

# THE VISOR

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MAGAZINE OF  
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

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CHRISTMAS 1952.



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## *School Calendar*

1952—Autumn Term ends ..... December 18th.  
1953—Spring Term begins ..... January 5th.  
Half Term ..... February 14th—17th inclusive.  
Easter Term ends ..... April 1st.  
Summer Term begins ..... April 20th.  
Half Term ..... May 23rd—26th inclusive.  
Summer Term ends ..... July 24th.  
Autumn Term begins ..... September 7th.

## Editorial

THOSE who have been permitted to assist (as the French say) at that august spectacle when form-masters write the headings on terminal reports, may have seen even these hardened and underpaid veterans falter over one problem. Such trifles as Cholmondley-Smythe's average age or Pouncefoot's unpunctuality the expert can take in his stride. No, the difficulty which arrests the practised pen is 'what to call the term?' 'Autumn' say some; 'winter,' the elderly whose blood runs thinly; 'Christmas,' the gourmands whose anticipatory snouts can smell turkey above the reek of staff room ink. Such indecision and such rival schools of thought are a tribute to the infinite variety of the term we have just survived. There was something of two great seasons in it as well as the promise of festivity. Remember that those same persons who parade in dim December to salute the passing of this period of the school year by invoking the genial Wenceslas and his youthful outdoor assistant stood on this very ground at its beginning with faces freshly browned by summer suns and with the melodies of pier follies still ringing in their ears. A dozen weeks or so have sufficed to transform the camper and tourist into the gentlemen of the carol. The stages of that evolution are gradual and almost imperceptible. What the parodist called "the mellow fogfulness" of late September stands, Janus-like two-headed, facing golden summer one way and sad autumn the other. Then came harvest which the townsman with an eye on his remote ancestry celebrates in time-honoured fashion. Some morning in October he remembers to sing "We plough the fields," and, if his share in such labours is now only melodiously vicarious, he still loves a fat pumpkin and a prize marrow. Soon after this the blue flame of the evening fire, and the equally blue finger of the morning five-round contest with an icy collar stud, restored the reign of Jack Frost. This stimulating monarch's writ, stealthily affixed to ten thousand window panes, opened the carnival of winter, and Christmas—whose magic touch can relieve even December examinations of their terrors and make them seem like playing forfeits—was upon us. Is it to be wondered then, that, in the absence of a ruling from the Ministry, finding the true label for a term so various and so rich in sensation taxes the ingenuity of the most versatile form-master? It remains a problem peculiar to this moment alone; for, when drawing up the dossier-cum-charge-sheet of early April, a man may still think of it as 'Spring,' even if the cherry blossom cannot be seen for snow, just as he confidently believes July to be 'Summer,' even if he has to go home to his lunch in swim suit and kayak.

One thing however does give unity to these last 'weeks in search of a title,' to the long process which transmuted cricketers or sunbathers



into the cheerful heroes of cold winds and wet mud. To the familiar *Visor*, all four seasons are alike in claim and importance. Call the term what you will, your magazine will faithfully hold up the mirror to it and catch its shifting image. May we (as the importunate salesmen with a foot in your front door say) interest you in a copy?

## Salvete

**P**INNINGTON, R. E.; Atherton, N.; Blackwell, R.; Blaylock, P.; Boyd, F.; Broadbere, V.; Brocklebank, D.; Brown, T.; Burdett, F.; Charters, D.; Dixon, R.; Duggan, G.; Easdown, R.; Edge, D.; Evans, O.; Greaves, G.; Gretton, E.; Harris, D.; Harris, T.; Hartigan, A.; Holmes, W.; Hughes, C.; Hughes, D. W.; Irwin, P.; Jackson, A.; Jones, T.; Kav, A.; Keating, W.; Lamb, W.; Leighton, T.; Lomax, P. A.; Lyon, G.; McTear, G.; Marshall, I.; Moore, E.; Morgan, J.F.; Morton, D.; Motley, N. E.; Moyes, W. D.; Needham, J.; Neil, J. H.; Noel, M.; Parker, G.; Paxton, T.; Perry, W. D.; Quinn, M. G.; Rimmer, G.; Robinson, P. G.; Simms, G. E.; Simpson, A. J.; Snowdon, R. W.; Stott, R.; Sutton, D. A.; Sykes, L. R.; Thomas, A.; Turner, C. J.; Uytendhal, K.; Ward, G.; Wild, P. M.; Williams, C.; Woods, E. A.; Wylie, D. W. Mc.; Cathy, D. C. A.

## Valete

**C**HAMBERS, D.; Dodd, G. M.; Gleave, J.; Lewis, D. J.; Mitchell, E. E. L.; Moore, D. H.; Morris, J. R.; Owen, R. B.; Smith, A. E.; Dowler, R. G.; Iveson, S. J. E.; Jones, A. E.; Richards, W. B.; Roberts, R. C.; Shaw, R. F.; Simmons, J. A.; Smith, J. A. H.; Smith, R. W.; Sutton, N. R.; Vossler, R. F.; Williams, G. M.; Bradshaw, N.; Brookfield, R.; Cadman, B.; Critten, B. A.; Duff, R. D.; Evans, R. C.; Evans, R.; Gardner, R. N.; Hartley, D. E.; Hatfield, B. A.; Heaps, F. D.; Jones, D. A.; Jones, G. T.; Jones, R. A.; Lowdon, S. J.; Makinson, B. J.; Marsh, A. F.; Newton, R. D.; Onions, G. W.; Robinson, W. C.; Roderick, C. A.; Williams, B. C.; Youart, R. E.; Herbert, E.; Dakin, J.; Davidson, R. J.; Hobbs, J.; Williamson, J. F.; Pritchard, B.; Stanley, E.; Osborne, E. R.; Armstrong, C. M.; Leighton, T. A. E.; Watt, E. C.; Stephens, N. H.; Brocklehurst, D. G.; Scutt, R. J. T.

## Staff Notes

WE were very sorry at the end of last term to say goodbye to Mr. Mitchell, who had presided with conspicuous success over the woodwork shop since January, 1949. A pleasant colleague and an undoubted master of his craft, Mr. Mitchell had devoted much time to School cricket. We shall not readily forget how he came into full flower each summer term. We wish him every success in his new appointment under Liverpool Education Authority at Speke. Mr. Wilcox temporarily took over some of Mr. Mitchell's duties until half-term. He had helped us over a difficulty before, having taught here in the summer of 1948 at the time of the illness and death of Mr. Edge. From the day of our resumption after the half-term holiday, November 6th, the woodwork department has been in the charge of Mr. Hughes, who was appointed to the Staff in October, and to whom we extend a cordial welcome. The School has also greeted Mr. Cheeseman this term. He was appointed in late July, partly to take over the English teaching of Mr. Paris and partly to act as music master. The former dining-room has now been set aside for music teaching, and we hope that the subject may now take its full and proper place in our lives. With this appointment we had finally to take leave of Mrs. Elmslie, who had been here in a temporary capacity since last January. This term we are pleased to include in our number M. Médard who comes as French Assistant to replace M. Freyssenge.

## Speech Day, 1952

THE annual Speech Day was held in the Town Hall on March 27th, 1952. The Chair was taken at 7-30 p.m. by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman C. J. Yates, who was accompanied by Mrs. Yates, and who delivered a short speech to open the evening's proceedings. This was followed by the Report of the Headmaster, Mr. G. W. Harris, who gave an account of the events of the year, and mentioned the outstanding success of the School in the Joint Matriculation Board's General Certificate Examination. He also gave a brief summary of the School's other activities.

Councillor C. S. McDonald, the Chairman of the Governors and an Old Boy of the School, then rose to speak. He congratulated the School on its academic success, and spoke about the years he spent as a pupil within the Institute's walls.



When the distribution of the prizes and certificates had been completed, Professor F. W. Walbank, M.A., who had presented them, delivered his address. He mentioned the School motto "Doctus in se semper divitias habet," and gave a more explicit idea of its meaning. He continued by emphasising the importance of a grammar school, particularly the great benefits to be gained from an education at the Institute, and appealed to parents to allow their boys to remain at the School until they have completed the usual course. He also drew attention to the many universities to which boys have gone from the Institute, and hoped that the School would continue to uphold its high reputation. Professor Walbank's speech was warmly applauded, and, when the vote of thanks had been duly proposed, the National Anthem was sung, and yet another Speech Day was at an end.

### PROGRAMME.

1. School ..... "Jerusalem" ..... *Sir C. Hubert H. Parry.*

REPORT BY THE HEADMASTER (G. W. Harris, B.A.)

2. Lower School ..... "A Song of the Sea" ..... *Charles Wood.*
4. Lower School ..... "Service" ..... *Alec Rowley.*

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GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, 1951.

AT ADVANCED AND SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL—

Brown, D.R.: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; Scholarship Physics. Chambers, D.: English Literature, French.

Coen, W. B.: Mathematics and Theoretical Mechanics, Physics; Scholarship Mathematics and Theoretical Mechanics.

Dodd, G. M.: Physics, Chemistry; Scholarship Physics.

Ennion, J.: English Literature, Geography, Art; Ordinary level. English Language.

Gleavè, J.: English Literature, French; Ordinary level. History, Latin.

Hayes, F.: Physics, Chemistry, Biology.

Mitchell, E. E. L.: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; Ordinary level. English Language.

Moore, D. H.: Physics, Chemistry; Ordinary level. Mathematics.

Morris, J. E.: Mathematics, Chemistry. Ordinary level. Physics.

Nash, A. R.: Biology. Ordinary level, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Plimley, R. E.: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. Scholarship Physics, Chemistry.  
 Rushton, B. J.: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Scholarship Physics, Chemistry.  
 Sherlock, G. H. L.: Physics; Ordinary level, Chemistry.  
 Tector, G. A.: Mathematics, Physics. Ordinary level, English Language, Chemistry.  
 Thomas, H. P.: Geography, Chemistry, Biology.

#### AT ORDINARY LEVEL—

Anson, J. L.; Boden, A.; Bradshaw, A. E.; Brammall, A.; Clays, A.; Crook, J. R.; Davies, B.; Evans, G. M.; Gaffikin, R. J.; Glover, R. W.; Goat, P.; Harris, P.; Hawkins, A. S.; Haynes, G. H. L.; Hodgson, T. S.; Hughes, J. T.; Jordan, J. E.; Kendrick, D. R.; Marston, M.; Mountfield, A. R.; Owen, R. G.; Parkinson, A.; Parry, K.; Parry, N. A.; Pealin, T. W.; Rankin, C. R.; Russell, J. E.; Smith, H.; Taylor, E.; Tilston, P. J.; Tunna, N. J.; Turner, R.; Watt, E. C.; Weir, W. C.; Whitehead, J. E.; Wood, F.; Wylie, F. C.

#### INTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS—

Tate—Dodd, G. M.; Gleave, J.; Mitchell, E. E. L.; Taylor, E.  
 Atkin—Lewis, D. J.; Moore, D. H.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS—

State Scholarship—University of Leeds .....	Plimley, R. E.
County Borough Scholarship .....	Plimley, R. E.
State Scholarship .....	Mitchell, E. E. L.
County Borough Scholarship .....	Mitchell, E. E. L.
State Scholarship—University of Manchester .....	Rushton, B. J.
County Borough Scholarship .....	Rushton, B. J.

#### PRIZE LIST, 1950-51.

FORM 1B—1st, Emmitt, D. A. B.; 2nd, Scutt, R. J. T.; 3rd, Hopner, K. R.  
 FORM 1A—1st, Jones, P.; 2nd, Mathews, D. A.; 3rd, Fitzgerald, T. A.  
 FORM 2B—1st, Dick, L.; 2nd, Davies, K.; 3rd, Walsh, B. A.  
 FORM 2A—1st, Peers, H. W.; 2nd, Peterson, M. N.; 3rd, Naybour, R. D.  
 FORM 3B—1st, Davidson, R. J.; 2nd, Barr, K. M.; 3rd, Hunt, H. S. and Williams, D. G.  
 FORM 3A—1st, Green, J. E.; 2nd, Hodgson, A. S.; 3rd, Heath, P.  
 FORM 4B—1st, Jones, D. A.; 2nd, Watt, E. S.; 3rd, Longton, W. J.  
 FORM 4A—1st, Haughton, B. A.; 2nd, Dodd, T. A.; 3rd, Batterham, N.  
 FORM 5B—1st, Turner, R.; 2nd, Parkinson, A.; 3rd, Hughes, J. T.

