

THE VISOR



MAGAZINE OF
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SUMMER 1952.

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1st XI., 1952



W. J. Longton, T. A. Dodd, D. M. Mathieson, A. Hodgson, R. A. Jones, A. F. Marsh, J. A. H. Smith.
N. J. Wilkinson, D. H. Moore, J. R. Morris (Capt.), C. W. Weir, G. M. Dodd, I. Marrs.

Photo by Cull.



Editorial

ONE of the legends to which the Anglo-Saxon race clings most tenaciously is that summer is a drowsy, sleepy, holiday time. The illusion has been fostered by our recumbent poets, who seem, if they are to be believed, to have spent the season contemplating the beauties of nature and putting leading questions to unresponsive cuckoos. Now a very strong case can be made for such behaviour and the more intelligent animals (the writer of your Editorial scarcely ranks amongst them since he underwent a university education) do in fact use the golden hours to fleet the time carelessly. Summer was obviously made for ease, for echoing Wordsworth anew every bright morning, "this one day we'll give to idleness." But what really happens between May and August? In sober truth this is a period, not of blessed contemplation "in the mellow rays," but of the most feverish human activity. At one end of the social scale, 'the season' demands such a scurrying to and from academy banquets, Royal Ascots, and Windsor garden parties that only prolonged recuperation in a Mayfair nursing home afterwards saves the patrician frame from dissolution. And anyone who has seen democracy in a Blackpool excursion train or watched its frantic exertions at the "Pleasure Beach" knows quite well that the only real cure for such distempers is a placid 44 hour week in a Bolton Mill during the rest of the year. Consider too the armies of sweating batsmen and long stops; the leaping and streaking zealots of Wimbledon; the hunched and bunched martyrs of the cycling marathons ("like mice in a treadmill" as a B.B.C. commentator so beautifully observed); and you will come to the conclusion that Englishmen only need a touch of the sun to turn this tranquil time into a frenzied orgy of perspiration. Our educationists are even worse; for they hunt their prey at this period. A man on the big dipper may plausibly argue that he *has* enjoyed himself (however sick he may look as the thing throws him off), but nothing can be said for a schoolboy in an examination hall in torrid June except that he is

the victim of a calculated barbarity from which even Tamburlaine the Great, Sweeney Todd, or the Red Sultan would have recoiled. Some schoolboys, like Byron, have revolted, it is true; but Byron is an awful warning, since he failed to gain a General Certificate and so remains a blot on English literature. Think, lastly, of the Editor and all his tribe, for whom summer brings no respite but rather the carking care of producing a *Visor* when all the world is buzzing, and of publishing it in the dog days when the grasshopper is a burden. We should use our summer more wisely, it is clear. Yet the reader who gets his copy of the School Magazine in late July may well feel that among all those who have broiled, roasted, and simmered during the preceding weeks, one small working party at least has laboured profitably and deserved well of our community.

Salvete

1B. R. F. Salmon.

Valete

5B. E. Kerr.

4A. A. W. Hughes.

4B. E. Carver, J. A. Kelly.

3B. A. R. M. Watkin.

2B. A. C. Bek.

Staff Notes

WE extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Squires, who joined the Staff at the beginning of this term and who has taken over the teaching of Latin in the School. Mrs. Elmslie remained with us but transferred her activities to the English department. We hope that she will be as reluctant to leave as we to part with her. This term also sees the retirement of Mr. Paris, who has been a member of the Staff for thirty-three years, serving under three Headmasters. He was appointed English master at the Institute in September, 1919, having been educated at Heriot's College and Edinburgh University (where he was a pupil of the celebrated Professor Saintsbury), and serving in France during the first world war as an officer in the Border Regiment. Mr. Paris was always a keen supporter of School Rugby, not only in its initial stages between 1933-34, when the XV. owed much to his experience and advice, but also in the difficult war and post-war periods from 1940 onwards, when referees and coaches were not easy to get. He cheerfully shouldered this work at an age when most men are content to be mere spectators on the touch line. Many generations of Instonians will recall English lessons

under Mr. Paris with particular pleasure; for his witty asides delivered with a characteristic twinkle were never absent for long. In the Common Room too, the Staff relished his sly Scots comments on men and affairs. Indeed, when "John" was in good form, he really sparkled. We are loth to part with so genial and friendly a colleague, and sorry that his last terms at the Institute have been clouded by ill-health. We venture to wish him the happy retirement which he signally deserves and in taking leave assure him of the School's sincere good will, earned over many years' faithful service in our midst.

Your Bookshelf

DEAR reader, as this is the season of promotion, of book lists and of preparation for work in a new form, may we respectfully draw your attention to the following publications?

1. "The Music Lovers' Handbook." Contains chapters on "The art of conducting" (with and without the chain on); "philing the harmonic!" "glockenspieling and the casual labour problem"; "how to polish the brass"; "niddling without detection"; "tired timpani"; "following a theme with a ferret"; "symphonic insomnia and how to cure it." Together with a free copy of Rachpopov's "Infant slumber song" Op. 17, scored for six factory hooters, a road drill and the big bell of Omsk.

2. "Latin in Five Easy Lessons" by the author of "Let me be your Mother." Removes all terrors from the classic and all spots from the waistcoat in a week. Fully guaranteed. The reader declines and parses out rapidly. Read these testimonials from satisfied clients: "For the first time I really understood why they murdered Julius Caesar"; "absolutely ablative"; "I thought it Ovid"; "I came, I saw, I beat it."

3. "The Land-I-Kan Expedition," being an account of a voyage up the Fender by Lt.-Col. the Hon. S. Massie (author of "Last train from Storeton.") A fascinating description of the flora and dora of this unknown sub-continent. The author describes isobergs, conventional inn signs and basins in assorted sizes. This intrepid soldier was the first European to hunt the abominable rhombus and at one stream he saw a zebra crossing. Lavishly illustrated with pictures from the Tate (House) Gallery.

