

# THE VISOR

---



BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE  
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

---

CHRISTMAS, 1937.

Tel. No. Birkenhead 4446.

# BELMONT MOTOR WORKS

(Proprietor—F. B. DONALD)

BELMONT  
off Top OXTON ROAD,  
BIRKENHEAD

---

REBORING SPECIALISTS.

---

Repairs of all descriptions expeditiously and  
efficiently executed under expert and  
personal supervision.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

---

Goods supplied for Parties and Whist Drives  
at Reduced Prices.

Tel.—Upton Road 2143  
Mallaby St. 1960  
Birkenhead.

**J. H. MYCOCK,**  
BAKER AND CONFECTIONER,  
16 Upton Rd., & 16 Mallaby St.,  
Birkenhead.

---

Fancies, Madeira Cakes, Fruit Cakes, etc.

Only the Best ingredients used in the manufacture of our  
Goods.

Wholemeal Bread. White Bread. Hovis.

---

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# **GOOD FEEDING**

GOOD FEEDING IS THE SECRET  
OF SUCCESS, BOTH IN THE CLASSROOM  
AND ON THE SPORTS FIELD

## **DOES YOUR BOY EXCEL THERE ?**

IF NOT, IT IS PROBABLY DUE TO THE  
FACT THAT HIS FOOD DOES NOT  
CONTAIN THE MAXIMUM NUTRIMENT

## **THIS IS NOT YOUR FAULT !**

BUT IT WILL BE, IF IN FUTURE  
YOU DO NOT BUY YOUR

**GROCERIES and PROVISIONS**

FROM

# **NIXON'S**

**50 MARKET STREET, BIRKENHEAD.**

TELEPHONE

:

:

:

BIRKENHEAD 68.

**Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."**

TELEPHONES : : NORTH 1776 and 1777.

# PERCY RIMMER

LTD.

*Directors :*

Percy A. Rimmer, C. Eckford Bragger.

**35 NORTON STREET,  
LIVERPOOL, 3.**

: : **Agents for** : :  
**AUSTIN, FORD, VAUXHALL, WOLSELEY.**

Cylinder Grinding and Re-boring and all manner  
of Repairs Promptly Executed.

— **YOUR OLD CAR MADE LIKE NEW.** —

## **BIRKENHEAD Y.M.C.A.**

**WHETSTONE LANE.**

### **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION.**

#### **Juniors.**

**12 to 17 years of age 5/- per annum.**

#### **Seniors.**

Under 21	"	"	"	10/-	"	"
Over 21	"	"	"	12/6	"	"
" 30	"	"	"	15/-	"	"
" 40	"	"	"	£1/1/-	"	"

### **GYMNASIUM SUBSCRIPTION.**

**FOR MEMBERS OF THE Y.M.C.A. ONLY.**

#### **Juniors.**

**12 to 17 years of age 2/6 per term of  
3 months.**

#### **Seniors.**

Under 21	"	"	"	5/-	"	"	"
Over 21	"	"	"	7/6	"	"	"

**FULL PARTICULARS CAN BE HAD FROM  
THE GENERAL SECRETARY.**



TEL : BIRKENHEAD 3139.

## A. LEWIS,

Ladies' and Gentlemen's  
Hairdresser,

16 WHETSTONE LANE,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Permanent  
Marcel and Water Waving.

Manicure, Massage and  
Violet Ray Treatment.

Early & Punctual Deliveries  
of  
CLEAN FRESH MILK  
(IN BOTTLES)  
from Local Farms only.

FRESH BUTTER  
SALTED AND UNSALTED.  
RICH THICK CREAM.  
NEW LAID EGGS.  
PURE ENGLISH HONEY.

DUDGEON'S  
DAIRY,  
59 GRANGE ROAD WEST.  
Telephone 1109.

## High-Grade FOOTWEAR

For all Seasons,  
For all Wearers.

Agent for "K," Bective,  
Lotus and Delta, Norvic and  
Mascot, Swan Boots and  
Shoes.

Special Feature :  
FITTING BY 'X' RAY.

Tom Fothergill,  
50 GRANGE ROAD  
WEST.

'PHONE 671.

'Phone No: Birkenhead 2547.

Try  
W. HARTHEN,

For  
Everything "DOGGIE"  
The Poultry and Pet Food  
Specialist,

31 OXTON ROAD,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Branch :  
Telegraph Rd., Heswall.  
'Phone : Heswall 115.

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."

TEL : BIRKENHEAD 3139.

## A. LEWIS,

Ladies' and Gentlemen's  
Hairdresser,

16 WHETSTONE LANE,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Permanent  
Marcel and Water Waving.

Manicure, Massage and  
Violet Ray Treatment.

Early & Punctual Deliveries  
of  
**CLEAN FRESH MILK**  
(IN BOTTLES)  
from Local Farms only.

FRESH BUTTER  
SALTED AND UNSALTED.  
RICH THICK CREAM.  
NEW LAID EGGS.  
PURE ENGLISH HONEY.

**DUDGEON'S**  
**DAIRY,**  
59 GRANGE ROAD WEST.  
Telephone 1109.

**High-Grade FOOTWEAR**  
For all Seasons,  
For all Wearers.

Agent for "K," Bective,  
Lotus and Delta, Norvic and  
Mascot, Swan Boots and  
Shoes.

Special Feature :  
FITTING BY 'X' RAY.

**Tom Fothergill,**  
50 GRANGE ROAD  
WEST.

'PHONE 671.

'Phone No: Birkenhead 2547.

Try  
**W. HARTHEN,**

For  
Everything "DOGGIE"  
The Poultry and Pet Food  
Specialist,

31 OXTON ROAD,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Branch :  
Telegraph Rd., Heswall.  
'Phone : Heswall 115.

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# ANY BOOK

—text books or leisure books—wherever advertised  
or reviewed can be supplied by : : :

— W. H. SMITH & SON —

*Express Book Service for special book orders.*

FOUNTAIN PEN REPAIR SERVICE. Any  
make of fountain pen can be repaired and returned  
: : to the bookshop, usually within 48 hours. : :

## W. H. SMITH & SON

233—235 GRANGE ROAD, B'HEAD.

TELEPHONE No. 1618.

Head Office : W. H. SMITH & SON, Ltd., Strand House, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2.

Telephone 778.

THE

## SPORTS SHOP,

Charing Cross.

---

The Goods  
for  
Every Game.

---

Sole proprietors of the 'WIZARD' and  
'SPEDEX' brands of sports goods.

## ROBERTS & JOBSON

LIMITED.

PHONE 3751.

HOURS 9-30 a.m. to 7-0 p.m.

## R. TRAFFORD,

F.S.M.C., F.B.O.A., F.N.A.O., F.I.O.,

Qualified Optician,

## 250 Borough Road.

---

Registered by the Joint  
Council of Qualified Opticians  
for Sight Testing and Optical  
Treatment, under the National  
Health Ins. Acts, and for the  
Hospital Saving Association.

---

Oculist's Prescriptions.  
REPAIRS.

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."

# Economic Electric Co.,

(Liverpool Ltd.)

*Electrical Contractors.*

62 Dale St., L'POOL.      Oxton Rd., B'HEAD.

---

## NEON SIGN SPECIALISTS.

---

CONTRACTORS TO:—

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS,

POST OFFICE,

WAR OFFICE,

PRINCIPAL CORPORATIONS AND  
INSURANCE COMPANIES.

---

THE  
**CENTRE**  
FOR  
SPORTS AND GAMES  
IS  
**DIXIE DEAN'S**  
(Everton & England)  
At  
140 GRANGE ROAD.

---

SOCCER, RUGGER, HOCKEY, BADMINTON, BILLIARDS, ETC., ETC.,

---

Special Terms to Schools & Clubs.

PHONE      -      -      -      BIRKENHEAD 361.

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



For  
*Better Service*

Try  
**'THE EDINBURGH.'**

TELEPHONE — — 1097.

The  
**EDINBURGH LAUNDRY,**

**BOROUGH RD.,  
BIRKENHEAD.**

**Experts in Dry Cleaning.**

---

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."

## Contents

School Committees and Officers	1—	3
School Calendar		3
Editorial		3
Salvete and Valeté	4—	6
Examination Results	6—	7
Swimming Gala	7—	8
Vale	8—	9
Jamboree 1937	9—	10
Crosswords	11—	12
Others as We See Them	13—	14
Varsity Letters (Cambridge, Liverpool, Oxford)	14—	19
Varia	19—	20
Nemesis		21
House Notes	22—	24
Library Notes	24—	25
Form Notes	25—	43
Junior School Notes		44
Christmas		45
Badminton Club		46
Chess Club		46
League of Nations Union	46—	47
Literary and Debating Society		47
Rifle Club		48
Rugby Football	48—	50
Scientific Society	50—	51
Scout Notes	51—	53
 OLD BOYS' SECTION—		
Notes and News	53—	55
Old Boys' A.F.C.	55—	56
Old Instonians' R.U.F.C.		56



# PREFECTS 1937-8.



I.Roberts, H.R.Bawden, W.K.Hamilton, G.P.Ridout, A.T.Cook, L.Black, A.C.Williams, T.Moyes, A.R.M.Weir,  
A. J. Taylor, G. R. Bell, G. R. Edwards, J.R.Sarginson, G.A.Forsythe, W.S.Williams.

[Photo by CULL



VOL. XI., No. 1.

CHRISTMAS, 1937.

## *School Committees and Officers*

### MAGAZINE COMMITTEE.

**President:**  
THE HEADMASTER.

**Chairman:**  
Mr. HALL.

**Vice-Chairman:**  
Mr. HAIME.

**Treasurer:**  
Mr. PAICE.

**Editor:**  
G. R. EDWARDS.

**Sub-Editors:**  
H. R. BAWDEN.

L. BLACK.

W. S. WILLIAMS.

**Secretary:**  
W. K. HAMILTON.

**Assistant Secretary:**  
I. ROBERTS.

**Advertising Secretary:**  
A. T. COOK.

**Assistant Advertising Secretary:**  
A. R. M. WEIR.

**Art Editor:**  
R. P. RIDOUT.

### House Representatives:

**Atkin:** G. R. EDWARDS.  
**Stitt:** G. R. BELL.

**Tate:** A. C. WILLIAMS.  
**Westminster:** J. R. SARGINSON.

### HEAD PREFECT AND CAPTAIN OF THE SCHOOL.

G. R. EDWARDS.

**Captain of Games:**  
A. J. TAYLOR.

**Headmaster's Prefect:**  
J. R. SARGINSON.

### PREFECTS:

H. R. BAWDEN.  
A. T. COOK.  
T. MOYES.  
J. R. SARGINSON.  
A. C. WILLIAMS.

G. R. BELL.  
G. A. FORSYTHE.  
G. P. RIDOUT.  
A. J. TAYLOR.

L. BLACK.  
W. K. HAMILTON.  
I. ROBERTS.  
A. R. M. WEIR.  
W. S. WILLIAMS.

### House Captains:

**Atkin:** G. R. EDWARDS.  
**Stitt:** G. R. BELL.

**Tate:** A. J. TAYLOR.  
**Westminster:** J. R. SARGINSON.



# THE VISOR

## RUGBY FOOTBALL COMMITTEE.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>
THE HEADMASTER.	Mr. D. J. WILLIAMS.	L. BLACK.
<b>Committee:</b>		
Mr. H. T. DAVIES, Mr. A. O. JONES.		
<b>1st XV. Captain:</b>	<b>Vice-Captain:</b>	
A. J. TAYLOR.	G. R. EDWARDS.	
<b>2nd XV. Captain:</b>	<b>Bantams XV. Captain:</b>	
H. R. BAWDEN.	W. J. OWEN.	

## BADMINTON CLUB.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b>
THE HEADMASTER.	Mr. THACKER.	Mr. THACKER.

## CHESS CLUB.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary and Captain:</b>
THE HEADMASTER.	Mr. LORD.	J. R. SARGINSON.

## SIXTH FORM LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

<b>President:</b>		
THE HEADMASTER.		
<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Assistant Secretary.</b>
Mr. W. E. WILLIAMS.	A. C. WILLIAMS.	G. R. EDWARDS.
<b>Committee:</b>		
H. R. BAWDEN.	G. P. RIDOUT.	J. R. SARGINSON.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>
THE HEADMASTER.	A. T. COOK.	T. MOYES.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

<b>Hon. Secretary:</b>	<b>Hon. Treasurer:</b>
Mr. HALL.	Mr. HAIME.

## RIFLE CLUB.

<b>President:</b>	<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>
THE HEADMASTER.	Mr. HALL.	

## SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

<b>President:</b>		
THE HEADMASTER.		
<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b>
Mr. D. J. WILLIAMS.	A. T. COOK.	G. R. BELL.
<b>Committee:</b>		
G. A. FORSYTHE, R. D. ROBERTS, J. R. SARGINSON, C. N. THOMPSON, A. C. WILLIAMS.		

**23rd BIRKENHEAD SCOUT GROUP.****Group Scoutmaster:**

Mr. H. T. DAVIES.

**Rover Crew.****Rover Leader:**

Mr. A. R. THACKER.

**Rover Mate:**

Mr. W. D. COUGHTRIE.

**Scout Troop.****Scoutmaster:** Mr. W. D. COUGHTRIE.**Assistant Scoutmasters:**

Mr. J. H. D. WETHERELL, Mr. F. E. TOMLINSON, Mr. D. MAGEE.

**Patrol Leaders:**J. S. DAVIES and B. S. HALLIDAY (Senior Patrols).  
J. BECKETT, H. PROUDMAN, D. SPARROW, P. R. UNDERWOOD,  
J. S. WILLIAMS.**Wolf Cub Pack.****Cub Master:** Miss K. G. BOOTH.**Sixers:**I. D. ARCHIBALD.  
G. B. SMITH.H. G. BECKETT.  
C. V. WILLIAMS.G. C. BENTLEY.  
P. N. WOOD.***School Calendar***

Term ends.....	December 21st.
Spring Term begins.....	January 11th.
Half Term.....	February 19th—February 21st.
Spring Term ends.....	March 31st.

***Editorial***

**T**HE term has so far witnessed no startling change in the even tenor of schoolboy existence except perhaps for the mysterious disappearance of the School mascot, which we greatly fear has caught the roving eye of some enterprising scrap-iron merchant.

Like all winter terms, however, it has seen the arrival of the usual infant horde following the departure of the finished article. To all those who have recently departed through these time honoured portals we make the usual but sincere appeal to continue to give their support to this illustrious chronicle.

Last term, we were bidding farewell to Mr. Moat after many years of service to the School; this term, we extend a very hearty welcome to his successor, Mr. Jones.

