

THE VISOR



BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

CHRISTMAS, 1948.

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 Photo by Cull.



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Acting A.S.M.'s: J. CLARKE, J. B. GOODWIN.
Patrol Leaders: D. FINNEY, D. H. MOORE, H. SMITH.

School Calendar

1948—AUTUMN TERM BEGAN	September 6th.
HALF TERM	Oct. 29th - Nov. 1st. inclusive.
AUTUMN TERM ENDS	December 22nd.
1949—SPRING TERM BEGINS	January 10th.
HALF TERM	February 25th. - 28th. inclusive
SPRING TERM ENDS	April 13th.
SUMMER TERM BEGINS	May 2nd.
HALF TERM	June 3rd. - 6th. inclusive
SUMMER TERM ENDS	July 22nd.
AUTUMN TERM BEGINS	September 5th.

Editorial

THIS term we have been able to produce a *Visor* which in size, and we hope also in quality, is able to bear comparison with the *Visor* of those far-off days before the war. We hope that the modern generation of schoolboys will appreciate the return of House Notes and Form Notes, two favourites of the past. These changes are due to two things: an improvement in the supply of paper and the re-introduction of advertisements. We wish to urge boys and their parents to patronise those firms who advertise in these pages.

So much for this year and this term. In the New Year we shall begin a much more exciting venture—a special number of the *Visor* to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the School, which was opened on January 12th, 1889. This number, which will appear about the first week of May, 1949, will be the brightest and best in our history, if all goes as planned. Among other special features, it will contain the final instalment of Mr. G. W. Harris's history of the School from 1889 to 1927, in which year the first *Visor* appeared.

Salvete

Ainslie, J. D.; Almond, H. C.; Barr, K. M.; Barwell, D.; Batchelor, J. C.; Baxter, J. H.; Booth, K. T.; Britton, J. F.; Brocklehurst, D. G.; Brown, M. H.; Burton, B. A.; Carroll, R.; Carver, E.; Chambers, A.; Connolly, G.; Cookson, B. R.; Cross, D. F. W.; Dakin, J.; Davidson, R. J.; Dennis, M. T.; Dillon, E.; Doveston, G. A.; Dunn, W. H.; Edge, A. G.; Edwards, R. G.; Finney, A. H.; Fisk, J. E.; Green, J. E.; Haggerty, G. A.; Harris, D. H.; Heaps, F. D.; Hewitt, J.; Hobbs, J.; Holmes, R. E. D.; Horne, D. E.; Horne, M. D.; Hubbard, E. H.; Hughes, A. Wm.; Hughes, H. R.; Hunt, H. S.; Jackson, D. R.; Jones, D. A.; Jones, K. W.; Lindop, R.; Marks, I.; O'Hare, J. R. A.; Parsley, D.; Phipps, J.; Prendergrast, B. G.; Prodger, P. G.; Redwood, B.; Roberts, J. G.; Shearer, R.D.; Sherlock, G. D.; Saalmans, P.; Telford, A. G.; Tudor, M. J. E.; Watkin, A. R. M.; Whatling, K. J.; Wilkinson, N. J.; Williams, D. G.; Williamson, J. F.

Valete

SUMMER TERM.

Upp. 6—Finch, K. B.; Smith, M.; Bennett, G. E.; Boynton, A. R.; Palmer, R. G.; Wright, J. D.; Wright, R. E. P.; Gill, T. H.; Hurst, W. F.; Mealor, V. A.; Powell, A. G.; Taylor, H. N.; Acton, J. M.; Grantham, K. N.; Jackson, A.; Jones, R. W.

6 s.—Burkett, H.; Carter, A.; Cowle, L.; Greenfield, B. S.; Guirron, J. D.; Hutton, G. M.; Jones, G. W.; Moss, E. R.; Parry, A.; Perry, W. G.; Roberts, K. J.; Upton, W. J.; Wollaston, G. H.

6 a.—Barrington, A. A.; Derrick, K. B.; Derriscott, E. H.; Elliott, J. H.; Hughes, N.; James, K.; Jones, G.; Jones, R. P.; Jones, W. G.; May, A.; Osborne, J. S.; Reardon, R. E.; Roberts, H. T.; Roberts, R.; Sheppard, J. J.; Sherlock, J. A. L.

6 b.—Boardman, C. F.; Blackwell, L. C.; Edwards, H.; Gordon, F.; Gray, W. L.; Hepple, F.; Hodgson, G.; Jellicoe, B. F.; Larkin, J. S.; Lowe, W. J.; Lowry, R. A.; Otter, A. W.; Westhorp, P. R.

REM. S.—Moor, M. J.; Morris, A. R.; Shimmin, R.; Wood, M. M.; Worrall, C. T. H.

REM. A.—Williams, J. G.

REM. B.—Miller, D. W. J.

5 B.—Clarke, F. C.; Clarke, J. P. 4 S.—Moyns, R. H.

5 A.—Price, F. W. C.

AUTUMN TERM.

- UPPER 6.—Davies, J. S.; Smith, V. L.; Silcock, D. D. J.; Weir, B. A.;
6.—Campbell, M. G.; Fayle, A.; Fenton, D.; Williams, J.
5 B.—George, T. G. 5 C.—Boardman, G. A.
4 C.—Herbert, A.; Richardson, J. W.

We regret to announce the death of
A. CECIL EDWARDS of 6A who died
suddenly on July, 10th, 1948.

Higher School Certificate Results 1948

FULL CERTIFICATE.

UPPER 6 2 (Lit.)—Caddick, M. T.; Davies, J. S.; Meador, V. A.;
Silcock, D. D. J.; Taylor, N. H.

UPPER 6 2 (Sc.)—Bennett, G. R.; Finch, K. B.; Holden, J. C.; Jones,
D. O.; Palmer, R. G.; Percy, K. R.; Smith, M

SUBSIDIARY.

UPPER 6 1 (Lit.)—Baker, J. W.; Citrine, T. G.; Higgins, H. R.; Mac-
donald, R. F.; Meggs, A. G. W.; Smith, A. A.

UPPER 6 1 (Sc.)—Acton, J. M.; Adams, C. G.; Grantham, K. N.;
Hellon, C. P.; Howard, R. H.; Jackson, A.; Jones, R. W.; Kearney, J. W.;
Ledsome, J. R.; Maddock, C.; Maxwell, D. J.; Turner, H. M.

School Certificate Results 1948

FORM 6 S.—Burkett, H.; Carter, A.; Coen, W. B.; Cowle, L.; Crowe,
J. R.; Dickson, G. M.; Ennion, J.; Fayle, A.; Fenton, D.; Gee, J. D.;
Greenfield, B. S.; Guirron, J. D.; Harris, J. D.; Hartley, R. F.; Henharen,
D. B.; Hipkin, G. A.; Hudson, A. W. T.; Hutton, G. M.; Jones, G. W.;
Leeming, F.; Moss, E. R.; Parry, A.; Perry, W. G.; Plimley, R. E.; Ridg-
way, F.; Roberts, K. J.; Sedman, K. J.; Upton, W. J.; Wollaston, G. H.

FORM 6A.—Campbell, M. G.; Derrick, K. B.; Elliot, J. H.; Fitzsim-
mons, T. E.; Hessler, L. F.; James, R.; Jones, R. P.; Jones, W. G.; May,
A.; Millar, T. G.; Osborne, D. S.; Reardon, R. E.; Roberts, H. T.; Roberts,
R.; Williams, J.

FORM 6B.—Hodgson, G.; Larkin, J. S.; Otter, A. W.

Swimming Gala, 1948

THE Swimming Gala this year was held at Byrne Avenue Baths on Thursday, 23rd September. It was well attended, particularly by relatives and the younger boys. Great enthusiasm was shown among the competitors, especially by the juniors. The prizes were presented by an Old Boy of the School, now one of the Governors, Mr. Papworth, who congratulated the boys on their keenness. W. Thompson and M. F. Williams must be congratulated on winning the Senior and Junior Championships respectively.

RESULTS.

Under 15 H'cap, 25 yds.: 1, N. Twist; 2, F. G. Evans; 3, M. R. Holland.

Under 14 H'cap, 25 yds.: 1, A. C. Mowll; 2, C. R. Rankin; 3, W. H. Chalinor.

Senior Championship, 100 yds.: 1, W. H. Thompson (T.); 2, L. F. Hessler (W.). Time: 69 secs.

Junior Championship, 50 yds.: 1, M. F. Williams (S.); 2, C. R. Rankin (W.); 3, M. R. Holland (S.) Time: 33 $\frac{2}{5}$ secs.

Newcomers' Race, 25 yds.; 1, J. Fisk; 2, D. G. Sherlock; 3, K. Booth.

Under 13 H'cap., 25 yds.: 1, C. Roderick; 2, B. Cadman; 3, G.W. Onions.

Junior Plunge: 1, M.F. Williams (S.); 2, J. Bordley (A.); 3, C.R. Rankin (W.)

Junior Dive: 1, J.B. Cackett (T.); 2, A.C. Mowll (S.); 3, C. R. Rankin (W.)

Senior Breast Stroke, 50 yds.: 1, A. May (W.); 2, W. Thompson (T.); 3, L. F. Hessler (W.) Time: 39 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs.

Junior Breast Strike, 25 yds.: 1, J. Bordley (A.); 2, F. G. Evans (W.); 3, J. Humphreys (S.) Time: 18 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs.

Senior Obstacle, 25 yds.: 1, W. Thompson.

Junior Obstacle, 25 yds.: 1, C. R. Rankin.

Senior Dive: 1, G. A. Hipkin (S.); 2, L. F. Hessler (W.)

Senior Back Stroke, 25 yds.; 1, W. Thompson (T.); 2, A. May (W.); 3, L. F. Hessler (W.)

Junior Back Stroke' 25 yds.: 1, J. Humphreys.

Old Boys' Race, 50 yds.: 1, Roscoe; 2, Jordan; 3, Wood. 30 secs.

Senior Plunge: 1, A. May (W.); 2, L. F. Hessler (W.); 3, W. Thompson (T.)

Junior Back Stroke, 25 yds.: 1, M. F. Williams (S.); 2, J. L. Anson (T.); 3, C. R. Rankin (W.) Time: 21 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs.

Infer House Squadron Race, Junior, 100 yds.: 1, Stitt; 2, Atkin; 3, Tate.

Inter House Squadron Race, Senior, 200 yds.: 1, Stitt; 2, Tate; 3, Westminster.

House Championship: 1, Stitt—28 pts; 2, Westminster—25 pts.; 3, Tate—18 pts.; 4, Atkin—10 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts.

Late

ONCE more I find that I must keep a "date"

For coming into school two minutes late.

Despite the frantic panic, and the fuss

Of getting ready, still I missed the 'bus

To bring me to the school at ten to nine,

And make the joy of being early, mine.