4. General Certificate History (Low Level for Bidston and all stations to West Kirby). From the restoration of Old King Cole and his Close-Harmony Coalitionists down to the death of Edgar the Awkward. Contains the home and away fixtures of the Triple Alliance and the family tree of the Pompoms. Examples are given of the Joint Examination Board's new Penny Points Pool in the appendix, e.g., "Select 3 Draws and 4 Aways in Napoleon's campaigns in 1805, all battles to start at 2-30 p.m."

5. What The Mathematical World Has Been Waiting For! Day and Night's "Streamlined maths, for the atomic age student," being the distinguished author's Neolithic Arithmetic, Tudor Algebra and Mid-Victorian Geometry bound together in one volume. With logs at the front and cogs at the back. In this treatise the vulgar fractions have been prentonised and the common denominators made respectable. Also problems on tangerines, gazintas, cycling circles, chronic decimals, pungent triangles, tube roots, by no means theorems, absurds and acrobatic equations. The chapter on "fraudulent conversion" may be read in conjunction with Lagg (senior) "How to plan an inexpensive holiday on the Devon moors."

6. "Chemistry In The Home" or "Boys who have risen." Describes a wide range of experiments which can be conducted in the back kitchen. Particularly useful features of this thoroughly revised edition are the additional chapters on repairs to shattered roofs, and on the locating of entombed families. The very full index gives the telephone numbers of fire brigades, rescue squads and coroners officers.

7. "An English Anthology" gathers together in handy form for the first time some of our loveliest lyrics. Among a collection of real gems may be mentioned: "How I came out on top" (by A. Ben Adam, M.A.); "Mary call the cattle home" (under Licence XZ 14209); "Cross-bow, one, albatross, for the shooting of" (by Petty Officer Jones, retired); "O to be in Oxton now that half-term's there"; "the Excursion" (to Huddersfield by British Railways) and the celebrated "Ode written off Duke Street Bridge" (from the top deck of a stationary 11 bus). With grammatical notes by Professor Heviwether. None genuine without the original signature. Refuse all imitations.

8. The question "Ou est le chien de ma tante?" satisfactorily answered for the first time in "Francais Pour Les Thicques" by Alphonse de Cognac, late Keeper of the Chalk at the Trocadero. An easily graded French reader crammed with verbs and other irregularities in five books. Book I.: "Ma tante"! Book II. "Mon oncle" (mon dieu!!) Book III.: "Ou est le chien (et les pupitres) de ma tante?" Book IV., "Le salle a manger. Le rosbif." Book V., "Que diable? Quel horreur!!! Sauve qui peut."

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Birkenhead Schools Sports

THIS annual event was held on the Port Sunlight ground on Saturday, June 7, and we congratulate the following boys who represented the School on the results they achieved:—

SENIOR EVENTS

Putting the Shot.—N. N. Jones, second.

High Jump.—T. Hodgson, third.

INTERMEDIATE EVENTS

Open Mile.—Won by T. A. Dodd in the excellent time of 4 mins. 58 secs., beating the previous record for the meeting held by a former Instonian and Victor Ludorum—B. J. Rushton.

220 yards.—1, R. C. Roberts.

High Jump.—3, B. Haughton.

100 yards.—3, B. Cadman.

Relay Race (4 x 110 yards) won by the Institute team (Cadman, Richards, Bradshaw, R. C. Roberts) in 48.8 secs.

JUNIOR (A) EVENTS

100 yards.—3, B. A. Lloyd.

220 yards.—3, T. J. Walsh.

JUNIOR (B) EVENTS

High Jump.—3, W. N. Humphries.

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AMONG many notable summer exhibitions in the Art Room, this year's display, chiefly the work of 4B, has been outstanding. The walls blazed with colour. A few weeks ago these masterpieces still remained unborn in the minds of the artists and in the paint boxes of the municipality. The coming of the examination which decrees that none (and particularly those taking Art III.) shall gain inspiration from the surroundings, swept this glowing frieze away, but not into oblivion.

* * * * *

The same examinations which effected a puritan restoration in the Art Room, postponed the School Sports to a date much later than the customary one. Obviously justice cannot be done among rival houses if (for example) Atkin sack race champion is elsewhere showing his prowess in Russian composition or if the Westminster sprinters are engaged in displaying their fundamental ideas of the earth's magnetic field. We are forcibly reminded of the man who found that business was interfering with his golf. Must examination arrangements become increasingly irksome and intrusive?

* * * * *

Bureaucracy has deprived one more jaunt of its glamour by killing it outright. No longer may one get a morning off to go with the radiology excursion for a studio portrait of the spots on one's interior. All is now changed. A mere van now calls at the school gate. Its patrons file into the scientific ark which is equipped with instruments so powerful that the resulting photographic plates show lungs against a pretty background of braces. A less pleasing outcome of this innovation is that the whole process only takes one away from work for three minutes.

* * * * *

It occurs to us that if the above device be calculated to save our precious time, some extensions and developments of the basic idea would offer rich possibilities. Why not a baths van complete with tin tub, a prizegiving van dispensing certificates at a hatch or even a Philharmonic van assaulting the welkin with humper dinky tunes?





There have recently come into the possession of the School, two medals won by an old Instonian thirty seven years ago. C. R. Marshall came to the Institute in 1912 and proved himself a scholar of high promise. In 1913, he gained the Royal Drawing Society's Exhibition and a first class certificate. In 1915, he achieved first class honours in geography in the Oxford Junior Local Examinations, and was awarded the silver medal of the Royal Geographical Society. He repeated this performance in the Senior Examination the next year, coming first in geography in all England, gaining a further silver medal and reaching distinction standard in English, Scripture, German and Mathematics. Within two years of this achievement, Marshall was killed at the age of 19 during the closing stages of the Great War when he was serving in the forces as a wireless operator. His name can be seen upon our first Roll of Honour under the year 1918. His father has now handed over the two silver medals and a portfolio of his drawings to the Headmaster, and we take pride in receiving them into our safe keeping, not only in memory of a brilliant pupil sacrificed so young, but also, as tangible examples of the first class work done in this School over so many years—too readily forgotten in some quarters.

