 10 games out of 25, gaining 432 points to Mersey Railway's 482. K. J. Rice and F. W. Miller were outstanding players, each winning 3 games out of 5.

Several other fixtures are in view, one with Christ Church Y.M.S., and a return with Mersey R.S.C. being definitely arranged, in addition to one with the School Scout troop.

P.T.R.

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### SCOUT NOTES.

We opened our season this term with a "feed" and social. About sixty Scouts and Cubs were present and kept "Janny" very busy for about an hour.

Scout activities this term have been mainly confined to preparations and rehearsals for the light entertainment which was given in the School Gymnasium on February 25th. This function can be considered a success in every way and as a result of the large gathering of parents and friends, the troop funds benefited to no small extent. Thanks are due to all the boys (especially Tomlinson and Wetherell, J. H.), old boys, and members of the staff who worked so hard to make the entertainment the success it was.

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### SENIOR SHIELD COMPETITION.

**First Round, v. King's School, Chester (Home).**

**Team:**—Milligan; Shaw, Currie (capt.); Rice, Smith, G. W., Christian; Pott, Neil, Roberts, Smith, J. A., Minns.

Winning the toss, Currie elected to kick towards Ingleborough Road, against a stiff breeze. The School at once took charge of the game, and almost immediately Minns scored from a mêlée in the goal-mouth. When the same player, three minutes later, added a second, there was no doubt as to the School's superiority. Roberts, after some clever work by G. W. Smith, scored a third.

Chester now launched their first attack, and, after forcing a corner, scored their only goal. This seemed to spur B.I. to further efforts, and soon Neil scored from outside the penalty area.

The second half opened with the School pressing strongly. Roberts scored a fifth, and when he soon added a sixth, it was evident that the School score would be determined only by how long they played. Neil now scored the seventh, direct from a corner, Minns added the eighth and ninth, and Roberts brought our total to ten.

**Result:** B.I. 10. King's School 1.

**Second Round, v. Bootle Secondary School (Away).**

**Team :—**Milligan ; Shaw, Currie (capt.) ; Rice, Smith, G. W., Christian ; Barker, Neil, Roberts, Smith, J. A., Minns.

Currie again won the toss, and decided to take advantage of a strong wind and the slope. Play remained even for the first quarter of an hour, both defences having a trying time. Then Roberts opened the School score by heading in, after G. W. Smith's shot had rebounded from the cross-bar. Bootle fought back vigorously, and Milligan distinguished himself in our goal. Ten minutes from half-time Roberts scored again, from a pass by Neil, and just on half-time Minns added the third.

Unfortunately, Minns sprained his ankle in scoring this goal, and so was absent for the whole of the second half, which opened with Bootle on the offensive. For the rest of the game they were only once in their own half, but despite this the School defenders repulsed their vigorous attacks, and their only goal, a strong shot from the left, passing into the corner of the net, came ten minutes from time.

**Result :** B.I. 3. Bootle Secondary School 1.

**Semi-Final, v. Liscard High School.**

**Team :—**Milligan ; Shaw, Currie ; Rice, Smith, G. W., Christian ; Minns, Neil, Roberts, Smith, J. A., Jones, J. O.

In the first half Liscard were slightly superior, showing better ball-control and combination, and took the lead after twenty-five minutes. Towards half-time however, the School gradually gained the upper hand, having adapted themselves to the unusually large ground.

The second half was fought at a furious pace, and Liscard were continually hemmed in their own half, but from one of their few breakaways, they scored a second. B.I. fought back in spirited fashion and reduced the arrears through Roberts, but Liscard further strengthened their lead. Liscard were overrun during the last ten minutes, and Roberts again scored, while two minutes from the end we were awarded a penalty. Minns took the kick, but his splendid drive was unfortunate enough to hit the post.

**Result :** B.I. 2. Liscard High School 3.



**JUNIOR SHIELD COMPETITION.****First Round, v. Bootle Secondary School (Home).**

**Team ::**—Milligan; Ramsden, Jones, J.O.; Barker, J., Collinson, Edwards; Tong, Harrahill, Smith, R. (capt.), Mackinlay, Wheat.