And now, born in the humble schoolboy mind, and reared amidst the curses of the Editorial Staff, assisted by the flourishing of the inevitable red pencil, yet another *Visor* presents itself for digestion.



## Salvete

### IVa.

ATKIN:—Marshall, D.K.

### IIIa.

ATKIN:—Jones, G.

STITT:—Evans, G.; Pimblett, J. S.; Rice, A.; Vanderwall, F.T.

TATE:—Ball, T. C.; Candlish, I. L.; Darlington, H.; Gibbons, A. R.;  
Howlett, W. F.; Kernaghan, J.

WESTMINSTER:—Blanthorne, D.; Gould, J.K.D.; Harrison, J.,  
Nugent, J. R.

### IIIb.

ATKIN:—Boston, K.H.; Gregson, T. H.; Hall, V. H.; Jones, T. E.;  
Kegner, H. G.; Pryde, K. G.

STITT:—Bailey, W. H.; Gittins, R.; Sindall, R. V.

TATE:—Clark, W.; Jones, B. J.; Jones, E.S.; Rushton, R.; Wharton, J.

WESTMINSTER:—Hayes, L.; Roberts, A. W.

### IIIj.

ATKIN:—Catherall, G. A.; Lloyd, R. G. J.; Mandy, A. J.; Peters, G. R.;  
Peters, T. N. W.; Tarpey, J.; Woodward, E. J.

STITT:—Bateman, J. E.; Bolton, K. J.; Boston, C.; Hatcher, C. I.;  
Heaps, G.; Jardine, D.; Peers, F.G.; Storer, R.A.; Wolfenden, G.W.;

TATE:—Evans, S.; Moore, F.; Owen, J. M.; Peever, B. H.; Salter, G.;  
Smith, K. I.

WESTMINSTER:—Baker, J.D.; Ellis, A.R.; McLachlan, A.J.; Moyes, F.;  
Powell, C. K.; Roddick, D. M. C.

### FORM II.

WESTMINSTER:—Williams, G. E.

### FORM I.

TATE:—Blakeway, J. M.; McLachlan, R.; Roberts, J. T. R.

WESTMINSTER:—Roberts, M. S. V.

### UPPER PREP.

STITT:—Galloway, R.

TATE:—Fisher, W. J.; Hodson, J. A.

WESTMINSTER:—Holland, P. L.; Smith, C. W. F.

### LOWER PREP.

STITT:—Stephenson, L. E.; Thompson, I. E.; Perry, M. B.

## Valete

### UPPER VIa.

STITT:—

Gallagher, J. (1929-1937), *Headmaster's Prefect* 1935, *Vice-captain of House, Matric.* 1934, *H.S.C.* 1936, *State Scholarship* 1936, *Open Scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge*, *Tate Scholarship* 1936-7, *Editor of Visor*, *Secretary of Literary and Debating Society* 1936-7.

Melville, I. S. (1930-1937), *Head Prefect and Captain of School* 1936-7, *Captain of House, Matric.* 1935, *H.S.C.* 1937, *Tate Scholarship* 1937, *On Committee of Literary and Debating Society*, *Editor of Visor*, *Art Editor of Visor*.

TATE:—

Clare, W. E. (1930-1937), *Prefect, Matric.* 1935, *H.S.C.* 1937, *Tate Scholarship*, *1st XV. Colours*, *Captain of House*, *Secretary of Rugby Club*, *School Swimming Champion*, *On Committee of Scientific Society*.

## UPPER VIb.

ATKIN :—

Search, E. J. (1930-1937), *Prefect, Vice-captain of House, Secretary of Scientific Society.*

TATE :—

Astley, T. G. (1931-1937), *Prefect, Vice-captain of House, Matric. 1936, Letters of Success 1937, 1st XV. Colours, Sub-editor of Visor.*  
 Taylor, W. R. (1930-1937), *S.C. 1936, Letters of Success 1937.*

WESTMINSTER :—

Edelsten, J. (1932-1937), *Prefect, Matric. 1936, Letters of Success 1937, 1st XV. Colours.*

## Vis.

ATKIN :—

Heaps, W. H., *Matric. 1937, Secretary League of Nations Union Branch.*  
 Hill, R. L. M., *Matric. 1937, Captain of 1st XI. Cricket, Rugby and Cricket Colours.*  
 Hutchinson, E. E., *S.C. 1937.* Macadam, A. M., *Matric. 1937.*

STITT :—

Bridges, J. S., *Matric. 1937.*  
 Morris, W. G., *Matric. 1937, 1st XV. Rugby.*

TATE :—

Pierce, A. R., *Matric. 1937.* Smith, J.  
 Simpson, P. P., *Matric. 1937, Tate Scholarship 1936.*

WESTMINSTER :—

Ceha, R. H., *S.C. 1937, 1st XI. Cricket Colours.*  
 Macklin, L. O., *Matric. 1937, 1st XI. Cricket.*

## VIa.

ATKIN :—

Gibson, J. B., *Matric. 1937.* Rushworth, B. J., *S.C. 1937.*  
 Lidgate, R., *S.C. 1937.* Thomas, R. E., *S.C. 1937.*  
 Macbride, W. C., *Matric. 1937.*

STITT :—

Davies, J. S., *S.C. 1937.* Peers, R. T.  
 Jones, P. H., *Matric. 1937, 1st XI. Football and Cricket.*

TATE :—

Jones, M. T. L., *Matric. 1937.*

WESTMINSTER :—

Davies, W., *S.C. 1937.* Vick, E.S., *S.C. 1937.*  
 Sandland, F. V., *S.C. 1937, 1st XI. Cricket.*



**Vib.**

ATKIN :—

Reddy, E.

Williams, E. G., 1st XV. Rugby.

STITT :—

King, R. A. G., 1st XI. Cricket.

Tomlinson, J., S.C. 1937.

Little, N. G.

TATE :—

Asheroft, R. H.

Maddocks, K. G.

Booth, D. E., S.C. 1937.

Robinson, A., S.C. 1937.

Halliday, B. S., *Matric.* 1937.

Williams, J. A.

WESTMINSTER :—

Crail, W. D., S.C. 1937.

Shipley, T. E., S.C. 1937.

Hayes, N. E.

**REMOVE A.**

STITT :—

Heritage, T. E.

WESTMINSTER :—

Eall, P.

**REMOVE L.**

ATKIN :—

Hurst, W. S.

WESTMINSTER :—

Gurney, F. W., Rowlands, J. P. S.

**Vj.**

ATKIN :—

Higgins, L.

TATE :—

Dean, R. H.

STITT :—

Carver, J. A.

**FORM II.**

STITT :—

Bilsbarrow, A., Hill, R. T.

**UPPER PREP.**

ATKIN :—

Rennison, W.

**Examination Results, July, 1937****HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.**

Clare, W. E.; Melville, I. S. (A.); Sarginson, J. R.

**LETTERS OF SUCCESS.**Astley, T. G.; Bell, G. R.; Cook, A. T.; Edelsten, J.; Forsythe, G. A.;  
Gallagher, J.; Taylor, W. R.

Distinction (A.)—Art.

## SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

## FORM VIa.

*m* Bawden, H. R.; *m* Bridges, J. S.; Ceha, R. H.; *m* Edelsten, J.;  
*m* Heaps, W. H.; *m* Hill, R. L. M.; *m* Hughes, V. R.; Hutchinson, E. E.;  
*m* Jones, E. G.; Leyland, R.; *m* Macadam, A. M.; *m* Macklin, L. O.;  
 MacLeod, A. G.; Moore, S.; *m* Morris, W. G.; *m* Moyes, T.; *m* Pierce,  
 A. R.; *m* Roberts, F. G.; *m* Roberts, I.; *m* Roberts, R. D.; *m* Robinson,  
 R. S.; *m* Simpson, P. P.; *m* Taylor, A. J.; *m* Weir, A. R. M.;  
*m* Williams, A. C.

## FORM VIa.

Beck, J.; Black, L.; Davies, J. S.; Davies, W.; *m* Gibson, J. B.;  
 Hamilton, W. K.; Hanman, C. T.; Jones, A. P. E.; *m* Jones, M. T. L.;  
*m* Jones, P. H.; Lidgate, R.; *m* Macbryde, W. C.; Ridout, G. P.; Rush-  
 worth, B. J.; Sandland, F. V.; Thomas, R. E.; Thornton, J. A.; Vick,  
 E. S.; *m* Williams, W. S.; Wright, W. A.

## FORM VIb.

Booth, D. E.; Crail, W. D.; *m* Franka, E. G.; *m* Halliday, B. S.;  
 Jeffreys, E. H.; Robinson, A.; Shipley, T. E.; Tomlinson, J.; Williams,  
 S. K.

**Swimming Gala**

THE Annual Swimming Gala was held at Livingstone Street Baths on Thursday, October 7th. Stitt House had a very successful evening, winning both squadron races and coming out Champion House.

Clare again won the School Championship, beating the record, which he himself set up last year. Porter is also to be congratulated, for, although he came in second, he, too, broke the record. Pritchard won the Junior Championship.

Our old friend Mr. Watts presented the prizes and made a short speech.

Thanks are due to Mr. Clague and the rest of the Staff for their work in organising and carrying out the arrangements with their usual precision.

## RESULTS.

School Championship—1, Clare\*; 2, Porter\*.

Junior Championship—Pritchard.

Form VI. Handicap—Porter.

Form R and V. Handicap—Pritchard.

Form IV. Handicap—Ceha, J.

Form III. Handicap—Bray.

Newcomers Race—Boston.

Novices' Race—Brooks.

Senior Neat Dive—Sarginson.

Junior Neat Dive—Henshaw.

Senior Breast Stroke—Tomlinson, I.

Junior Breast Stroke—Fallows.

Senior Mop Fight—Tressider, W.

Junior Mop Fight—Fallows.

Senior Back Stroke—Porter.

Junior Back Stroke—Ceha, J.



Senior Plunge—Porter.  
 Junor Plunge—Fallows.  
 Recovery Race—Tomlinson, I.  
 Senior Obstacle Race—Bell, R.  
 Junior Obstacle Race—Williams, R. K.  
 Senior Lighted Taper—Tomlinson, J.  
 Junior Lighted Taper—Neal.  
 Plate Diving—Sarginson.  
 Old Boys' Race—Lowson, G.  
 Senior House Squadron—Stitt.  
 Junior House Squadron—Stitt.  
 Champion House—Stitt.

\*School record.

## Vale

AT the end of last term we said good-bye to Mr. Moat, who had been a member of the Staff since the first of January, 1920.

In his seventeen and a half years at the Institute, Mr. Moat has drummed French grammar and syntax into thousands of "blithering idiots," and the exercises he has corrected, if placed end to end, would girdle the earth we forget how many times. How he must rejoice that he no longer has to drive "silly asses" through the conjugation of "*porter*," or to mark the effusions of a set of "poor, weak crocks."

Although a strict disciplinarian with a heavy hand (or should it be 'because he was etc.'?) Mr. Moat was a most popular master, and had the best collection in the School of Christmas and end of term presents from grateful forms in the shape of pipes, pouches, tobacco, etc.

Apart from his labours in the French department, Mr. Moat did excellent work in Westminster House, and, particularly, in connection with School Chess. The Chess Club, founded by him in 1920, has long been the strongest in the School, and has produced some excellent players, who have done credit to his tuition.

In 1925, Mr. Moat was prominent in the formation of the annual competition for the Wright Shield (a trophy given by Mr. Wright, of the Liverpool Chess Club, to encourage juvenile chess on Merseyside), and he was from the beginning the organising secretary and a member of the committee of four. This Shield, for which the local boys' secondary schools compete, was held by the School in the years 1925-6, 1926-7, and 1929-30.

To mark its appreciation of the work done by Mr. Moat and the School Chess Club, the British Chess Federation some

**F. J. DAVIS,**

**14 GRANGE RD. WEST,  
BIRKENHEAD.**



Established nearly Three-quarters of a Century.

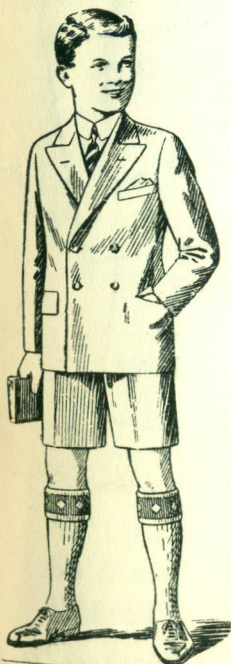
**ARTISTS' COLOURMEN**

'Phone : BIRKENHEAD 1698.



**XMAS CARDS  
CALENDARS and GIFTS**

**COME AND SEE  
OUR LARGE SELECTION.**



**BIBBY & PERKIN, Ltd.,**

**243/247 GRANGE ROAD,  
Birkenhead.**

Telephone : Birkenhead 2263.

**176 BEDFORD ROAD, ROCK FERRY.**



**For Boys' Suits That Will Wear and  
Keep Their Appearance.**

**Boys Navy Gabardine Raincoats  
Guaranteed Indigo Dye & thoroughly  
Rainproof.**

**And all school clothing requirements,  
viz. Blazers, Caps, Ties, etc.**

**Also all Old Boys' requirements in  
the correct colours.**

**Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."**



# ALLANSONS

STORES LIMITED

*The Store of a million gifts !*

## SPORTS JACKETS

A good sports jacket is a most useful gift.  
Allansons have a big range of styles and  
colours at very reasonable prices !

## FLANNEL TROUSERS

Another useful idea as a Christmas Gift !  
Big range to chose from, in Worsted and  
Flannel, featuring new colours.

## BLAZERS IN INSTITUTE COLOURS

Allansons have a reputation for the hard-  
wearing qualities of these Blazers. Prices  
are reasonable too !

**TIES.** Tie Sets and Braces Sets. from 1'6d.

**SCARVES.** Woollen and Silk Squares. from 2'6d.

**PULLOVERS.** Self colours & fancy designs. 3'6 to 10'6

**ALLANSONS, Grange Rd., Birkenhead. 'Phone 3593.**

years ago presented to the School a handsome shield, which is held each year by the champion player. This award is a signal mark of honour, as similar shields have been awarded to very few schools, one of which is Rugby.

We hope Mr. Moat will long enjoy his life of retirement, and we sincerely trust that he will not spend all his time in Lincolnshire or his beloved Paris, but that he will occasionally revisit his old friends at B.I. (Vib. are especially emphatic about this).