* * * * *

An old Instonian, Mr. Herbert Rowan Gaughan, has been appointed to the staff of the Council of Europe organisation at Strasbourg. He was selected out of six hundred applicants for the position. After leaving the Institute, Mr. Gaughan proceeded to the Honours School of Modern Languages at Liverpool University, where he took a first class degree. Since 1931, he had been in charge of his department at Bolton Grammar School. We are proud to add his name to the long list of Old Boys who hold responsible positions in public life.

* * * * *

We congratulate R. J. Davidson of 4B who has been awarded the Conway Scholarship for a two years training in the profession of officer in the Merchant Navy. When he enters upon his course in September, he will be joining another old Instonian, M. Begley, who won the same scholarship last year. We wish Davidson every success in his student-period as well as later when he joins the Clan Line.

ATKIN	STITT	TATE	W'MINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

ATKIN.

SINCE the last *Visor* more events have been decided in the Coronation Cup. For the fourth year running *Atkin* won the Cross-Country, and special mention must be made of T. A. Dodd, who is to be congratulated on running so well to come in first in the Senior race. He was well supported by the rest of the *Atkin* team, Heaps and Simmons also being in the first ten home. In the Intermediate race *Atkin* had five in the first ten, namely Carroll, who was second, Harris, Booth, Anderson, and Pritchard. In the Junior event, *Atkin* again had five in the first ten: Hopner, who was third, Lee, Lutner, Hardy, and Sherry. T. A. Dodd's time for the Senior race was 35 mins. 1.2 secs.

In the Easter marksheets, *Atkin* came out on top.

The Junior House Rugby team did not do quite as well as was expected, but it won one of its three games, and *Atkin* finished second in the Rugby, the Seniors having won two and drawn one.

The Senior House Cricket team won all its games very convincingly. Special mention must be made of A. G. Roberts, whose bowling was always a thorn in the side of the opposing batsmen. The team were rescued from a possible defeat in the game with Westminster by three batsmen—Booth, Harris and Carroll, who between them took the score from 13 for 6 to 60 all out. But as it happens Westminster were all out for 11 runs. Except for a few lapses in the last game, the fielding of the *Atkin* team was always off a high standard, A Hodgson distinguishing himself behind the stumps.

It remains for the Athletic Sports and summer marksheets to be decided before the Coronation Cup is awarded. D.H.M.

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STITT.

THIS term the chief activities in which the House is interested are the cricket matches and the Athletic Sports.

In the Senior House matches played this term Stitt beat Tate by 8 wickets, lost to Atkin by 7 wickets and beat Westminster by 10 wickets. The people who played a notable part in these victories were Morris, Marrs, and Davidson. In the only Junior House match played so far Stitt Juniors beat Tate Juniors by 7 runs.

There are many people interested in cricket in the lower part of the School, and this augurs well for the following years. Stitt is represented in the 1st XI. by Morris, Marrs, Longton, and Davidson. In the Colts XI. H. S. Jones is captain, and Dean, Riley, and Clampitt all play regularly.

As many people know, the points gained from the standards play a major part in deciding which House becomes champion in athletics, and it is to be hoped that as many boys as possible will try to obtain a high standard, and so help the House to become champions again.

J.R.M.

TATE.

SINCE the last *Visor* was published, mixed fortunes have attended Tate's effort to win the Coronation Cup. Tate easily won the Rugby competition, their Juniors, ably led by T. Jones, who was backed by a team who always seemed to be aware of the fact that the idea of the game was to score tries, annihilated their opposition, playing Rugby that bodes well for the future.

The less that is written about the Senior cricket matches, the better it is for any fervent Tate member; for the House failed to win a game, and it was only in the last game, against Atkin, that any show at all was put up, when Tate scored 68 for 5, only to find their score eclipsed with two balls left, by Atkin's scoring 71 for 5.

In the Cross Country, Tate just managed to obtain the odd points which gave her second place above Westminster and Stitt, owing mainly to some good team running in the Juniors, who were led in by Cundill (2B) who came third among the Juniors.

Apart from these finished phases of the House competition, the sports standards are well on their way to completion, while the Junior Cricket has started with a four-wicket win over Westminster.

R. A. Jones, C. W. Weir, and G. M. Dodd play regularly for the 1st XI.

Next year's House Captain will be C. W. Weir, the Vice-Captain being H. Smith.

G.M.D.

WESTMINSTER.

THE result of the Spring Mark Sheet, which was not known in time for the last *Visor*, ended in our gaining second place. As we were first in the Autumn Mark Sheet, this result was rather disappointing. However, the fact that this result did not contain an exam might explain our fall from grace.

The Cross-Country run was the first event of the Coronation Cup to be decided this term, but, owing to a very weak Intermediate team, we did not do too well. In the Junior run we were placed second, and the Juniors are to be congratulated on this result. Olssen, 2b, deserves special praise as he became second in this event. In the Intermediate we were placed fourth. The Senior run ended with Westminster gaining second place. Williamson, 5a, ran very well, finishing in second place. The final result placed us in third position.

Both the Senior and Junior cricket has been completed this term. In the Senior event we won one match, and we also won one match in the Junior event. From this meagre performance we have finished in third place. In the Senior team the bowling of Mathieson was very good: over the three matches he took 12 wickets for 34 runs. Amongst the Juniors it was the bowling of Walsh, 3B, and the batting of Naylor, 3A, which were most attractive.

There remain, this term, the Summer Mark Sheet and the Athletic Sports to be decided. In the Mark Sheet we should not do too badly, and although it does not seem likely that we shall do very well in the Athletic Sports, it must be remembered that N. N. Jones, perhaps the best all-round performer at Athletics in the School, belongs to Westminster.