At four o'clock I must to 5 A room

To hear a Prefect there pronounce my doom:

"Before you leave this building for to-day,

I want to have an essay, if I may.

The subject's 'Punctuality' as you know

And you must write two pages ere you go.

You must not talk, or 'cog' from Jones next door,

For, if you do, you'll get two pages more!"

And so I settle down with pensive frown

To think out what on earth I can put down—

But though I ponder, even rack my brain,

The net result is always just the same:

I write a paragraph, or maybe two,

And then am at a loss for what to do,

As, if you've tried it, you'll have found it tough

On such a subject to compose enough

To satisfy the pedagogue in charge

And find once more that you are set at large.

At last, as by a miracle, you find

That from the dark recesses of your mind

You've brought forth forty lines of worth-while work

To show that you your punishment don't shirk.

And once again you find you're on the road,

Your mind relieved of that black, heavy load.

Your thoughts around this subject now revolve

And "never to come late" is your resolve—

Because you do not want to stay at four,

For fully half an hour, or maybe more.

"It isn't worth it," I have often said,

"To stay those extra moments in my bed."

But yet I know that, ere the term is through,

I'll get myself another dete to do,

And after school a Prefect will tell me

To write again on Punctuality.

K.O.G.

Book Review

THE book I am going to start with is "Tell England," by E. Raymond. This book is about three boys, describing their lives at School before World War I., and their lives as officers during the war.

One of them is sent to France, and the other two sail on the "Rangoon" to Mudros, from which place they go to Helles. It is here that one of the remaining two proves himself a hero when, as the Brigade Bombing Officer, he destroys a large howitzer which was causing many casualties in that part of the line held by units of the Cheshire Regiment.

All this, together with the story of the retreat from Suvla and Helles, can be read about in Raymond's book.

("TELL ENGLAND," by E. Raymond, published by Cassell and Co., Ltd.)

For those who like sea stories, R. L. Dearden's "Maiden Voyage" will prove very interesting. It is an exhilarating novel of the days of the racing wool-clippers.

The ship, "Lady Loretta," embarks on her maiden voyage with Loretta, the beautiful, headstrong bride of Captain Coniston, on board. Whether the ship was in some mysterious way aware of the treachery that threatened her, and played her part to defeat it, the reader may decide, but Captain Coniston, whose loyalty to her nearly cost him his life, remained convinced that she was.

This story of a maiden voyage, of the strains and stresses which enabled a ship and a woman to prove themselves, is a tale of strong dramatic action which makes inspiring and highly exciting reading.

("MAIDEN VOYAGE," by R. L. Dearden, published by H. Jenkins, Ltd.)

For the junior members of the school, G. Dempster's "Southward Bound" will prove a very interesting tale. Two sub-lieutenants, in England on indefinite leave, sail with three friends in the "Jane" to South America. They arrive at the port of destination six months late. What happened on the voyage makes a first-rate story.

("SOUTHWARD BOUND," by G. Dempster, published by Lutterworth Press, Ltd.)

F. K. LANE, 4B.

Sonnet

NOW autumn comes and brings its own delight,

Its misty morns and golden noontide hours,

The bees still murmur low among the flowers;

Chrysanthemums, all red and gold and white;

The days are shorter; longer grows the night,

The berries glow in hedges wet with showers,

The birds have fled their shady summer bowers—

Sadly we watched them as they took their flight.

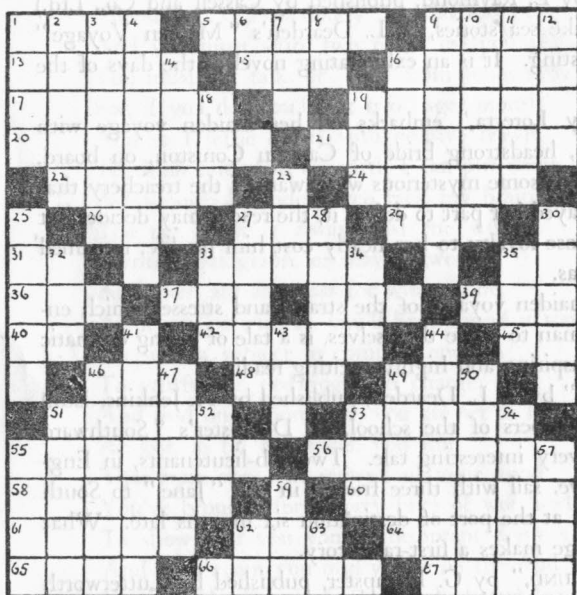
The pleasant scent of woodsmoke fills the air,
 Apples and nuts in Autumn plenty fall,
 The leaves drop gently till the trees are bare,
 The firelight leaps and flickers on the wall,
 Hard winter's icy hand will soon be there,
 And all the landscape held within his thrall.

B. DAVIES, IIIA.

Crossword

It is hoped to give a book token as a prize for the first correct solution handed to Mr. Hall.

CLUES.



ACROSS.

1. Cook by dry heat.
5. Drive back.
9. Collections.
13. Singular first year's revenue; sounds like backward sixpence.
15. Vehicle in front of army.
16. To face with masonry.
17. Raised.
19. Showing the characteristics of old age.
20. To surround.
21. Irish river.
22. Stretched tight.
24. Upright.
26. See 30 down.
27. Recline.
29. rev. Last 3 letters of 33 across.

- 31 & 40. Fine, open fabric.
33. Feeds on special food.
- 35 & 45. Rent.
36. Period.
37. Pick it up, if you see it.
38. Strike.
39. Spoil.
40. See 31.
42. More recent.
45. See 35.
46. Rocky peak.
48. rev. Colour.
49. Favourite subject?

51. Sometimes seen in the sky.
53. Cure or swell.
55. Indian condiment.
56. Ripened.
58. Of air.
60. —temps, unlucky accident.
61. Encounters.
62. Lubricant.
64. Discern by smell.
65. Mistakes.
66. Assent.
67. Irish or Highland Gaelic

Down.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Uncovered. | 30 with 26 rev. A horse has two. |
| 2. Concerning (archaic). | 32. Part of verb to be; metric unit. |
| 3. Rogues. | 33. Distracting noise. |
| 4. Small rope on upper corner of sail; sounds like an ornament. | 34. Vocative much used in School. |
| 6 & 8. Level. | 35. Liquid distilled from wood or coal. |
| 7. Wages. | 41. Small birds. |
| 8. See 6. | 43. Soaked. |
| 9. Signal calls on trumpet (see Shakespeare). | 44. Beat severely, castigate. |
| 10. Show. | 46. Type of car. |
| 11. rev. Not many houses are (two words). | 47 (rev.) More sensible. |
| 12. Type of gun. | 49. Highest male voices. |
| 14. Concise. | 50. More acid. |
| 16. Erects. | 51. Applaud. |
| 18. There is a well known John—. | 52 (rev.) Permit. |
| 19. Female. | 53 (rev.) Carriage. |
| 23. I hope you have your School one. | 54. Small sea-birds. |
| 25. Chosen. | 55. Arrived. |
| 27. Filled. | 57. I hope you may avoid it. |
| 28. Anaesthetic. | 59. Dry at fire. |
| | 62 and 63. Make eyes at. |
-

ORVILLE JONES, M.P.S.

Dispensing Chemist,

10 & 12 MALLABY STREET,
BIRKENHEAD.

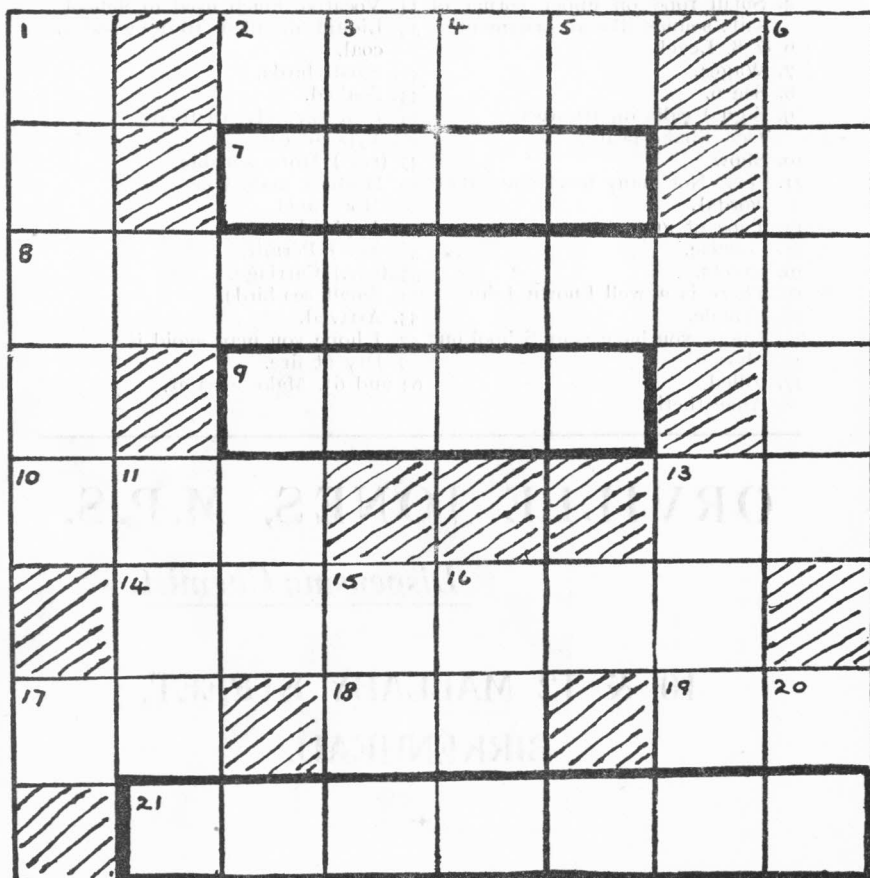


THREE QUALIFIED CHEMISTS
IN ATTENDANCE.



DAY AND NIGHT
DISPENSING SERVICE.

Down



Mots Croises

A BOOK token is offered for the first correct solution received by Mr. Webb.

VERTICALEMENT.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Ces lettres sont crues.
 2. Un arbre renversé ou un homme découragé.
 3. Ville fondée par des jumeaux.
 4. Celui-ci garde toujours le silence.
 5. Un homme en est un.
 6. Des menteurs anglais changés de place.</p> | <p>11. Si vous réfléchissez bien, vous le trouverez dans 80 ans.
 13. Enlever.
 15. Ils ont changé une façon de s'exprimer.
 20. 19 à reculons.</p> |
|---|---|

HORIZONTALEMENT.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>2. La mare au soldat!
 7. La fin de l'eau a cent degrés.
 8. Ça, il a le cœur amer!
 9. C'est plus important que les membres.
 10. L'orient existe.
 13. Ceci avec chair fait un 5.</p> | <p>14. Ceci marque égalité de mérite, d'étendue, de quantité.
 17. Des singuliers!
 18. Un adjectif précieux.
 19. Il faut en avoir!
 21. Ce serin s'exprime sans déguiser.
 16. En-ciel est multicolore. sa pensée!</p> |
|--|--|



WE note with pleasure that most boys now sport the School cap and blazer. It is rumoured that some who don't are unable to find caps big enough.