### *Jamboree, 1937*

**H**AD you been on the platform of Woodside Station at 10-30 on Thursday, July 30th, you could hardly have failed to see about a hundred Scouts. These were the lucky contingent from Birkenhead and Wallasey who had been selected to visit the *World Jamboree* in Holland. The School Scouts were represented by eight senior members of the troop in the Birkenhead contingent of forty. Boarding the train of Great Western coaches we did not realise how different our second rail journey would be in the streamlined electric railways of the Dutch state. We sped through the night, and soon after daybreak we steamed into Tilbury Riverside Station.

Throughout the greater part of the day our vessel was crossing the North Sea, bound for the Hook of Holland, where she was cheered lustily while approaching the quay. At every level crossing and station the train was cheered by the Dutch people. As soon as we were off the train, the curse of Jamborees approached—the autograph-hunters.

Our first day at Vogelenzang was one to be remembered. Nearly thirty thousand scouts of forty nations marched past the Queen of Holland and Lord Baden-Powell, and later crowded into the arena to hear the speeches. Had there been a roof on the arena, it would surely have been raised by the shout that followed the words of H.M. the Queen: "Herewith, I declare the Jamboree opened." Hats were thrown in the air, staves were waved, and cheers resounded from scouts and spectators alike. The idea of the camp organisers was to split up the various contingents into small parties and so have some of as many nationalities as possible in each of the nine sub-camps. In Birkenhead's sub-camp there were Dutch, Danish, Finnish, Chinese, French, and British Scouts, and so we had plenty of opportunity to show off our linguistic powers.



The centre of activity, where all met and exchanged badges, coins, and any thing that might serve as a souvenir, was the market-place. Here all drank "pop," bought presents, clogs, stamps, newspapers, and almost anything within reason, and it was here that there seemed to be all the crush. There was always something to be seen—the different camps, tents, and nationalities, the displays and the camp-fires. The last were very interesting with the items of foreign scouts—folk-dances and musical turns.

The Dutch towns are rather old-fashioned with narrow cobbled streets and tall houses. This does not apply to the main streets, but most of the lesser answer this description. Haarlem is a fairly large town, with the main area clustered around the Groote Markt and the Groote Kerk. This town is the centre of the bulb-growing region, which is world-famous. As in all Dutch towns, there are canals fringed by large trees which provide shade for the few public seats along the banks. In my opinion, Haarlem has a traffic problem, as the cyclists wander all over the road, keeping neither to right nor left, but the few policemen that walk aimlessly about do not appear to mind.

The capital, Amsterdam, is a very much larger town and much busier, too. Its docks and canals appear to be very numerous, but there are some fine, wide streets with large shops. There are even canals here, and here too the streets seem to radiate from the central square and the Royal Palace. Utrecht, the third city, is pleasanter than Haarlem or Amsterdam, for there are shady parks and avenues, whereas neither of the previous two had any at all. It was at this town that the town band turned out to greet us at the railway station, and crowds lined the streets. The whole town and the surrounding country can be seen from the top of the Dom Tower, the highest in Holland.

The Hague and Rotterdam are also well spaced out with green spaces and shady groves. Marken, a small island in the Yssel Lake, and Volendam, are now the only remaining places where the Dutch national dress is worn. Many more interesting facts about the towns could be mentioned if space permitted.

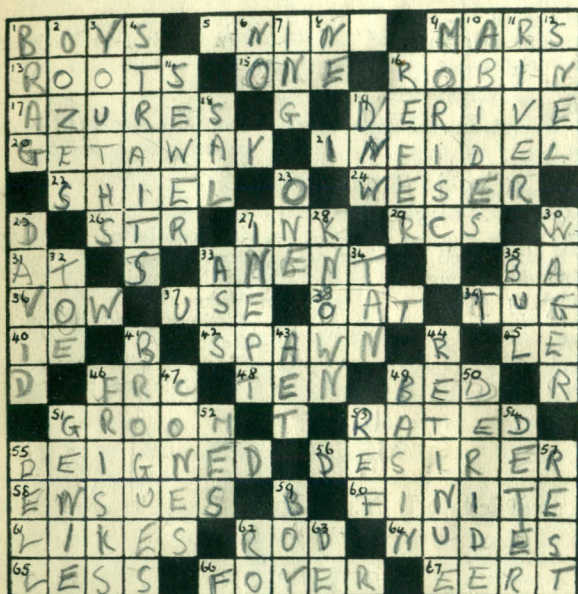
After a thoroughly enjoyable fortnight we returned to our native land over a sea like a duck pond with hardly a ripple. As we steamed up the Thames the magnificent spectacle of the city of London silhouetted against the sunset was a fitting welcome home.

W.S.W.



## Crossword No. 15

SOLUTIONS should be handed to Mr. Hall. A prize is offered for the first correct solution received.



## CLUES.

## ACROSS.

1. — will be —.
- 5.—Empire builder.
- 9.—War god.
- 13.—Sources.
- 15.—Unity.
- 16.—Bird.
- 17.—Blue unclouded skies.
- 19.—Be descended from.
- 20.—(two words; 3, 4) Escape.
- 21.—Unbeliever.
- 22 with 7 down.—Shepherd's hut.
- 24.—German river.
- 26 and 7 down.—Twine.
- 27.—Put no chalk or paper in this.
- 29.—Abbreviation on doctor's plate.
- 31.—Preposition.
- 33.—Archaic word for concerning.
- 35 & 45.—Package of merchandise.
- 36.—Aver.
- 37.—Custom.
- 38.—Grain.
- 39.—Pluck.
- 40.—That is.
- 42.—Eggs of fish.
- 45.—See 35.
- 46.—Fellow of the Royal College.
- 48.—Numeral.
- 49.—Garden plot for plants.
- 51.—To tend a horse.
- 53.—Estimated.
- 55.—Condescended.
- 56.—One who wishes.
- 58.—Follows.
- 60.—Limited.
- 61.—Equals.
- 62.—Bar.
- 64.—Unclothed objects.
- 65.—Minus.
- 66.—Large room in theatre.
- 67 (rev.)—Perennial plant with woody stem.



## DOWN.

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1.—Boast.                            | 32.—Part of stocking.                |
| 2.—Leaks.                            | 33.—Stupid fellow.                   |
| 3.—Young men.                        | 34.—Yellowish-brown.                 |
| 4.—Difficulties.                     | 35 (with unchecked letter in 59).—   |
| 6 & 8.—No score.                     | globular underground stem            |
| 7.—See 22 and 26 across.             | 41.—Shoes with an Irish accent.      |
| 9.—Moorish dance.                    | 43 (rev.)—Meal.                      |
| 10.—Remains.                         | 44.—Train.                           |
| 11.—Stream.                          | 46.—Gambols.                         |
| 12 (rev.)—Found in spectacles or     | 47.—Solid figures with curved bases, |
| camera.                              | tapering to a point.                 |
| 14.—Drain.                           | 49.—Round vessel.                    |
| 16.—Make allusion.                   | 50.—Scoff at.                        |
| 18 with 45 across.—Large room in     | 51.—Goblin.                          |
| foreign house.                       | 52 with last letter of 4.—portion of |
| 19 (rev. with unchecked vowel in 21) | food.                                |
| —Air moving along.                   | 53.—Little umpire.                   |
| 23.—Numeral.                         | 54.—Make abstain.                    |
| 25.—Hebrew king.                     | 55.—Little wooded hollow.            |
| 27.—Absurd.                          | 57.—Repose.                          |
| 28.—Recognised.                      | 59.—Singular of 1 across.            |
| 30.—Gamble.                          | 62 & 63.—Floated buoyantly.          |

*Crossword No. 14*

PRIZE awarded to J. N. Gullan.

## SOLUTION.

## ACROSS.

- |              |                 |                  |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1.—Late.     | 22.—Tuism.      | 39.—Fan.         | 58.—Rudest.     |
| 5.—Brown.    | 24.—Grog.       | 40.—Em.          | 60.—Gently.     |
| 9.—Omit.     | 26.—Sen.        | 42.—Mites.       | 61.—Obese.      |
| 13.—Alone.   | 27.—Pen.        | 46 & 53.—Having. | 62.—Set.        |
| 15.—Awe.     | 29.—Aue.        | 48.—Col.         | 64.—Stile.      |
| 16.—Smite.   | 31 & 36.—Reels. | 49.—Keg.         | 65 (rev.)—Test. |
| 17.—Nereid.  | 33.—Huron.      | 51.—Galas.       | 66.—Rider.      |
| 19.—Toilet.  | 35 & 45.—Pink.  | 53.—Inlet.       | 67.—Sess.       |
| 20.—Dromond. | 37.—Van.        | 55.—Grilled.     |                 |
| 21.—Surname. | 38.—Via.        | 56.—Sneered.     |                 |

## DOWN.

- |             |                   |                |                    |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1.—Land.    | 12.—Tete.         | 32.—Elm.       | 50.—Gertie.        |
| 2.—Alert.   | 14.—Noise (anag.) | 33.—Ham.       | 51.—Grubs.         |
| 3.—Torous.  | 16.—Sorra.        | 34 (rev.)—Sin. | 52.—Set.           |
| 4.—Enemies. | 18.—M(i)nd (rev.) | 35.—Pan.       | 53.—See 46 across. |
| 6.—Ra.      | 19.—Tug.          | 41.—Tallest.   | 54.—Tells.         |
| 7.—Owe.     | 23.—Her.          | 43.—Toe.       | 55.—Grot.          |
| 8.—We.      | 25.—Green.        | 44.—Relents.   | 57.—Dyes.          |
| 9.—Ominous. | 27.—Punic.        | 46.—Haidee.    | 59.—Red.           |
| 10.—Milage. | 28.—Novel.        | 47.—Valse.     | 62 & 63.—Site.     |
| 11.—Items.  | 30.—Sinks.        | 49.—Knees.     |                    |

## Others as We See Them

**H**OW much diversity can be found in things apparently similar! This earth-shaking truth was revealed to one reading the termly quota of magazine exchanges.

A most deadly monotony is the first impression received: the tedious tale of school and university successes; the long list of matches drawn, lost, or won; the laboured heartiness of house notes; the wearisome tinkle of limericks; the endless round of visits to factories, 'places of interest,' and scenes of the launching of ships. All these, enthralling to the writers, and to the readers for whom they are intended, become stale and unprofitable when read in a dozen magazines, whose editors, contributors, and readers might belong to another world.

\* \* \* \* \*

But, as the first fifty years of married life are said to be the most trying, so the first fifty magazines are the hardest to get through. After that, the adventurous can scour the deserts of records and 'notes,' swoop down on some fertile hollow, and carry off a tasty morsel to tuck beneath the cover of the *Visor*. Consider this extract from a University Letter:

Mr. A is extraordinarily efficient. Unlike most of us, he does not spend all of his time. Some of it he keeps in the form of Minutes. Mr. B also has this peculiarity. Some of his he keeps, but in the form of Dates. Mr. C does not spend his at all—he invests it. Time, like money, is merely a measure of exchange value, and can be used, in conjunction with labour, for production or consumption. If used for production, it will accumulate, and can be saved for a rainy day. This is known as "doing time."

\* \* \* \* \*

Compare the mastery over his words of the weaver of these verbal subtleties with the losing struggle of the Sixth Former whose sonnet on Shakespeare's statue is quite out of his control:

O'erlooking the Avon a fine statue stands,  
Which to every spectator recalls to the mind  
The universal sublimity of one of our kind  
Who was yet the meekest e'er seen in our land.

And so on.

\* \* \* \* \*

Turn hurriedly the pages where blood-curdling stories end in sudden fiasco with the announcer's "good-night," or where 'comic' recipes are given for writing articles for school magazines, and pause for a moment at a piece of real (because unconscious) humour.

In October Calday held the greatest celebrations of its life. . . .  
Shortly afterwards the nation was astounded by the abdication,



Pick out a word which seems to be in fashion, and mark the absurdities of its misuse. 'Hectic' is an example. Terms are hectic; life is hectic. The writers mean 'wildly exciting' though the excitement in one case (that of a girl undergraduate) is only because "there is always heaps of reading to do." But 'hectic' is good Greek for 'habitual,' 'settled,' and is correctly used in English of the habitual or hectic flush caused by consumption, in contrast with the rapidly deepening and fading flushes of embarrassment and other emotions.

\* \* \* \* \*

Acknowledgments are tendered for the above quotations to the Liverpool Institute Magazine, *Oulton*, and the *Caldeian*. The *Visor* Committee gratefully acknowledge receipt of the above and of the magazines of Birkenhead Girls' Secondary School, Higher Tranmere High School, Alsop High School, Teignmouth Grammar School, Wirral Grammar School, and the *Wallaseyan*, and apologize for any omissions.

### *University Letters*

TRINITY COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE.

18th November, 1937.

To the Editor of the *Visor*.

Dear Sir,

It is one of the more odious platitudes, that entrance upon university life entails a change of scene, of existence, of heart. As one who has constructed an editorial or two for this distinguished periodical, your humble servant feels a little ashamed of adding another commonplace to his account. Nevertheless, it remains true that it is a deep plunge from the oligarchy of the Library to the glaring freshness of the freshman. No longer a prefect with power to bind and to loose, he loses his faith in the *Fuhrerprinzip*. But it is a most exhilarating plunge. Even those who are only forty days on can already see the difference. To acquire the undergraduate swagger demands at least one week, the correct angle of wearing a square a second, and a mastery of the university regulations most of the Michaelmas term. It is at such periods of distress and doubt, Sir, that one appreciates the stiff upper lip which three years in the Library invariably provide.

Life up here is charmingly inconsequent. Discipline is normally light in theory and sometimes absent in practice, as on November 5th, when Cambridge newly confirmed the grave suspicions of the *Daily Express* about the Moral Worth of our

universities. One can be just Bohemian enough for it to be interesting and not uncomfortable, while there is at last escape from wearing ties of specified design.

Veterans of the School have found time from their labours to be most considerate towards the raw recruit. These labours are extensive and peculiar. Mr. Walker has launched out upon the perilous seas forlorn of æsthetics, Mr. Alldis is engaged upon the yet more perilous field of rugby football, while the masterly researches of Mr. Jenkins at the bio-chemical laboratory are in full swing. Here is diversity: but when they do agree their unanimity is wonderful. Their solidarity in deciding who should write the university letter was most impressive.

One could end on a most affecting note, the charm of Cambridge, its libraries, its cosmopolitanism, the pleasure of living in ancient buildings; exotic substantives could be brought out of retirement,—luscious phrases could be sprinkled here and there, period upon stately period could be piled, to swell the note of praise and make a dithyrambic beanfeast. However, Sir, your patience would soon reach sad satiety, and you would censor it as sentimental and irrelevant. But its subject-matter at least you would find interesting—and what better testimonial could a university require?

Yours sincerely,

JOHN GALLAGHER.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE,

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

To the Editor of the *Visor*.