FORM 5A—1st, Taylor E.; 2nd, Hodgson, T. S.; 3rd, Davies, B. and Smith, H.

FORM 6—History, Smith, A. E.; Mathematics, Lewis, D. J.; Science, Lewis, D. J.

#### SPECIAL PRIZES—

Connacher Memorial Prize for English ..... Gleave, J.  
Solly Memorial Prize for History ..... Gleave, J.  
The George Holt Prizes—Languages ..... Chambers, D.  
Mathematics ..... Plimle R. E.  
Science ..... Mitchell, E. E. L.  
The Forshaw Memorial Prize for Art ..... Ennion, J.  
Special Prize for Mathematics ..... Coen, W. B.  
Special Prize for Physics ...Dodd, G. M.; Plimley, R. E.; Rushton, B. J.  
Special Prize for Chemistry ..... Brown, D. R.; Mitchell, E. E. L.  
Rushton, B. J.  
Special Prize for Biology ..... Thomas, H. P.  
Old Boys' Memorial Prize ..... Morris, J. R.  
Headmaster's Prize ..... Hayes, F.

#### SPORTS—

Colours—*Rugby Football*: Kitching, J.; Nash, A. R.; Morris, J. R.;  
Rankin, C. R. *Cricket*: Ennion, J.; Kendrick, D.R.;  
Moore, D. H.; Sherlock, G. H. L.  
Chess Championship (*Senior*)—Taylor, E.; (*Junior*) Marrs, I.  
*Victor Ludorum*—(*Senior*) Jones, N. N., Rushton, B. J.; (*Junior*)  
Roberts, R. C.  
Silver Cup for Games (*Senior*) Morris, J. R.; (*Junior*) Dodd, T. A.

#### House Trophies—

*Athletics* ... Atkin; *Cricket* ... Atkin—Stitt.  
*Football* ... Atkin; *Chess* ... Atkin.  
*Cross Country Sen.* Westminster; *Sen. Champion* Rushton, B. J.  
*Cross Country Inter.* Atkin; *Inter. Champion* Harris, D.  
*Cross Country Jun.* Atkin; *Jun. Champion* Walsh, T. J.  
*Coronation Cup* ... Atkin (Champion House for the year).

#### APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS.

Group Captain J. H. Winn Haswell—Appointed R.A.F. Chaplain in Charge, Middle East Air Command.  
G. B. Smith—Awarded Post Graduate Studentship (United Alkali).  
A. W. T. Hudson—Kendrick Award for European History (University of Birmingham).  
Dr. Caleb Jarvis—Appointed Conductor and Chorus Master to the Royal National Eisteddfod, Rhyl, 1953.

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J. F. Pearson, M.Sc.

Modern Language Tripos, Prelim. Ex. Class II. .... Davies, J. S.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—

#### St. Mary's Hospital Medical School—

Degree of M.B., B.S., Third Exam., Part I. .... Owers, F. M.

#### King's College—

Degree of L.D.S., R.C.S. .... Henry, C. D.

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#### Faculty of Arts—

Degree of B.A. in Special Studies, Part I. (School of German) .....  
Mealor, V. A.

Degree of B.A., First Year Exam. .... Macdonald, R. F.

Degree of B.A., First Year Exam. .... Smith, A. A.

#### Faculty of Science—

Degree of D.Sc. .... Goodwin, T. W.

Degree of B.Sc. (with Hons.), Third Class ..... Jones, W. E.

Degree of B.Sc. (Ord.), Part III., Class II. .... Larsen, A. R.

Degree of B.Sc. (Ord.), Part II., Class II. .... Baxter, H. G.

Degree of B.Sc. (Ord.), Part II., Class II. .... Osborne, D. N. A.

Degree of B.Sc. (Ord.), First Year Exam. .... Hénharen, D. B.

#### Faculty of Engineering—

Degree of M.Eng. .... Bunting, S.

Degree of B.Eng. (Ord.), Final Part II., Class II. .... Burls, D. R.

#### School of Veterinary Science—

Degree of B.V.Sc., Second Exam., Part III. .... Morris, J. E.

#### School of Dental Surgery—

Degree of L.D.S., Second Exam., Part I. .... Turner, H. M.

#### School of Architecture—

Degree of M.C.D. .... Roberts, M. H.

Degree of B.Arch. (Ord.), Fifth Exam. .... Renner, N. A.

Degree of B.Arch. (Ord.), Second Exam. .... Binyon, R.

Degree of B.Arch. (Ord.), Second Exam. .... Dobbing, P.

Degree of B.Arch. (Ord.), First Exam. .... Silcock, D. D. J.

Degree of B.Arch. (Ord.), First Exam. .... Stewart, J. H.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER—

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc., Inter. Exam. .... Maxwell D. J.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—

Faculty of Medicine—

Degree of M.B., First Year Exam. .... Hellon, C. P.

Degree of M.B., First Year Exam. .... Ledsome, J. R.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS—

Faculty of Arts—

Degree of B.A., Second Year Exam. .... Liggett, J. H.

Degree of B.A., First Year Exam. .... Gee, J. D.

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc., Second Year Exam. .... Holden, J. C.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM—

Faculty of Arts—

Degree of B.A., First Year Exam. .... Harris, J. D.

Degree of B.A., First Year Exam. .... Hudson, A. W. T.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD—

Faculty of Engineering—

Degree of B.Eng. (Mining) .... Horne, K. J.

School of Medicine—

Degree of M.B., Second Exam. .... Jones, D. O.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL—

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc., Final Exam., Part I. .... Perry, M. B.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, HULL—

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc. (Special) .... Brymner, R.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON—

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc., Second Class Hons. .... McFarland, J.

## General Certificate of Education, 1952

IN this year's examination 5A did very well, the 21 boys among them achieving 125 passes. T. A. Dodd and B. A. Haughton deserve special mention, each passing in no fewer than 9 subjects. In the lists below the figure after each name gives the number of subjects passed.

### ORDINARY LEVEL.

5A.: N. Batterham (8); W. N. Bryant (8); T. A. Dodd (9); R. G. Dowler (3); B. A. Haughton (9); S. J. H. Iveson (3); A. E. Jones (2); N. N. Jones (4); W. B. Richards (8); A. G. Roberts (6); R. C. Roberts (5); R. F. Shaw (6); J. A. Simmons (4); J. A. H. Smith (5); R. W. Smith (7); N. H. Stephens (8); N. R. Sutton (6); R. F. Vossler (7); E. C. Watt (4); G. M. Williams (5); J. G. Williamson (8).

5B.: C. E. Armstrong (2); N. Bradshaw (1); R. Brookfield (1); E. Cadman (2); B. A. Critten (2); R. D. Duff (4); R. C. Evans (1); R. Evans (5); R. N. Gardner (1); D. E. Hartley (2); B. A. Hatfield (1); F. D. Heaps (1); D. A. Jones (2); G. T. Jones (4); W. J. Longton (2); S. T. Loudon (2); B. J. Makinson (2); A. F. Marsh (2); G. W. Onions (2); W. C. Robinson (1); C. A. Roderick (1); E. S. Watt (3); B. C. Williams (4).

### ADVANCED LEVEL.

D. Chambers (Eng. Lit., Hist., French); G. M. Dodd (Maths, Physics, Chemistry); J. Gleave (Eng. Lit., History, French); D. J. Lewis (Maths, Physics, Chemistry); D. H. Moore (Maths, Physics, Chemistry); J. R. Morris (Maths, Physics, Chemistry); R. B. Owen (Eng. Lit., History and Appreciation of Art); A. E. Smith (Eng. Lit., History); B. Davies (Eng. Lit., French); J. E. Jordan (French); K. Parry (Eng. Lit., French); W. C. Weir (Geography).

### SCHOLARSHIP PAPERS.

D. Chambers (History); G. M. Dodd (Physics, Chemistry); J. Gleave (Eng. Lit., French); D. J. Lewis (Physics, Chemistry); D. H. Moore (Physics, Chemistry); J. R. Morris (Chemistry); R. B. Owen (History).

As a result D. J. Lewis was awarded a State Scholarship and a Borough Scholarship, and G. M. Dodd a reserved State Scholarship and the Tate Science Award of the University of Liverpool. Lewis was successful in obtaining by examination entry to the Imperial College of Science, University of London. J. Gleave obtained a Borough Bursary and entered the University of Liverpool. Chambers, Dodd, Moore, and Morris have also become members of the University of Liverpool. Owen has been admitted to the University of Nottingham, and Smith to the University of Sheffield. K. Gore, whose scholastic career was unfortunately interrupted by illness, has begun a degree course at Bangor.



## Coronation Cup

THE Coronation Cup is awarded at the end of each School year to the best all-round House during the year. Points are awarded as follows:—

	1st	2nd	3rd
Athletic Sports .....	6	4	2
Chess .....	3	2	1
Cricket .....	6	4	2
Cross Country Runs .....	6	4	2
Mark Sheets (3 terms) .....	18	12	6
Rugby .....	6	4	2
Swimming .....	3	2	1
Table Tennis .....	3	2	1

### YEAR 1951-52.

	1st	2nd	3rd
Athletic Sports .....	A.	T.	S.
Chess .....	A.+S.+W.	—	—
Cricket .....	A.	S.	W.
Cross Country Runs .....	A.	T.	W.
Mark Sheets (1) .....	W.	A.	T.
(2) .....	A.	W.	T.
(3) .....	W.	A.+T.	—
Rugby .....	T.	A.	S.
Table Tennis .....	T.	W.	A.

Result—(1) Atkin 38 points.

(2) Tate and Westminster 24 points.

(3) Stitt 10 points.

## Athletic Sports, 1952

THIS year the Annual Sports Day was held on Saturday, July 5th, a little later than usual. The afternoon was fine and sunny, with a moderately strong, cool breeze blowing during the meeting.

The function was graced by a visit from His Worship the Mayor of Birkenhead, Alderman J. Miller, and the Mayoress, his wife. Councillor and Mrs. C. S. McDonald, who kindly presented the prizes, also attended.

N. N. Jones is to be heartily congratulated on becoming Victor Ludorum for the second year in succession.

Our thanks are due to the Staff, to the parents and friends who so willingly subscribed towards the cost of the prizes, and to those who helped with the refreshments.