* * * *

Rumour promised the new dining hall for Christmas 1947. Latest report says that January 10th, 1947, is the date fixed.

* * * *

Recent gifts to the School Library by Old Boys were made by K. I. Smith, W. E. Jones, and T. P. Bolam. If it is true that the present dining room is eventually to become the Library, we shall have plenty of room for further contributions from boys who are leaving.

* * * *

More recently J. Harris has made the German Library a welcome present of a large number of volumes.

* * * *

An Old Boy now resident in the U.S.A., Mr. Walter Jones of North Hollywood, California, has kindly sent us a number of books from America, some of which were not procurable in this country: they include *Don Quixote*, Cervantes; *Best Short Stories of O. Henry*; *Life of Michael Angelo*, Symonds; *Eminent Victorians*, Strachey; *Life of Samuel Johnson*, Boswell; *History of the Borgias*, Corvo; *Two Years before the Mast*, Dana; *The Medici*, Young; *Death of the Gods*, Merejkowski; *Tristram Shandy*, Sterne; *Romance of Leonardo Da Vinci*, Merejkowski; and *A Short History of the United States*, Nevins and Commerger. On behalf of the School we wish to express our grateful thanks to Mr. Jones for his generosity.

* * * *

Two brothers, J. Morris Smith and Vivian L. Smith, were between them members of the School for a continuous period of eighteen years, 1930 to 1948, and to mark their appreciation of the happy years spent by their sons at the Institute the parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Smith, have presented a silver cup to be held by the first home in the annual Senior Cross Country Race.

R. H. Howard was unfortunately absent from School on the day when the prefects were photographed.

* * * *

A thrilling exhibition was given to conclude the lecture of the Leader of the Fire Service on Fire Safety. Precautions were also taken against fireworks on November 5th. It came as an anti-climax that no Guy Fawkes' plot was discovered in the boiler-room.

* * * *

We have great pleasure in recording the School's indebtedness to the ever-young Mr. C. Lord, who gave us some of his valuable time and so ably conducted classes in gymnastics, until a fresh gym. master was appointed.

* * * *

The system of labelling the forms has been considerably simplified, although the process of passing through the School is not as simple as counting from one to six and repeating the first three letters of the alphabet.

* * * *

It was with a certain trepidation that our advertising staff set out to badger the business men of Birkenhead into advertising in this issue of the magazine. Their success is reflected in the increased size of this number.

* * * *

Since the *Visor* first went to the printers, we have received two further books for the Library from Mr. Walter R. Jones, for which we must once more express our best thanks.

* * * *

This term we bade goodbye to D. D. J. Silcock, V. L. Smith, and J. S. Davies, all members of the Upper Sixth who are now serving with H.M. Forces. We know that, if they serve in the Forces as well as they have in the School, His Majesty will have gained three valuable henchmen.

* * * *

We are fortunate this term in having in our midst a full-time P.T. master, Mr. R. Williams. It must be noted that the locals no longer refer to our establishment as the Birkenhead "Infirmary":—this is due no doubt to the improved physique of the School as the result of Mr. Williams's instruction.

* * * *

We congratulate V. A. Mealor, who on account of distinction in Modern Languages at the H.S.C. examination, was awarded a Borough Scholarship, and also R. G. Palmer for his Borough Bursary for Physics and Chemistry.

House Notes

IT has recently been pointed out that the *Visor* failed to record the change of Housemasters which occurred in the Autumn Term 1947. We admit the omission, for which we sincerely apologize to the gentlemen concerned. The retiring Housemasters, of Atkin, Mr. Bloor, of Stitt, Mr. Jones, of Tate, Mr. Harris, and of Westminster, Mr. Allison, handed over to Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Townsend, Mr. Allan, and Mr. Edge, respectively. The unfortunate death of Mr. Edge has necessitated yet another change, and Westminster is now in the care of Mr. Webb.

To the former Housemasters the *Visor* offers its belated but sincere thanks for the capable and painstaking duties faithfully performed during many years, and to the present holders of that important office it wishes all the success they could wish themselves.

ATKIN.

ALTHOUGH the past year has not been one of Atkin's most successful, the achievements which were attained, though not many in number, were fairly substantial in quality.

In the field of sport, Atkin's greatest success was the winning of both the Senior and the Junior Cross-Country races. On the rugby field, success was less marked: all the Senior House matches in the season 1947-48 being lost. It must be mentioned, however, that all the matches were most evenly contested. This last term the House played Westminster, reversing last year's decision by winning 15 pts.—9 pts. In the Swimming Gala, which was held at the beginning of this term, Bordley, of 4B, was the most successful of the contestants from Atkin.

In the more serious field of education the House again retained the position of honour by coming 1st in the Mark Sheets in the school year ending last Summer Term, showing once again that Atkin possesses a good percentage of the "brains" of the school.

Silcock, Atkin House Captain for the year 1947-48, was honoured by being elected Captain of Rugby for this year. Unfortunately, he could not fill the position, as he was "called up" to the R.A.F. at the commencement of the term.

These House Notes would not be complete without a mention of the House Party, which was held at the end of last Christmas Term. Many boys came forward to entertain the rest, and these performances, together with the excellent feast provided, ensured that the party was second to none.

D.O.J.

STITT.

THIS year, there are exactly one hundred boys in Stitt House, and seven of them are Prefects, out of a total of twenty-two. These are Gore, Citrine, Higgins, Howard, Kearney, Perry, and Turner. The House has a number of representatives in the School XV's, and amongst these are five in the 1st team: Hartley, Hipkin, Kearney, Sedman, and Turner.

At the Annual Sports, held in June, Stitt was very successful, winning the House Championship with 69 points (Tate came second with 39 points). Turner was again Victor Ludorum, whilst Grantham won the Senior Cross-country run, breaking the previous record for this event with a time of 33 minutes 13.8 seconds. Unfortunately, owing to the small number of entries for the run, Stitt came last in both the Senior and the Junior Cross-country Races.

In the Swimming Gala, the House carried away the House Championship Cup with a total of twenty-eight points to Westminster's twenty-six. The winning points were gained in the Senior Squadron Race, the final event, by a team including G. Hipkin, R. Howard, M. F. Williams, and J. Crowe. The Junior Squadron Race was also won by Stitt, those in the team being Broderick, Sherlock, Humphreys, and Mowll. Here again those qualifying for the Senior events were not well represented, otherwise Stitt might have gained a much greater lead in the Championship.

Only one House Rugby match has been played so far, and in this, playing against Tate, Stitt won 14—3. Although this was not an altogether brilliant game, at least two of the tries were very good indeed. The scorers were Dickson and Hipkin. We hope that the remaining matches will have a similar result!

In the more academic sections of school life, Stitt emerged victorious from a House Quiz—one of the Literary and Debating Society's meetings. The questions covered many subjects—Literary, Scientific, and cultural—but, owing to the goodly gathering of supporters, an answer was found to most of them.

K.O.G.

TATE.

1947-8.

UNDER the captaincy of V. L. Smith and the vice-captaincy of B. R.

Weir, Tate has played its part in School life with customary success. In the annual Swimming Gala, despite the paucity of swimmers among the seniors, Tate came a worthy second. Thompson is to be congratulated on becoming Junior Champion for the second successive year, and he was ably supported by Shimmin and others.

In the sporting world, the House was well to the fore. Tate won the Senior Rugby Championship with ease, when, after an early defeat by Stitt and having the same number of points as Westminster, the deciding match was won by 22 pts.—o In addition to this a special seven-a-side competition was held during the Easter term. The Tate team, all of whom played for the 1st or 2nd XV's., deservedly won after three gruelling matches.

Before our achievements in sport are continued, however, a word must be said concerning an important event which occurred during the Autumn term. This event was, of course, the House Party, which was held in the Dining Room on October 18th. It consisted of a concert followed by a tea, both of which were a great success. Several members of the House supplied the entertainment, and two items were considered good enough to be presented before the School. The tea, however, was the main attraction, with a plentiful supply of food of the right type provided by our very generous parents. Several members of the Staff were present, including the Head Master, who congratulated us on our efforts and said that, as the series of parties had been such a great success, he was considering making it an annual event.

Tate's academic record has not been what it should be. Despite various excuses, there still remains plenty of room for improvement in this direction, and it is to be hoped that all members will give this matter their closest attention.

The calm serenity of School life was interrupted on several occasions during the Easter and Summer terms by important functions. The Annual Cross-country run was held during this period, and several members did exceedingly well. In the Junior Race 2nd and 3rd places were held respectively by Weir and Muldoon, while Jones G. ran a fine race on an intensely hot day to finish 3rd in the Senior Race.

Cross-country Running leads to the Athletic Sports. The result of this meeting gave Tate second place in the House Championship. This was a welcome but surprise result, largely due to the good performances of Smith A., first in the 440 yards Open, Jones G. first in the 880 yards, and especially to C. Weir, who was the Junior Victor Ludorum. These performances, plus good running in the Junior Relay and the overwhelming weight of Tate's Tug-of-War team, gave the House a narrow lead over Westminster.

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Tate's future in these Sports seems bright, since the Juniors amassed most of the points, and, as the Juniors advance through the school, Tate may well enjoy the traditional seven fat years after a long lean period.

In the only Cricket match played during a short season Tate easily defeated Atkin 62 for 7 dec. to 22.

1948-49.

House Captain: SMITH, S. *Vice-Captain*: D. HENHAREN.

SO far this term there have occurred few items of interest.

Tate, in the person of Thompson, provided the Senior Champion at the Swimming Gala in which the House with 22 pts. came third. Thompson put up a record time of 69 secs. in the 50 yds. race, and is to be heartily congratulated on this magnificent achievement.

With the School year yet in its infancy news is scanty, but in the next edition of the *Visor* all items of interest will be duly recorded.

WESTMINSTER.

MR. Webb is now House Master this year, assisted by Mr. Allison and Mr. Bailey. J. B. Goodwin is House Captain and J. C. Holden House Vice-Captain. There are 99 boys in Westminster House this year, seven of whom are Prefects: Goodwin, Holden, Percy, Wilde, Caddick, Maxwell, and Macdonald.

Holden, Hessler, and W. H. Lloyd play regularly for the 1st XV., and Goodwin (Captain), Maddocks, Carby, and Turner play for the 2nd XV. Hayes, Kirchner, Rankin, and Byron are representatives of Westminster in the 3rd XV. Kitching is captain of the Bantam XV. this year; also playing is Parkinson.