Dear Sir,

With all due respect to you, Sir, may I hand you the horse's laugh. This is a strange greeting, but then surely you will recognize its significance when you recall the fact that the Thing was written before being extorted, demanded, or even requested. This in itself is the Eighth Wonder of the World; it is news indeed; it warrants the close of a paragraph.

From a University Letter, you, Mr. Editor, would normally expect the conventional series of topics to be discussed. These are, as of course, every *Visor* man worth his salt already knows, (a) the undergraduate's impressions of (i.) life, and (ii.) work; (b) the proportion of male to female students; and (c) news of great events, etc.



As for (a) (i.) and (ii.), I may answer, I think, respectively. . . good, and . . . not so good. On count (b) I propose to enlarge at some length in a subsequent letter.

Now, Sir, for the great events. The first 'function' (a pleasing old B.I. word!) of the term was the arrival of the new Vice-Chancellor in the inevitable beer-lorry plus 'comics' supplied *gratis* by the Engineers. The Freshers' Social was on much the same lines—the inevitable beer, but not the lorry.

The most important feature of the term in my mind, however, has been the vigorous China campaign sponsored by the progressives of the University, to further which meetings have been held and subscriptions raised. Our friend, Prof. Roxby, has been in the limelight, and the International Relations Club, of which he is the skipper, and the ex-Insti. philosopher, I. Mercer, the first mate, has been going all out.

Others, of course, would have it that the only Event so far this Term has been Architects' Night—wine, women and song (in that order)—an excellent opportunity for those whose delight it is to make hay while the 'lectrics shine, or maybe while they don't; but anyway it was voted good fun all round, and the number of mornings after and sore heads bagged was quite up to standard.

A trifle queer you think, Mr. Editor? Yes, but, you see, architects are such funny people. The School is open from 9-30 a.m. till 10-0 p.m., which is in itself rather abnormal. This does not mean we are drawing or attending lectures all the time. For hours we sit sprawled over drawing-boards wreathed around with yards of greaseproof paper and armed with a stout black pencil to scribble down ideas as they come. If the necessary inspiration does not come here, it usually appears later on some plastered wall or on some Union tablecloth. So the great work goes on.

We of the School of Architecture share with the Irish a thing unique—the right to *live* instead of merely to exist. We are a law unto ourselves—fortunately for everyone concerned, we do abide by our code of ethics. Everybody helps everybody else, and, though we say it ourselves, we are not snobs, quite definitely no, oh, no!

Like all Universities, Liverpool is riddled to the core with scandal, enough of it in fact to fill one newspaper a week and, as in most spheres of activity, architects seem to be in the forefront. But there are degrees of scandal; we allow only

'one variety—the best,' as they say in the supper saloon. Stories of the man who sports a magnificent beard and no socks are not considered news, but on the other hand the tale of the studio instructor who watched a fight between two young ladies of the school without batting an eyelid is thought to be good.

Great potential talent is held to be present in the fifth and second years. The stage would, we are sure, well suit both the charming person who tap-dances now and then in the main entrance, and also Fritz, a nice little boy from Breslau, who is a remarkable feline mimic. The trouble with him is that in order to create the proper atmosphere, he finds it necessary also to tear paper, to dance on his drawing-board, to throw paint around, and curse in very descriptive German. An artistic temperament.

The second year ran an excellent fire all on their own down in the basement. Their secret, however, leaked out along with the smoke, and the whole school assembled to witness its getting out of hand and its final suppression by the fire-extinguisher. Again, some unorthodox but highly satisfactory experiments with quarry blasting-powder were carried out in Studio I., but further research was deemed unwise when cracks began to appear in the concrete floor.

Already I hear scornful cries from the Advanced—"Gosh, they're only kids after all." Well, Mr. Editor, perhaps it's true, perhaps this letter is so much more waste paper in the Editor's basket, but it fills space, doesn't it, or does it?

Yours etc.,

I. S. MELVILLE.

JESUS COLLEGE,

OXFORD.

Nov. 26th, 1937.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I must apologise for delaying this letter so long. Your request arrived when I was in the process of writing a long essay for my Tutorial, and the call of one's Tutor for essays is "a loud call, and a clear call, that may not be denied." Not that I believed for one moment the old, old lie about going to press on November 20th, or some ridiculously early date. You see, I too have written begging letters to equally lazy devils at Universities.



This year, of course, I am a second year *man* (please indicate that the italics are mine) and am in consequence now a Somebody, as contrasted with a mere atrocity of a Fresher. Such is the general attitude of the second year people, who know the ropes, and who talk familiarly about dons, and scouts, and progs, and bulldogs, and a whole host of other highly technical (and often wholly fatuous) names.

Moreover, this year I have embarked upon the interesting and expensive adventure of living in College, as opposed to digs. This has its advantages, as in the proximity to the notice boards and the dining hall; but there are corresponding drawbacks. In the first place, as has been indicated, we get very special rooms and board at very special prices. Moreover, if one is sufficiently bourgeois to desire a morning bath, the resulting journey is just three quads. long, and is usually undertaken in a typical Oxford fog. This fog, a characteristic of Oxford, appears faithfully every morning, and one can be sure, on waking, of looking out upon—absolutely nothing!

The other characteristics of Oxford are, as is well known, an overpowering accent, toothbrush moustache, and a medley of Old School Ties—few of them, I must say, as tasteful as that of the Institute.

In changing from digs to college, one has merely changed masters. In other words, for the tyranny of the landlady, there has been substituted the tyranny of the 'scout.' He is the bloodbrother of the landlady, and now that Christmas is approaching, he is growing more and more servile, and, fortunately, a trifle more efficient. By this last statement, I mean that he now shovels a little of the dust from off the mantelshelf, and actually cleans the shoes with blacking. His servility also takes the more welcome form of supplying his more favoured lord and master with a double helping of the sweet at dinner, since he also waits in Hall. The Freshers, who live out of College, are considered unprofitable by the scouts, and hence retire hungry and indignant. The scout also has the reputation of being a "picker-up of unconsidered trifles," 'such as cigarettes and chocolate, but I have not found this to be true.

I am afraid that this letter sounds somewhat disgusted, But if I pretended not to like the life, I should be an awful humbug. Actually, however, one must adopt some sort of a pose here, and so I have set up as a cynic.

Moreover, I fear that I am incapable of producing a literary effort in the style of my predecessor, for the "dreaming spires" of Oxford do not inspire me particularly, especially in the cold grey of winter, while the only distinctive spirit I have noted is consumed at Hall dinner!

However, I shall see what I can do in this direction in the third term, for in Spring Oxford becomes a wonderland of blossom and green meadows.

In order to give you a little local colour, I will conclude by saying "Goodbai, cads."

Yours truly,  
W. KINNEAR.

P.S.—If you want a tip as to the probable results of the inter-varsity soccah, ruggah, and rowing matches, I can with honesty tell you to back Oxford all along the Line. W.K.



We are glad to welcome Mr. J. H. Jones to our staff this term. Now that his predecessor is far away in his beloved France, we may say what the censor would not have allowed before:

At last he realised his dream,  
And left us in a Channel boat.  
Though still our eyes behold the beam,  
No more, alas! we see the Mote.

\* \* \* \* \*

The ancient mortar or bombard has been removed from its guardian post. B.I. doing its bit for re-armament?

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to our Cricket Colours—Hill, A.C. Williams, Lawless, Pearson, Ceha, and P. H. Jones. The awards were made too late for inclusion in last term's *Visor*.

\* \* \* \* \*

The School trophy cupboard has never before been so well stocked. Such is the abundance of pots that some have overflowed into the corridor.



Earl Haig's fund benefited by £3 12s. 6d. this year from the sale of poppies in School. This sum included a guinea for the wreath; and showed an increase of 8s. 6d. on last year's collection.

\* \* \* \* \*

NOTE ON PREFECTS.—Our gossip-column writer reports on the list as follows:

Numerically speaking, the majority of the prefects are stronger this year, if anything, than ever; and certainly very much more so than one or two I could (but dare not) mention. From the muscular point of view, brawn (as usual) predominates, though here, it should be added in strict fairness to all, there is a—shall I say—tendency to excel in some directions rather than in others. On the whole, a very fine set of fellows.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our projector has been used for two film exhibitions this term, on November 5th and 12th. On both occasions interest films connected with Post Office work were shown.

\* \* \* \* \*

On one Wednesday afternoon recently no fewer than 142 boys were playing on the School field. If they had been placed end to end across the Mersey, where Woodside have been?

\* \* \* \* \*

At the wish of certain boys in the School collections for the Basque children's fund have been made weekly this term. A total of £3 19s. 1d. has been collected up to the time of writing.

\* \* \* \* \*

The School received a violent shock when one morning last month the Headmaster announced that Stitt House had come out top in the mark-sheets. We learn that the greatest surprise was felt in well-informed circles, where the opinion had been generally held that it was Tate's turn.

\* \* \* \* \*

At the Armistice service, a message of encouragement and advice from General Smuts was read by the Headmaster.

\* \* \* \* \*

What is this din that comes from distant quarter,  
 And all the evening's peace and quiet mars?  
 Up comes a master, breathing fire and slaughter,  
 And hears young Lyons roar behind the bars.

## Nemesis

THE wheel is come full circle with a vengeance; behold us reaping the reward of our many sins. Little did any of us think, when, in the halcyon days of our tender youth, we were making life a nightmare for various members of the teaching profession, that one day the boomerang would return. But truly "... we still have judgment here. This even-handed justice commends th' ingredients of the poison'd chalice to our own lips."


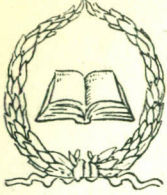
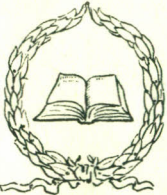

The grisly details of our sufferings cannot be even hinted at here, but that we suffer will be appreciated by all. How full the circle described by the wheel may be gauged by the fact that we found in one of our classes the son of Mr. — who used to teach us. But is that justice? For we know well that we shall never have, in any class "this side the tomb," Mr. — himself.

The saddest feature about this whole business of student-teaching, however, is the process of disillusionment we see going on in certain of our colleagues. Having had no illusions from the first, we are spared this iconoclasm, but some of our number take it badly to heart. Fresh from the ideals of Plato and Aristotle, behold them confronted with *puer vulgaris Birkoniensis*, and some very fine specimens at that. Dear reader, in your pity, *ora pro nobis*. We wonder at times whether there were any "C" forms at the Athens High School for Boys, or if Plato ever found a boy boiling a test-tube with a cork tightly rammed into the top end of it. Eheu! We think not. But the Greeks probably had a word for it. So have we, but we must remember the high tone of the *Visor*, and forbear to utter it.

And just here, dear reader, we show to the world our sterling moral fibre, our bulldog tenacity, the spirit which has made England what she was. In the midst of our woes, and out of the Stygian gloom, we wish you most heartily a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

R.I.P.



ATKIN	STITT	TATE	W'MINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

### ATKIN.

**T**HE fortunes of the House, this term, have been fair so far, but we hope that the future holds better things in store for us.

The promotion of Black, our vice-captain, W.S. Williams and I. Roberts, has increased our prefectorial staff to the flattering number of four.

Meanwhile, the Seniors have won against Stitt, but lost to Tate by a very narrow margin, and the Bantams have done likewise. However, the House is well represented in the School fifteens, Edwards, Black, Bibby, and Pearson playing in the 1st XV., while W. S. Williams, I. Roberts, Downing, G. Davies, and Vincent all play for the 2nd.

Our activities in the Swimming Gala were not so flattering as in previous years. The Senior Squadron finished second to Stitt, while the Junior Squadron also came second to Stitt. Our final position, however, is best left unmentioned.

Finally, we conclude with the usual appeal to all those in the House with a weakness for detentions to moderate their exuberance and remember that, but for their activities, we should be considerably higher in the mark sheets. G.R.E.

### STITT.

**T**HIS term has seen various changes in Stitt House. It is with regret that we say good-bye to our Captain, Melville, who did so much sterling work for the House in the past, but we must wish Bell and Bawden luck in their new positions, of Captain and Vice-Captain respectively.

A welcome change has at last come over our scholastic efforts, as we have occupied 2nd and 1st positions in the two mark sheets to date, whereas our position last year was invariably 3rd or 4th.

In sport also, Stitt has shown an improvement in gaining both the Cricket and Swimming Cups. In connexion with the latter, we would like to congratulate both Junior and Senior Squadron teams, especially Pritchard, who, in addition to swimming in both teams, gained 7 points for the House. We would also like to congratulate Tomlinson (17 pts.), Porter (11 pts.), and R. Bell (6 pts.) on their consistent swimming.

In Rugby we have been disappointing, having gained only 1 out of a possible 8 points. This is owing largely to the fact that we have yet to field a full side, in either Senior or Bantam teams. One encouraging fact is that we have one or two promising players among the third forms.

In conclusion, we extend a hearty welcome to all new boys in the House, and urge them to do their utmost to maintain the recent improvements. It is to them that we look to uphold the prestige of the House in the future.

G.R.B.

#### TATE.

**L**AST term, we won the Coronation Cup. We hope to be able to retain it, but after the poor show in the Swimming Gala, it seems that we shall have to work harder. The Senior Squadron team had to be scratched at the last minute, and the Junior Squadron Team could only finish fourth.

We are represented in the 1st XV. by Taylor (captain), and Gullan. We lost the first House matches v. Westminster by 6-21 in the Seniors and 0-13 in the Bantams. We beat Atkin, however, by 17-14 after being 14 points down. This was mainly due to the work of Gullan in the forwards. The Bantams also beat Atkin 16-3.

As usual, we have kept up a high standard in the mark sheets, in spite of several boys who continually inhabit the detention room.

A.C.W.

#### WESTMINSTER.

**F**OR Westminster House this term has been a success in some ways and a failure in others. It is true that in Rugby we have only lost one point out of eight, but it is a pity that this standard cannot be equalled in our School work.

The Bantams have won both their matches, beating Tate and Stitt. The Seniors beat Tate, but drew with Stitt. If only certain boys in the House were keener, we could have beaten Stitt with ease. But there is no doubt whatever that these members do not care what happens to the House. They know who they are.



In the 1st XV. we are represented by Clarke, Fallows, Edelsten, Weir, and Sarginson, and in the 2nd XV. by Garry, Shipley, and Tomlinson. Roberts, Smith, Vick, and Edwards play for the Bantams.

In the Swimming Gala we were second to Stitt. Here again the fate of the House seemed to rest on the shoulders of a few swimmers.

Finally, we end up with the usual complaint. A few members will persist in receiving innumerable detentions, and they let the House down every time. With a little care and forethought they would not receive one half the number. Surely, if the boys in other Houses can survive without detentions, so can boys in Westminster.