## RESULTS

- 1 Cross Country (Senior).—1, Dodd, T. A.; 2, Williamson, J. G.; 3, Dodd, G. M.
- 2 Cross Country (Inter.).—1, Walsh, T. J.; 2, Carroll, R.; 3, Hewitt, E.
- 3 Cross Country (Junior).—1, Fitzgerald, T.; 2, Olsson, D.; 3, Cundill, K.; and Hopner, K.
- 4 Shot (Senior).—1, Jones N. N.; 2, Cadmon, B.; 3, Sherlock, D. G.
- 5 Long Jump (Senior).—1, Turner, R.; 2, Weir, C. W.; 3, Roberts, R. C.
- 6 880 Yards (Senior).—1, Dodd, T. A.; 2, Jones, N. N.; 3, Roberts, R. C.
- 7 High Jump (Senior).—1, Hodgson, T. A.; 2, Haughton, B.; 3, Turner, R.
- 8 880 Yards (Inter.).—1, Walsh, T. J.; 2, Hewitt, E.; 3, Hodgson, A.
- 9 440 Yards (Junior).—1, Cundill, K.; 2, Caldwell, A.; 3, Turner, E.
- 10 Long Jump (Junior).—1, Scutt, R.; 2, Cundill, K.; 3, Colley, C.
- 11 Cricket Ball (Inter.).—1, Lindop, R.; 2, Jones, D. F.; 3, Lloyd, B.
- 12 Cricket Ball (Senior).—1, Jones, N. N.; 2, Mathieson, D.; 3, Stephens, N.
- 13 Long Jump (Inter.).—1, Finney, H.; 2, Lloyd, B.; 3, Lindop, R.
- 14 100 Yards (Junior).—1, Cundill, K.; 2, Sherry, P.; 3, Caldwell, A.
- 15 Cricket Ball (Junior).—1, Pinning, R.; 2, Jones, A.; 3, Stephens, C.
- 16 100 Yards (Inter.).—1, Lloyd, B.; 2, Walsh, T. J.; 3, Porter, M.
- 17 100 Yards (Senior).—1, Weir, C. W.; 2, Dodd, G. M.; 3, Jones, N. N.
- 18 High Jump (Junior).—1, Cundill, K.; 2, Lee, D. L.; 3, Humphreys, W. N.
- 19 220 Yards (Senior).—1, Weir, C. W.; 2, Roberts, R. C.; 3, Dodd, G. M.
- 20 Javelin (Senior).—1, Jones, N. N.; 2, Cadman, B.; 3, Smith, H.
- 21 220 Yards (Junior).—1, Cundill, K.; 2, Humphreys, W. N.; 3, Caldwell, A.
- 22 High Jump (Inter.).—1, Hodgson, A.; 2, Horne, D. E.; 3, Lindop, R.
- 23 House Obstacle (Junior).—1, Atkin; 2, Tate.
- 24 220 Yards (Inter.).—1, Hodgson, A.; 2, Walsh, T. J.; 3, Porter, M.
- 25 House Obstacle (Junior).—1, Tate; 2, Atkin.
- 26 440 Yards (Senior).—1, Jones, N. N.; 2, Dodd, T. A.; 3, Weir, C. W.

27. Discus (Inter.).—1, Finney, H.; 2, Hodgson, A.; 3, Beaumont, A.
  28. 440 Yards (Inter.).—1, Walsh, T. J.; 2, Hodgson, A.; Hewitt, E.
  29. Discus (Senior)—1, Morris, J. R.; 2, Hodgson, T. S.; 3, Cadman;
- B.**
30. House Obstacle (Senior).—1, Atkin; 2, Westminster.
  31. Open Mile.—1, Dodd, T. A.; 2, Williamson, J. G.; 3, Morris, J. R.
  32. Relay (Junior).—1, Tate; 2, Stitt; 3, Atkin.
  33. Relay (Inter.).—1, Stitt; 2, Westminster; 3, Tate.
  34. Relay (Senior).—1, Tate; 2, Westminster; 3, Atkin.
  35. House Tug-of-War.—1, Westminster; 2, Tate; 3, Stitt.
- Victor Ludorum.—Jones, N. N.; 15 points.  
 Runner-up.—Dodd, T. A.; 11 points.  
 Junior Victor Ludorum.—Cundill, K.; 14½ points.  
 Runners-up.—Walsh, T. J.; 13 points.  
 House Championship.—1, Atkin, 722 pts.; 2, Tate, 691 pts.; 3, Stitt, 672 pts.; 4, Westminster, 594 pts.

## *On Getting Up Early*

AS a race we have always been prepared to admit, under the blankets, that there is a peculiar virtue in early rising. A famous essayist of the last century wrote a dissertation "On getting up on cold mornings" and an equally famous comedian of this one used to sing "It's nice to get up in the morning" though he ruined the sublime theme by ending each verse "it's nicer to stay in bed." We quote these authorities to prove that the matter has constantly been put before us as one of those sound principles to be universally honoured and almost completely repudiated in practice. But we make a strong case for our belief that our national character would not be what it is, if Englishmen, while snugly invisible under mounds of bedclothes, had not asserted down the years that showing a leg is best done betimes. Like an election manifesto, it sounds well but is not to be taken too seriously. Yet we are doubtful whether this comfortable conclusion is merely another example of masterly English compromise. Some profound Puritan influence is more likely than not to be at the root of the business; some ancient instinct to find virtue in what is manifestly unpleasant. 'I was up hours ago' remains one of the stock lines of the moralist's self service counter. Puritanism has fallen on evil days but some of it still lingers like snow in a thaw to champion the sombre against the gay, to condemn the sluggard, and extol the ant. The early bird catches the worm (says sour-puss), and for those who like worms the idea is to be commended.

Make no mistake about it however, gentle reader, that we do not venture to bring this matter of early rising before you in the spirit of a latter day John Knox, nor yet with the sadistic accents of an orderly corporal at the door of a nissen hut, but solely on its own merits. In what do they consist? Our tame philosophers might say that it all depends on what you mean by "early." Now it is clear that there is no particular virtue in the small hours as such. When "early" is only another word for "very late," our moralist turns about abruptly and bites us. There may be plausible reasons for being around "when churchyards yawn," but none of them are good. On the whole, perhaps, less harm is done by the reveller "coming home with the milk" (as the phrase *was*—our milk is a hardened laggard) than by burners of the midnight oil, particularly politicians. When *they* go to roost so late that they meet themselves coming down in the morning, then the wreck of empires is at hand (as we could demonstrate to you by copious examples at seven and six an hour). No, by "early" we mean time pivoting about 6 a.m., post and not ante bed. We do not press a trifle of half an hour either way, and of course we are thinking, if we may so put it, of the 6 o'clock amateur. Many do rise at or before that hour regularly (as you may prove for yourself any day by getting up to see them), but these are sturdy professionals who have perhaps lost that first fine careless rapture in the morning world. But for the man who normally makes his first appearance round about the conventional and commonplace 8 a.m., let us lay before him the unsuspected delights of a descent some two hours earlier.

Apart from the smug satisfaction (a hangover from his Roundhead ancestors as we suggested above) he may feel at being busily astir while the slothful remain horizontal, he will quickly sense a new atmosphere in his familiar surroundings. For one thing it will be strangely silent, a novel sensation nowadays. An old cyclist once told us that, sixty or so years ago, he could leave Birkénhead very early on a summer morning and mounted on his "safety machine" get well on his way to North Walès in a vast solitude amid fields and hedgerows as fresh as they were at the creation. Something of this may still be recaptured—apart from the traffic of long distance lorries or the workman's bus—even in strolling round one's immediate neighbourhood "before the streets are aired" as the saying is. Then a man owns the world indeed like a feudal baron; then is the breeze precious and the light fine; then will the bright-eyed cat upon the fence (convinced that humanity is a tolerable notion if not overdone) graciously incline himself in greeting,



as who should say "Hail, brothers, at this carefree hour to the unsullied universe." We feel it fair to warn those who have followed us thus far that a steady June downpour at 6 a.m. is apt to impair this idyll. Car and greeting (and ourselves) are likely to be missing but the principle—as the man who ate crumpets in "Pickwick" observed—remains.

What may be said for the same performance on a rigorous winter morning when the lights go on with a grudge and the remains of last night's fire sneer at one from the grate? Very little it is, true, but it is worth trying at rare intervals. When dawn comes at last, and the rest of mankind emerges, one has the queer sensation of having lived in two different days within the compass of one—like wearing someone else's head. And it is astonishing how long the day then seems, and how much work can be packed into it. But we will sheer off the subject of work before the populace rises to destroy us, and proceed to our inspired conclusion.

These noble thoughts we therefore pass on to you, as we write at 3 p.m. on a dull and hopeless day. We are waspish and feverish; our nerves jangle, our knees tremble, there is grit in our eyes and a queer thing twitches at the side of our face. We fall into uneasy slumber and come out of it again (being all but branded for life by tumbling into the kitchen fire) with convulsions. There is nothing seriously wrong with us except that we were up this morning at the unholy and impossible hour of half-past-five.

## *Ode To A Lordly Dish*

**W**HEN David Killed Goliath and knocked the giant flat,  
We used to think a pebble got under the brute's hat.  
But this will wash no longer, no one can now deny  
He merely smote the Gathite with cheese and onion pie.

When Alfred spoilt the baking and got cursed for his pains,  
Historians told the story which tickled all the Danes.  
But we know better now, boys, and nail the Saxon lie,  
It wasn't cakes he ruined but cheese and onion pie.

A bold and roving spider Miss Muffet found one day:  
He crept close up beside her to steal her curds and whey.  
He sniffed, reversed his engines, and muttered thickly "Why  
Must this disgusting female munch cheese and onion pie?"

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---

The inmates in a workhouse attacked the vitamins,  
They punched the little blighters and kicked them in the shins.  
They lynched the workhouse-master and raised the battle cry  
"You Keep Your Christmas Pudding. Serve cheese and onion pie!"

A gunman in Manhattan was feelin' kinda cheap:  
He'd only slugged ten coppers and made their widows weep.  
But on the Brooklyn Subway he shouted "Attaboy,  
I guess dat dis guy's missin' his cheese and onion poy!"

An Aberdonian miser in Glasgow on the spree  
Made whoopee in the Gorbals to get his supper free.  
He chanted to the bagpipes the stirring slogan "Try  
A muckle kail an' puddock wi' cheese an' onion pie."

When Archie with the eye-glass arrived at the Savoy  
He buttoned the headwaiter and said to him "Old Boy  
I can't afford a blow-out for this is Quarter Day,  
I'll take pot luck and manage on cheese and onion pay!"

What caused the fearful shindy of piglings in a sty?  
What turned the weather windy? What made the horses shy?  
What started Cromwell's pimple? What blacked Aneurin's eye?  
The answer's really simple: 'Twas cheese and onion pie.

Whenever the air thickens and clouds the window panes,  
It's humming like the dickens, and Ma says "it is the drains,"  
The stunning, reeking fragrance that blows the grids sky high,  
It's not the Central Gas Works but cheese and onion pie.

One day inside a circus there was a fearful flap,  
The elephant went berserk and squashed a certain chap,  
And said "In 1920 (the fifteenth of July)  
That scoundrel tried to kill me with cheese and onion pie."

If you are feeling blue, dear, and writhing on the floor  
Pull down the blinds, the end's near, fling wide the mortuary door!  
Get ready for a long rest. You are about to die.  
I'll meet you at the inquest. Blame cheese and onion pie.

When I am old and toothless and life is slipping by,  
I'll soar to a divine mess above the bright blue sky  
You'll see upon my tombstone (please read it with a sigh)  
"He plays a harp in glory for cheese and onion pie.  
(With lots of heavenly gravy on cheese and onion pie!)"





WE live in stirring times. Not only have the fireplaces been bricked-in in some of our older classrooms but the stone curbs which formerly guarded them have also disappeared. What stationmasters call "the circulating area" has now been considerably enlarged, and the removal of the perils which daily reduced the Staff's expectation of life will doubtless induce insurance companies to regard them with a less speculating eye.

\* \* \* \* \*

The above revolution made it possible to break one more link with the Dark Ages, for new blackboards have now been fitted above the quondam (not to call them by a harsher name) grates. Though generous in the chalking space provided, our new acquisitions are perhaps too resilient and the makers of exuberant punctuation marks rebound with some vigour. These momentous innovations have made redundant the two other types of board for which we have long been famous. The elderly "up-and-downers" awaited, for some time, marshalled in pathetic rows, the arrival of discriminating collectors from museums of classical archaeology. The other frisky patterns were disposed of to dancing academics to serve as dummy partners in the waltz and polka classes.

\* \* \* \* \*

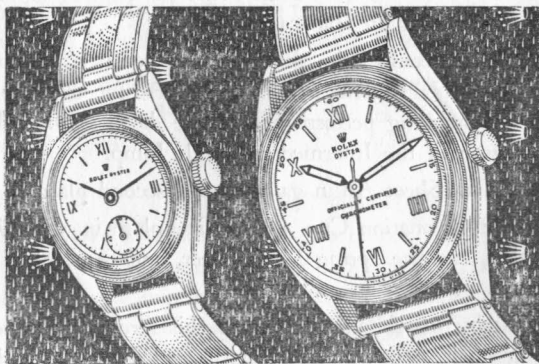
No one could complain that our studies are cloistered or academic since we are brought, in accordance with the best modern educational practice, into constant touch with industry and labour. After enjoying the presence of the fireplace lifters, we were entertained by the board experts and got pleasantly entangled with their various engines. Hard on their heels came the plumbbers to wrestle with a refractory radiator. With a true sense of theatre, their arrival was beautifully timed for the day *after* heating of the school was due to start. But they saved one form at least from a prolonged spell of "Conway"-like existence, half ashore and half afloat.