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Libraria

THE Summer Term is always tinged with a certain sadness for those sitting their final exams. at the B.I., for realisation eventually comes that they will not be at the School next time hymn 162 is sung; and, stranger still, the School will manage very well without them. Before they leave, however, consolation is already to hand. Past pupils (they hardly seem to answer the description "Old Boys"), who have drifted into the School in ones and twos during the last week, assemble in force on the last day of term to reminisce over past escapades. Those about to leave add a little to the conversation, and the result is something like this:—

"Hello there, Bryn! I believe you're hoping to go up to Nottingham in October. Don't you think the Sheriff will object to an increase in outlaws? Do you chaps realise, though, that if you don't pass this exam, you'll be keeping 'Mitch' company? Stil, you'll all look nice in R.A.F. uniform. I hear you're going to blame the distractions of External Candidates, if you fail this year—it's amazing how many familiar faces there were amongst the female visitors, isn't it? That reminds me—I'm told you were vastly outnumbered when you took French Oral in Liverpool this year: there was even a lady examiner. No! That couldn't be the reason why Don went in first. He was so shy when we went to the 'Phil' that he started running as soon as he even heard that a Girls' School would be present too! I've never seen anyone as eager to get in to the concert!

Enough levity! I was amazed to hear that three-quarters of the Literary Students were absent near half-term through working too hard. Oh! I see—the work was in School discipline—you had to make up for the Science bods' absence from duty two days in five. Now that both that task and the Exam. work are over, what do you think of Bryn? He's given up his Welsh nationality again, to sing (in remembrance of Christmas) his favourite song "Auld Lang Syne." It is probably this which has been waking up our pet Historian lately. One might almost quote Pope in our defence on this subject and say—

"Arthur, whose giddy son neglects the laws,

Imputes to me and my damned works the cause."

Talking of work (I know it's a gruesome subject, but someone always brings it up), there's a rumour that one of the Librarians has been taking up classical studies. At least, he is reported to have been emulating Paris and leaving a Menelaus eager for blood."

On this note, then, it seems fashionable to end, following the example of earlier literature. If there are any crimes of violence in the Library at the end of term, our excuse will be that we endeavoured only to equal Shakespeare, Racine, and Hugo, who introduced twelve deaths among them, in three of our set books, and Libraria is loth to lag behind that record.

Form Notes

6A.

THE main event outside our normal routine this term was the arrival of Mr. Squires to teach us Latin. With this advent came the loss of various free periods, and the gaining of two others, perhaps as compensation. These latter two used to be spent in German, but Mr. Webb obviously decided that it was beyond the Science mob's somewhat stagnant minds. Mr. Squires' first encounter with our rather contumacious door was quite comical, but he managed, much to our disappointment, to come in without bringing the door with him.

This term, of course, brings with it the Exams—for us, but not for our neighbours. Not so long ago, a certain Wednesday found us struggling ruefully up Bold Street, Liverpool, on our way to be examined on French as it should be spoken. Surprise was added to butterflies in our stomachs when we discovered that our inquisitor was a woman. We should still like to know what it was on the ceiling behind us which so interested her during the proceedings. Half way through we were advised to scram for half an hour, whereupon we tore down Bold Street and into a milk bar, where we regaled ourselves with fruit drinks.

Returning to more intra-school activities, we point out that, although many were doubtless unaware of the fact, Jordan was promoted to being Westminster's House Captain during Owen's absence.

Righteously bristling with indignation, we should like to point out that, although two-thirds of this form have both decided to accompany Mr. Allison on the river cruise, there is no foundation in the rumour that they are doing so because of there being a bar on board the boat.

After due consideration, we have decided to buy Parry a much needed wheelbarrow, wherein to carry the many volumes he daily transports to and from the Junior School.

It seems that we're having both brain and body tested this term. A minor upheaval in our quarters recently announced a medical session, from which we learned two facts—we are alive, contrary to what others may feel about the subject, and three of our allocation of six eyes are good for some time yet.

The Science slaves seem to have found new "grounds" for amusement. Two of them have "lotties" (allotments), wherein they bring forth strange and exotic vegetables, even hybrids—"cabbuce" and "lettage," for example.

Finally, we ask one question. What exactly is it that M—rs—on comes searching for during Latin lessons? What queer products of herbal life does he expect to find among the Junior School dandelions? But who knows? Perhaps he seeks the Science mob. Cheerio.

Pass the opium, Parry.

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WE have now nearly reached the end of our stay in the building once known as the Junior School. Strictly speaking, we are not isolationists, but it must be admitted that we have never regretted our seclusion in this remote quarter. This is not because we despise our younger brethren, whom we regard with all the love and endearment that is owing to such — impudent so-and-sos. It is, however, partly because a body which is thrown out of a window as low as those in our form room stands a good chance of survival, and so can be thrown out at least a second time with just as much pleasure.

At the beginning of the term we received some startling news. Somebody wanted to be in the swim instead of us. As a result we were allowed to drop German, and Miss Muffet had to leave Byrne Avenue.

As usual, a most enjoyable afternoon's entertainment was had at the Philharmonic Hall. One, at least, of our members found "Fingal's Cave" agreeable to the ear. His nationalistic feelings, however, had, perhaps, more than a little bearing on this opinion. The antics of the masters caused some amusement. One, at least, expressed surprise that a conductor did more than collect fares, and their efforts to get the programme altered to a somewhat lighter mood caused considerable consternation. Their request was granted after much argument, and the looks of carefree abandonment which appeared on their faces when the bribed musician played "Teddy Bears' Picnic" had to be seen to be believed.