Two members of Westminster House are on the Committee of the Literary and Debating Society, and one is on the Scientific Society Committee. Westminster also supplies the Secretary of the Rugby Club, the Treasurer of the Table-Tennis Club, and an Editor of the *Visor*.

Westminster again did well in the Swimming Gala this year. Hessler and May were equal runners-up in the Senior Championship, being only one point behind. Rankin was also runner-up to the Junior Champion. Westminster's record in the post-war swimming galas is very good, having won it outright twice in addition to being runners-up this year. There is plenty of talent in the Juniors which promises well for the future.

J.B.G.

Library Notes

ONCE again the august happenings and personages in the Library are recorded in the *Visor* after many years of lamented absence.

The year's Lit. mob (oh sorry—Upper Sixth, Second year, Literary. Still “Lit. mob” is the name they respond to most, so why worry?), is, of course in its own estimation the best that has ever entered the portals of the Library. The few third year members who are still to be found in various odd corners of the building deny this, and certainly the disappearance of “Rep,” the irrepressible “Gertie,” “Pouch,” and other last year stalwarts left a temporary gloom in the Library. This was quickly dispelled by the entrance of a budding Bertram Russell and other learned gentlemen.

In the meantime the tempo of erudition which rises and falls with the degree of frivolity emanating from the Library has been fairly steady, so much so that one member promises he will give in two homeworks this year (a hundred per cent. increase on last!!).

It is during the next term according to the Philosopher of the Library when Spring works its influence, that masters can expect with the ebullition of spirits a diminution in the volume of work, though we hope we may be able to meet our friends without murmuring the devilish incantation of “Cucko, jugg-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!” This also appears to be the appropriate place to mention the fact that the rumour circulating the School about the tables in the Library, namely that they are used solely for Shove ha’penny, is a statement without foundation, as we occasionally rest books on them.

The Library has in the last few months taken on a more sinister air. Gone are the gay sports coats of the war years, and there is a reappearance in profusion of the black School blazer, slightly reminiscent of the S.S. Guards of our late foes. Note, however, they have no connection, despite the assertions and forebodings of the rest of the School.

The geographers amongst us are debating whether or not to sink some capital in a small handcart, as they fear that, if they continue to accumulate books at the present rate, two journeys will be necessary to ship their books over to their particular fount of knowledge.

Libraria now bids your a regretful au revoir and hopes to meet you all again in the next issue of the *Visor*.

M.T.C.

Science Notes

MANY of the gentlemen who inhabit the room which for want of a better name is called the Library are under the impression that 'us science blokes don't know nuthin.' They are wrong, and, strange as it may seem to them, we also can read and write as well as their honourable selves.

Much H₂S has been passed into solution since the Science notes last appeared in the *Visor*, and, therefore, our best plan would be to describe the new surroundings of our scientists. The old advanced science room between the two labs has now been altered completely and is known officially as the 'Advanced Physics Laboratory.' Two large tables have replaced the old desks; gas, water, and electricity have been laid on and many weird and wonderful scientific instruments are to be seen from time to time.

With the introduction of biology into the Advanced again the lab. from time to time is transformed into an operating theatre for frogs and similar creations. Needless to say on many occasions the 'pong' found in various places indicates the need for the removal of certain objects.

The writer is glad to be able to report that many of his scientific friends have been in regular attendance at this year's Literary and Debating Society meetings, and it is sincerely hoped that the literary gents will make a few appearances at the Scientific Society's meetings. An interesting programme has been arranged which caters for those people in the 1st forms as well as those in the Upper 6th. AQAA REGIA.

Form Notes

Sixth.

AFTER commencing the new school year with a paucity of numbers and a prehistoric form-room, it has taken the élite some time to settle down. Now that we have become accustomed to being "pukka sahibs," however, and have started to look around us, what have we found? The long expected Lit.—Science controversy has yet to break out. One cause of the suppression of this hardy perennial form of high jinks is undoubtedly the decision reached by the Powers-that-Be that the form should study as a whole for five periods each week for either German or Geography. After having decided which set might occupy our form-room in the mornings and afternoons respectively, we Literary bods were safely ensconced by the windows, to the discomfiture of our opposite numbers, and we have taken full advantage of this. We daily watched with rapt attention the work which was being carried out on our new Bevan-Gothic dining-hall, and the excursions of the nurses next door. We commune

with Nature in our innermost souls, lost to Lamartine, Lodge, Russell, Smith, and the rest, in spite of the distraction afforded by a party of welders who have erected pretty patterns of metal handrails in front of our domains. No lesser distraction is the noise from our neighbours across the way, 3c, of whom, if the din they create is in direct proportion to the amount of knowledge imbibed, we expect great things. In spite of these and other interruptions, we feel that we generally toil with due care and attention. (Trumpeter, what are you sounding now?—Ed.). Two notable exceptions to this, however, are *nn**n, who, it is rumoured, devotes sixteen periods weekly to Art, and D*cks*n, who takes Biology, principally, we are led to believe, as a means of access to the Girls' Sec. But we must admit, lest we appear too harsh, that the former still has his uses; for, after much pressure had been brought to bear, he was finally induced to produce two lurid *Visor* adverts, which are probably the chief causes of the lack of sales up to the time of going to press.

We modestly claim to be no less omnipotent on the Rugger field. Out of a form of seventeen, we provide six 1st XV. and five 2nd XV. members, not to mention such necessary extras as canteen staff and 1st XV. linesman. We regret to announce the departure of one of our 2nd XV. forwards, who has gone to 'swell' (appropriate word) the ranks of the R.A.F. His absence has left an extremely large gap in the form-room.

But, wonder of wonders, what have we here? The Science mob have actually sent in some form-notes. Having by now fully recovered from the shock, and having ascertained which of them it is that can write, we give you them for what they are worth.

The interest of the Sixth Form Science student is centred mainly on the Chemmy. Lab., to which he pays devastating visits each Monday afternoon, and where he always manages to find his own private experiments more interesting than those laid down by the staff. Practical Physics periods are very well organised, each student doing a different experiment; all, that is, except one R*dgw*y, who, amazingly enough, manages to finish his own experiment, while continually taking a hand in those of everyone else. The conditions in the Physics Lab are much more comfortable than those in the Chemistry department, although in the latter room there are ample means provided for the accidental (?) setting fire to bowls of wax.

STOP PRESS.

We are extremely proud of the news which has just come through, namely, that we are the first form in the School to obtain 100 per cent. *Visor* sales. After the cap had been passed round, and organised money-lending had been undertaken, we were able to beat 2A, who have shorter

legs but more rungs to climb, by a very short head ($1/5$ to be exact). This result was accompanied by much gnashing of certain tutorial teeth.

A.H.

5a.

THIS year, the form has moved downstairs, doubtless with the express object of ensuring the warmth of its members during the winter months—the room is directly above the boiler, and one wall is warmed by the Headmaster's fire. Despite this, the form "seems very well disciplined to work," Brown tells us. He also says that time seems to be going very quickly, and that already the July School Certificate examination is looming large.

Many people have contributed original articles but, unfortunately, it is not possible to print them in their entirety, and so we will include as much as possible of them. Ratcliffe, having holidayed at Fairborne, describes for us the Blue Lake there. To reach it, one has to climb up a rough mountain track, and finally crawl through a tunnel to reach the lake which, by the way, is in a disused quarry. "It is bounded by steep stone sides, the surface being unruffled, since no wind can get to it. The depth of the lake is unknown, and the fish which inhabit it swim in peace at the bottom. The silence in the vicinity of the lake is unbroken except by the occasional call of a seagull or the cry of some mountain sheep."

During the summer holidays, Meredith climbed Snowdon, and we give you his account of it: "Oh! let's have a rest," said Podge, "my feet are aching all over." "So are mine," said Berry, our number three. So rest we did, and wasn't I grateful, too! The last hundred feet had been the worst yet, except for the boggy area where Bernard had got stuck up to his knees in black, slimy mud, and when I slipped while jumping one of the many mountain streams, but luckily reached the other side without getting wet. Podge had been lucky on the lower part of the climb, because he had gym. shoes on and was able to wade through the streams and bogs, but the "boot" was on the other foot now, because the sharp little flints were cutting his feet and his gym. shoes.

"Come on chaps, let's go!" I said, and off we set once more. We had not reached the two thousand mark yet, and were still able to see the lakes on the west side of the mountain, and Snowdon Ranger Youth Hostel by Lake Cwellyn. Another hundred feet up we found ourselves in the clouds, and could see only a matter of about twenty-five feet in front of us, this being shortened when a thick, heavy rain-cloud was blown our way by an ever-increasing wind. The weather grew worse, so that we

resorted to our capes, but nevertheless became soaked with perspiration, and we indulged in more frequent rests.

At last we joined the mountain railway track, and walked on the sleepers. This proved rather tiring, and so we rested again. How we wished for a drink and a warm fire! We imagined a nice café at the summit, but our thoughts were without foundation, because it turned out to be a ruin: the windows had nearly all been broken, the platform was dilapidated and growing a large variety of weeds, the radiators were stone-cold, and a drink of tea cost sixpence. However, after a snack, we ventured forth once more behind the café and up to the summit 3,560 feet above sea level. What a satisfaction!

Sheridan's tone is one of pessimism. He looks forward to the time when the world will become so civilised that wars will be a simple matter, when someone will simply press a button to destroy a whole city. He continues, "The world will reach a point where there will be no more roads to flatten, and no more chimneys to sweep, and what will it do then? I do not know, but it's my guess that we shall all go back to the stone-age. Yes! I mean it, because when we have all blown up one another, there is bound to be another Adam and Eve. What will happen then? Shall we allow the brains of the village to discover the bow and arrow again, or to discover that an object will move more smoothly on wheels? Oh, no! We shall form a Society against such men, and fight our battles by hurling rocks at our enemies. And so we shall hope never to reach this thing called civilisation again."

Besides working in school and going for holidays, the form takes part in other activities. They are, for instance, well represented on the Rugby field. About half of the 2nd XI. is made up of members of 5A, and one—Dodd—still plays for the Bantams. In addition, several boys regularly attend the meetings of the Literary and Debating Society, where they are able to turn their natural talkativeness to good account!

5b.

THE form is now in the dreaded School Certificate year, but their spirits are not damped, and on the contrary are full of *joie de vivre*. (Just airing our French you know). Nothing is safe from the form's hands, and Richard II. by "The kid from Stratford" has been disrespectfully called "Dick the Twoth."

Rushton had a pleasant experience during the summer holidays, when he had to cross the Solent by ferry from Cowes to Southampton.

"The trip would have been interesting to every type of person. After leaving Cowes at eleven a.m., we wound our way between the yachts which infest these waters and at the time were gathered together for the Cowes regatta. When we had left the mouth of the Medina we passed a destroyer of the Royal Navy presiding over some races which were under way.