\* \* \* \* \*

The publication of an official menu of the School Dinners brings us into line with many other noble institutions of both a public and a private character. Many are more reconciled to their victuals now that they see them so imaginatively described. Others regard the lists as gastronomical danger signals and have become supporters of planned eating. The ugly rush of gourmets and epicures in expensive cars up Whetstone Lane round about 12-30 each day must however in the long run create a traffic problem of serious dimensions.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many generations of Institute Scouts will have heard with great regret of the permanent closing of Brynbach Camp, North Wales. It is now twenty-seven years since our scouts went to their first week-end camp at Irby. Between that date (1925) and the outbreak of the second world war, the Troop camped regularly during each summer, visiting sites as far afield as Red Wharf Bay, Silverdale, Charmouth, and Gatehouse of Fleet. But, after 1939, Brynbach with its woods, lake and bracken, never ceased to attract our members, and it is sad to think that the Chief's Gate there has now closed for the last time.



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ATKIN	STITT	TATE	WMINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

### ATKIN.

SINCE last term's *Vicor* was published, the remaining events in the Coronation Cup have been decided, and the "fate" of the Cup has been sealed.

The Junior Cricket Team won two out of its three games. The failure against Westminster was due to bad fielding, but in the two other games the team redeemed itself. Whittington proved himself to be a promising bowler, and Rimmer an able captain.

On Sports Day *Atkin* retained the slender lead which it had gained from the "Standards" points system to win the sports for the second time running. The outstanding performance of the day was undoubtedly that of A. Hodgson in the Intermediate High Jump.

In the Summer Mark Sheet *Atkin* gained equal second place.

*Atkin* retained the Coronation Cup, taking first place in Athletics, Cross-Country, Cricket, and the Spring Mark Sheet, and equal place in the Chess Competition.

In the Senior Rugby match already played this term, *Atkin* beat Westminster by four goals, a try, and a penalty goal to a goal and a try. Dodd scored two tries, Haggerty, A. Hodgson, and T. Hodgson one each, and Pritchard converted four tries and kicked a penalty goal.

T.S.H.

### STITT.

THERE are seventy-six boys in *Stitt* House this year, of whom three are prefects, Turner, Hughes, and V. A. Parry.

*Stitt* is represented in the 1st XV. by Turner, Sherlock, and Marrs, and in the 2nd XV. by N. A. Parry, Britton, Hewitt, Longton, and Davies. In the Colts XV., Dean, H. S. Jones, and Riley more than hold their own, while Clampitt, T. J. Walsh, and Fitzgerald, play

regularly for the Bantams. So far this term only one House match has been played, Stitt losing to Tate 13—0 after an extremely close game.

If every member of the House pulls his weight throughout the year, and follows the example set by the senior members, there is no doubt that Stitt will once again be the proud holders of the Coronation Cup. R.T.

#### TATE.

LAST year Tate had its most successful year since 1947, and won the Rugby and Table Tennis competitions, as well as being second in the Sports and in the Cross Country. In the Athletic Sports Tate were beaten by only a few points; this was mainly due to a good display by the Juniors, among whom Cundill, who was Junior Victor Ludorum, and W. Humphries, were prominent. It is hoped that Tate will do even better this year, but, if this is to be a great effort must be made by all boys in Tate House, especially in the Mark Sheets, in which Tate last year failed badly.

This year Tate began the Rugby campaign very well, and in the first match the Seniors beat Stitt by 13 pts. to nil. In this game it was the forwards who laid the foundation of the victory, and H. Smith, Doveston, Barwell, must be complimented on their fine play.

Finally the thanks of the House must be put on record to G. M. Dodd, last year's House captain, for his skilful and successful management of the House. C.W.W.

#### WESTMINSTER.

THIS year Westminster once more has Mr. Webb as Housemaster, and Mr. Allison and Mr. Thynne as Assistant Housemasters. The House Captain is J. E. Jordan. Westminster has 76 members, of whom five are Prefects: Parry, K.; Evans, G. M.; Haughton; Jones, N. N.; and Jordan.

Three members of the House play for the 1st XV.: Jones, N. N., Mathieson, and Fisk; while the following play for the 2nd XV.: Batterham, Lindop, Phipps, Williamson, Wilkinson, and Jordan (Capt.). B. Walsh and B. Lloyd play for the Colts; Porter, Robinson, Lloyd, G. T., playing for the Bantams. Parry, K., and Haughton have also played for the 2nd XV.

Two events in the Coronation Cup Competition were still undecided last term. They were the Summer Marksheet, in which we were first, and the Annual Sports, where we failed badly, finishing a long way behind everyone else. As it is mainly Standard points which count

towards the Sports Championship, every boy must gain as many points as possible to help Westminster to success. These two results made us equal second with Tate in the 1951-52 Competition. N. N. Jones must be congratulated on once more becoming Senior Victor Ludorum. One Senior House Rugby match has been played at the time of going to press. This was against Atkin, when, while not at full strength throughout, losing one player shortly after half time, we lost by 26 points to 8.

In other branches of School life, Bryant and F. W. Taylor are in the School Chess Team, Haughton is the Rugby Club Secretary, Parry, K., is the Senior Literary and Debating Society Secretary, with Phipps on the Committee, Williamson is the Table Tennis Secretary, and five are on the *Visor* Committee.

This year every boy must make a whole-hearted effort in every event from the Marksheets to the Cross Country Run. Without this effort the Coronation Cup will elude us once more in this coming Coronation year. With every boy doing his best, Westminster will again become Champion House. J.E.J.

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## Libraria

ONE of our number, having absented himself for a week, turned up with the excuse that he had not wished to impart that bogey of our Modern Age, the Cold, to his fellows. We are sorry to report that the more incredulous of his comrades, rejecting this explanation, diagnosed that the "cold" was brought on by auto-suggestion. J-rd-n, however, declared that Atkin's legions did nothing to deter him, much to the evident amusement of D-v-s.

We have noted with regret that the pursuit of Latin has an adverse effect upon certain of those who follow it, and a member of the Lower VIth is invariably seized with paroxysms of mirth when reading Messrs. Horace and Tacitus (as if he understood 'em)). We can find no source of amusement there. The advantages of buying a megaphone for one of our more silent friends from the Lower VIth have been considered; though Mr. W-bb may not be hard of hearing, we are!

With due respect to our Gallic visitor, we offer our thanks for the solution to a question which has puzzled many generations of small boys. Do the gastronomic habits of the French include frogs? To see him play table tennis is to be assured—talk about hopping mad!

Although it should be farthest from us even to consider suspecting our Science friends of sabotage, we feel that we are being very subtly attacked. The motive is, of course, jealousy. Somehow, an unknown chink in our armour has been pierced, and we occasionally find ourselves overwhelmed by obnoxious odours, smothered in Eau de Chemistry Lab, Soiree en Hydrogen Sulphide, and other delights. This information may satisfy you on one point, as we feel sure you must have felt some concern at the multi-coloured and acid-stained face of that member of our group who finds himself close to the suspected source of infiltration.

As Polysertonianus the Wicked once wrote "Dignus fidei est qui registrum non requirit," according to which ancient legend we are above suspicion of taking seventeen half-holidays per term, as there appears to be one register lacking in the school. Certain of the powers-that-be refuse to instal dictionaries for our entertainment. We don't really blame them, but we regret that Goethe is at the moment our weightiest missile!

Having nothing further to report, we sign off with an apology. We once said that half the Science Mob were barmy, but, of course, that is untrue. We all know that half the Science Mob are not barmy.

We are broken of the Opium habit, so . . . er . . . pass the heroin, Parry. Cheerio. B.D.

## Form Notes

6A.

DEAR reader, although our form, the Artistic Sixth, is numerically the smallest in the School, it is rich in achievement, for in nearly every side of School activities one of our number is to be found: athletics, cross country running, chess, music, and rugby; and N\*wb\* holds the proud title of Victor Ludorum, and, incidentally, looks well set for a repeat performance this year. Our readers will no doubt be interested to know how the everlasting Arts and Science struggle is progressing; well, at the beginning of term, we were outnumbered by two to one, but with the departure of Dr. Chugg for Shell University things have evened out a bit, and we can actually lay claim to the almost unknown distinction of being able to beat the Science mob.

At the beginning of term it was not expected that any 1st year prefect would be created, but the authorities found themselves unable to carry on without the powerful support and energies of our N\*wb\*, who was accordingly, with due ceremony, invested with prefectorial rank. Congrats, N\*wb\*! Oh, by the way, the Science mob were also honoured by a similar creation, but, as far as we can see, this was a mere afterthought, to level up both sides. For after all, haven't we got to learn German simply because of the linguistic ignorance of those scientists to be? The mention of German reminds me that more than one of our trio has remonstrated with the Head about this extra burden; their protests, however, were overruled, and they were told they must continue with it. But that's not the end of it, for Br\*\*nt has more than once declared his intention of "making hay with the examination paper" when it comes . . . .

Our reader will no doubt be interested to know just how much work an artistic Sixth former is expected to do these days. Well, taking N\*wb\* as an example, he is engaged at the moment in attempting to accomplish the colossal feat of passing in three principal subjects, and three at ordinary level. To succeed in such a mighty undertaking means obviously the dispensing with such things as bed and sleep. Thus, after having taken home a satchel full of books on Tuesday night, and written an English essay, summarised a fifty-page chapter in biology, read "A History of Architecture from Earliest Times," and just ruled off his eighteen-page essay on "Cromwell's massacre at Drogheda," our Boss, at three o'clock on Wednesday morning, was just preparing to read Dr. Schlinker's nine hundred page treatise on "The Simplest Method of dissecting a fly."

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Cromwell's name has reminded me, by the way, that there has been more than one fight in the Library between Mr. W\*ll\*\*ms and Br\*\*nt against N\*wb\*, concerning the innocence or guilt of those two controversial figures Charles and Cromwell. It must also be noted that both Mr. H\*ll and the H\*\*d have sided in this question—with the rebels, I fear. Nevertheless, Charles generally comes out on top after Mr. W\*ll\*\*ms has made a blasting remark against Cromwell which N\*wb\* can't counterblast. These arguments may be neatly summed up:

“Newby for Parliament, Billy for King;

Billy for Buckingham, Newby for Bing.”

W\*ll\* now takes up the narrative: wild and extremely exhausting gym lessons during which a football is vigorously hurled at one another are only in part compensated by the installation of a new shower. The unfortunate conclusion to these lessons is the burning alive of one of our members while endeavouring to discover which way the hot tap is turned off.

At dinner, fresh attempts on the plate-carrying record are made daily. H\*gh\*s of the upper sixth, the human plate rack, must be congratulated on frequently smashing this record (and some plates too!), but it is unfair to suggest that the Lower Sixth rely solely on the adhesive properties of rice pudding in attempts to demonstrate their skill in this popular pursuit. The recent pudding pinching scandal was quickly concluded by Mr. M\*lc\*lm, who forced a confession out of the unfortunate culprits, and forbade any further “acts of stealth and troubled pleasure” (Wordsworth) or “jiggery pokery” (Mr. M\*lc\*lm).

#### Va.

FROM a veritable crop of submitted work, we can select but a few, beginning with E. H. Hubbard's

#### OUR NEW SURROUNDINGS.

Once again I take up my pen to describe to readers of the *Visor* our new form-room. In many ways this is a sad occasion; for, after our dreaded contest with the J. M. B. next year, our venerable form will be split up, and many members dispersed into various walks of life in the big wide world; and those remaining will occupy the rival camps of Arts and Science.

For our last year as a united form we were ordered to live in the dungeon, that dreaded room downstairs which we occupied two years ago. We had scarcely been there five minutes, however, when we were



told that the room would be required by Mr. Cheeseman and his piano, and so we joyously migrated to our present place of habitation.