End to end play was the order of the first few minutes, both goal-keepers being occasionally tested. Edwards opened the score, from outside the penalty area; and a few moments later Mackinlay added a second. The School team now appeared definitely superior. Smith, R., Mackinlay, and Harrahill increased the lead, during a period of good combined play.

In the second half, the state of the pitch obviously influenced the game, which became appreciably slower. Bootle fell away rapidly, and, after some very dull play, Harrahill scored twice, bringing the score to seven.

**Result:** B.I. 7. Bootle Secondary School 0.

**Second Round, v. Chester City and County School (Away).**

**Team ::**—Milligan; Ramsden, Edwards; Barker, J., Smith, R. (capt.), Tong; Wheat, Harrahill, Collinson, Mackinlay, Jones, J. O.

Winning the toss, Smith decided to kick against a slight slope. B.I. opened well, but failed to obtain a goal after a scramble in Chester's goal-mouth. This set-back appeared to dishearten the defence for a while, and after a hurried clearance by Milligan, Tong had the misfortune to kick into his own goal. Collinson later equalised, after a combined move by the forwards.

Early in the second half, Chester attacked, and scored when Milligan fumbled the rather greasy ball. Up to this point, Chester were undoubtedly the superior team, but now an improvement was effected by Smith changing places with Collinson. Wheat equalised fifteen minutes from time, from a difficult angle; Harrahill gave the School a lead by scoring from a pass by Smith, and Jones made victory certain with a shot which rebounded from the upright into the net.

**Result:** B.I. 4. Chester C. and C. 2.

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**Semi-Final v. Holt Secondary School (Home).**

**Team :—**Milligan ; Ramsden, Edwards ; Barker, J., Col-  
linson, Tong ; Wheat, Harrahill, Smith, R. (capt.), Mackin-  
lay, Jones, J. O.

With the sun at their backs and kicking down the slope, the School did most of the attacking but could not score owing to weakness in front of goal. Milligan made a good save but a forward, following up, gave Holt the lead and before half-time they were further ahead. In the second half the School played more promisingly although finishing was still poor. Smith, R., decreased the lead and later scored the equalising goal. From this point onward the School took absolute control of the game, but were unsuccessful in their attempt at scoring the winning goal.

**Result :** B.I. 2. Holt Secondary School 2.

**Semi-Final, Replay v. Holt Secondary School (Away).**

**Team :—**Milligan ; Ramsden, Edwards ; J. Barker, Col-  
linson, Tong ; Wheat, Harrahill, Smith, R. (capt.), Powell,  
Jones, J. O.

The School lost the toss, and kicked against a slight slope, the wind blowing across the field. The ground was rather heavy, thus giving the weightier B.I. team a distinct advantage. After a quarter of an hour, J. O. Jones gave us a lead which we well deserved. Wheat and R. Smith added two further goals before half-time.

In the second half we slackened off a little, but the defence stood firm. Play on both sides was uninteresting, and the game closed with no further scoring. Thus, for the first time since 1922-23, the Junior Shield team passed into the final, which is to be played against Liverpool Collegiate, the present holders of the Shield.

**Result :** B.I. 3. Holt Secondary School 0.

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**OLD BOYS' CHESS CLUB.**

It is an encouraging feature of the Club, that, year by year, the membership increases, and that the new members are invariably old Boys who have just left School and the School Chess Club. As we all know, the School Chess Club

caters for all classes of players with a well-organised programme of Wright Challenge Shield matches, graded tournaments and House matches, and the Old Boys' Club is run very much on the same lines, as already there are two strong teams in the Silver Rook Competition, and entries in the local senior tournaments.

However, it is the intention of the Old Boys to enlarge their programme next session by providing for those members who have not so far participated in official games. As a new Club, the Old Boys did well to obtain official recognition for two teams in senior chess circles, but with a growing membership it is imperative that their activities should be still further enlarged, in order that the Club may maintain its successful progress, and also its definite link with the School.