Next we saw a Shetland flying-boat taking off after taxiing out from Calshot Naval air base. That in itself was a thrill. After that we steamed up Southampton Water passing wood-surrounded oil works at which some tankers were filling by pipe line.

At last, to crown a very interesting sixty minutes' steaming we passed the dock which contained R.M.S. "Queen Mary," painted black with white upperworks and the famous Cunard red and black funnels, the sight which I think I shall remember the longest.

When we disembarked, it started to rain, and that was the only bad thing on a memorable day."

The high calibre of erudition attained by the form is shown by the following remark of Wilson, on which note we had better cease:

"Silense is wot yer don't here wen yew lissen."

5c.

THE Autumn term started quietly, and, to our amazement, nobody had a 'detc' for at least two weeks.

When the Rugby season started, we had one representative in the 1st XV., this being Johnston; the 2nd XV. has, among its regulars, Bearsley, and Davies has also turned out for the 2nd's, but he is normally a player for the Bantams. Kirchner, Bearsley, and Thompson were representatives of the School at the Inter-School Sports held at Port Sunlight, and you may be sure they did not let the School down. W. Thompson was the Senior Swimming Champion in this year's Gala, gaining 8 points for his house.

During half-term, the Fifts played two football matches against the Fourths and Sixth. The first we won 10-2, and we were unfortunate to lose the second by the narrow margin of 3-4.

This term we have two newcomers in our midst, Dawson and Stokes, both from the old 5A.

Our *Visor* contributions are chiefly in verse: we begin with a poem by Murphy:—

Bravely strive the struggling teams
In the scrum, to me it seems
Rather hard upon their legs.
Kearney, Turner, Smith, and Meggs,

Each to the other the ball they pass,
 Then out to the winger for a sudden mad dash.
 When our Goodwin's going all out,
 Then everybody starts to shout.
 "At him! At him!" their full-back shouts,
 And down he goes, beneath three louts.
 In the scrum they strain and shove,
 They are doing this for the School they love.
 Stoutly onwards press our team,
 Turner's tries come in a stream.
 Isn't it time the others scored?
 Talk for yourself, but really I'm bored.
 Up go the forwards, out comes the ball;
 Turner's away, but soon he will fall.
 Everyone's happy, everyone's gay,
 Because every match is won that way.

The next two contributions, both on the subject of homework, are
 by L. Murphy and G. Davies respectively:—

There's nothing I like better
 Than staying in at night,
 To do my 'Chemmy' homework,
 And get the answer right.

I love to do my Algebra,
 To find out A and B,
 But I'd rather go to the pictures,
 To see what I can see.

I love to do my English,
 With a verb, a stop, a noun,
 But when I say I'm going out,
 My Father starts to frown.

I love to miss my homework,
 That's what I love to miss,
 And I'll always believe the folks who say
 That ignorance is bliss.

L.M.

Some used to go nightly to pictures,
 Some used to go out in the rain,
 But now the boys in the fifth forms
 Are doing their homework again.

G.D.

A.E. MEGGS

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THIS term, it was a happy one—

The exams. are coming now,
And when the papers have been marked
Then we shall hear a row!

J. Williams's thoughts are perhaps typical of all Schoolboys when they look ahead towards the end of the term, and experience that "sinking feeling." However, it is certainly not true that they are constantly occupied with gloomy thoughts concerning examinations—a fact which is well illustrated by the part they play in the various activities outside the classroom. Kitching tells us that 4A is well represented in the different branches of these activities. Eight boys of the form play for the School in Rugby; Dawson is in the 2nd XV., Watters, Williams, and Worrall are in the 3rd XV., and Kitching, Eccles, Coburn, and James are in the Bantams, whilst McKee and Owen have also played for this team. (Kitching, by the way, is Captain of the Bantam team).

Finch and Lewis are staunch supporters of the Chess Club, and have met with considerable success. At least, they deny heatedly that they have so far lost all their matches. The form reached the finals in the Chess Championship, but unfortunately lost to the Advanced.

In Athletics, Dawson and Worrall share the limelight. Dawson was one of the two boys from the School who represented Cheshire in an Athletic meeting at Bath on July 17th. He also represented the Institute at the Birkenhead Inter-School Sports in April. Worrall won the Junior Cross-country Race, the first since the war, in the School Sports, returning a time of 28 minutes 25 seconds: a highly commendable effort.

Gornall has produced for us a description of the Senior Cross-country event, which we record here without any comment concerning the veracity of some of his statements!

At half-past two the pistol cracked,

The runners started well:

Across the fields, along the roads,

They trotted down the dell.

Across the fields, along the roads,

And over many a stile—

Many a runner was tiring now,

Though they'd only gone a mile.

Then, five miles gone, some walking now,

The strongest well ahead,

The medium-sized just tottering,
The smallest nearly dead.
At last the finishing-point was seen,
A few put on a spurt,
The chaps who couldn't stick it, now
Lay gasping in the dirt.

(If anyone wishes to ascertain the whereabouts of the "dell" near the School field, I shall be pleased to put them in touch with the author.—Ed.)

It is pleasing to note that the form does not look upon lessons merely as something to be learned, and we quote a comment of Watters to illustrate this. "Our form blackboard has been used for purposes other than for the masters to write on. The traitors of the form have been executed in this guillotine," the waste-paper basket providing a very good receptacle to catch the head in. But alas! the blade does not come down far enough, and so, after all, they live for another day." Watters points out, disdainfully, that 4B "cogged" this idea from them.

Linton and Owen have both written poems on a topical subject—Guy Fawkes Night, an annual event of great importance to all boys. After a long search for a coin, since the Editor would not take the responsibility of making a choice between the two, Linton's effort was finally selected.

On Guy Fawkes Night, when bonfires burn,
The "bangers" make you run,
It's good to see the rockets soar
Till all the sparks have gone.
This Nov. the fifth was not much good.
The rain it poured and poured—
I rather thought the land would flood,
But still the rockets soared.
When fires were nearly out, or dead,
The children went off home to bed.
Although they had some jolly good sport,
I hope that none must go to court!

4b.

UNFORTUNATELY Lee's form alphabet has been crowded out.

According to Naybour, all the members of the form were sorry when the name of the form was changed. He says that Remove A sounds much better than 4B, although it would probably be more sensible to call the form 4M—mischief—in view of some of the sidelights contributed by Beardwell. He says that "the form's prowess in Chemistry has been hampered considerably by a slight accident involving the breakage of several

test-tubes and other implements in the lab." He also tells us that "the form duster, which was missing for some time, has been retrieved by the courage and bravery of our gallant band who wrested it from one of our more sporting types. He had been keenly practising Rugby passing on the back row during some of the more uninteresting periods of the school day.

In this connection, attention is drawn by many members of the form to the fact that there are "four stalwarts from our form who play for the 3rd XV.—to the risk of both life and limb." The gentlemen in question are Beardwell, Bordley, Noonan, and Rollins.

Martin illustrates the interest of the form in History, by talking of the occasion when a wretched youth was guillotined in the form-room, for which operation the sliding blackboard was used. "The executioners," he says, "suddenly realised that they were being watched by Mr.—, and so the ceremony was put off until a later date." It is rumoured that, so striking was the resemblance of the form to Robespierre and his gang, the master contemplated using them for practical demonstrations of the workings of revolutionary justice.

The fact that Pythagoras died 2,000 years ago is lamented by A. E. Smith, who is of the opinion that the form would very much like to meet him. He adds, however, that the atmosphere might be a little strained in the event of this happening.

Smith also offers some advice. He says "Don't worry about the noise of this form, Mr. Gore. Many people have lost their heads over it." The said Mr. Gore is reported to be wondering if this is a threat in view of the "guillotine" episode mentioned above.

Several boys find a strong urge to write poetry, and Roy Cashen writes on the subject which is dearest to his heart.

Perhaps you have heard of little Roy,
A very naughty little boy.
One day he would a-fishing go,
Although his mother had said "No!"
No notice took he of his mum,
And thought that fishing would be fun.
He went and found a line and bait
And left the house by the garden gate.
He cut a stick from by the brook,
And bent a pin to form a hook.
He sat there nearly all the day,
For not a fish would come his way.
Nobody knew about his plight

Until he thought he had a bite;
So to the bank he slowly drew—
A fish? Oh, no! a worn-out shoe.

Rollins tells us sadly:

Humorous verses I cannot write,
I fail at each endeavour.
Forgive me if I only say,
"Bright be the *Visor* ever!"

He then goes on to treat us to some "Christmas Thoughts."

The last day of term—
Oh! What joy!
To-day I'm nearly
A perky boy.

The three weeks ahead
Will be good fun,
I'll eat, drink, and be merry
Till I am done.

.
Christmas is now over,
Oh! how sad.
Now I'm not in clover—
I'm a miserable lad,

4c.

IN 4c this term very little has taken place. When we first arrived back at School, the announcement which startled us all was the changing of the various form names, our particular form taking the title of 4c. Most of the boys now have pen friends in America, and those that haven't are still waiting hopefully.

The arrival of "Micky" Turner in the form has created great excitement, as the famous sportsman and mathematician has already wangled his way into the 2nd XV., and there are hopes he will play for the cricket team next season and so bring further renown to the form.

A poet from the form (G. Joinson) now makes his bow with a poem entitled "Homework." We hope, however, that the second verse contains only wishful thinking, and not his intentions.

We have homework to-night,
And I'm not very bright.
We have Geography, Scripture, and Art,
I'll take it all home,
My mind, it will roam
And I'll not do a single thing right.

We have homework again.
"What's the speed of the train?"
My blood is beginning to boil.
I'll not take it home,
My mind will not roam,
And I'll never do homework again.

On which cheerful thought 4c bids you adieu.

3a.

WE started the term with great expectations, a reduction in numbers, and Mr. Gill as our form-master. In spite of our great hopes, however, two boys, by virtue of chewing india-rubber while Mr. Gill patiently explains the irregularities of "duo," or flicking paper while Mr. Jones explains a proportions sum, have managed to get under half-marks in each of the marksheets this term. In the field of sport, after a great deal of practice, we managed to beat 3b and 3c combined by 9 points to c, Weir scoring all three tries. Weir has also appeared in the School chess team. There is much argument between the Historians and the Artists this term, the former not being able to help, secretly envying the fact that the latter have no homework. There is great regret that we no longer meet Mr. Bailey and his piano in the gym. for our weekly singing session. In spite of many acting the "Goat," certain of the form have been able to get down to the serious business of contributing to the *Visor*. McAteer has very definite ideas about winter:—

O Winter is a cruel thing,
With frost and snow and hail and sleet.
The people trudge along the street
With fingers blue and aching feet.
When the snow is falling fast
And cars are crawling slowly past,
Then children play with great delight.
They do not like the frost and ice,
But otherwise think winter nice,
If they can dress themselves up twice.

Anson has also burst into verse:

There was a young man of Bengal,
Who went to a fancy-dress ball.