The room is small but well lit; for we have a large array of windows to the east "where the sun comes peeping in at morn." We are very fortunate in having also a beautiful vista through an interior window in the opposite wall, which affords us a glimpse of the afternoon sun.

Along one of the walls are two radiators and one hot-water pipe: in a near corner is a strange little fireplace, which is useful only for storing things, but its mantel provides a very useful shelf. In this corner of the room our form master, Mr. Sorby keeps his desk, but some members of the Staff prefer it in other places, and the transit period is rendered rather noisy by the indisposition of one of the castors.

There are many other things of interest in our room of which there is no space to write here, but any member of the form will be pleased to show you round. Why not come and see us sometime?

We continue with an extremely interesting article by K. W. Jones, entitled

#### PEEPS AT PAST CORONATIONS.

Now that Coronation time is drawing near, let us look at some past coronations.

Henry the First was crowned by two churchmen at once! The Archbishop of Canterbury, who was old and palsied, had the right to crown him, but it was decreed that a younger and firmer hand should actually place the crown on Henry's head, and the honour was given to the Bishop of Salisbury. As it happened however, no one thought of telling the old Archbishop of the change in the service, and, when he saw someone else lifting the crown for the very act of coronation, he stretched out a hand and grasped the crown. The Bishop held the more tightly! The Archbishop, palsy or no palsy, finally wrested it from the Bishop's hand and laid it on the King's head, only to knock it off a moment later, through trembling so much. It was saved from hitting the ground only through someone's quickness.

A gloom had been cast over the ceremony of Richard the First by a great massacre of the Jews, and evil portents abounded. During the ceremony a bat appeared and circled the throne, while a mysterious peal of bells was heard of which no one knew anything. Richard, as no one was brave enough to crown him because of the evil omens performed the office himself, saying he held the throne from God alone.

A sumptuous banquet is a feature of nearly every coronation. At the ceremony of Richard II., wine flowed all day from a fountain in the form of an eagle of gold perched on a great marble pillar.

The Stuarts, however, were very unlucky, as a storm raged whilst James I. was being crowned, and people were forbidden, because of the plague which was sweeping London, to watch his coronation and procession.

Finally A. S. Hodgson describes for us

#### A VISIT TO ABERDEEN FISH MARKET.

On my holidays in Aberdeen, I was told that my visit would not be complete until I had gone to the Fish Market. Therefore, obeying my friend's instructions, I got up at six o'clock one morning and set off for the harbour.

When I arrived the first auction, which had taken place at five o'clock, had just moved out, and in the next few hours would have been dispatched all over North and Mid-Scotland. The second batch of drifters was just tying up and being unloaded on the quay by electrically operated winches. Basket after basket had come up from the holds of these small boats, their contents emptied on the quay, and the fish sorted into boxes.

As the auctioneering began, all that I could see was a sea of fish in open boxes broken here and there by lines of closed boxes, a hundred yards long and fifteen yards wide. I was truly amazed at the quantity, size, and variety of the fish, and I came away hoping that I should not be given fish for any meal that day.

5B.

WE begin with an interesting article by M. Dennis, entitled  
A VISIT TO R.A.F., HOOTON PARK.

Each year, the Royal Air Force has what is known as "At Home" day, so as to give the general public an opportunity of seeing what goes on at an R.A.F. station, and to commemorate the Battle of Britain.

As usual, Hooton Park was open to the public, but bad weather restricted some of the flying, which started off with a tail chase by four "meteors." Both squadrons at Hooton Park are equipped with these twin-engined jets which have a top-speed of almost six hundred miles per hour. After these came three Tiger Moth biplanes which were tied together by streamers of white tape; unfortunately, the wind was too strong and forced the planes to part. A Vampire jet took off.

giving a great display of manoeuvrability before returning to its own airfield. The American Air Force was represented by two Sabres, but bad weather prevented these planes from diving through the sound barrier.

Fly pasts were made by a formation of Sea Furies and a Washington, which was attacked very successfully by six meteors. The surprise of the day was provided by the appearance of the Canberra jet bomber which had made a double crossing of the Atlantic a few days previously.

For the Grand Finale the jets flew over the airfield, forming the letters H.P.

Finally, Hughes contributes some

#### FORM NOTES.

This year, the form will take the G.C.E., which is a fancy name for the last mile. We have been very ably coached by masters who seem to teach best after 4 o'clock. Mr. Webb has, this year, managed to hammer more French into our brains than Mr. Thynne could last year. For some unknown reason the School day has changed for our form. Formerly, the day consisted of pleasure and ease broken by small periods of work, but now we do more study than anything else.

The day begins with a long, mountainous trek to the top floor (that is where our form-room is). After having the register marked, we then descend again for assembly. After twenty minutes in the gym, we have to ascend the stairs again for the first period. At nine-thirty most of us are ready to sit down and do nothing, but are forced to beat our way through a couple of hours of hard reading, writing, and thinking, with only a short break of fifteen minutes which has been drastically reduced by the "five per cent. cut in education."

#### 4A.

THIS form submitted a wealth of material, but lack of space prevents us from printing more than two of these articles, by J. O. Taylor and B. A. Lloyd, entitled *My Radio Debut* and *A Visit to the Olympic Games* respectively.

#### MY RADIO DEBUT.

A short time ago I had the interesting experience of a visit to the B.B.C. in Manchester. I was lucky enough to be invited to take part in a Quiz representing the North Region.

At last the day arrived, and I excitedly set out for Manchester. The moment I arrived it started to teem with rain. I found the building easily, presented myself to the commissionaire, and stated my business. He looked me over and disdainfully passed me on to the lift attendant with a "Children's Hour, Joe." I was whisked several floors up and into a waiting room. I was joined here several minutes later by a tremulous-looking schoolgirl with plaits, who was to be my partner.

Miss Pain, who is the organiser of Children's Hour, came in and we were introduced to her. She beckoned us to follow her, and we were taken through a maze of corridors to the restaurant where we had a large tea.

All over the restaurant were loud-speakers. Every few seconds one would hear, "Mr. So-and-so is requested at Studio 3."

After this we were taken through another maze of corridors to the studio, which was a fairly long rectangular room divided into two parts by a glass partition. The half of the room nearest the door was full of machinery, and in the other half was the microphone. The floors were covered with thick brown carpet, and on every wall was a clock. You entered the studio through double doors which eliminated sound. We each took a pair of headphones, and our voices were tested.

The time grew closer and closer to five-fifteen, and the green light flashed. This meant we had exactly one minute to go, then the red light flashed, and we were on the air. We were the first team to be questioned, and as each round passed I wondered what our next question would be. The time passed in a flash, and it seemed no time before we were being thanked by Miss Pain, presented with a book token, and ushered out of the building.

J. O. TAYLOR.

## A VISIT TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

In July this year I went to Finland to attend the 15th Olympiad. My journey was very interesting, because I travelled from London to Copenhagen by air and then boarded the M/V "Batory" for a cruise up the Baltic as far as Helsinki, the capital of Finland. This vessel was one of the boats which helped in the evacuation of Dunkirk and had a plaque on board to commemorate the fact. The cruise was most enjoyable. The boat remained in Helsinki Harbour during my stay, and I lived on board instead of going to an Hotel.

The opening ceremony of the Games was held in the new Stadium erected at Helsinki, and was very impressive—in spite of the rain. The sight of nearly 6000 athletes from 70 nations parading before the Finnish President will long be remembered by all who witnessed the occasion.

The Games were full of excitement, and the standard of performance very high. Records were broken, even in qualifying rounds, at an astonishing rate.

This year's most outstanding athlete was Emil Zatopek of Czechoslovakia, who won the 5,000 metres, 10,000 metres, and then entered for the Marathon (a race which he had never previously run) and won that also, setting up a new record time.

Great Britain's athletes made a very gallant showing in all the events in which they took part, and the performance of Chris. Chataway in the 5,000 metres was breath-taking. He was unlucky in falling over about 150 yards from the finish, but his effort was really wonderful.

Whilst most of Great Britain's team were outclassed, they certainly did their best and tried hard.

In my opinion the results, which gave the Americans so many wins, proved that the high level training which they undertook was fully justified, and although the British supporters shouted themselves hoarse with the "War-Cry":

"TWO—FOUR—SIX—EIGHT  
WHOM DO WE APPRECIATE  
B—R—I—T—A—I—N ! !"

I think that our competitors will have to have more International Meetings between now and the 1956 Games if they are to be amongst the winners. However, the whole Meeting was a great success, and to the entrants, organisers, and officials, I say—'Well done and thanks for a marvellous show at Helsinki 1952!'

B. A. LLOYD

4B.

**T**HWAITTE, who is very interested in buses, tells us about  
THE BLUE BIRD, AN EARLY BIRKENHEAD BUS

In 1933 the people of Birkenhead were surprised to see on the roads of the town, an entirely new bus, which was blue and cream in colour. Before 1933 all buses in the town had been coloured brown and cream. The public soon had a name for the new bus: the Bluebird. It was built by the Associated Equipment Company, Middlesæx, and was known as the 'Q' type. It had an engine not, as normally, in the front, but on the offside behind the front wheels. The door was placed



in front of the front wheels beside the driver. There was no overhang at the back, the body being shorn off immediately behind the rear wheels. The seating capacity was fifty-nine. In all, twenty-three of these buses were produced, all of lowbridge design. Wallasey had two such buses, but they differed from the original in that they had central entrances. Crosville also had one. Birkenhead's A.E.C. 'Q' was sold in 1945 to Worth's Services of Enstone. During its service in Birkenhead it injured many people, owing mainly to their own foolishness. Those people in the habit of alighting from a moving bus were prevented, to a large extent, on the Bluebird, for its door was at the front, and, if the bus turned left as someone was jumping off, the front wheels would hit him. This bus however did not get a really fair trial; for the war interfered with its progress and changed the trend of design completely.

Then Pope gives us some interesting information on

### THE CHANNEL SWIM.

On August the twenty-fifth, 1875, a Merchant Navy Skipper, Captain Matthew Webb, stepped into the water on the Kentish coast and set out to swim the English Channel. Everybody who heard about it said that Captain Webb was crazy. He would never do it; no man could swim the channel.

The plucky, tough, little sea captain reached the coast of France, thus doing what no other man had ever done. He was in the water for twenty-one and three-quarter hours, but he had made history, being the first man ever to swim the English Channel.

Another thirty-six years were to elapse before it was conquered a second time, this time by T. W. Burgess, who did it in the time of twenty-two and a half hours.

Since those days, the feat of swimming the Channel has been one of the most popular of sporting achievements. Many swimmers attempt it each summer, but very few succeed, because the Channel is a tough and mighty opponent, as many swimmers have found out.

Next, Andrews tells us about

### SOLE SURVIVORS.

Among the many feats of endurance which people have undergone, here are a few of the lesser known ones. In 1940, a U.S. seaman, named Michael Wajda, was sailing in the South Atlantic when his ship

was torpedoed. He alone of all the crew survived, after floating on a raft for forty-six days before being rescued. Two British seamen, Widdicombe and Tapscott, were also torpedoed in the Atlantic, and spent seventy days in an open boat, before being cast up, living skeletons, on the Bahamas; their water supply during all this time was three pints each. The next survivor was from a different kind of disaster; he was a Frenchman named Joseph Lautout, who alone survived of forty-thousand people who perished in the eruption of Mount Pelée, in Martinique; he had been a prisoner in an underground cell.

Patrick, a train expert, writes an interesting article on

### RAILWAY ENGINES.

*Hurricane* is one of the first of forty new steam locomotives which are being brought into service by the Southern Railway. The Railway Company have decided to name their trains after famous fighter pilots, airfields, aircraft, etc., associated with the Battle of Britain; this is a tribute to the part they played in defeating the Luftwaffe. Already in operation, and familiar to travellers on the southern and western sections of the railway, from Waterloo, Charing Cross, and Cannon Street Stations, are the first eight of the series. These new engines of the Southern Railway will bear the names of personalities, aircraft, R.A.F. stations, and squadrons, associated with the Battle of Britain which was fought, mainly, over territory served by the Southern Railways.