J.R.S.

### *Library Notes*

UNLIKE most hoary institutions the Library changes annually, in personnel if not in fabric. Thus, it was with mixed feelings that we witnessed the departure of our erstwhile comrades from the sheltered seclusion of Libraria. Of the dear departed, the patriarch, as befitting the most stricken in age, now hibernates at Cambridge, while Billum and the artistic Mel. enjoy the comforts of that home for retired Librarians across the water.

Exhausted by the strain of H.S.C., and preparing to relax into their usual winter dormancy, the remaining inhabitants were roused to face the annual migration from the sixth forms a vast horde of somewhat dubious characters, who, after careful scrutiny and amid muttered rumblings from the third year, were finally allowed to take up residence.

Note, friend, the melancholy strain of these notes, for the ancients, the bearded Ap and the wizened Tom cannot quite reconcile themselves to such creatures as Hard-boiled Herbie and Baldy of the toothy grin, the battling twins, Edelsten, who spends his time mumbling incantations against things in general, or even Ham, who, so rumour has it, is destined for the B.B.C. (An uncle in the children's hour?—Ed.). Fading memories of Slab and Bultsh are rudely recalled by the presence of Macleod, who has demonstrated his national proclivity for eminence by sitting for the greater part of the term on a decidedly sharp pinnacle.

# DR. TEASDALE GRIFFITHS

FELLOW, ROYAL COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS.  
FELLOW, TRINITY COLLEGE, LONDON.  
FELLOW, INCORPORATED STAFF-SIGHT-SINGING COLLEGE.  
ASSOCIATE, ROYAL MANCHESTER COLLEGE OF MUSIC.  
LICENTIATE, ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.  
MEMBER, ROYAL SOCIETY OF TEACHERS.

REGISTERED TEACHER,  
LECTURER, ADJUDICATOR, RECITALIST,  
CONDUCTOR, EXAMINATION COACH.

PREPARATION for all recognised Musical Degrees and Diplomas, and for Music as a subject in Arts Degree or Matriculation.

TUITION given in Pianoforte, Organ, Voice Production, Aural Culture, Form in Music, Harmony, Counterpoint, Fugue, Orchestration, etc., etc

*For Terms and Interviews, apply :—*

**17, Christchurch Road, Oxton, Birkenhead.**

*Or 'PHONE : BIRKENHEAD 1977.*

## : CLAUGHTON : TRAVEL AGENCY

(Eric Flinn)

**1 Upton Road, Claughton,  
Birkenhead.**

TELEPHONE - - BIRKENHEAD 1946.

**OFFICIAL RAILWAY  
and  
STEAMSHIP AGENTS.**

L.M.S., G.W.R., CHESHIRE LINES  
and L.N.E.R.

### BOOKING OFFICE.

— *Tickets issued in Advance* —  
(No Booking Fees).

: : If you Travel by : :  
**RAIL, COACH, STEAMER or PLANE.**

Arrange your Holiday Bookings  
through our Agency.

Telephone - - Birkenhead 842.

## MORTONS, 29 Oxton Rd., Birkenhead.

Largest Stock in Town of  
**BOOKS**  
on All Subjects.

SPECIAL SECTION DEVOTED SOLELY  
TO PRIZE BOOKS,  
ANNUALS and SCHOOL BOOKS.

Also Fountain Pens, Games,  
Wedding Cake Decorations,  
Stationery (Private & Commercial),  
Leather & Fancy Goods, Novelties,  
Reeves' Artists' Materials.

*Are you a Subscriber to our :*  
**CIRCULATING LIBRARY ?**

*New Books are added day of publication.*  
Terms from 10/6 yearly. Single Copies 3d. per vol.  
Challenge Section : 2d. per book for 7 days

**Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."**



Try . . .

# EDMUNDS,

9 Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead

*for your Gifts.*

---

BICYCLES, TRICYCLES and ACCESSORIES.

---

MECCANO, HORNBY TRAINS  
and DINKY TOYS, Etc.

---

## HOLLANDS LTD.

*Makers to the Admiralty.*

**Birkenhead.**

Mechanists to  
Liverpool Observatory, Bidston  
and One O'clock Gun.



Prompt and Reliable  
Repairs to

WATCHES,  
CLOCKS,  
JEWELLERY and  
SPECTACLES.



'Phone :  
Birkenhead 1401.

Distance  
No Object.

Est.:1833. Tel. 2006 BIRKENHEAD.

If you want FLOWERS  
for any occasion,  
you cannot do better  
than go to

**E. P. BEER,**  
FLORIST,

**South Grove Nurseries,  
Woodchurch Road,  
Birkenhead.**

ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED  
TO.

---

Please Patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."

The time-honoured game of ' Bashem ' is still popular, though it is doubtful whether the skill of their predecessors is possessed by the present fanatics, who much to the inconvenience of the rest amuse themselves by smiting ancient shuttlecocks and any unfortunates in the vicinity, with the remains of detention sheets, broken bats, etc.

But enough of these rumbling incoherencies. Reams could be filled with tales of Cecil and William the ventose vocalists, and of Beck's somnambulism—the editorial dictator of this journal forbids it. But what of the second and third year? Their motto is " Nullus labor," and so until their lethargic torpor is once more disturbed by the J.M.B.—" Peace to the ancients."

G.R.E.

## Form Notes

Vis.

WE start our form notes with a complaint from Hirst:

### OPEN LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

From time to time I contribute  
 An article for you;  
 But when I do, the Censor must  
 Re-write a line or two.  
 At first it wasn't very bad—  
 Just one word here and there;  
 But now whole paragraphs are debarred;  
 And no one seems to care.  
 You alter words and leave things out;  
 It really is a shame.  
 If you desist, there's just a chance  
 That I might rise to fame.  
 But, while you supervise my works,  
 I'll never gain success.  
 A poem full of bright ideas  
 Through you becomes a mess.  
 To finish, I would beg of you,  
 With all my heart and soul,  
 That, when you edit this complaint,  
 It will appear quite whole.

Yours poetically,

HIRST.

And the same applies to the rest of the form notes!



Thus, feeling confident that our literary efforts will be duly chronicled, we proceed to tell you what has been occupying our time this term.

Firstly, our voices have been raised in protest against the indecent strip-tease acts which take place and are even encouraged in the gym every Tuesday morning. Joking aside, we do think that in winter it is too cold to change for gym.

Have you noticed yet that the local cinemas are half empty at night, even on Saturdays? This is because we of VIs. are getting down to our three hours' homework every night, with a break on Sunday in order to go to church.

Some members of our form are in the grip of the dancing craze, and if this persists, we shall have to apply for a special period every week for this activity, to keep our other periods free from the noise of clattering hoofs. In the meantime, should any boy require lessons in any type of dancing except fan-dancing, he has only to apply to "Astaire" Hanman, who will give private tuition for a moderate figure.

And now we give you some news red-hot from the front line of the war in VIs. form room. Capt. Smith's fort has again been successfully shelled, and the resulting chaos has caused much concern amongst the higher authorities. Pte. Garry has been wounded while in action, and Cpl. McDonald has been shot for desertion. Nobody knows why he is fighting, and few know on which side they are.

To conclude, here is Porter, our warrior bold, to sing a ballad:

It was whispered of yore, right here in this School,  
That there was a boy who once broke a rule.  
He had come to School, the gormless sap,  
And he actually wasn't wearing his cap.  
The boys were shocked when they heard the news,  
And of punishment there were several views.  
"He ought to be sacked," said one stout lad,  
And another said that he should, by gad.  
The third-formers ran when of him they caught sight,  
And the Upper Sixth cringed when they met him at night.  
Few people know just what happened to him,  
But he jumped in the river and he couldn't swim.  
Now, ye lower-school boys, take my advice,  
Crown'd with black and gold you all look so nice,  
Just follow th' example of all the sixth-form:  
Wear your cap always, to avoid any storm.

## Via.

DISGUSTED at the decay which has apparently set in regarding the writing of *Visor* articles, I have been stirred to take up my pen in the cause of literature and offer a few suggestions as to how this state of affairs may best be remedied.

One of the best ways of finding a subject is to snatch at the nearest object within reach, place it upon the table, and concentrate upon it, hoping to find inspiration. For example, the writer reaches out, and the first object his hand alights upon is a large volume containing many of Beethoven's symphonies, sonatas, and the like. Well, a short account of Beethoven's life might be written, but this would most probably bore some people, as the modern craze seems to be for 'hot jazz.' We will try again. This time we pick up a book entitled "Lessons in Practical Electricity," by Swoope. Though the writer himself is not inspired by this, he has no doubt some people might be.

If the unlikely should happen, and the reader is unable to find a suitable subject, using the above directions, the ways and means are not at all exhausted. For instance, a collection of old *Visors* might be studied for ideas. Taking the top magazine from the pile, and passing hurriedly over the photograph of the School cricket team, the writer comes to an item concerning School sports:—

"It was raining heavily on the great day of June 5th." The person who wrote that certainly was original, and a lesson might be taken from him.

Another lesson, telling the reader how not to write an article, might be taken from the numerous depressing paragraphs, known as Club or Society Notes. They invariably begin in the same fashion, as: "This term opened on its usual depressing note," "We are at present finding considerable difficulty in holding our meetings," "Interest in the Club has been declining of late," and "This term we have played seven matches in all, four of which we have lost and three of which won."

A very poor and uninteresting type of article to be found in past issues of our *Visors* concerns "Places of Interest" such as exhibitions, workshops, and the like. This type of article can have no real appeal to a reader, as his interest lies more in the contents of a person's mind and his opinions than in his experiences. It must not be supposed, however, that I



have dealt with all the aspects of the problem here. Far from it. But in this short article I have endeavoured to instruct the youth of the School in this matter, with the hope that in future editions of our School magazine the fruits of my labours may be seen in the shape of more and more interesting and unusual contributions.

Thanks, Pearson, I am sure we shall take your advice to heart and try to improve in future. Owing to pressure of work this term our attainments in the literary world have been restricted, and consequently our limericks are pitiful, our jokes weak, and, as Pearson has indicated, our descriptions of "Places of Interest" appalling. One of our more outstanding contributions is by Thompson, who describes for us the recent development of government

### SHADOW FACTORIES.

Much has been heard recently about so-called government "Shadow Factories," but the general public do not know much about them.

For several years now, I have journeyed southwards for my summer holidays and have passed the British Aircraft Company's factory by the railway line. The year before last, when I passed it, it consisted of one moderately sized shed, but this year it was altogether different. The drastic change in European diplomatic relations and the hopeless weakness of our defence forces, as compared with those of other European countries, caused the British Government to change its disarmament policy and to start mass-producing armaments at once.

When you are approaching the "Bristol Aircraft Company's premises (you are informed of the fact by advertisement on the lineside), if you care to look out of the carriage window, all you can see for miles is trees, and then, suddenly, through a gap you can see many large, dark red coloured buildings, some only under construction. Others are "underground" and cannot be seen, I was told by a fellow passenger.

The vast alteration is obvious, but unfortunately your view is restricted, for the train rushes past at an approximate speed of 70 m.p.h., and there is no indication that probably the largest shadow-factory in England stands in that clump of trees. The sheds of the previous year are probably being used to supply aircraft to private people and foreigners, but the British Government almost has the monopoly.

## Vib.

TO begin with here is an article by Kavanagh on

## THE MAKING OF PAPER.

The Early Egyptians made a kind of paper from the pith of the papyrus plant, but the modern type of paper originates with the Chinese. In the first century of the Christian era, a clever Chinaman produced paper from mulberry tree pulp, hemp and rags.

To-day the wood is ground up by machinery, the foreign bodies are removed during the process, and only the fibre is left. To this are added certain chemicals, and after a fixed time, the mixture enters another machine as a thin watery fluid. By a series of complex operations the fibres are bonded together, and then passed through a maze of rollers. These press and glaze it, afterwards it is rolled off into five mile strips of various widths.

Freckleton records a sea trip.

## LIVERPOOL TO BELFAST.

We left Liverpool late one Saturday night, and after reaching the mouth of the Mersey went to bed, but the continual thudding of the ship's engines prevented us from sleeping for the first few hours. After a time we dropped asleep, waking to find that the day was rather misty, with a slight breeze.

On the starboard bow, I could make out the mist shrouded Antrim mountains, sweeping down to the edge of Belfast Lough. From the port side, the sun could be seen gradually rising over County Down.

As we sailed down the narrow channel, we passed the shipbuilding yards of Harland and Wolf, which contained masses of machinery and several ships at different stages of completion.

A short time afterwards we reached the quayside and disembarked.

## Remove j.

HOW can we start better than by quoting Kirkland's original verse?

There was a young fellow named Paul,  
Who ate almost nothing at all.

He grew thinner and thinner  
As he ate no dinner,  
And now he's not here at all.



To go from verse to prose, we will now have a description of Badcock's visit to the

### POST OFFICE EXHIBITION.

A short time ago, the G.P.O. gave an exhibition in Liverpool to explain the working of the post office. The old-fashioned methods of carrying mails were shown in a window, while inside the building, where the exhibition was held, models of air-mail 'planes were on view, and appeared to be moving. Two sets of thirty-five squares were placed near, one set being red, and the other blue. When buttons, corresponding to various towns, were pressed, a certain number of squares in each set lit up. The number of blue squares lit up was equal to the number of days taken to reach those towns by airmail, and the red ones gave the time taken by ordinary mail services.

There was also a cathode-ray tube for recording speech by means of a thin line of blue light at the wide end of the tube. This line became wavy, when anyone spoke into a telephone at the other end. Another machine was for stamping post-marks on letters. The use of telephones and other post office equipment was explained by officials. At various times, films were shown, one dealing with the "Night Mail" train, showing how the mails are collected by the train without its stopping.

I enjoyed the exhibition very much, and came away knowing much more about the G.P.O. than I did before.

In the following effort, Wolstenholme gives his idea of masters, prefects, and other nuisances of school.

"Great Barrier".....Cook.

"Lost Horizon".....Seavell misplaces his glasses.

"Splinters in the Air".....Langford scratches his head.

"So Rare".....Correct homework.

"Never in a million years".....100 per cent. for French.

Do not take this next article, or its writer, W. H. Davies, too seriously.

It was a cold, dark, and gloomy night. The wind was howling through the telegraph wires—as I opened the gate I fumbled in my pockets for the key, but when I was about to open the door, I received a shock—it was already open, and I heard a voice whisper, "Mind out, Joe, someone's comin.' Get behind the door, and cosh 'im one over the 'ead as 'e comes in!"