He went, just for fun,
Dressed up as a bun,
And a dog ate him up in the hall.

Mountfield has sent in the following article on 'Model Diesels.'

No one country can claim the honour of making the first model, but I think I am safe in saying that it was the 'Frog' International Model Company who produced the first working model.

The model diesels are really internal combustion engines, and are not strictly real diesels. They are, however, compression ignition engines, which amounts to almost the same thing, except that in a real diesel the crude oil, without any air, is first compressed, and then the air is injected by means of a pump synchronised to inject the air when the pressure in the cylinder is at its highest, that is, when the piston is at the top centre. Therefore, although these little engines, the smallest of which is only 12 ccs. capacity, are called diesels, in reality they are "Compression Ignition" engines, and well deserve a name of their own.

Gaffikin had the good fortune to be present at the launching of the S.S. Ceramic, and sends us this account:—

The "Ceramic," a cargo and passenger Liner, was launched at Cammell Lairds, and, as I had received an invitation, I was ready at the Yard half-an-hour before the time of the launch, eleven o'clock. The gates were opened, and there was a scramble to get in first. I eventually got in, and walked down rows of buildings from which came the hum and rattle of machinery, and gained an advantageous position. There were many people talking, but they stopped when a notable lady performed the ceremony, and as the ship glided into the water, I could not help thinking that I had had a very happy morning.

Finally, here is an article by Evans about 'Slate Quarrying in Caernarvon.'

Caernarvon is well known for its slate quarries, which were started about two hundred years ago, when labour was very cheap. The quarrying was done by hand until about fifty years ago, when machinery was introduced. Now, compressed air drills, circular saws, and trimming machines are employed. Blasting is done by drilling a hole about four feet deep in the rock and ramming powder into it with a copper rod. Iron or steel rods are not used because of the danger of ignition causing a sudden explosion. When the fuse is lit, a warning is given by a siren, and the men shelter

in huts with thick walls. The rocks which fall are then split into slabs, and these are taken to the foot of the quarry in waggons hauled by steel ropes. There they are cut into thin slabs by means of a long knife, and then stacked ready for transportation. Of the three grades of slate, thick, medium, and thin, the latter is in the greatest demand and costs the most.

3b.

WE are of form 3B—

A happy form are we:

We work so hard,

We play so hard,

That we can't but be happy!

McGrath, in the above verse, well describes the form, since, as Russell tells us, nobody got less than half marks in the last mark sheet, and all the Rugby matches played by the form have been either won or drawn. In addition to playing for the form at football, Carroll and Parkinson are members of the Bantam XV., whilst Rankin is in the School 2nd XV.

We are informed that the form is, at the moment, "swotting" hard for the term-end examinations, but this has not prevented them from directing their attention to the production of a form magazine. A committee has been formed, and has already obtained a number of stories, drawings, puzzles, and jokes, so that one edition has already been published. It is, of course, hand-written because of the expense of printing. Although this is a closely guarded production, the Editor of the *Visor* has been privileged to see it, and has found it a most attractive and wholesome affair. It is hoped that the sad tale written by Griffiths, and printed below, will never be applicable to the "mag."

There was a young boy called Maclean

Who started a form magazine:

They were complete flops,

'Cos there were no full stops,

And commas were things never seen.

Parkinson is a keen philatelist, timbrologist, or stamp-collector, and has contributed an interesting account of the stamps of the Tokelan Islands. He says that "the appearance of a new country in the stamp world is an event of special interest, even when the country is only four square miles in extent; and numbers about fourteen hundred inhabitants. The Tokelan Islands are in the Pacific Ocean north of Samoa, and they have been under the control of New Zealand since 1926. There are three stamps in the set: $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2d. The design represents the post office on each of the islands, and in the top right-hand corner there is a map of the island which the stamp represents.

"The people of the Tokelan Islands are among the strongest swimmers of the Pacific Ocean. Their chief foods are taro, banana, and bread fruit, whilst there are also plenty of fish in the sea to keep them well supplied. Each of the islands is encircled by coral reefs, and the natives have great fun surf-riding. The trees and shrubs were most likely brought by the wind and the sea from neighbouring islands, and the islands are now covered with vegetation, particularly the coco-nut palm, found on the shores."

3c.

THIS year, the form has moved into the Junior School, where it is reported to be thriving under the garden-city conditions provided by the garden and the new dining-hall. It is believed that the welding operations which have been in progress there have contributed greatly in inspiring all the form to greater effort.

All of the form but one are to be heard from time to time muttering in dark corners that N. N. Jones has some secret connections with the Headmaster, so often is her to be found outside the Head's study. Jones, however, if consulted on this point, would undoubtedly deny it most emphatically.

During the lunch hour, most members of the form are to be found "punting the pill around" in the school playground. They have become so proficient, with this constant practice, that it has been said that a fixture has been arranged with one of the top First Division soccer clubs for later on in the season.

Owing to the industry of Miss Cojeen, there is quite a number of flowers in front of the Junior School building, and, no doubt as a result of this, various members of the form have been inspired to write poetry. Very much bowed down by weight of school work, Lunt contributes the following.

I always think that four o'clock
Is the best time of the day,
When I have hurried home from school
And put my books away.
We've buttered buns, and strawberry jam,
And sometimes pink, iced cakes.
No other ones are quite so nice
As those my mother makes.

D. Evans dreams of the near future with snow (to pelt the Prefects with), and the bliss of the Christmas Holidays.

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One day, when playing in the street,
A small, queer man I chanced to meet.
He asked me where I'd like to go,
And I replied, "The land of Snow!"

He took me in a flying chair,
And soon we were up in the air.
Then over land and sea we flew,
Till that white land came into view.

We landed on the sparkling snow,
And to the white cliffs did we go.
And when we reached the topmost summit,
I wondered how on earth we'd done it.

2a.

WE are now entering on our second year in the School and so are able to regard newcomers with a certain amount of aplomb. As Haughton remarks, with the sweet strains of music coming through the door the form finds it difficult to concentrate on work—not that they lose much sleep over that.

Writing for the *Visor* is more difficult than is sometimes appreciated, but J. Smith puts the problem neatly:

A GREAT TASK.

I pick up my pen and try to think,
I hope for a thought as I dip in the ink,
But my hope is in vain; for nothing comes,
So all I can do is to twiddle my thumbs.
I think and think, hour after hour.
Of all the ideas within my power,
When around the door appears a head.
Which says: "My lad, it's time for bed."

He appears to have overcome his problem admirably, as has C. Roberts, with his poem:

SCHOOL RUGGER.

At school, Rugger is a lively game,
Although it's rather rough;
It teaches you to be a sport
As well as makes you tough!

And as you get the ball and run,
The others cry "Tackle low!"
And if you make a bad mistake
The captain lets you know.

Then if you beat another School
And win by many points,
Spectators lift you shoulder high,
But aching are your joints!

While in the dressing room you talk
Of exploits in the game,
You know that you have once again
Kept up the old School's name.

Thus it may be seen that 2A has at least two prospective candidates for the post of Poet Laureate. We also extend a *warm* welcome to all who wish to visit us. We cannot help doing so, as we are situated nearly directly above the nether regions (the Boiler room).

2b.

THIS is about our form and its unfortunate inmates. The room is the darkest, duller, and most depressing in the Institution. Work in our surroundings is almost impossible, but just think of the amazingly high standard of work. The shining intelligence of 2B takes more than a dark room to depress it. Our "cell" contains five rows of desks and one extra comfortable one for the master, which has a hook behind it. If we ever drive a master to suicide, the hook will be most convenient. By the door is a dent caused by the beating of boys' heads against it when the masters are annoyed.

Of course, we excel at superior sports, such as hunting and shooting, which leave us very little time for childish games such as Rugby. One of our many misfortunes is that our room is next to that of a great man who objects strongly to our "childish" prattling.

In spite of all our griefs we are the brightest form in the School (with the lights on). You may have a laugh at Christmas when you see our contribution to the School concert.

C.S.

1a.

CONTRIBUTIONS from the form are of a varied character, and we will give them as received.

Davidson was fortunate enough to go to Holland in the Spring of this year, and has written for us a description of a

VISIT TO THE TULIP FIELDS

Last April, I visited the continent with my mother. We went to Antwerp first to join my father's ship, and then proceeded to Rotterdam. When we arrived there, we were told that Spring was the ideal time for a visit to the tulip fields, and so we arranged to spend an afternoon visiting them in a motor coach.

Rotterdam is a very beautiful city where everything is very clean. Most of the people live in tenements, but even in the poor districts the houses are not at all cramped together. The country is very flat: we could see miles of fields surrounded by dykes or canals, and the driver of our coach told us that, when the Germans came, the people flooded the land so that the whole country was under water.

The tulip fields are about twenty miles outside Rotterdam and are a beautiful sight, stretching as far as the eye can see. There are fields of tulips of every colour, and also fields of hyacinths and daffodils. When we were there, the daffodils were nearly over, and the men were planting bulbs for the later flowers, such as gladioli. It is quite a big industry. There are lots of buildings like factories, and in these the bulbs are stored, prepared and packed for export to all parts of the world.

When we got back to Rotterdam we all agreed that Holland is quite rightly called the 'Land of Flowers.'

Dakin has sought out some interesting facts, and asks "Do you know that:

A knagaroo can clear a fourteen foot fence, and can jump sixty feet without effort?

African white ants build a home forty feet high, although they are blind?

An earwig can lift 550 times its own weight?

The nearest star to the earth is 25,000,000,000,000 miles away?

A whale can live to be 1,000 years old?

He has also set some riddles.

Q.: How did the baker get an electric shock?

A.: He stood on a bun, and a currant ran up his leg.

Q.: What is the difference between a man with no money and a feather bed?

A.: One is hard up, and the other is soft down.

Q.: Which train is the hardest to catch?

A.: The 12-50, because it is 10 to 1 if you catch it.

TO start off with, we have an article by D. Sherlock on a certain famous naval engagement.

OUR NAVY.

There have been many naval battles, and I am going to write about one, "The Battle of the River Plate."

A German ship, the Graf Spee, was attacking and destroying many small allied ships, and so the Royal Navy decided to put a stop to it.

The Graf Spee was sighted by the British ships Ajax, Exeter, and Achilles, which started to attack. The enemy ship put up a smoke screen and tried to slip away, but was chased to Montevideo in South America. It remained there for a few days until the captain ordered it to be scuttled. The following day the sea-cocks were opened at 7-50 a.m., and the explosives were detonated five minutes later.

This act deprived the Royal Navy of yet another victim.

David Cross has something to say about meccano.

MECCANO.