Battle of Britain engines are slightly smaller than the Merchant Navy engines, and possess different styles of cabs and smoke deflection plates. By employing welded construction on both engines and tenders, their fully laden weights have been reduced to one hundred and thirty-three tones five hundredweights. The number of the engine and wheel arrangements can be shown by the number. For instance 21.C. 100: the number of driving axles is indicated by the appropriate letter of the alphabet—in this case C, indicating that there are three; the first number shows the number of carrying axles in front of the driving wheels (i.e. two); the second number shows the number of carrying axles behind the driving wheels (one). The first engine of this type to be built was the Winston Churchill, and two further engines have yet to be named.

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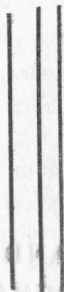
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**W**E begin with a description by D. Emmitt entitled  
**WILBERFORCE'S MUSEUM.**

Whilst I was on holiday in Hull, I visited Wilberforce's house, which has now become a museum. It was Wilberforce who helped to abolish slavery, and it was his monument which I saw on approaching the house. Inside all his toys and old-fashioned whips in glass cases were to be seen, while in an adjoining room I found a cradle where he slept when a baby. In another room there was a statue of Wilberforce seated at his desk, and I had the impression that its eyes followed every move I made.

We now pass on from a famous man in the 19th Century to an important person in the present century, as A. Jones tells us about

#### **GEOFFREY DUKE.**

Britain's No. 1 motorcyclist, Geoffrey Duke, was born at St. Helens, Lancashire, twenty-nine years ago. When a schoolboy, he and two friends bought an old motorcycle for ten shillings and rode it on their own dirt-track. During the war he joined the army as an instrument mechanic, but after six weeks he was transferred to the despatch riders. However, his army career almost ended in disaster; for at the Royal Tournament he was riding his machine up a ramp to pass over the heads of twelve soldiers when the engine stalled. Somehow he missed his startled comrades. He first became famous in 1950 when he entered the Isle of Man Senior T.T. and won with the course record of 92.27 m.p.h., and a lap record of 93.33 m.p.h. He repeated the performance in 1951 at 93.83 m.p.h., but was forced to retire with engine trouble in 1952, and so failed to be the first man to complete the 'hat-trick.'

F. Watt supplies a few Form Notes, in which he says that the form contains two members of the Colts XV., and most of the Bantams, that it is sorry to lose Scutt, the top boy, and that P. Jones is performing well at Chess.

Finally, we must thank other members of the form for their articles, and inform W. R. Girven that his suggestions for making a bed lamp will be borne in mind.

**T**HERE was little suitable material from this form. We have, however, selected the following two articles, the first of which, by Cundill, is called



## THE DORANDO MARATHON.

The greatest Marathon in Olympic history was that of 1908, when the Olympic Games were held in London. The race of 26 miles 385 yards was run from Windsor Castle to the Royal Box in the Stadium at London, in which Queen Alexandra was sitting.

The hero of the race was Dorando Pietri, a twenty-three year old Italian from Capri. He was first to enter the Stadium, being in a pitiful condition. First he tottered off in the wrong direction, and then collapsed from sheer exhaustion. He was in a faint for two hours.

The officials, yielding to sympathetic cries from the huge crowd, and goaded on by the knowledge that the second man was extremely close, helped Dorando to his feet. Queen Alexandra was very distressed by the sight, and the little Italian was disqualified for receiving assistance.

The next day, Queen Alexandra personally presented him a Gold Cup, which earned him the title of "The Immortal Loser."

The next article, by D. Jones, is entitled

### THE DINORWIC QUARRIES.

In the Cambrian mountains in North Wales there is a well-known village called Llanberis. It is known because not far away lie the Dinorwic Quarries, one of the biggest slate quarries in the world.

The slate is blasted into big pieces, cut, and smoothed. The slate goes from here to another village, also a seaport, by private railway, a distance of about seven miles. The slates are again cut into ordered sizes by men using a "slate knife," a thin piece of metal.

Next they are packed and sent to places in the British Isles and all over the world. These works employ most of the people in the area. They are owned by a well-known local gentleman, Sir Michael Duff.

2A.

THIS term, 2A have written some thoughtful and interesting articles.

We begin with Baxter's on

### THE 1952 MOTOR SHOW AT EARL'S COURT.

This year's Show exhibits many new models, one of which is the "Allard Palm Beach," which has a Ford engine and transmission. The body is of an entirely different design from that of the longer Allards. This model is for export only.

Next, there is the new Austin-Healey car, with an Austin A90 engine fitted. This car was tuned at a speed of over one hundred and ten miles per hour, and will be known as the Austin-Healey Hundred.

The new Zephyr convertible was a great attraction to the Show, as the previous models had been in saloon form only.

Among the surprises of the Show was the new Triumph Sports two-seater, a light and compact car, powered by a twin carburettor, a two-litre version of the Standard Vanguard engine.

A new comer showing promise of a high performance is the new Humber Snipe, which has a roomy body with elegant styling.

Another newcomer is the Wolseley "Four Forty-Four." This one and a quarter litre car gives fast mileage on low fuel consumption.

A new export model of the Morris Minor is now fitted with an Austin 'seven' engine.

Finally, it may be noted that the attendance at the Show this year was the greatest ever.

Next, Strickland gives us a very interesting account of

#### A TRUE STORY.

Last century, when a sailing ship was anchored off the coast of China, a pair of swallows built a nest on deck, close to one of the cabins. Here, regardless of all the bustle of the ship, they hatched their brood, feeding them tenderly, and chirping happily all the time.

Then one day, the ship, having loaded up, sailed away with the nest still on board.

In dismay, the parent birds fluttered round the vessel, and then flew back to land, returning soon with their beaks full of food. This they did again and again until the distance became too great.

Then came the conflict between parental love and self-preservation. For some time they flew round the ship and then alighted near the nest from which the chicks stretched their hungry beaks. The agitated parents repeated their visits until the ship was nearly out of sight of the land, and then disappeared sadly shorewards. On seeing this touching sight, the sailors felt bound to take the chicks under their care, and this they did successfully, feeding them on chopped meat.

Then Cusick writes about

#### MY HOLIDAY AT BUTLIN'S.

During the last Summer holiday, I paid a visit to Butlin's Holiday Camp, Pwllheli.

When you alight from the train, a miniature road-train carries you directly to the great "Reception Hall." There you are given your badge and your chalet keys, there being a small deposit of two shillings and sixpence on the keys. Only if you have a badge can you obtain all the different amenities.

There is the usual paper on sale at the shop centre. Every week there is a boat trip to Seal Island, a small island which is inhabited by hundreds of seals.

The Camp is divided in four smaller camps: firstly, the north camp, then the south camp, the east camp, and finally the west camp. Should you wish to visit a certain camp, say, the south camp from the north camp, you would catch an open air bus to the south camp, over the bridge.

There are varied swimming pools, and also an airfield, where you may take an aeroplane trip, on which you fly over Snowdon and other high mountains.

If you go to Seal Island, the trip takes an hour, and you can fish for mackerel on the way.

Visitors are allowed in, but are not allowed to partake in the various amenities. There are different cocktail bars and cinemas. Every week, on Saturdays, there are films in which you are the film stars, although you were unaware of the presence of the camera man who is concealed in the different hiding places on the shore, such as the cliffs and rocks.

You have a very good holiday, and, if you desire, a holiday souvenir. But, don't forget, Butlin's has everything you could wish for.

And, in conclusion, W. N. Humphreys describes

### ONE DAY OF MY HOLIDAYS.

On August the fifth, during my visit to Caernarvon, I went to the top of Snowdon. We left for Llanberis on the ten-thirty bus, and reached the station twenty-five minutes later. The first train to the summit being full, we had to wait for the next one at eleven-fifteen.

This Mountain "Rack" Railway is the only one of its kind in Britain, the trains on it travelling at four miles per hour.

The journey to the summit took an hour, and the train stopped to allow descending trains to pass.

When we reached the summit (having walked along the precipice en route), we found that the day was an exceptionally clear one—a rare occurrence in summer. As well as the wonderful view, there was a Hotel with a woman in national costume selling postcards.

When we arrived at Llanberis station once more, there were hundreds of people waiting to make the ascent; it is best, therefore, to make the ascent in the morning, before the crowds arrive. I thought it was a remarkable experience.

**2B** have written several most interesting and original articles this term; the first of these is by D. Humphreys, entitled

### MY HOLIDAYS IN FRANCE.

On the N.W. side of France is an old, walled town, named St. Malo, where I stayed for my holidays. Castles or fortresses have been built on the small islands round the coast; but most of them are now in ruins. On the biggest of these, situated on the very edge of a cliff, is the tomb of the great French writer, Chateaubriand.

Most of the town was bombed during the war, and the framework of all the high flats can be seen projecting over the walls. The shops there are very clean, and the food is delicious; five course dinners are supplied containing meats flavoured with different kinds of herbs.

During my stay, I saw the highest tide of the year; the waves beat upon the walls of the town so forcibly that everyone could hear them.

Next, Snowdon tells us about

### WOODPECKER'S WORK.

The Woodpecker raps against the bark of a tree with its stout chisel-shaped beak, drilling holes or prising off the bark until its long tongue can reach inside and bring forth the insects which make up a large part of its food.

When a pair of woodpeckers want a home, their pick-shaped bills and strong neck muscles enable them to make a hole in the tree trunk, and on the chips that fall to the bottom of this hole, the glossy white eggs are laid and the young reared. There are three species of woodpecker: one brilliantly marked, black and white with red on its head and beneath its tail, and the other two kinds are the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and the Green Woodpecker.

We continue with an article by Newton on

### BRIDGENORTH.

During the Summer holidays, I went to camp at Bridgenorth, a very picturesque place with two rivers, the Severn and the Weir, flowing through it; the Weir ran behind the camp where we were staying.

The town of Bridgenorth was two miles from the camp, and we generally had to walk, as the bus ran only once every hour.

Bordering the road, there are massive cliffs, with little houses cut in the cliff face, and in some places there are notices warning you to beware of falling rocks, as the cliffs have been worn away by rain through the centuries.

On entering the town, which is called Low town, there are very old houses which date back as far as the sixteenth century. In the centre of Low town is the entrance to the cliff railway, which climbs right up the cliff to High town, on the very top of the cliff; this is also very old.

In the High Street there are a lot of shops, and cutting off the High Street is a narrow street named Church Street, at the top of which stands a big church. I think that it is a marvellous place for a holiday, and, that it is very agreeable.

McIntosh supplies the last article on

### DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.

When I went to Aberdeen on my holidays, I visited many places, one of which was Dunnottar Castle. This is a very old castle dating back to the fourteenth century, and it stands on the edge of the cliffs at a place named Stonehaven, about sixteen miles south of Aberdeen. The coast line there is very rugged with high rocky cliffs which would have made attack from the sea impossible. Inside the castle there is a very interesting museum containing weapons and other things of that period; you can still see the ovens and kitchens that they used; and in the grounds outside there is a well twenty-five feet deep, though it is not in use now.

### 1A.

**WE** commence with a contribution in partnership from T. Jones and M. Noel.

After settling down in Birkenhead Institute, most of the boys found it a strain to keep pace with the masters and the homework. All the class has been forced to take four new subjects, French, Science (Chemistry and Physics), Wood work, and Algebra. Our Rugby periods are on Monday afternoons, the last two periods. Considering all boys in the class, we find that Quinn tops all sporting events, while Blaylock tops the form in scholastic subjects.

Motley, our novice in the form, who keeps us alive, is in a reasonable position. James Needham has, during the past two weeks, constructed two model aeroplanes. Edge and Jones are known as historians, while Noel is the musician of the class, playing the violin. Williams's position in class was second. Sykes is called an American fellow and an excellent goal-keeper. Harris is our midget, known as Tich, and Charters is the Scamp. Ward, having an aunt in the dining kitchen, receives ALL the food, and our cousin Wylie speaks like a boy of good birth.