I did not wait any longer, but, after running to fetch a policeman who was on his beat, came back to the front door, just in time to hear the soft and mellow voice of a B.B.C. announcer saying, "You have been listening to the fourth episode of the series 'Inspector Hughes investigates.' The next part of the programme will follow in two minutes."

As Howell tells us, Lacey has been back to School for only three days after his disaster last term at New Brighton.

Harold Lacey,  
Still away.  
Must be in  
The sea, to stay.

### Remove 1.

**M**OST of our best articles not having passed the "Hall"-marking stage, we must apologise for printing this limerick by Roberts:

I remember a fellow named Jones,  
Who in fury once broke a man's bones.  
He was rushed off to jail;  
Now his house is for sale,  
For at Dartmoor he's breaking up stones.

This would probably have been stamped "not original" also, but, after carefully scanning all Shakespeare, the censor was unable to confirm his suspicions.

Interesting to all those who leave the School annually to take up whaling as a profession, the following description of a visit to a Whaler in Bromborough Dock has, for obvious reasons, been left anonymous:

On a recent visit to Bromborough Dock, I took the opportunity of being conducted over one of the two whalers which are the property of Lever Brothers, and are called the "mother-ships" by those who know. When the whales are harpooned from smaller boats, they are towed alongside the mother-ship, where they are hauled up a shipway on to the deck. Here large saws cut the flesh into pieces, which are thrown down holes in the deck, arriving in the boilers where the whale oil is extracted.

Bell, who wrote the following ode, does not let modesty mar a masterpiece.



Oh, they're tough, mighty tough, in Rl.,  
 They're the toughest guys around this joint;  
 They eat cannon-balls and thistles,  
 And make their beds of chisels,  
 For they're tough, mighty tough, in Rl.

Now you know what they're like in Rl.  
 You never see them rush out with the bell.  
 Every evening they stay in,  
 'Cause they kick up such a din.  
 Oh! they're tough, mighty tough, in Rl.

In support of Bell, we would mention our Rugby results for this season:—so far we have won all our matches, and as we have three representatives in the 1st XV., we hope that we shall have more than casual interest in the colours awards.

#### Remove a.

**T**HE predominating event in Remove a this term seems to be the mysterious way, to quote a member, "in which a certain window closes of its own accord, and later opens again without human agency."

Thomas has apparently been studying the works of Professor S. Holloway, for this is his historical effort:

#### MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS.

There once was a queen, name of Mary,  
 They called 'er the Queen of the Scots;  
 When she came to Scotland to reign there,  
 She 'oped to be in the big Shots.

But as she 'ad tried to turn nasty,  
 She was in for a series of shocks;  
 Under Calvinist leader—John Knox.  
 For Scotland had turned Anti-Cath'lic.

She then wedded Darnley, her second,  
 ('Er first were t'Dauphin of France),  
 But Darnley were blown up and strangled,  
 While Mary were out at a dance.

So she married a lad called Jim Bothwell,  
 At this, the Scots felt—"She's a swizz."  
 So they shut up the lass in a castle,  
 Yet she got out, and went to Queen Liz.

At last, the great plot were discovered,  
And soon it were nipped in the bud.  
But Mary 'ad been the prime mover,  
So the plot made 'er name change to mud.

They brought Mary up for 'er trial,  
They'd caught the girl now, good and proper.  
The 'eadsman soon ended 'er lifetime,  
With an 'efty big smack from 'is chopper.

Bryden has a pet aversion. The suffering child points out  
his woes in :

### THE GEOMETRICAL BLUES.

With theorems, diagrams, compass, and rule,  
I tackle the job at home after School.  
Of pencils and rubbers, I've used quite a few.  
Still no results! Oh! I'm certainly blue.

The proof is correct, but what of that angle?  
I think, and I think, but that I can't wangle;  
I work on new lines, but I find that won't do,  
That's the reason I'm feeling so awfully blue.

Papers are littered all over the place,  
The answer, however, I still cannot trace.  
I can manage a crossword if given a clue,  
But geometry, *geometry*, leaves me quite blue.

Following this dirge, the jovial Sparrow has a secret fear :

"Now at last we're on our way,"  
We hear the masters say each day.  
"You've two more years before you sit  
In that cold gym to do your bit."

"So swat and swat this term, my lads,  
And all foundations lay,  
And when you're tired, just persevere,  
And at your lessons stay."

This drear refrain rings in our ears  
And scares us every day.  
Shall we survive the next two years—  
Or simply fade away?



## Vj.

WE start with a type of limerick by Dale, and the rest of our form would do well to observe the first line and apply it to themselves.

Writing limericks is not in my line,  
But this feeble effort is mine,  
'Cos it's part of my work,  
And I know I can't shirk,  
But for Inspiration I pine.

Altogether thirty limericks were submitted, but we are able to include only one more. This composition is by Hayward.

There was an old man of Black Rock  
Who never wore more than one sock.  
If you say this is quaint;  
I deny it; it ain't;  
For he was a one-legged crock.

Let us now turn our eyes towards the prose efforts. McIntosh paid a visit to a launch at Cammell Laird's.

On November 3rd I went to Cammell Laird's to see the launch of the Argentine destroyer, the "Santa Cruz." It was to be launched in the yard, and on my arrival there was already a large crowd clustered about the slipway and launching platform. During the quarter of an hour I had to wait, I was shown round by a friend who worked in the yard. He told me many interesting facts about the destroyer, and pointed out the "dagger" which had to be struck away before the ship could leave the stocks.

At half-past ten the launching ceremony was completed, and the ship glided down the slipway to make a great wash as she entered the water. She was hauled into the basin, where she was berthed alongside her sister ship, and the aircraft-carrier "Ark Royal," which was launched this spring.

After seeing the "Santa Cruz" made fast, I made a tour of the ship-yard, visiting most of the "shops" and walking under the keel plates of the new liner "Mauretania."

We conclude with Brunning's effort :

### NOVEMBER THE FIFTH.

On Guy Fawkes' Day when School is o'er,  
We rush straight home to have some fun ;  
We have our tea, no time for more,  
And leave our homework badly done.

With crackers and rockets and bangers too,  
And demons and candles as well ;  
We kick up a row and a hullabaloo,  
And scamper around with a yell !

### VI.

COME up and see us some-time—in the conservatory ; come after 4-30 and see some of our unwanted guests.

Hardened by our home conditions we have won all our Rugger matches in succession—both.

We have also discovered an American poet who, however, rhymes ' rugger ' and ' shugger ' in real Kensington fashion.

Our casualty list recently has been large. This is due to the desire not to ' let the side down.' Unfortunately our friend from Wallasey has returned to disturb the cooing of our turtle dove.

Now that we are nearing the end of the term we hasten to throw ourselves into the examination fray, hoping we shall be thrown out.

### IVa.

IVa. began the School year very well, and are quite merry and bright, with the exception perhaps of Barr, who seems to have had a most distressing accident, according to Parker, who says :

There was a young fellow named Barr,  
Who drove up a hill in a car ;

At the top of the hill

The car had a spill,

And our hero revived in a bar.

We very much doubt the truth of this, but Little records a rather interesting feature of the natural history of the district :

A few days ago a strange animal was seen sitting up at the edge of a pond, stroking its whiskers. After a great deal of excitement a man shot it with a gun, and on examination the creature was found to have a head and body very similar



to that of a beaver, whilst its hind feet were—unlike the fore—webbed. Its teeth were large and yellow, and its tail was that of a rat. Several eminent people examined it, and decided that it must be a nutria. Other authorities described it as a coytu (South American rat). However, the puzzle of its origin was solved when a man was found who bred coytus for their skins, and from whom it had escaped.

And now from the bleak north to the sunny south with Bray, who spent his holidays in Bournemouth, and brings back among his memories one which is of interest to all.

At one o'clock in the afternoon we left Bournemouth (our holiday resort), and travelled by car to Weymouth, crossing a river on the way by a quaint 18th century ferry boat, which was hauled from one bank to the other by rusty chains.

When we reached the harbour, we saw battleships, destroyers, and submarines, all lined up and looking very picturesque, silhouetted, as they were, against the blue sky.

From there we went to Chesil beach, near Portland Bill. This beach is seven miles long, very wide, and very steep, and composed of millions of pebbles of various colours and shapes; but the strange thing about it is (so the story goes) that it was all washed up in a terrific storm, and it is supposed to be one of the wonders of the world. However, as it is very desolate, the Air Ministry propose to use it for bombing practice.

Now let us return to the North, and after a pause for breath, visit the recent Post Office exhibition with Brecknell.

One day in late October  
To Liverpool I went,  
To see the Exhibition,  
In search of knowledge bent.  
I quickly walked up Dale Street,  
As any schoolboy would,  
And entered through the doorway—  
The only way I could.  
The G.P.O. was showing—  
I think I forgot to tell—  
Everything about letters,  
And telephones as well.  
But good times do not linger,  
My visit was short but sweet,  
After seeing many wonders,  
I found myself in the street.

As Brecknell says, "good times do not linger," and as our space in this magazine is limited, we cannot linger either, so, full of bright prospects and good resolutions for the New Year, we sign off.

#### IVb.

**T**HE term has been quiet, almost too quiet; nothing notable has happened, and we are all rather bored.

We did have one spot of excitement to stir our weary souls, when our foremost 'detention hog' dropped a 'stink-bomb.' The novelty, however, soon wore off when we took a deep breath, for our sense of smell is as keen as any master's.

We have stacks of articles, but unfortunately most of the readable ones are unfit for publication. With great difficulty we have translated two brilliant descriptions—one by the peerless Bragger, and the other by James Jones.

Firstly Bragger's effort:

#### A VISIT TO VAUXHALL MOTORS.

During the holidays, I was lucky enough to go to Luton with my father for a car. We caught the 8-15 train from Lime Street, and arrived at Luton at 12-15.

One of the officials took us round the Vauxhall works, which are of immense size, occupying thirty acres, and employing seven thousand men and women.

We saw huge machines, weighing 450 tons, pressing out flat pieces of steel a quarter of an inch thick into the correct shape. The various parts of the car pass through the workshops on a metal bar in the roof, and everything is timed to a second.

The different parts are welded together with acetelyne lamps, and the final work of upholstering the car is done by women.

The finished product is then given a last inspection, taken for a trial, and finally sold.

Jones now enlightens us as to what goes on inside the lairages.

As soon as the pigs arrive, they are herded into pens, and on the day of killing are released, two at a time, and driven into the actual slaughter house.

Two men, dressed entirely in leather, do the killing. They use an electrical instrument, shaped something like a barber's clippers, which is plugged into the wall. The pig is strapped



on to a wooden bench, and the man places the instrument near to the pig's forehead. The current is switched on. There is a deep, low noise; the pig gives its last squeal and quickly dies.

The carcase is beheaded by a man wielding a sharp knife, and is then soaked in boiling water for five minutes.

Two other men scrape off the hair, and after a further bath, this time in cold water, the dead pig is considered clean.

#### IVj.

HERE we are once more, only now we are elevated to that higher position in the IVth. form. One day this term one of our number was sent by a certain master to buy the "Champion," a book that we fourth formers scorn.

To begin our literary masterpieces we have a short description of a daily occurrence in the school by Pugh:

What is that noise from IVj. room?  
I fear I'll have to mention  
That if the noise goes on and on  
You'll all be in detention.

Evidently the row did not stop, and some of us visited the detention room. Campbell comments on it:

I entered the room and sat down. It was warm and pleasant, and my companions were jolly. Two more smiling stalwarts came in to join us, and they too seated themselves in two of the desks. Then! there entered a rather stern gentleman carrying in his hand several blue books.

"Who's doing tots?" said he. Up went a full score of hands, down went mouths and for a whole hour we were to be pent in that room adding up long lines of figures, for detention had begun.

Dorrity has not been doing his homework of late, for one night:

"He went to the Picks,  
And saw some flicks,  
The rottenest flicks on earth.  
He had to remain,  
To see them again,  
To get his money's worth."

Here we must finish owing to a deficiency of material.

## IIIa.

FIRSTLY, Ball has some valuable information to expound:

The great danger of fire is not fully realised by the majority of people. The danger is known now, however, better than ever before, and steps to prevent loss of life are being taken. Every year thousands are injured and maimed, and in England and Ireland during one year about nine and a half million pounds' worth of property is destroyed.

Speed in fire-brigades is essential. Average fire-engines can achieve between 55 m.p.h. and 60 m.p.h., and turntable-escape machines have a maximum speed of about 58 m.p.h. Speed is needed not only mechanically but physically, for firemen turn out at all times, and their average time is 1½ minutes.

Metz self-supporting turntable ladders can be raised to a height of 85 feet in 8 seconds; a monitor is fixed to the escape so that it can be used as a water-tower. All brigades of any size are now equipped with hour and half-hour self-contained breathing-sets, which protect the wearer from poisonous gases. Jumping-sheets have been practically dispensed with, owing to their danger.

Passing on *via* C\*ndl\*sh, who mumbles about "peices" and "punctuers," we come to Tresidder's historic and informative contribution:

China is believed to be the country where fireworks were first made, though they were manufactured in Italy as early as 1540. The bright colours are made by certain chemicals being burnt (e.g., iron filings cause brilliant showers of sparks). In every firework, there is the "starting powder," which first catches the flame, and the "banging powder," which causes the explosion.

Many lives have been saved by "signal rockets," which are set off by the crew of a doomed vessel. As a rule, people on shore see these exploding, and tell the lifeboat crew. Catherine-wheels are made by coiling long paper tubes around wooden or cardboard frames which will revolve freely on a pin. These are filled with explosive material.

Nugent has had:—

## A RIDE TO BIRMINGHAM.

My father awakened me one morning at three o'clock, to take me on my first trip in a motor transport lorry, leaving



Birkenhead at 3-45 a.m. The night was cold, but I soon got warm and cosy inside the cab of the lorry, which was carrying an eight-ton load.

Ahead of us for fifty yards, the white beams of the headlights were lighting up the highway, but dipped when other motors were approaching. I saw an owl for the first time, perched on the branch of a tree. Its big eyes were very noticeable as the light flashed on them. After a while, as we were travelling along, I caught a glimpse of a fox, which crossed the road in a flash, and disappeared. While crossing a heath, I saw a great number of rabbits.

On arriving in Birmingham at 8-30 a.m. I helped to unload the lorry.

Taylor, while he follows many in his subject, is very original in his "rhyme scheme," which may be dubbed as "Taylorian stanzas":

#### HOMEWORK.

When we get home from School at night,  
The thing that puts us in a plight  
(We hate the awful stuff at sight)

Is HOMEWORK!

It keeps us from our rightful leisure,  
For, instead of seeking pleasure,  
We've to do a frightful measure

Of HOMEWORK!