Fortunately, from its inception, the Club has justified ranking with the best in the district and this fact is a certain attraction for prospective members and dispels all doubts regarding the Club's ability to accommodate every applicant.

G.D.

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### OLD BOYS' A.F.C.

The Old Boys' Football Club undertook an ambitious programme at the beginning of the season, and while results have not been wholly disappointing, the Club cannot claim to have experienced a successful season. In previous years, the Old Boys' have competed in the I Zingari League, Division II., and the Liverpool Old Boys' League, Divisions I and II., with a fourth team fulfilling friendly engagements. Now, however, while the first team retain their status, the second team has risen to the I Zingari Combination, the third and fourth teams rising accordingly in the Old Boys' League. A fifth team has played occasionally, but the present membership does not guarantee a full team always being available. In the event of the formation of a third division of the Old Boys' League, should the influx of new members warrant the procedure, the Old Boys' would enter a team therein.

To summarise the season's record, until a sudden lapse a few weeks ago, the first team were serious challengers to Port Sunlight for championship and promotion honours; the second team, though they have played well, have proved unlucky in the Combination, and have never figured out of the



bottom half of the table; the 3rds have, at times, been out-classed in the Old Boys' League, Division I., and are situated well down the League; while the 4th have shown their ability to hold the strongest sides in Division II. It is obvious to any Old Boys' supporters that the Club is sorely in need of some new young players, and any members of the School teams (or, for that matter, any boy who wishes to play football) who are leaving shortly, are particularly welcome. Three members of the School, Pott, Milligan and Minns, have distinguished themselves with the Old Boys, Minns particularly. In a Division I. game against Old Holts (who are possible champions), he was cited as the best half-back on the field.

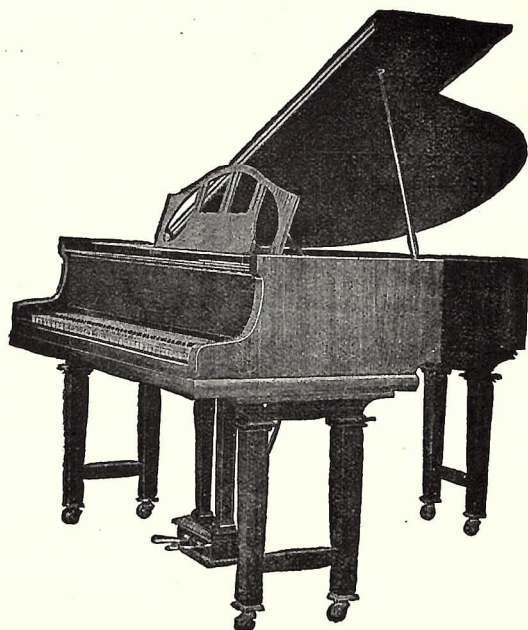
And now for one of those creepy bed-time stories that make Old Boys dream dreams of French lessons with Mr. Moat once again. We had a burly full-back whose designs on the other side were, to say the least of it, ferocious. He was one of the "old school," when boys were he-men and masters were putty in their hands (prefects, of course, being only known as corpses). Since then, this youth had grown like unto a raging lion. His appearance struck terror into the hearts of the opposing side, while referees used to bury their heads in the mud for fear they should see him infringe the laws of the game. One conscientious man did pull him up, as a matter of fact. The full-back was sent, the referee carried, off.

At a certain match, at Ormskirk, I think, our hero, not satisfied with the footballing opposition, turned his attention to the local supporters, a section of whom exhibited keen resentment at his methods. Retorts flew to and fro, from player to crowd, until at last he ran off the field to gather the ball. There was a maddened rush by the spectators. And while the Old Boys finished the game with ten men a riot raged on the touch line. This story may, or may not, be believed. At all events, prospective members, whose sole ambition is to play football need have no qualms. For though the player still belongs to the Club, he is now as peaceful as a new boy on the first day of term, and has been so ever since the Sunday morning he arrived home from Ormskirk.

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B.V.W.

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