Making things with Meccano is very interesting. It takes up spare evenings when you have nothing else to do. I should think that many boys are fond of this hobby. Some of the chief parts in the sets are girders of various lengths ranging from 2-inches to 12-inches. There are also angle girders of the same lengths, rods between 24-inches and 1-inch, nuts and bolts of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch and $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch, cylinders, and wheels with detachable rubber tyres. The sets are numbered consecutively from 0-10, the latter being the largest. There are also "A" sets, which, when added to a set, make it bigger. For example, the 5 set plus the "A" set makes a 6 set. With each set is a booklet showing you how to make certain things.

R. Holmes describes his stay in India.

MY TRAVELS.

At the age of nine months, I travelled to India with my mother and father, but I do not know the name of the ship. We passed Gibraltar Rock, travelled through the Suez Canal, and crossed the Red Sea on our way to India. I was told this by my parents later on.

India is a dry place, but when it does rain there are hailstones which are half an inch thick. Going to school in India is good. At about half-past eight in the morning a bus calls round to the children's houses, takes the children to school, and, at twelve o'clock, takes them home again. The bus is only for white children, and so is the school. This bus is also used for taking children to Sunday School and back.

You can buy sweets and chewing gum, coupon-free, for one anna, which corresponds to the English half-penny.

After returning to the British Isles by the same route, we boarded a train at Glasgow, which took us to Liverpool.

D. Shearer tells us about railway lorries.

RAILWAY LORRIES.

These cars and lorries carry goods to the shops, corn depots, and the NAAFI establishments. One long distance car which has to be overhauled travels three thousand miles every week. If this car breaks down, the fitter at Wrexham has to attend to it immediately. Sometimes I help the fitter with his work, and if I am on holidays when anything goes wrong he takes me with him. When cars get stuck in the mud, the fitter is relied on to get to the scene in the breakdown wagon. There was one incident when an old lorry was at a farm, and on coming to the gate it skidded and ran into the mud. Worse still, it smashed a water wheel and a water tank and cut off the water supply for half a mile all round. The railway fitter tried to pull it out with the company's wagon but failed. This lasted for two days, and he did not reach Birkenhead until 9 p.m., leaving again at 5-30 a.m. The fitter has thirty cars to look after altogether, twenty-one of these being at Wrexham, seven at Chester, and two at Rosset. He is kept very busy, and I enjoy helping him immensely.

Rugby Results to date

Opponents.	Ground.		Result.		Score.	
	1st xv.	2nd xv.	1st xv.	2nd xv.	1st xv.	2nd xv.
Wirral Grammar School	H	A	Won	Lost	25- 6	3-17
Oldershaw Grammar School...	H	A	Won	Lost	27- 3	6-12
Birkenhead School	H	A	Won	Lost	26-10	3-41
Catholic G. S., St. Helens	H	A	Lost	Lost	6-17	0-24
King George V., Southport ...	A	H	Lost	Lost	13-15	8-19
St. Edwards	H	H	Won	Lost	9- 8	16-19
Park High School	H	A	Won	Lost	9- 6	3-19
Ruthin School	A		Won		3- 0	
Calday Grammar School	H	H	Won	Lost	17- 6	3- 6

3rd XV.

Opponents.	Grnd.	Result.	Score.
Birkenhead School	H	Won	19- 6
Park High School	A	Lost	8-22

BANTAM XV.

Wirral Grammar School	H	Won	23- 6
Oldershaw Grammar School	H	Won	42- 0
Catholic G. S., St. Helens	H	Draw	6- 6
St. Edwards	H	Won	25- 0
De La Salle Grammar School	H	Won	22- 0
De La Salle Grammar Schol	H	Draw	6- 6

Chess Club

THE Chess Club continues to meet twice weekly on Wednesdays and Fridays, with an active membership of about forty.

A league tournament in four divisions has been in progress since the beginning of the term, and the games are being played with great enthusiasm by most of the members, each individual going full out to become top of his division.

At the first meeting of the Club this term, Fayle was appointed captain, but as he left School shortly afterwards, Finch has taken his place.

So far this term, the School Team has played five matches in the Wright Challenge Shield Competition, the results being:—

v. Merchant Taylors	Lost	1 — 6
v. Alsop High School	Drew	3½ — 3½
v. Liverpool Collegiate	Lost	1½ — 5½
v. Birkenhead School	Won	4 — 3
v. Liverpool College	Won	5½ — 1½

The annual Staff match resulted in a victory for the Masters, by 5½ games to 3½, a smaller margin than last year.

Gym Club

SOON after the beginning of the term the Headmaster announced to the School the glad tidings of the recommencement of the Gym Club. A meeting in 2A Classroom was so well supported that many had to stand. At this meeting Mr. Williams said that he was prepared to help with the Club on Fridays. Unfortunately the Club until this term has been without a Gym. master, Mr. Clare having left in the summer of 1947.

The evening's programme consists mainly of the more choice agility exercises on the apparatus with expert demonstrations and advice from Mr. Williams. Not only are the gymnasts catered for, but the pugilists also, who up to the present display far more enthusiasm than skill. This is being remedied by the instruction given by Mr. Williams, whilst those not interested are allowed to continue using the apparatus. The evening ends with everyone joining in a game with great gusto, utilising all the available apparatus.

H.R.H.

Literary and Debating Society

THE Literary and Debating Society has made a successful start this school year. Only two meetings have been held at the time of writing:—the first a debate entitled "That self-government should be instituted in this School," the second an Inter House Quiz in which the

houses proved very evenly matched, and from which everyone present derived much enjoyment.

An attractive programme has been arranged for the future, so it is hoped that the attendance, which so far is below last term's average will attain new heights in the coming term.

Scientific Society

THE Society has held only one meeting up to now this term, in which the officers and Committee were elected. An attractive programme has been arranged for the rest of the term, which includes a visit to a chemical works, a lecture on Oils, and another on Meteorology.

It is hoped that many senior members of the School will attend the meetings, which cannot help but interest them. M.B.P.

Scout Notes

IT is now twelve months since we reported upon the affairs of the 23rd, and we can say at once that it has been a year of activity in several directions. In our last notes we mentioned that a Parents' evening and a reunion of former members of the troop were in course of preparation, both of which became accomplished facts. At the former, in February, some ninety parents and friends spent an evening with us and saw something of troop activities, later joining in a camp fire. The reunion in March took the form of dinner at the Woodside Hotel, where thirty old members spent a happy evening reviving memories of bygone days.

As many still know, to mark the fortieth anniversary of the birth of Scouting in Birkenhead, a big exhibition was held at the Y.M.C.A. for a week in May. At this, the troop was in charge of the World Friendship stand and collected exhibits from many parts of the world.

Next big item on the agenda was summer camp, and, after a futile search around North Wales for a suitable site, we decided to return once again to one of our favourite pre-war haunts at Charmouth in South Dorset. All but four of our 27 members spent a fortnight under canvas in this delightful spot, and we were fortunate in being favoured with perfect weather for most of our stay. Other successful camps were held at Brynbach at Whit and at Overchurch on various weekends, most important of the latter being on September 25th—26th, when a four-association Jamborette took place.

Future plans include a Christmas party, another parents evening in February, a second annual re-union in March, and a grand celebration in September, when the troop is 25 years old.

At the time of going to press we are pleased to note that J. Clark, a pre-war member of the troop, and J. B. Goodwin, who has been Troop Leader for the last two years, are taking out warrants as Assistant Scoutmasters. They will be of the great assistance to the troop, and we wish them every success in their new roles. "SCOUTER."

Table Tennis Club

THE Club has re-started its activities after a year's lapse, and applications to join have been so numerous that membership has had to be confined to the Sixth Form. Meetings are held three nights a week. A knock-out competition has been arranged for the Spring Term.

K.P.

University Letters

FACULTY OF SCIENCE,
UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

To the Editor of the Visor.

Dear Sir,

Having at last settled down to work, work and yet more work, I found my good intentions shattered when I was asked to write to the *Visor*. None of my plausible excuses was accepted, and so, sucking my pen, I tried to think of interesting things to tell you.

After three years in the R.A.F., where the Academic arts are not encouraged to a great degree, I approached the state of a University career with trepidation. Not only did the thought of racking my brain with differentials, dynamics and derivatives cause that sinking feeling, but I knew no friend who would be accompanying me.

A "Fresher's" lot is not an easy one, and the first hour or two under the portals of this renowned seat of learning were ghastly. Never let it be said that old Instonians do not help each other. Soon I was meeting them in all odd corners of the buildings, and found we are a large contingent.

In my own course of study I discovered two old friends, and these made things much easier.

Since that first day we have settled down to the lectures very well, and an outsider would be most impressed by the keenness of the students (the majority of whom are now ex-Servicemen).

But do not run away with the idea that we cannot find time to play. At an early date we attended the various initiation ceremonies which have

to be seen to be believed. They are really good fun where everyone gets down to playing the fool as hard as possible.

In a more serious vein we had our Freshers' Social evening where each new member of the University was introduced to the Vice-Chancellor and the President of the Guild. This was a pleasant informal ceremony, and the speeches were kept short.

Indeed, there are many activities of this nature in the fields of sport, dramatics, and learning, where one can ease the cramped fingers, and put thoughts for the future in the background for a while, afterwards to return with renewed vigour.

I would go so far, Mr. Editor, as to ask you to rush the fellows in the 6th as far up Browlow Hill as possible, so that they can enjoy this "life."

Yours, etc.,

D. N. A. OSBORNE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

October 28th, 1948.

To the Editor of the *Visor*.

Dear Sir,

I shall endeavour to give you in brief a description of University life based on my experiences during the first few weeks here. The vast social, educational, and athletic facilities are more than sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the students.

The Union is a hive of activity (complete with drones) and is the scene of many social gatherings, a popular one being the 'Lunch-Time Hop' every Tuesday and Thursday. In the Walter Harding gymnasium one can play Badminton or Basketball between lectures. The new cafeteria has greatly eased the strain on the Union dining-hall and has an advantage over the latter in the choice of food.

The average age of the freshers has increased because of the large number of ex-Servicemen. This accounts for the disappearance of ragging, which was once the initiation of the freshman. One can instinctively pick out the ex-major, and the bearded profile of an ex-naval officer is a not uncommon sight among freshers.

I must now close this rather brief and descriptive picture, hoping that the *Visor* will have its usual well-earned success in its coming publication.

Yours sincerely,

R. G. PALMER.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
SOUTHAMPTON.

November 8th, 1948.

To the Editor of the *Visor*.

Dear Sir,

When I left B.I. in 1944, I fully expected to be able to write back to School in 1946 and say that I had obtained my B.Sc. (Eng.). Well, I didn't, because I failed. As a result of this I spent two years in H.M. Forces, and on my release in Autumn this year I returned to College. I hope to be able to send that long-overdue letter next year.

The story of why I failed may, however, be of interest to those members of the Institute who will be going to Universities next year.

In my first year, the excellent training I received at B.I. stood me in good stead. I passed my Finals Pt. I. easily—too easily. My previous confidence changed to over-confidence, and that is a very dangerous state of mind. Avoid it at all costs; for it causes more failures than any other reason.