These notes would not be complete without some mention of the members of the Lower Sixth Literature Department. We have observed that these three have now extended their interests to the most peculiar spheres of activity. In fact it can be said of at least one of them, the one that has dinner at School, that he leads a full life, except on Fridays, when "fish and fags" prove that hunger is not only the best sauce but also a pleasant alternative to some food. Returning to the three Literature students, we have noticed that their interests now range from history and exams to all-in wrestling, cycling, and telling people seventy times a week that they are five shillings in debt. That this last-mentioned racket is carried on during the serving of School dinners might indicate that it's a deuce of a job making the debtors fork out.

That is all we have to report for this term, and so, with the sounds of the Maori tribal dances above our heads, we wish you all a pleasant time before next September.

THE form's activities this term have been somewhat limited owing to the impending G.C.E., but even this has not prevented certain boys from training keenly for the Athletic Sports. Great things are expected from N. N. Jones, in this direction, who we hope will become Senior Victor Ludorum.

The form was well represented in the Town Sports at Port Sunlight Oval by Dodd, Houghton, Jones N. N., Richards, Roberts C., and Williamson. Dodd and C. Roberts deserve special mention for winning the mile and 220 yards respectively.

We have had only one representative in the 1st XI., Dodd, and we have the scorer in J. A. Smith.

Most of the form will be leaving at the end of the term, and two, J. A. Smith and C. Roberts, have decided to make the sea their career; we wish them every success. Not many have decided to come back for an Advanced course, but of those who have, Batterham, Dodd, Houghton and Stephens will study science, and Williamson, N. N. Jones, and Bryant will study Arts. We trust that others will decide to join them in the sixth form.

Apparently G.C.E. studies have absorbed all the form's literary energies, so that the sole contribution this time is by Bryant on

A WORLD XI.

Selecting the World's greatest XI. is a fascinating task; obviously a place cannot be found for everybody, and only the players at the peak of their respective arts can hope to be included.

Hutton, by virtue of his great batting performances over the years, would of course open the innings, and would with equal certainty captain the team, because of his great knowledge of the game and its players, and because of his ruthlessness. The problem of selecting his opening partner seems also very easy, as Morris, the left-handed Australian opening batsman, has proved his greatness as a batsman and put his name among the immortals by scoring seven centuries against England, a number surpassed only by Bradman among Australians, and surpassed by no contemporary batsman, English or Australian. Third and fourth on the batting list would be the West Indians Weekes and Worrell:—Worrell, whose delightful strokes and footwork together with speed of eye, enable him to both entertain the crowd, and to score a large number of runs. His fast bowling would also be a great help to the bowling side. His West Indian partner Weekes, the West Indian

Bradman, has proved by his colossal scores that he is probably the most prolific run-getter playing to-day. Number five would be the world's best all-rounder, Keith Miller, a player worthy of comparison with the greatest fast bowler all-rounder of all time, J. M. Gregory. Though not a bowler of Gregory's great speed, or possessing Gregory's terrifying approach to the wicket, his batting has the stamp of real genius; if he were to abandon bowling and concentrate on batting, he would undoubtedly be a great rungetter, and an entertaining one. Number six would be another great all-rounder, Mankad of India. He and Miller are the only real all-rounders of to-day worthy of comparison with such men as Faulkner, Rhodes, Armstrong, Noble, and Gregory. Number seven would be the ever-youthful wicketkeeper, Godfrey Evans, easily the best wicketkeeper in the world, whose batting cannot be ignored, as is proved by his two Test match centuries against the West Indians and Indians. Numbers eight and nine would be opening fast bowler Lindwall and stock bowler Bedser, both of whom have captured over 100 post war Test match wickets, and finally numbers 10 and 11 would be the West Indian spin bowlers Ramadhin and Valentine, who so completely bewildered the England batsmen on the West Indian tour of England, 1950. Valentine later did exceptionally when he toured Australia with the West Indians in 1951-52, and has proved himself to be the best left-handed bowler in the world.

5B.

OUT of so many form-notes this term, we have made varied extracts and present the following from Marsh, Mathieson, and Armstrong.

This year the inmates of 5B sat for the General Certificate of Education (known generally as the "cert", which it isn't). Although the exam was upon us, it did not prevent four members of the form playing for the 1st XI., these four being Mathieson, Longton, Jones R. A., and Marsh. Of these, Jones R. A. tops the bowling averages of the whole team, and he has also a very good batting average.

The members of the form who *may* be staying on are Mathieson, Longton, and Watt.

Most of us were pleased to know that if we wished to sit the exam again, we might do so in January 1953. So most of us will probably be here again.

In athletics, so far, Mathieson came 2nd in the Cricket Ball, and Cadman 2nd in Putting the Shot. Bradshaw and G. T. Jones refreshed us by their performances at the Oval.

As for the exams, after all the drilling and dreams of nightmarish days they seemed very quiet. It was supposed that after these the form would go mad, but the first few days have passed very quietly.

B. C. Williams describes

AN A.O.C.'s INSPECTION.

On Sunday, June 8th, the Air Officer commanding 63 group A.T.C. was to inspect West Cheshire Wing at R.A.F., Hooton Park. This inspection was to take place in the morning, and our squadron, the 400th, was to supply the Guard of Honour, of which I was a member. We were to wear white webbing belts and carry our own rifles, using white rifle slings.

We stood at the end of the runway, which was being used for the inspection, and, as soon as the A.O.C.'s car drew up, we sloped and presented arms, and then went back to the order, so as to be inspected. After this was done, and the A.O.C. had gone to inspect the rest of our squadron and the others, the Guard of Honour marched back to the bus, where we waited until after the march-past. We then marched, this time without rifles, back to the saluting-base where, having seated ourselves on the grass, we were addressed by the A.O.C.

4A.

WE commence with an article by M. Tudor, entitled:—

NATIONAL FIELD DAY.

By far the most important event in amateur radio is National Field Day. As its name suggests, it is a nation-wide event and takes the form of a competition. It is organised by the Radio Society of Great Britain, and radio clubs which are affiliated to this society may enter. N.F.D. really tests the skill of the amateurs concerned in more or less emergency conditions.