We have now reported all the news, and therefore close, wishing all boys a successful term.

Our second article, contributed by Peter Blaylock, is entitled

#### AN INTERESTING DAY.

My interesting day was on Sunday, when I went with the cubs to Speke Aerodrome for a trip in an aeroplane. The day was at first rather dull, but brightened up later on. We had to meet at the cub-master's house at half-past one, but we did not start until two o'clock. Travelling by a Harding's double-decker 'bus through the Mersey Tunnel, we were soon in the busy streets of Liverpool. When we arrived at Speke, we had to wait our turn, and, while waiting, we saw large airliners coming in from different parts of the world.

When it was my turn to go up in the plane, I had an interesting flight which took me over Liverpool and Birkenhead. The steam engines I could see looked just like miniature ones. The trip was soon over, and I returned to the aerodrome again, where I had tea.

On our journey home, we were all talking about what we had seen, and I felt very proud of myself, for it was the first time I had ever been up in an aeroplane.

18.

OUR first article is contributed by Dixon, on  
PAPER.

When you pick up a book or newspaper, do you ever think of all the processes it has undergone to become paper? At first, the substance that is to become paper is wood; the logs of wood are floated down river to the paper mills, which are situated very near to the rivers.

This is what happens to the logs when they arrive at the mill: firstly, the bark is taken off, and then it is made into pulp; when the pulp is made, a dye is added to it so that it will have the right colour. Other materials are sometimes added, one of which is called resin: this prevents blots from appearing on the paper when it is written on. The pulp is then squeezed between presses and passes over heated drums to drive out the moisture. When the dried pulp reaches the end of the paper machine, it has become a long strip of paper. As fast as it is made, it is wound up on huge reels and is sent to a storage depot or a shipping room, to be delivered later to those who will use it.

Kay then gives us an interesting poem on

#### WINTER.

Summer has gone sailing past.

And winter days have come at last,

Christmas revelry is near,

With turkeys, pudding, and good cheer.



Decorations round the wall,  
Mistletoe and Holly in the hall;  
Schoolboys having lots of fun,  
Now the winter term is done.

## Rugby

1952-53.

### RESULTS OF MATCHES.

Opponents.	1st XV.	2nd XV.	Colts XV.	Bant. XV.
R.A.F., Padgate .....	H. W.11-8	—	—	—
Wirral G. S. ....	A. L. 3-6	H. W.11-3	A. L. 3-5	H. W.11-6
Oldershaw G. S. ....	H. W.18-3	A. L.13-19	A. W.62-0	H. W.15-6
Birkenhead S. ....	A. L. 3-32	H. L. 0-36	H. W.40-0	—
Rock Ferry H.S. ....	H. W.13-3	A. L. 0-9	H. W.27-14	A. W.31-3
St. Anselm's College ...	A. W.22-6	H. W.32-3	H. W.13-3	A. L. 5-9
Lindisfarne C. ....	A. L. 3-6	—	A. W.16-0	—
St. Edward's College...	H. L. 0-17	A. L. 0-36	A. L. 3-14	A. L. 3-26
St. Helens C.G.S. ....	H. L.13-14	H. L.14-61	A. L. 8-20	A. L. 0-16
Wade Deacon G.S. ....	H. L. 3-29	A. L. 0-56	A. D. 3-3	H. L. 3-20
Calday Grange G.S. ...	H. L.11-12	A. L. 3-20	H. W.29-3	A. L. 6-11

The 1st XV. have had a fairly successful season. They could, however, with a bit more spirit win more matches. Weir at stand-off and H. Smith have played extremely well, and Marrs is playing well as scrum half. Unfortunately the 2nd XV. have not had such a good season. It has often been a scratch side, having to supply members to fill the gaps in the 1st XV. The Colts are a very promising team, having a very able captain, T. R. Jones. The Bantams have had a good season, their best player being their captain, A. Jones. B.A.H.

### COLTS XV.

The Colts' team so far has had a fairly good season. The first match, against Wirral Grammar School, was a somewhat scrappy affair, neither side having settled down as this was its first game. The main fault was that the backs were not getting the ball. Against Oldershaw, however, the team showed a distinct improvement, playing almost perfect rugby. The line-out work was a joy to watch, the ball being caught cleanly by the forwards time and time again and passed quickly out to the backs. Everyone played well, but perhaps special mention should be made of Walsh (3A), who had at least two splendid runs on the wing, and Pritchard, who had a field day converting tries.

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The next game, against Birkenhead School, was the only one this term I have missed, being away with the 1st XV., but from the glowing accounts I received, all the team played like heroes, the tackling being particularly **deadly**.

Although the Colts played well individually in the next two matches, against Rock Ferry and St. Anselm's, it was apparent they were not playing as a team, and as a result had to work really hard on occasions to gain the upper hand.

The conditions against Lindisfarne were almost as bad as they could be, and the team played as well as could be expected.

Against St. Edward's and St. Helens the Colts found themselves up against tough opposition, the St. Helens players particularly being very fast and quick to react. Girven and Wilkinson were notable in the forwards. On both days showing the better teams won. There is another match against St. Edwards's next term, and the Colts, if they put forth maximum effort and play as a team, can be the victors on that occasion.

In the match against Wade Deacon the team had some misfortune in that two men were injured early on in the game. It was therefore great credit to the team that the rest played very hard and managed to hold Wade Deacon to a draw. Special mention must be made of Lloyd who, tackling and running extremely well, played an excellent game. Hewitt, in his first match, proved to be a really lively forward and scored the School's try. T. R. Jones again gave a first-class display of tackling.

In the forwards Christian, Rimmer, and Robb, have played well, the latter being a good pack leader. Burnell has always proved reliable, his break-away from the line-out being particularly good. Pritchard has excelled in line-out work on occasions, and has proved most valuable as a goal kicker. There have been times, however, when some of the forwards have been lethargic and have played below their best form.

Dean and Stevenson have generally played well at stand-off and on the wing respectively, and Walsh (4B) has proved a keen and lively player in a number of positions. Bell too, at full back, has played some sound games, his kicking for touch and tackling usually being good.

H. S. Jones, the scrum half, and Smith, either in the forwards or in the backs, have both played really well throughout and are valued members of the team. A Jones, the Bantams' captain, has made one or two 'guest' appearances and has acquitted himself well.

The captain, T. R. Jones, has played well throughout, his tackling being particularly good. He has managed the team well, in that not

only has it played good rugby, but it has also set a good example off the field.

One criticism, however: he must teach his team to sing in tune.

L.T.M.

### BANTAMS XV.

The Bantams XV. has so far had a rather uneven season. After a promising start with three wins in succession they have suffered a series of five defeats. In three of these reverses they admittedly encountered stronger and heavier teams, but the other two matches were lost by the comparatively small margin of 4 and 5 points respectively, and with a little more luck and fewer mistakes the result might easily have gone the other way. However, the fact that in no match, even when a convincing victory has been won, have we prevented our opponents from scoring, whereas in no match save one have we failed to score ourselves, would seem to indicate that the main weakness of the team lies in defence rather than attack, and particularly, in faulty marking and tackling. It must be realized that the only effective way to stop a faster and heavier opponent is by careful marking and a determined low tackle as soon as he receives the ball. Too often have we witnessed a despairing clutch at his heels or, more probably, his neck, when he has got well on his way, and his impetus has carried him through the opposition.

The pack have generally played well together in the loose, but failure to get down and pack properly has sometimes prevented them from making the most of their somewhat limited weight in the set scrums. The second row appears to be largely at fault in this respect (Clampitt and Robinson please note!). Sherry and G. Lloyd especially were always well to the fore and have played with marked thrust and energy, but the former must remember to keep on side.

Outside the scrum, A. Jones has consistently shown enterprise and has set his side an inspiring example of determination. His clever, dropped goal against Wirral G. S. is to be especially commended. However, he must remember not to exploit individual efforts at the cost of starving his three-quarter line. Hopner in the centre has proved very reliable, and Porter's speed serves him well when he remembers to run in the right direction. Finally a special word must be said for Pyper, who has on many occasions given the rest of the team an object lesson in successful tackling.

Two fixtures are outstanding this term—against Park H.S. away and Rock Ferry H.S.—which, it is hoped, will increase the number of the team's successes.

## Chess

THE Chess Club holds its official meetings on Monday and Friday evenings, supported by an enthusiastic membership of about forty. Chess is now also played after lunch, and this revival of a former practice has proved so popular that each lunch-hour every set is in use.

Tournaments are in progress to find this year's Junior and Senior Champions. The knock-out system is being employed this time, so that as many people as like may enter.

The School Team, present joint-holders of the Wright Challenge Shield, started the season in disappointing fashion. Better form, however, has been shown in subsequent matches. The team consists of:—Taylor, E. (Captain), Dodd (last year's School Champion), Weir, Bryant, Marrs, Taylor, F. W., Britton.

The results of matches played so far are:—

v. Liverpool Institute .....	Lost	2	—5
v. Wallasey Grammar School .....	Drew	3½	—3½
v. Calday Grammar School .....	Drew	3½	—3½
v. Liverpool College .....	Won	5	—2

Next term the School will again be competing for the Cheshire Schools' Challenge Shield, a trophy which has so far eluded us.

E.T.

## Senior Literary and Debating Society

THIS term the Society has been well supported by the Fifth and Sixth forms. The average attendance has been thirty-nine, the highest number present at one meeting being fifty. The first meeting was the business meeting, called for the election of the Society's officials for the year. K. Parry was elected Secretary, and C. W. Weir, H. Smith, B. Davies, P. G. Prodder, and J. Phipps, formed the Committee. At the second meeting held, the House divided equally on the motion that "This House believes that Science does more harm than good," eighteen members voting for the motion and eighteen against. The motion was proposed by H. Smith, seconded by C. W. Weir, and opposed by B. Davies, seconded by J. E. Jordon.

The third debate, publicised as usual, caused quite a stir, almost a rebellion, throughout the School. The motion was that "Prefects should be abolished," proposed by P. G. Prodder, seconded by J. Phipps, and opposed by T. S. Hodgson, seconded by N. A. Parry. There was a general impression that, if the motion were carried, the prefects would cease to exist. However, the motion was lost by seventeen votes to sixteen.



The next meeting took the form of discussions on various topics suggested by members. These discussions were led by a committee of six, and the topics discussed included the House system, the Rugby teams, and the Prefects. The meeting was successful in encouraging a large number of members to speak, but their arguments were not always clear.

The fifth meeting was a debate led by two members of the staff, Mr. Cheeseman, who proposed, and Mr. Williams, who opposed, the motion that "This House approves of co-education." The motion was lost by the first decisive vote of the term: thirty-two votes were cast against the motion and nine for. The next meeting took the form of impromptu debates, and, although fewer members attended, those who spoke were generally successful in voicing their arguments in the stress of the moment. The last meeting this term will take the form of a Quiz, members being divided into House teams.

Finally, it must be emphasised that, although the number of members present at each meeting has been large, the number willing to speak has been small. Perhaps, the fault may lie in the restriction of the subjects chosen, or, perhaps, it is owing to members' lack of confidence. However, the Society must remedy this deficiency during the coming months.

K. PARRY.

## *Junior Literary and Debating Society*

LESS exalted members of the School, realising the entertainment value of a debating society, have long regarded with envy the exclusive Society of the Fifth and Sixth Forms. They, too, have yearned to hurl abuse at Prefects. They, too, in imitation of their elders, have wished to express themselves vehemently and discursively on the infinite variety of topics that should interest every schoolboy, and, alas, on some that should not.

This ambition can at last be fulfilled. There now exists an equally august body for members of the Third and Fourth forms, who may now decide what should be done to solve the problems of the world, though it is feared that the world in its folly may reject these pearls of wisdom.

But, if the world should ignore the Society, the Society is obviously not willing to ignore the world. It has already delivered its solemn verdict on the influence, beneficial or other, of films. A crowded and enthusiastic House rejected by a substantial majority the motion "That films do more harm than good," without, however, deciding that "Films do more good than harm."