We sit and waste electric light,  
And mourn the loss of a perfect night.  
We might have heard the Neusel fight.

Oh! HOMEWORK!

It makes us clever, masters say,  
But think of "Dets." that come our way  
Through rushing, in our wish to play,

Our HOMEWORK.

#### IIb.

"NOTHING venture, nothing win" has probably been the motto of many a striving, hungry author as he has spent his last coppers on stamps to send his "brilliant inspiration" to an inhuman editor. We, of IIb., may not be in such a sorry plight as that, but we have ventured into the devious ways of prose and verse to win your attention for a passing moment.

# E. A. MURRAY & SONS

LIMITED.

*Printers, Publishers, Commercial  
: : & General Stationers, : :*

Are now showing all the latest  
designs in CHRISTMAS CARDS,  
AUTOGRAPH STATIONERY,  
CALENDARS, &c.

Private Greeting Card Sample Books  
gladly sent on request.

**437 NEW CHESTER ROAD,  
ROCK FERRY**

Telephone - - ROCK FERRY 21

- and -

**39 The Village, Bebington.**



Tel. Birkenhead 635

**T. H. WOODHOUSE,**

F.A.I.,



*ESTATE AGENT,  
INSURANCE BROKER,  
& VALUER.*



**60 Hamilton Square,  
BIRKENHEAD.**

Estates carefully managed, all classes  
of Insurances effected.

C. S. Jones shows us :

### THE VANISHING TRICK.

Errand boy's basket,  
Sausages within ;  
Very small lapdog,  
Very lean and thin.  
Errand boy's basket,  
Emptiness within,  
Very large lapdog,  
Very fat thro' sin.

Sad is the fate of Wharton's hero :

There was a young man named Paul  
Who went to a fancy dress ball.  
He thought he would risk it  
Dressed up as a biscuit,  
But the dog ate him up in the hall.

And Forsyth portrays a state with which many will sympathise (in secret at least) :

There was a young fellow named Mike,  
Who thought he would go for a hike.  
He tramped to Piltdown  
Till nearly sundown,  
But thought he'd come back on a bike.

Millington tries to make our mouths water by describing a visit to Carr's biscuit factory.

During the holidays I visited Carr's biscuit factory. We had to sign the Visitors' Book before we were taken round, and as soon as every member of the party had signed, we were shown how the dough is mixed and stamped. The raw biscuits are sent along to the bakehouse on trays, and after they are cooked they travel along on revolving shelves to the cooling room. Finally they are decorated with jams, creams, or chocolate before they are packed into tested airtight tins.

There is a special department to which returned tins are sent. Here they are carefully washed and cleaned, and dried off in ovens. Any slightly battered ones are straightened out, but those which are too badly damaged are melted down.

After our inspection we were invited to partake of tea and biscuits, and to buy any of the numerous sample tins which were on sale.



Hall has another interesting holiday experience :

### A VISIT TO DARTMOOR AND PLYMOUTH.

During our holiday in Torquay it was suggested that we should visit Dartmoor, so next day we set off by coach. On the way we saw sheep and the little moorland ponies, and as we approached the prison we could see the convicts working in the fields, and at last we came to that grim old building, at sight of which many a man must have abandoned hope. Just outside, on a hill, we saw the searchlight and police siren station.

We travelled on through Princetown to Plymouth, and as soon as we got down on the front a sailor asked us if we would like to go for a sail and see the fleet preparing for Navy Week. We boarded his launch and sailed out past Drake's Island on to the Dockyard where the fleet was. We saw a captured German floating dock with an aircraft carrier on it, four submarines, eight destroyers, and six battleships. On the battleships we saw Marines preparing for target practice.

At the mouth of the River Dart we saw a half-size model of the "Golden Hind." Then the tide began to turn, so we had to make for the shore. After we landed, we walked along the famous Hoe and past Drake's statue, and then returned to Torquay after a most enjoyable day.

### IIIj.

**F**IRST let us relate an unusual and amusing experience of Baker's.

One day as Mother, Father and I were waiting in the Strand Tube Station, I had an exciting adventure. When the train drew in, the doors automatically opened, and several passengers alighted.

Mother and Father then stepped in, and before I could say "Jack Robinson," the doors had automatically closed, leaving me 'stranded' on the platform.

For the moment I did not know what to do, but decided to follow on by the next train, and so shouted to Father telling him of my intention. The next train arrived within a few minutes, and I was soon taken to my destination, Leicester Square Station, where I was able to join my Father and Mother again. They had waited for me anxiously, and were very pleased to see me arrive safely.

Now in contrast we present a thrilling story told by Salter, which he calls

### HALLOWEEN ON THE MOOR.

It was Halloween, and the night was misty. In the lonely cottage on the moor sat a Mother with her two young sons. The wind was whistling through the house, making uncanny sounds which disturbed the thoughts of the children.

Suddenly there was a tapping on the window, and nervously the eldest son went to see what it was. "Be careful," his Mother said, and then she paled, for at the window appeared a face! Flinging back the door, the youth ran out. There was a scuffle and a cry, and then a deathly silence.

The old woman and her other son cried after him, but there was no reply. They hunted about for several moments but could not find a clue to where he had gone. Then faintly, as though coming from a distance, "Help! Help"! Both of them went in the direction of the cry, and after much difficulty caught sight of a weird figure struggling with the brave brother in the mist. The other brother immediately took hold of a stout stick lying in the undergrowth, and, unnoticed by the intruder, crept up behind him and struck him a violent blow across the head. The man fell to the ground dazed, and was bound and taken back to the cottage, where he told his story to a policeman who was quickly summoned. He had, he said surlily, tried to get the family all out of the cottage in order to plunder it. "Well," said the policeman, "you failed because of the pluck of this fine lad, and you had better come along quietly."

Under the skilful guidance of Baker we have already proved our worth on the football field, having so far resisted all attempts to defeat us. The most deadly of these attacks was by IIIb., whom we beat by nine goals to three.

We end these notes with an amusing verse by the form poet, Woodward:

There was a young lady of Clewer,  
Who was riding a horse when it threw her.  
A butcher passed by,  
And said, "Madam, don't cry";  
And he fastened her on with a skewer.



## *Junior School*

LONG dark evenings and dreary wet days have made us forget that a few months ago we were enjoying our summer holidays, but we must not fail to say a little about the Cub Camp. The time in Camp proved most enjoyable, and special comment must be made on the tidiness of the tents and the improvement in swimming, due, no doubt, to encouragement in the form of generous gifts from friends interested in the Pack.

Cub Parades this term have been limited to preparation of choruses for the Scout Concert and games; consequently few tests have been passed and no badges won. It is hoped to finish the term with a Christmas Party.

All our energies are now concentrated on the Prize-giving ceremony, which is to take place in Beechcroft on Monday, December 18th, when we are to be honoured by the presence of Mr. Robert Galloway.

In accordance with the normal custom we are preparing a play—a dramatic version of Dickens's "Christmas Carol"—and as more than half the number of boys in the Junior School will be on the stage, excitement is rife in all Forms, and there is little time left for out-of-school activities.

Unfortunately, we seem to have been too busy to think of writing anything for the *Visor*, and all we have to show is a couple of limericks by B. Smith of form 2. We hope that next term we shall be able to publish articles by several boys in each form.

There was a young fellow named Joker,  
Who took up the end of a poker;  
    It burnt him so much,  
    He never dared touch  
Or handle the end of a poker.

There was a young fellow called Dixie,  
Who wanted to turn to a pixie;  
    He did it so well,  
    That no-one could tell  
Whether Dixie was Dixie or pixie.

## *Christmas*

SO Christmas is here once more ! The season of jollity, plum puddings, turkeys, crackers, and the like ; of red-faced old men, with whisky-bottles ; of angry pompous gentlemen, whose hats have been removed by well-aimed snowballs ; of glistening snow, lanterns, and carol singers ; all these things conjure up in the popular imagination a vision of Christmas.

There have been other festive seasons in history, and, indeed, during the Middle Ages, there was a national holiday nearly every week. But the Middle Ages have passed far out of sight, and days of feasting and rejoicing have decreased, until only two or three remain.

Christmas, however, has survived, and is carefully preserved. The reasons for this are often attributed to a number of minor details, but, in modern times, there often appears to be only one real reason, that is, trade, which is the chief preserver of anniversaries—the Gunpowder Plot would have been forgotten years ago, if it had not been for the manufacturers and retailers of fireworks. Christmas is, of course, the “ high spot ” of retail trade, and many ingenious methods of conjuring cash out of people’s pockets are disguised under the Christmas label. Putting ordinary slippers into “ Christmassy ” boxes, dressing up whisky bottles with imitation holly—these are only two of the many devices used.

Walking in the busy streets after the summer holidays one sees on shop windows posters, bearing in red letters, such advice as “ Shop early for Xmas,” “ Useful Xmas gifts,” “ Join our Xmas club.” These signs increase in numbers, and decorations are added, until the shops become a mass of streamers, tinsel, and Christmas trees ; for they are shortly to be the scene of a magnificent scramble for Christmas goods, which rivals that of the January sales.

Of course, the thoughtless person casually observes that all this is “ good for trade.” In fact, this remark seems a good enough excuse for many inexplicable happenings of the present day. Even if some benefit is given to trade, this is not the purpose for which Christmas was originally intended.

The above sentiments probably give the impression that Christmas, as a season of merriment, is liable to give one a “ pain in the neck.” This, however, is clearly absurd, and the younger generation will no doubt be able to enjoy to the full all the good things provided for them on December 25th.



### *Badminton Club*

THE Badminton Club continues to flourish, and this year we have welcomed many new members. We take this opportunity of showing our appreciation of the large number of distinguished spectators we have attracted by our high standard of play. We also note with extreme satisfaction that some of our admirers have banded themselves together and now play irregularly as the "Badminton Wanderers," who may be seen on certain nights of the week seeking a room where they may exercise with books, plywood sheets, and discarded shuttlecocks.

We are also greatly concerned about members' subscriptions, which our treasurer has had much difficulty in collecting, and though we realise that the cost of living has risen steeply of late, we would urge players to pay up.

We would now issue two appeals: the first for new members, and the second for volunteers who are willing to offer their services in repainting the court. W.K.H.

### *Chess Club*

THE Chess Club suffered a severe loss last term, when Mr. Moat left us. We must all thank Mr. Moat for the help he has given us in the past, and for the unfailing interest he has shown. Mr. Lord has now taken charge, and we hope for a successful season under his care.

However the team is not very strong this year, as we are still without a victory after three matches. We lost to Holt High School ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$ ), Rock Ferry High School (4—3), and Liverpool Institute ( $6\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{2}$ ). As regards the individual results, Sarginson has won  $2\frac{1}{2}$  out of 3, Moore  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and Jenks and Hayward 1 each. The team has been chosen from Sarginson (capt.), Moore, Bell, Jenks, A. C. Williams, Hayward, Thomas, and Morrell.

By the time these notes are in print, it is hoped that the tournaments will have been started. J.R.S.

### *L.N.U. Branch*

OUR activities have not been very pronounced this term owing to the fact that we were late in starting the new season, and that meetings were postponed for several weeks because of film shows.

On Friday, October 22nd, we held our first meeting of the term, when I. Roberts read an introductory paper on the work of the League of Nations and what the League stands for. After discussing the paper, the members elected the following officers:—

Vice-Chairman .....	A. T. Cook.
Secretary .....	T. Moyes.
Treasurer .....	I. Roberts.

The next meeting was held on Tuesday, November 23rd, when R. Leyland gave a talk on "How the League works for Peace." He illustrated his remarks with some interesting examples which included both the successes of the League and its so-called failures. We wish that more members of the School would come and display their powers of oratory, and bring their friends with them.

It is hoped that we shall have many more recruits in the near future, in order that next term we may show ourselves to be very much alive.

T.M.

### *The Sixth Form Literary and Debating Society*

**T**HIS term, we have held four meetings. two debates, and two papers by members of the Staff. The meetings have been moderately well attended.

The first meeting took the form of a debate on the subject of making the Criminal Law more severe. Bawden and Williams proposed, but the arguments of I. Roberts and Hamilton proved the stronger, and the House rejected the motion.

At the next meeting, Mr. Allison read a paper on Old Tranmere, which was very interesting, and disclosed many secrets.

The third meeting was a debate, when Moyes and Hallam proposed that the League of Nations was the only way to world peace. The motion was easily rejected after the eloquent arguments of Ridout and Harris.

The fourth meeting was held on November 16th, when Mr. Haime read an excellent paper on 'Jargon.'

As usual, we must express our thanks to our chairman, Mr. W. E. Williams, for his encouragement and helpful remarks.

A.C.W.



### *Rifle Club*

ON Thursday, July 22nd, by permission of the Commanding Officer, and at the invitation of Captain Paterson, we paid a visit to the headquarters of the Liverpool Scottish, when we had a friendly match with a team which consisted mainly of B.I.O.B., and which had been carefully selected so that we should be matched with marksmen of something like our own ability. The match was a very close affair, which we won by a narrow margin, owing, in part, to the shooting of Mr. Davies, who assisted us to overcome our nervousness on this occasion. Of the team proper, Ashcroft was the highest scorer with 41 out of a possible 50. Afterwards both teams were entertained to refreshments in the Officers' Mess.

We heartily thank the Commanding Officer and Mr. Paterson, in particular, for a most enjoyable evening.

### *Rugby Football*

WITH five old colours still with us, our prospects for this season looked exceedingly bright. Misfortune overtook us, however, when Clare left early in the term, and A. C. Williams was advised to take a rest.

The first match, against the Old Boys, was won by 19 points to 15, but the St. Mary's match was lost owing to poor handling on the part of the backs and the mistaken tactics of the forwards.

In the match against Park High School a decided improvement was shown, and the bustling tactics of the forwards, combined with a better understanding among the backs, gave us a decisive win.

This was followed by a very disappointing game with Calday Grammar School, when the School, after leading for the greater part of the match, allowed the visitors to score in the last few minutes.

As usual, we lost to Wirral Grammar School, this time by 22 points to 11 against their much heavier team. We also lost to a much improved Old Boys' XV. by 12 points to 8.

The Oldershaw match, however, with better combination and more thrust amongst the backs, resulted in a good win, while the Wrexham game further demonstrated our increasing confidence. The Oulton match was lost, but allowances should be made for the fact that we were one man short throughout the second half.

The very young players, despite their inexperience, have justified their inclusion, and if both forwards and backs continue to improve at the present rate, we may expect a good season.

Fortunately, injuries have been few, and there has been little call on 2nd XV. players to fill gaps in the 1st XV. Consequently, the 2nd XV., captained by Bawden, has developed into a reliable team. Nine matches have been played, and of these six have been won. The best performances were against Park High School, Bootle Secondary School, and Oulton.