A field is chosen by the club, and, on Field Day itself, all radio apparatus is brought to the field and erected. It should be noted that no equipment can be taken to the field beforehand. When the station is erected and operating, the main object is to contact as many other stations as possible. As the competition takes two days, the station, in order to obtain as many points as possible, is operating all night. The next day, the station is still working until about five o'clock in the evening, when the station is dismantled and we depart, trying to leave the field recognisable as that with which we started.

M. H. Brown, one of Llangollen's many visitors, tells us of:—

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At the summit of a winding pathway runs a canal (about twenty feet in width and sometimes wider) through the rich, green foliage so abundant in those parts. At the side of the canal is a narrow public footpath. The canal is frequented by horse-drawn boats, the horse walking along the path, but perhaps you will wonder how the boats pass each other in such a narrow canal.

As the boat from Llangollen approaches the one coming from the opposite direction, the former driver dismounts, disconnects the rope from the horse, and allows the other boat to pass.

They go for about two miles upstream to Berwyn, where the canal becomes too narrow.

The chronicles of the form are recorded for us by Green:—

We have had a rather unsettled term and a half, owing firstly to the gap of one term between Mr. Thomas's departure and the arrival of Mr. Squires, which led in turn to changes in the teaching of Latin and French, and secondly to Mr. Sorby's illness, as a result of which the Head, aided by Mr. Bolton, taught us maths, one period of which was (to put it gently) snaffled for scientific instruction.

At last, however, as Mr. S. has recovered, we are once again on a fairly settled course, but, strange as it may seem, a vast difference in attitude towards lessons has overtaken some members of our form—due without doubt to the shadow of examination in one year's time—and it is even rumoured that certain members of 4A have actually done their homework on the night for which it was set. But we have been comparatively unaffected by approaching exams.—have you seen (as if you could miss 'em) the haggard look on the faces of members of the 5th and 6th forms?

With the approach of summer various people in the form have turned their thoughts from puntin' a pill around to clouting sixes, with excellent results. Of course, that inferior rabble, 4B, having no sportnig instinct, still play "three holes" at the bottom of the yard. I could say much more, but it would only be censored, and so, as I must now pop off to the debate as to whether "Aggo's" grass-snake should become an honorary member of our form, I must bid the numerous members of 4A fan-club—Adios!

Some local interest is provided by E. H. Hubbard, when he describes

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL.

I wonder how many Merseysiders realise what a unique opportunity they have of seeing a cathedral in the making; for that at Liverpool is the only English Cathedral to be built in this century, and even now, though uncompleted, is remarkable for its size and beauty.

On approach, it appears to have a strange site among decaying mansions and tenements, and not until viewed from the river is its domination of the city seen. The great Central Tower, three hundred and forty-seven feet high, now houses a magnificent peal of bells, and is visible for miles around. On clear days, glimpses of its graceful form may be seen from far away in North Wales.

The nearer you are to the Cathedral, the more the impression of its size increases, and, when you have climbed the steps in the Rankin Porch and entered the Baptistry, this great monster of a building crushes you with its overpowering grandeur. I cannot help wondering how this effect will be increased when the building is finished; for one-third is yet to be erected, and when completed it will be second in size only to St. Peter's in Rome among Christian Cathedrals.

A feature of the interior is the magnificent stained glass windows, towering into the very vaulting of the roof. On examining the detail you must observe the skill with which the architect, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, has harmonised Gothic features with modern ideas. Indeed, Liverpool Cathedral is recognised as the greatest building inspired by the Gothic Revival. The plan is unusual, being divided into three parts; namely, the Choir, the central space with double transepts (at present used as the nave), and the great nave, work on which has already commenced. When this is completed, and if the ceremonial approach is ever built, it will be a building of which Liverpool may be justly proud.

On the South Front are a number of chips and holes in the masonry. These are reminders of a difficulty which never faced our mediæval forefathers when they built Cathedrals; for several bombs fell near the building in 1941, destroying the already completed Lady Chapel and doing considerable damage to the masonry. But if the Mediæval builders never encountered this, they did not have the advantages of the wonderful scientific and engineering inventions from which our builders benefit to-day. Liverpool Cathedral is a worthy successor to the heritage in stone handed down to us by the craftsmen of former ages.

4B.

ONCE again this form has contributed a considerable number of good articles, of which the first is by M. Dennis, and is called

THE DEVELOPMENT OF AVIATION.

Since the first controlled flight by the Wright brothers at the beginning of the 20th Century, there has been a vast change in the designs and methods of propulsion. The piston engine was the only method of propulsion, until after three years of pioneering Sir Frank Whittle completed a jet engine and installed it in the Gloster E.28/39 aircraft. The first successful flight was made by test pilot Gerry Sawyer, and since then most of the world's fighters have been powered by jet engines., but Great

Britain is ahead of other countries with the De Havilland Comet airliner, which will give a lead of at least four years.

Delta-winged aeroplanes are a new type to be seen in the air, and are extremely manoeuvrable at high or low speeds. Several research models of these have been produced in Great Britain and the U.S.A., and now the world's first twin jet all weather delta interceptor is to be made for the R.A.F.

We continue with an article by G. A. Doveston entitled

THE SEVERN WILD FOWL TRUST SANCTUARY.

During the Christmas holidays, I went with six other boys to the Severn for a few days. We had our meals and slept on a small boat named "Beatrice," which was owned by the Trust, and which was moored on the Severn canal. The first afternoon we were there we put on boots and walked to the sanctuary, which was surrounded by high wire fencing to prevent foxes from entering, and, when we were walking through the gate, we could see all sorts of geese, swans, and ducks from all parts of the world. The Trust owns a hundred and five out of the two hundred species.