Judging by the attendance at this Debate, it would be unwise to appeal for further support for the Society, but it should be borne in mind that this support must be continuous and active to ensure a vigorous and vociferous Society. Members are therefore requested to keep Committee members well supplied with suggested topics and to respond enthusiastically to invitations to speak. This is your Society, your forum, where you personally can express your opinions, can devastate with your wit can charm with your guile. Use it, and use it wisely.

### ***Tennis Club Notes***

**T**HE Club had 28 members for the 1952 season, which was 6 members below the previous season's membership. At a minimum of 30 members is required if the subscription of 5/- is to be maintained, the Club was short of two members. Towards the end of the season the attendance at Ashville Road was very poor compared with that of other seasons. The Courts were open throughout the summer holidays without extra charge.

On July 9th three senior members travelled to West Kirby to see Fred Perry and Dan Maskell, the two famous players, give an interesting display called "Focus on Lawn Tennis." Should this display be repeated in the neighbourhood it is well worth a visit.

The Secretary for the 1953 season is A. S. Hodgson of 5A, and it will greatly help if subscriptions are paid to him at the earliest opportunity next season.

J.E.J.

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## Old Boys' Notes and News

### AN OLD INSTONIAN "DOWN UNDER."

**A**N old boy of the School, Mr. G. S. McNab, who was here from 1940 to 1946 now lives at Whyalla in South Australia where he is employed by the famous Broken Hill Company. This organisation, by far the biggest industrial concern in the Commonwealth, mines iron ore, builds ships, owns extensive docks and railways and is a vital link in Empire trade. Part of Mr. McNab's work is to check inward and outward cargoes and he is always struck by the important part Birkenhead ships are playing in the business. Last August he went aboard the Lairds' built "City of Brisbane" and was delighted to find that her master hailed from King's Lane, Higher Bebington; the fourth engineer from Heath Road and the second electrician from Town Lane. Such vessels bring machinery like Craven Lathes from Britain to the Broken Hill shops and return with pig iron. Some 46 ships a month call there. Although between two and three hundred thousand tons of iron stone are removed from the celebrated Iron Monarch Hill monthly (and although this has been going on for half a century) the "hill," 400 feet high, looks no different and is apparently inexhaustible. Mr. McNab still wears an Old Instonian tie and scarf, getting renewals regularly from Grange Road—a fact to which the attention of some present members of the School might well be drawn.

\* \* \* \* \*

We congratulate an Old Instonian, J. E. Spink, now on the staff of the great Manchester research library, known to scholars the world over as John Rylands, in becoming an Associate of the Library Association."

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. George Edward Maurice Hallett (1924-'1929) was appointed in August to the chair of children's dentistry at King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne (the dental department of Durham University). This is the first professorship in England founded especially for research and teaching in this aspect of dentistry. Professor Hallett joins the distinguished list of Old Boys who hold important University appointments as Professors, Lecturers, and Registrars.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Old Boys' War Memorial Prize for the year 1951-52 has been awarded by the trustees of the fund to G. M. Dodd.

\* \* \* \* \*

We have been pleased to welcome the usual large numbers of Old Boys re-visiting the School, and should like to mention three in particular, because they illustrate how Old Instonians are to be found all the world over. First, there was the visit of Mr. B. P. Sutherland, Administrative Assistant of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited. Mr. Sutherland, who was at the School from 1914—1922, has come all the way from Trail, British Columbia. Next, from Port Elizabeth in South Africa, there arrived Mr. H. A. Lane, an engineer with the firm of Cadbury-Fry, Africa. Mr. Lane, like Mr. Sutherland, left B.I. in 1922, and, again like Mr. Sutherland, was known to only a very few of the Staff in Common Room. Finally, we had a call from Mr. A. Macdonald, who was with us when we were evacuated to Oswestry in 1939-40, and who left in 1944. He is in the Colonial Service, and is at present beginning a six months' leave from Nvassaland—we hope he will survive the kind of weather which greeted him on his arrival back in Birkenhead!

\* \* \* \* \*

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

THE Club started the season with a good win, 20 points to 6, against Collegiate Old Boys, but since then have not been too successful against formidable opposition. The 3rd XV., aided on occasions by boys from School, have been very successful indeed, having lost only 2 games.

We are fortunate in having the services of 'Stew' Huntriss, ex Birkenhead Park and Cheshire Winger; and, with his brother Brian Huntriss as his centre, we hoped the fortunes of the 1st XV. would improve, but in the game against Old Rockferrians, Brian damaged his ankle and is now unfit.

As usual, the Social Committee have been busy. An enjoyable evening was had at the Kingsland Dance Hall in September, and two more dances are planned in December and March. In the new year there will be a hot-pot, and the Annual Dinner will follow the Easter Tour.

Intending recruits to the Club are asked to write to me at the address below

N. G. LITTLE, *Hon. Secretary*,  
8 Singleton Avenue, Birkenhead.

## University Letters

Students' Union,

2 Bedford Street North,

Liverpool 7.

12th November, 1952.

To the Editor of the "Visor."

Dear Sir,

In the past few years I have heard numerous definitions of the term *University*. In spite of this, I was completely unprepared for what University turned out to be. It is not a building, or a collection of learned teachers and scholars; it is not even a *living book of reference* as someone has called it. It is a new life.

At first the lightheartedness of Freshers' Conference—three weeks' experiences and entertainment packed into three days—and the innumerable societies' requests to have tea with them, and, of course, give them an annual subscription, all tend to hide the real seriousness with which work is carried on. The "Fresher" gets his first, surprised awakening when after about two lectures he realises that people expect him to have read books he probably has not even bought. At this stage the amazing amount of free time he has suddenly becomes insufficient, and as he feverishly makes the rounds of the libraries he notices the disconcerting numbers of old hands who are at work.

Probably the strangest thing the Fresher finds is the complete indifference of everyone whether he works or not. As the Advanced will be starting to comprehend, it is only oneself who suffers for one's laziness.

The other side of the picture is just as bewildering at first. There are clubs and societies covering all interests from Fencing to Philosophy, from Mountaineering to Mathematics. Without leaving the Union, one can see films by the University Film Unit or plays by *Dram. Soc.*, or hear music from either the Orchestra, or their Jazz Club Band. For the energetic there is the Gymnasium next door, where half a dozen clubs have a practically continuous programme going on. Faced with choices like this, the Fresher finds it difficult to decide what not to do,

But here, having decided that what I must do is employ that precious "free-time" to better purpose, I close by sending best wishes to School and Staff.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN GLEAVE.

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The Students' Union,  
Leary Greave Rd.,  
Sheffield 10.

To the Editor of the "Visor."

Dear Sir,

I have noticed in past issues of the *Visor* that University letters generally turn out to be advertisements for Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester, and other third rate universities, but I cannot remember a letter describing the superior qualities of Sheffield; so I feel it is my duty to give a brief picture of University life here

First year study is not so very different from Advanced level work at School. After two years of grind in the Sixth Form, University work can come as a relief, but to encourage you to study hard there are many Jeremiahs in the Union who can make your flesh creep by telling sordid tales of the ruthlessness of University examiners. Inevitably on my first day I was bewildered by University life. Everything seems to go at a fast pace. You hear of mythical people such as the Chancellor, the Registrar, and the Dean of your Faculty. You are pursued with murderous intent by all kinds of people from the Bursar to the Warden of the Lodgings. But the most feared of all are the club secretaries. You have to be always on the alert to avoid these human "vultures." For a careless Fresher might find himself in all sorts of clubs and societies from Folk Dancing to "the Earnest Seekers." The Sheffield Union has every facility for every sport from football to fencing, except, much to my annoyance, golf. But the main sport and pastime is talking. Students argue in the corridors, cloak rooms and common rooms, and talk in the Union, in Hall, before meals, during meals, and after meals. So, even though you may have to live in lodgings, you can lead a full and interesting life.

I have great difficulty in convincing Yorkshire people that the riches and importance of Merseyside are great, and that I am citizen of no mean city. The only knowledge they have of Birkenhead is that it makes the bus tickets for Sheffield Corporation. It grieves me that our able and ever popular Education Committee has thought fit to have a kindergarten where such eminent men as Sir Henry Cohen, Professor G. P. Jones, and Wilfrid Owen were once taught. However, I am delighted that it has paid tribute to my intellectual brilliance and general ability by kindly waiting for me to leave School before it insults the precious stocks and sacred stones of the Birkenhead Institute.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR E. SMITH.

Joint Common Room,  
University of Nottingham.  
20th November, 1952.

To the Editor of the '*Visor*.'

Dear Sir,

I must start this letter by making a confession: when I was still in Utopia (i.e. the Birkenhead Institute), I never took any notice of that section of the *Visor* called University Letters. Therefore, I do not know what conventions my predecessors have set in the general framework of these letters. I can only, therefore, write the rest of this short letter on what I think might interest Instonians.

Firstly, University life is organised lunacy! All that Mr. Williams told my year of University life is not, as I suspected it was, exaggerated. In fact, I have come to the conclusion that he was a little conservative in his estimation.

A Degree, everyone told me, is the essential object of your next three years at a University; fortunately the people up here do not appear to have heard such heresy. In all respects my new life represents an improved version of my last year at the B.I. The morning coffee can now be bought on the premises, and thus I have nothing like the walk to the 'Cross Milk Bar.' Then, there is not the equivalent to 3B up here. Finally, there needs no explanation of the improvements brought about by University Co-education.

Nottingham University is an impressive building standing about half-a-mile back from the Derby Road. There is a large artificial lake in front of it, which has, I believe, a high suicidal figure after the results of our exams. The building and surrounding grounds are, without doubt, the finest in Great Britain.

One of the first University Rugby matches this term was against one of the lesser-known Universities—Liverpool. They put up a fair display, but inevitably our superiority showed, and we won the match 8—6. This result gives me great pleasure, as five of my last year's comrades unwisely have gone there.

Not wishing to inflict myself on the readers of the *Visor* any longer.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

R. B. OWEN.

Royal College of Science,

London, S.W. 7.

15th November, 1952.

To the Editor of the "Visor."

Dear Sir,

After many years spent within the walls of the B.I., the time has now come for me to write a letter to appear in these pages.

After a rather chaotic Fresher's tea, work was started the following morning, no time being wasted. For the first week or two one was inundated with invitations to Freshers' free teas, dinners, and suppers, that will never be received again. One is surprised at the very large number of overseas students at the college. Lectures do not start until 10 a.m. (9-30 a.m. on two mornings a week), although this apparent luxury is largely cancelled out by the distances that most students have to travel.

Great emphasis here is laid on practical chemistry, an average of four hours per day being spent in the laboratory. A five weeks' course in organic work has just finished, and we feel that we now know more about organic chemistry, and how to operate fire extinguishers!

The routine of the term has been interrupted several times by other events. Commemoration Day came a fortnight after starting, and a general leave of absence was granted for the Lord Mayor's Show, and the Morphy Day boat races. The latter took place at Putney, and the general attitude of the spectators was one of complete madness. Guy Fawkes' day was somewhat drunkenly celebrated at the sports ground at Haslington in Middlesex. There was a feeling in parts of the Union that this should be held in London, but it is suggested that M.P.s and the police force had something to do with the final decision! The remainder of the term will probably seem dull in comparison.

Finally, may I express the hope that at least some of the present Sixth Form will be sending in application forms to London this year? The advantages that London has to offer are not to be forgotten.

My very best wishes go to all members of the Staff, whom I hope to see at Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

D. J. LEWIS.

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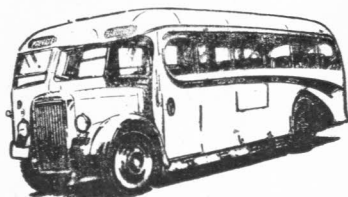
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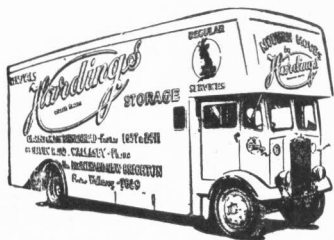
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