The 3rd XV. has been less fortunate, having played four matches, and won only one.

The Bantams, captained by Owen, have done reasonably well, and on the form shown in the last few matches should have another successful season. Three matches have been won out of the seven played, but the defeats have been very narrow. On the other hand, they have shown great promise in the matches against St. Mary's, Bootle, and Oldershaw.

Finally, the thanks of the club are due to A.C. Williams, who has taken upon himself the onerous duties of caterer. We shall almost regret his return to the team.

## RESULTS.

### 1st XV.

		For.	Agst.
v. Old Boys' 2nd XV. ....	H.....W.	19	— 15
v. St. Mary's College, Crosby .....	A.....L.	3	— 13
v. Park High School .....	A.....W.	24	— 3
v. Calday Grammar School .....	H.....L.	5	— 11
v. Wirral Grammar School .....	H.....L.	5	— 11
v. Old Boys' 2nd XV. ....	H.....L.	8	— 13
v. Oldershaw School .....	H.....W.	48	— 3
v. Grove Park, Wrexham .....	A.....W.	17	— 3
v. Oulton High School .....	A.....L.	5	— 17
v. Liverpool University IV. ....	H.....W.	14	— 7
v. Liverpool Institute* .....	A.....W.	10	— 9

\*B.I. "A" XV.

### 2nd XV.

		For.	Agst.
v. St. Mary's College, Crosby.....	H.....L.	5	— 9
v. Park High School .....	H.....W.	28	— 8
v. Calday Grammar School .....	A.....L.	8	— 30
v. Wirral Grammar School .....	A.....L.	0	— 35
v. Bootle Secondary School .....	H.....W.	48	— 3



			For.	Agst.
v. Oldershaw School .....	A.....	W.	21	— 9
v. Grove Park, Wrexham .....	H.	W.	13	— 9
v. Oulton High School .....	H.....	W.	19	— 0
v. St. Anselm's College.....	H.....	W.	27	— 11

**3rd XV.**

v. St. Mary's College, Crosby .....	A.....	L.	13	— 36
v. Wirral Grammar School .....	H.....	L.	3	— 37
v. Oldershaw School .....	A.....	W.	5	— 3
v. Oulton High School* .....	A.....	L.	4	— 17

\*Colts.

**Bantams.**

			For.	Agst.
v. St. Mary's College, Crosby .....	H.....	W.	11	— 9
v. Park High School .....	A.....	L.	6	— 9
v. Calday Grammar School .....	H.....	L.	9	— 11
v. Wirral Grammar School .....	A.....	L.	0	— 25
v. Bootle Secondary School .....	H.....	W.	34	— 3
v. Oldershaw School .....	H.....	W.	14	— 3
v. Oulton High School .....	H.....	L.	17	— 19

**Scientific Society**

THIS term has been one of the most successful in the history of the Society, for the lectures have been of the best possible. The first meeting was purely for business purposes, and, with Mr. D. J. Williams in the chair, Officers were elected, and future lecturers asked for. A motion was also passed to the effect that meetings should be held every Monday.

On Monday, October 11th, four members (Bell, Sarginson, Forsythe and A. C. Williams) performed experiments and read papers on them. Cook was in the chair. A fortnight later, with A. C. Williams as chairman, C. N. Thompson gave a paper on "Atoms." Mr. D. J. Williams also read some extracts from an account of the late Lord Rutherford's life and work. On November 8th, Mr. Jeffery read a paper on "Surface Tension and Soap Bubbles," with R. D. Roberts in the chair. Mr. Jeffery performed many interesting experiments. The number present at this meeting was a record for the society. A week later, Sarginson gave a lecture on the Thermionic valve, Forsythe being the Chairman.

On November 22nd, Moyes gave us a lecture on "Science and Fire Fighting," with G. R. Bell in the chair. This lecture was a very full account of the causes of fires and the method of extinguishing them.

The last meeting of the term was held on Monday, November 29th, when Mr. Watts lectured on "The Moon." Mr. A. O. Jones took the chair after tea had been served. The whole evening was a most enjoyable one, and there was a good attendance.  
A.T.C.

### *Scout Notes*

**D**URING these past few months, Scout activities, in addition to the regular Troop meetings, have been numerous and varied.

The annual summer camp was held once again at Wooton Fitzpaine in Dorset, and about twenty-five boys spent a very happy fortnight there. Although most of the more experienced Scouts were much further afield, the usual high standard of camping was reached, and all are to be congratulated on receiving such a good report from the visiting Commissioner. In addition to following the usual routine of camp life, excursions were made to neighbouring beauty spots, including one to the pretty little town of Beer.

Eight members of the troop were selected to join the Birkenhead contingent to the World Jamboree in Holland. An account of this unique holiday appears elsewhere in this magazine, and it must suffice here to say that it is hoped they benefited by the experience of mixing with boys of so many different nationalities, and will not fail to pass on to the remainder of the troop the additional knowledge they acquired of the game of scouting.

Throughout the summer and well into the autumn weekend camps were held at Overchurch. These camps have been very well attended, and much good work has been done at them.

The School troop has taken part in all the inter-troop competitions arranged by the Local Association, and, although not successful in winning any of them, was not placed lower than third.

Eight new boys joined the troop at the commencement of this school year, so the Patrol-leaders have kept very busy. The Senior Patrols have settled down to work for some of the more difficult badges. B. S. Halliday, already a King's Scout and proud wearer of the Bushman's Thong, is to be congratulated on obtaining his Gold All-round Cords.



H. Bryant and M. Ceha are assisting M. W. Seed, S.M. of the St. Paul's Church Troop, while M. Jones and E. S. Vick have taken up work with the Mather Road School Wolf Cub Pack.

The Rover Crew continues to do good work, and yet another member has taken out a warrant as an Assistant Scoutmaster. M. J. Wood has been appointed A.S.M. to the 65th Birkenhead troop, whose S.M., Mr. E. J. Matthews, is a Rover 'Old Boy.'

Mr. W. D. Coughtrie, who for several years has been an A.S.M. of the School troop, has been appointed Scoutmaster. Mr. Coughtrie's promotion is well deserved, for he has always been unstinting in his efforts on behalf of his troop and Scouting in general.

The great event of this term has been the revue, "All Hands Aboard," which had a cast of eighty Rovers, Scouts, and Cubs. Each year the producers of the Scout Show become more ambitious, and on this occasion they hired the Beechcroft Little Theatre for two nights. November 24th was Schoolboys' Night, when 200 boys attended. The following night was Parents' Night. The hall was well filled by a very appreciative audience, who, it is hoped, enjoyed the revue as much as those taking part in it. The Group Officers are more than grateful to all who helped in any way to make this venture so successful.

## PROGRAMME.

### "ALL HANDS ABOARD."

#### PART I.

1. Hail, the Gang!
2. Colonel in Retirement.
3. Early in the Morning.
4. Domestic Trials.
5. Southland.
6. Money.
7. These are The Times.
8. The Creeping Shadow.
9. Finale.

#### PART II.

1. Flying High.
2. Conjuror.
3. Radio Europe.
4. The Crusading Yank.
5. Four Voices.
6. House Agent.
7. Finale.

#### "ON DECK."

G. G. Amery.  
W. Barnes.  
H. G. Baxter.  
P. Beacall.

J. R. MacLachlan.  
W. F. McDonnell.  
D. Magee.  
S. T. Malcolm.

C. J. Rowlands.  
J. Rudge.  
C. Schofield.  
W. L. Seed.

J. G. Beckett.	E. J. Matthews.	G. B. Smith.
G. C. Bentley.	A. Moore.	D. M. Sparrow.
P. J. Berry.	H. Morrell.	F. E. Tomlinson.
F. Bray.	G. A. Mountford.	L. Tunna.
R. M. Bretherick.	D. N. A. Osborne.	P. R. Underwood.
H. O. M. Bryant.	T. N. Peters.	A. M. Vick.
R. H. Ceha.	B. Peever.	E. S. Vick.
L. S. Coathup.	W. D. Phillip.	J. Walker.
W. D. Coughtrie.	J. B. Price.	J. H. D. Wetherell.
J. Edelsten.	P. Probert.	C. V. Williams.
R. T. Garrett.	H. G. Proudman.	G. E. Williams.
D. S. Gilliland.	K. G. Pryde.	J. S. Williams.
S. Huntriss.	G. P. Ridout.	W. S. Williams.
T. L. James.	J. E. Roberts.	G. Wolfenden.
W. S. Jardine.	J. H. Roberts.	A. H. Wood.
M. Jones.	M. C. F. Roberts.	P. N. Wood.
H. S. Lichfield.	D. M. C. Roddick.	B. A. Young.
A. M. Macadam.	P. Rogers.	

"BELOW DECK."

I. D. Archibald.	B. S. Halliday.	A. J. Taylor.
H. G. Beckett.	N. G. Little.	G. A. Wetherell.
J. W. Ceha.	A. P. Macdonald.	H. B. Wevill.
M. Ceha.	A. D. Moring.	C. Wheeler.
J. S. Davies.	K. N. Peters.	J. A. Willsher.

## OLD BOYS' SECTION

### *Notes and News*

The annual cricket match against the School was played at Ingleborough Road on Saturday, July 24th, and resulted in a win for the Old Boys (O.B.'s 95 for 2, School 70). Apart from the two teams, the umpires and scorers, and perhaps half a dozen members of the staff, those present could be counted on the fingers of both hands, Old Boys on one, and present ditto on the other.

\* \* \* \* \*

There was a much larger attendance at the annual hot-pot at the Queen's on November 13th, though many more could have been accommodated without overcrowding. The Headmaster was unfortunately unable to be present, and his place in the chair was filled by Mr. Watts, chairman of the Association. We were delighted to welcome six members of the Staff. The toast of the School was proposed by L. Berkson, who recalled some incidents of his boyhood; and Mr. Harris, our vice-chairman, in his reply expressed his ever undiminished



surprise at the extent to which old boys were willing to let bygones be bygones, and to meet their old masters as friends with whom they had never had so much as a cross word!

\* \* \* \* \*

Two O.B.'s at present at the University of Liverpool, who were at the hot-pot, estimated that there are about 25 undergrads. from B.I. now at the University. Where were the 23?

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Watts scintillated as brightly as ever in proposing the toast of Absent Old Boys; the songs of G. G. Wilson and A. Niblock were received with justly loud applause, and a first-class conjuring entertainment completed an excellent programme. E. Parry acted as M.C., and combined ability in that office with the ready gift of narrative for which he is becoming famous.

\* \* \* \* \*

The oldest O.B. present was W. R. Roberts, who left in 1912. The youngest were Crail, Macadam and Vick, who left last term.

\* \* \* \* \*

**BIRTH.** On October 14th, at Bishop Stortford, Herts, to Grace Eleanor, née Anderson, wife of Thomas Bell (1913-18), a son.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MARRIAGE.** Dubois—Hodson. On October 2nd, at St. Saviour's, R. J. Dubois (1923-29) to Kathleen Hodson.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dubois was at the Swimming Gala with his wife earlier in the term. He has now left Birkenhead to take up the post of Cost Accountant in the Heaton and Isleworth Electricity Department. He informs us that D. Ashton (1925-31) is now in the Public Health Department at Nottingham.

Bell, who recently called at the School and talked over old times with Mr. Harris, is now home on leave from India.

\* \* \* \* \*

Those old boys and their friends who were privileged to hear Dr. Roberts (1899-95), the radiologist, lecture on "The Applications of X-rays" will not soon forget the experience. The slides with which the lecture was illustrated, many of

them obtained in the course of Dr. Roberts's professional work, were of unique interest, and the questions addressed to the lecturer at the close showed how little most of us knew of the extent to which the use of X-rays has developed in medicine, engineering and commerce, particularly in America. Dr. Roberts expressed the hope that boys now in school, especially on the science side, when choosing a career, would consider the almost boundless possibilities in the future of radiology.

\* \* \* \* \*

The chair was taken by Mr. Watts, a letter from the Headmaster being read, expressing his regret that another School function had clashed with the lecture. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Roberts, who in his reply joined in the thanks expressed to Mr. Jeffery for operating the lantern. The Association is very grateful to the vocalists who provided the musical programme at very short notice, illness having interfered with the items previously arranged. The rather meagre attendance of 50 or so was deplorable, and was doubtless partly due to the clash with the Scout concert, as the meeting had been advertised as an open one, and was expected to attract a number of parents and friends of the School, and present pupils as well as old boys.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Association was represented by the secretary at the Armistice service at School on November 11th, when the usual wreath was laid on the Memorial.

D.A.

### *Old Boys' A.F.C.*

**T**HIS season, four teams have again been placed in the field, whilst only the lack of ground accommodation has prevented our fielding a fifth eleven on many Saturdays.

Several of our players who we thought had retired from the game, have returned, and many of our young players show promise of becoming valuable members of the Club.

The first eleven have so far had a poor season, having won only two matches, and are at present near the foot of the League table. J. D. B. Thornton is this year's Club captain, and is again scoring many goals for the side.



The second eleven, after a run of success in which six games were played without defeat, have struck a bad patch, but should soon improve. F. Silcock, their centre-forward, is leading goal-scorer in the Zingari Combination, whilst Percy Evans, the Club chairman, is once more captaining the team.

In the Old Boys' League, both the third and fourth elevens, mainly composed of our younger players, started the season badly, but are now showing signs of improvement.

With regard to the social side of Club affairs, the first "Soccer" Club dance ever to be held at the Kingsland Dance Hall proved a great success. We hope to repeat it on March 4th, when a second dance will be held at the same place.

The annual Hot-Pot Supper is to be held at the Queen's Hotel on Saturday, February 5th, when we can promise our supporters a very enjoyable evening. K.M.

### *Old Instonians R.F.C.*

THE Club is having a good season socially and on the field of play. The 1st XV. have an excellent record, having won nine, drawn one, and lost one, of the matches played. In this team three of last year's School colours play regularly: R. Lowson, R. L. M. Hill and K. Carr.

The 2nd XV. have also won most of their matches, proof that enthusiasm can compensate for lack of experience, and on one of the occasions when we were able to run a 3rd XV., it was possible to report for the first time the victory of three O.B. rugby teams on the same day.

The most important social event of the season so far was the dance at the Kingsland Hall on November 5th, attended by the Mayor and Mayoress, the Headmaster and Mrs. Hughes, and other distinguished guests. Nearly three hundred dancers enjoyed this successful function.

Regular fixtures for three teams are being made for next season, and a second ground is being sought. Development in the near future is assured, but it is important that the School should continue to give its full support. P.B.