We climbed into a gazebo, which is a kind of hide, and which overlooks a pond where some wild duck were swimming. The pond has four outlets which are covered with netting. Ducks are decoyed into the outlets and are caught, ringed, and released. After this we walked to the edge of a flat piece of land on which small store buildings had been erected, so that one could watch the birds without being seen. This land was called "The Dumbles," and on it we could see some shelduck, curlews, golden plovers, and white-fronted geese, which were, unfortunately, too far away to be seen well. However, on the next day, we saw some geese about a hundred yards away with some curlews, starlings, and shelducks. In the pen where the other birds are, there are some Hawaiian geese, of which there are only fifty in the world. Some wild ducks come down into these pens of their own accord, and we saw some pintails and mallards fly into them. My friends took many good photographs of these birds, and altogether it was a very enjoyable holiday.

In conclusion B. G. Prendergast tells us about a visit to

THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM.

The Imperial War Museum in London is a very large building which contains many relics of the two World Wars. As one enters, one can see two large glass cabinets which house all the medals which have been minted between 1914 and the present day, and among these is the Victoria Cross. On moving further down the corridor, one sees a large

number of models of ships, one of them being the San Demetrio, about which a film has been made. Next to these are the paintings of the Battle of Britain and other scenes from the wars, and close to these are long glass cabinets containing uniforms, of which Kitchener's and Mr. Churchill's battledress are foremost, while further along there are models of special railway carriages used to carry the wounded, the first tanks, gun carriages, ammunition vans, and field telephone vans.

I now came to a large hall where stood a large biplane that was used during the First World War, and also a Spitfire used in the last war. In the corner of this hall stood on its launching ramp a V1. rocket that had been fired, and a V2. that had not been fired, while in the next room there were two midget submarines, one Italian and one English. The largest exhibit in this room was the gun which fifteen-years-old Jack Cornwall was firing when he was wounded in the First World War. The Scouts' V.C. is named after him.

The Armoury, which contained thousands of rifles and pistols of English and Continental design, was next, and after this I saw some midget tanks of French design and a full-size Churchill tank. In the same room there were models of the cars that had been used during the two world wars.

3A.

WE begin this term's notes with some news of the form's activities according to B. Taylor, A. Goldie, and P. Carruthers.

This term the form has six members of the Colts in the persons of H. S. Jones, T. R. Jones, R. Dean, P. Rimmer, I. Robb, and F. W. Taylor. H. S. Jones has played for Birkenhead, while R. Dean has had a trial for this team. The form has also been well represented in the House matches and has provided no fewer than eighteen players to the four teams. These include S. Jones, Pritchard, B. Taylor, Wilkinson, Christian, Riley, Reed, Moran, Lloyd, Naybour, Carruthers, Galt, and those mentioned above. To add to this list are the athletic successes of Lloyd, who was third in the hundred yards, and T. R. Jones, who was fourth in the two hundred and twenty yards, at Port Sunlight Sports.

We continue with an article by R. Christian entitled

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STEAMSHIP.

The first steamship sailed on the Delaware River in 1793, but, as people did not consider it a good idea at first, the engine was fitted to a sailing vessel, and so it was not until 1801 that the first steam marine engine was made by the Carron Iron Works, and fitted by a man called Symington to the ship "Charlotte Dundas." America was not far be-

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hind, and in 1807 the famous American inventor, Robert Fulton, sailed his ship, "Claremont," on the Hudson River.

However, the first sea trip was not made until 1818, when the "Phoenix" sailed from New York to Philadelphia. But people were still regarding the steam marine engine as an auxiliary to sails, and the "Savannah," built in New York in 1818, had paddle wheels which were removable in a fair wind. Therefore, the first great success for the steam ships was the Atlantic crossing, which was accomplished by the "Royal William" in 1831. Also in this year the "Great Western," with no sails fitted, sailed from Bristol to New York in fifteen days, and in 1843 the first iron-hulled vessel, the "Great Britain," crossed the Atlantic. Two years later the Admiralty held a test to choose between "screws" and "paddles." Two identical sloops, the "Rattler" and the "Albert," were fitted, the former with "screws" and the latter with paddles. They were roped together stern to stern, and were made to pull against each other. The "Rattler" won, and so all Admiralty vessels were fitted with screw-propellers. Other improvements have been in size and speed. The "Etruria" was five hundred feet long and crossed the Atlantic in twelve days, while the "Queen Mary" is a thousand feet long and accomplishes the same crossing in roughly four days and four hours.

We conclude with an article by B. Lloyd, which he has called.

BIRDS OF PREY.

For a long time the eagle, no matter what its species nor where its habitation, has been known as the king of birds. Its extraordinary powers of flight, the majesty of its appearance, and the wild splendour of the scenery in which it loves to build its nest, have made it the universal emblem of might and courage. There are about fifty species of eagles in the world. All are large birds and, of course, are related to the vultures, hawks, and falcons. They are supposed to live to a great age, are not mature until they are ten years old, and live in nests made of sticks which are sometime six feet in length and extremely thick.

The golden eagle, one of the most widespread species, and the only surviving British eagle is a magnificent, mountain-loving bird, and attains a length of thirty-eight inches with a wing-spread of nine feet. One of the most remarkable features of this and other species is the so-called 'third eyelid.' This is drawn over the bird's eye to protect it from the glare of the sun, but does not interfere with its sight.

We regret that an article by T. R. Jones about the "B.R.M." is unfortunately too long to be included in this edition of the *Visor*.

WE commence with R. Thompson's account of form doings:—

The Form still inhabits the 'Dete' room (very convenient!). The lads must like the room, because they stay here from 9 o'clock to 5 every Tuesday and Thursday. Trueman Ind., D. F. Jones, took 6 wickets for 28 runs for the Colts; also we have had four representatives from our form at the Town Sports held at Port Sunlight Oval. They were Pope, Hewitt, Porter, and D. F. Jones.