However, I believe I have learnt my lesson, and I hope to profit from it now.

I do not think that many B.I. boys have attended Southampton; so a few words on the College itself may not be amiss. In 1944, there were 300 students here, but now, like all Colleges, it has undergone a great post-war expansion. At the beginning of this session there were nearly 1000 students enrolled.

Not being an Arts man myself, I can say very little of that side of College education. The Science courses here are of a very high standard, and anyone considering a career in Radio or Chemistry should give consideration to Southampton, when applying to get to a University. In the Engineering Faculty, there are a number of courses for all branches of engineering, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Structural, Marine, and Aeronautical. The laboratories are among the best in the country; in fact, we can hardly ever use our wind-tunnel because Vickers-Supermarine are usually testing Spitfires or Attackers there. I might add in passing that the R. J. (Spitfire) Mitchell Memorial Scholarship is at present tenable at Southampton.

In the field of sport, U.C.S. has a good record for its size. There are several excellent Rugger XV.'s, and players of the calibre of B.I.'s First

XV. will have no difficulty in reaching the 1st or 2nd XV. In Athletics, three Old Hartleyans, as the Old Boys are called, reached the Olympic Games this year (P. H. Vallé in the 200 m., H. Tarraway in the 800 m., and Miss Whyte in the Women's Shot-put and Discus).

We also possess a very fine Boat Club, Soccer Club, Sailing Club, Gliding Club, etc. All tastes are catered for.

As a matter of interest to older members of the School, Brian Ware, who was Head-Prefect 1943-44, is now a fully-qualified naval architect, and spends his time towing model boats up and down a long bath at the National Physical Laboratory. I also met Jim Young, who left B.I. in either 1945 or 1946, in the Royal Air Force. He is now, I believe, in S. Rhodesia, training as a pilot.

I shall close this letter now, as the hour grows late, and all students, contrary to some beliefs, have to work sometime.

Yours sincerely,

J. McFARLAND.

OLD BOYS' SECTION.

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Old Boys' Association Notes

SINCE the post-war restart two years ago the Old Boys' Society has made steady progress. Three sections—the Dramatic, Soccer, and Rugger—are operating with success and enthusiasm, but we do wish to increase our membership, not only to ensure our financial stability, but so that we may extend our activities and thereby achieve our aim of catering for the varied tastes of all Old Boys.

The slippery condition of the gym floor one Monday last October was the result of a very successful Dance held there to open our winter programme on Saturday, October 2nd. Our principal guests were our President and Mrs. Wynne-Hughes and Mr. and Mrs. J. Furnivall.

We are endeavouring to build up a register of Old Boys—particularly those who have left the district—so that they may be kept in touch with our news and activities. In this connection we were pleased to receive note recently from Mr. Walter R. Jones of Hollywood, Calif., asking for addresses of other Old Boys in the States. Unfortunately, on this occasion we were unable to assist; so you will appreciate that the completion of the register is a matter of urgency, and if any Old Boy reading this report is not on our mailing list, please let us know at the first opportunity.

C.K.C.

War Memorial Appeal

Committee:

THE HEADMASTER, MR. HARRIS, C. R. LOCKYER, W. D. MILNE.
MR. MALCOLM (*Hon. Treasurer*). J. E. ANDERSON (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE above Committee has been set up, under the chairmanship of the Headmaster, for the purpose of obtaining a Memorial to those Old Boys who lost their lives in the War. It is hoped that it will be similar to the one presented by Alderman Solly after the 1914-18 War.

All donations should be sent to the Treasurer at the School.

Old Boys' Dramatic Society

"STORM IN A TEACUP," by James Bridie, at the Y.M.C.A. Theatre,
October 21st—23rd, 1948.

THE Old Boys' Dramatic Society evidently share the popular view that nothing pleases the average audience better than a good comedy, and with their recent production of James Bridie's "Storm in a Teacup," they certainly succeeded in amusing their audience (and themselves) for four consecutive evenings at the Y.M.C.A. Theatre.

The production, under the direction of Mr. L. T. Malcolm, was smooth and generally well paced, with good grouping in a well-arranged and tastefully-furnished stage setting.

A. G. Williams served the company well by providing a clearly defined and sufficiently pompous Provost, although he probably obtained more sympathy from the audience than the author intended. As the Provost's wife Joan Coffey gave a consistent and charming performance, while Elsie Kay made an excellent study of the jealous Lisbet. P. P. Simpson played the part of the young reporter Burdon with the requisite lightness of touch, but yet sounded sincere and convincing.

A good deal of the comedy in this play falls to the actress who plays the Irishwoman, Mrs. Flanagan, and Marjorie Gladney gave a delightfully racy rendering in what sounded like a very authentic Irish accent. In this she had the able assistance of Reg Lockyer as Mr. McKellar and the very well-behaved 'Tim.'

No play would be a success if the smaller parts were not carefully played, and the rest of the team, Norman McBride as Mr. Skirving, Joe Clarke as the Sheriff, Mr. Gill and Mr. Allan as the barristers, Norman Little as the policeman, P. A. Ryan as Mr. Cassidy, and Janette Dobbing

as Maggie, all worked well in their several parts to produce a very effective comedy. Joe Clarke and P. A. Ryan could have made their diction more precise and their lines more intelligible without losing character.

The caste were perhaps least happy with their Scots accent. Elsie Kay and A. G. Williams were good, and, even if all the rest did not exactly sound as if they had been born north of the Tweed, they managed to convince the audience that the play took part in Scotland.

Stage Manager G. G. Bennett and his stage assistants J. B. Goodwin and J. C. Holden, and probably others not named, are to be congratulated on the precision with which they carried out the exacting requirements of the play on the small stage available. Nor must the valuable work of Mrs. M. R. Clarke and J. C. Mason on the other side of the footlights be forgotten. Altogether it was "a guid show." E.C.T.

Birkenhead Institute Old Boys A.F.C.

THE Soccer Club are now well into the Season's fixtures, the results of which are rather disappointing in the case of the 1st XI., who as yet have experienced very little luck, injuries having been largely responsible for the team having to be changed every week, which makes it difficult for the team to settle down to the extent that it normally should.

In the six games so far played, one has been won and the remainder lost. The last two games were both lost in the last ten minutes of play, which naturally is most disappointing to the players after their great effort to strike a winning form. However, we are confident that there will be a turning point to these set-backs, and in the near future the team will find a way to victory.

The 2nd XI. have shown very much better form than that of last season, and have a number of young players who show considerable promise. The team are very hopeful of reaching the last eight in the Liverpool Old Boys' Amateur Trophy. In the next round they meet Waterloo Grammar School Old Boys (away), whom they have already defeated 8—4 at their ground a few weeks ago.

The Club's membership, although increased since the start of the season, still does not quite justify the running of a 3rd XI. We are still anxious to pursue this matter further, however, and intend reviewing the question at a later date.

The Committee appeal to both Old Boys and Schoolboys who may be interested in Soccer to come along to our ground at Holm Lane on Saturday afternoons and add their vocal support. We really do feel that this would be a tremendous encouragement to our teams, and that it would effect a great improvement. The I Zingari League, in which our 1st XI. play, is still regarded as one of the finest Amateur Leagues in the North, and the standard of football is high and played both keenly and in the spirit of sportsmanship that gives equal pleasure to players and spectators alike.

N.I.D.

Old Instonians R.F.C.

IT is gratifying to report, after last year's rather depressing results, that season 1948-49 has opened very successfully. Perhaps the most pleasing feature has been the good form shown by the 2nd and 3rd XV.'s—not only are they winning, but, what is more important, they are playing good rugby. The 1st XV., reinforced with new members both from the Services and School, have acquitted themselves well in some hard fixtures. The results to date are as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
1st XV.	8	5	2	1	109	45
2nd XV.	8	5	3	0	98	69
3rd XV.	7	4	2	1	77	59

Our three representatives in the District XV. which played Birkenhead Park at the beginning of the season all received good reports, and we are pleased to note that one of our oldest members, K. W. R. Carr, has been capped again for Cheshire this season.

Our 1st XV. "skipper," Mr. H. E. Winter, will be back in the district again early in December to take over the reins, and we are all looking forward to seeing him leading the club once again.

The fixture with the School on December 11th is anticipated with great interest. We certainly do not under-estimate the opposition, and our full 1st XV. will be in the field. The ladies of the club have promised to provide for the teams a tea in keeping with the occasion; so we are looking forward to a pleasant afternoon.

C.K.C.

Old Boys' Successes

University of Liverpool, 1947-48.

Degree of B.Sc. Honours.

School of Mathematics Class I.—J. D. McCullen.

School of Chemistry Class III.—J. M. Owen.

Ordinary Degree of B.Sc. Part I.—W. E. Jones; B. H. Peever;
E. N. Smith.

School of English Language and Literature.

Degree of B.A., Part I.—K. I. Smith.

Faculty of Medicine.

Diploma in Public Health—H. O. M. Bryant, M.B., Ch.B.

School of Architecture.

Degree of B. Arch., Honours, Class I.—I. S. Melville.

3rd Examination—M. H. Roberts.

Faculty of Engineering, Degree of B. Eng., Honours.

School of Naval Architecture, Class I.—S. Bunting; B. Ware.

School of Commerce. 2nd Year Examination—A. H. Vick.

School of Veterinary Science. 1st Examination—J. E. Morris.

AWARDS.

University of Liverpool.

Architecture. Pilkington Travelling Studentship—I. S. Melville.

Chemistry. Sir John Willcox Scholarship.

Renewed for 1948-49—J. Badcock.

Naval Architecture. William Rathbone Medal—S. Bunting.

Faculty of Law. LL.B. Honours, Class II.—R. H. Howell.

University of Cambridge.

Modern Language Tripos: Class II., Div. I., French; Class II., Div.
II., German—G. S. Smith, St. John's College.

Old Boys at Universities

Cardiff: A. Williams.

Cambridge: J. Gallagher, B.A., Trinity; G. E. Foxcroft, B.A., Trinity.

Edinburgh: T. R. Garrett, Royal Veterinary College.

Glasgow: K. A. Osborn, J. Sudworth.

Hull: R. Brymner, P. A. Hosker.

Liverpool: S. Bunting, F. A. Burls, T. H. Gill, R. H. Howell, W. F.

Hurst, A. Jenks, W. E. Jones, A. R. Larsen, V. A. Mealar, I. S.

Melville, J. E. Morris, D. N. A. Osborn, R. G. Palmer, M. H.

Roberts, G. A. Smith, K. I. Smith, A. H. Vick.

Manchester: G. Jones, J. Posnett.

Oxford: I. Roberts, Magdalen; E. Somerset-Jones, Lincoln; H.D. Thomas,
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Sandhurst, Royal Military College: J. Lovatt.

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