McKnight has broken many records; for example, "Domino," "Jezebel," and "Henry Lee." We on the back row are trying to find out who sends Morse Code messages through the pipes which echo in our room.

I will end now, hoping that next year we shall not be in "The Black Hole of Calcutta," where 4B. are now.

Next Smith takes us on a

VISIT TO THE DOCKS.

A few weeks ago I went round the Birkenhead Docks. Among the very many interesting things I saw was an old submarine named *Tally Ho!* It was being lengthened another fifty feet. I also saw some Shell-Mex oil boats. I could tell these by the shell on their funnel. In the same dock I saw many coal barges being towed. In one of the many sheds on the Dockside, there were several new cars, all of different types and all for export. Here there were also new locomotives waiting to be put on ships.

There were many small boats on the docks, some in the water, others on the quay. There were ships of all shapes and sizes, and from all over the world waiting to be unloaded or for the tide to turn.

D. Potter supplies the next article, entitled

BUTTERFLIES.

Collecting Butterflies is a very interesting and colourful hobby. The best way to catch them is with a wide net. Never pick up a butterfly with the hands, as it damages the wing. To set the butterflies, use a board made of balsa wood about a foot long and three inches wide, with a groove running down the centre. Next spread the wings across the board, and pin them down with cardboard.

The most common butterflies are the large and small cabbage whites. A rather curious thing about the swallow tail is its capacity to give out a bad smell from its tail. This is a defence mechanism. The colours of butterflies as well as those of animals blend with the surroundings. Not many people know that butterflies help bees to rifle flowers of their sweets and at the same time assist in the flowers' fertilisation.

We continue with an article by M. Thwaite, called

RE-CONDITIONED BUSES.

Within the next twelve months, some fifteen wartime Guy buses with utility coachwork will have new bodies fitted and the chassis re-conditioned and overhauled. These buses have iron pressed bodies, and over a period of nine years they have corroded. They are built to war-time austerity dimensions, and when first put into service had wooden slatted seats. Tenders have just been invited in the "Birkenhead News" and the "Advertiser" for the supply of fifteen new bodies, three or six inches wider than the previous ones. The fleet numbers are 328—342 inclusive. These buses should now have a new lease of life.

To conclude G. Burnell tells us about

A VISIT TO LONDON.

In May 1951, I went to London with the Birkenhead Male Voice Choir, to take part in a Festival of Britain concert at the Royal Albert Hall. There were six choirs taking part (750 voices), and we were singing *The Rainbow*, a tale of Dunkirk. This has eighty-one pages, and was specially commissioned for the Festival of Britain.

We arrived at Euston Station at half-past one, and went straight to the Hall for a rehearsal. This took about two and a half hours, as Sir Adrian Boult, the conductor, is a man who likes to be absolutely perfect. After this two friends and I went for a walk through Hyde Park, and saw the site of the Great Exhibition of 1851.

We next went round a putting-green, and then down to the Serpentine. At length it was time to go back to the Hall for tea, and after this we had the concert.

After the concert my friend's brother, who lives in London, took us round to see the sights. In three hours we saw the South Bank, the Houses of Parliament, the Marble Arch, Pall Mall, Number 10 Downing Street, Trafalgar Square, and many other places.

We then took a ride in the tube to Euston, met the rest of the choir, and caught the half-past twelve train to Lime Street. It was a very enjoyable day, and I wish I could have stayed longer.

2A.

G. LLOYD contributes an article on

THE TROUT.

The English Brook Trout, like its American relative the Rainbow Trout, belongs to the salmon family. It abounds in the chalk streams of England and in the Irish loughs, so long as there is no pollution. Some specimens grow to a great size, a weight as great as 25 lbs. having been

recorded. The trout is a fish much sought after by anglers, because it provides a tasty meal and gives very good sport. The method of catching trout is by fly-fishing: an imitation fly is flicked on the surface of the water—if this is skilfully done, and if the fish are biting, they will rise to the bait. The American Rainbow Trout, which I have already mentioned, has in recent years been widely distributed in Europe. It has beautiful colouring, and also provides good sport and good eating.

Goat's contribution deals with

SOME MIGHTY TRAVELLERS.

The Lemmings, small sturdy rodents living in the tablelands of Scandinavia, sometimes start mass movements in times of food shortage and overcrowding. They travel through the forests and valleys, over rivers and through towns. There is no return journey for the Lemming. Many perish from attacks of enemies, hordes die from starvation and from fights among themselves; but an urge to keep travelling drives them on down the mountain-sides till they reach the sea. Hundreds of Lemmings have been found drowned at sea in "Lemming Years"; perhaps they had swum out from the shore hoping to find a new land to settle in.

The eel is a mighty traveller. When eels in ponds and rivers all over Europe are ready to breed, they travel to the sea; then they make their way to a special part of the Atlantic. Even eels from the Nile and the Mediterranean breed in the Sargasso sea, as this part of the Atlantic is called. The old eels die after spawning, and the young slowly make their way back to the rivers.

The Caribou of the Tundra make long journeys south on the approach of winter, to reach warmer feeding grounds. In the early summer they return, and densely packed herds can be seen thundering over the plains. This to and fro journey at certain seasons is a true migration.

Caldwell's hobby is gardening.

MY FAVOURITE HOBBY.

I have many hobbies, but my favourite is gardening. I started when I received six packets of seeds as a present, and I immediately planted them. I dug, hoed, and weeded the plot; this is most essential. Then I prepared shallow rows, placed the seeds in them, covered them with an eighth of an inch of soil, and watered lightly. There is an interval of ten days before anything comes up; but, when one does see what one's efforts have produced, it makes one feel proud of one's cultivation. First of all a little green shoot appears, then little green leaves and last of all the sturdy plant. When one looks at it, it makes one wonder how that big sturdy plant, bearing its magnificent and colourful blooms, grew from such a tiny seed. That is one of the many wonders of nature.

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Newcombe describes a visit to a Dorset beauty spot.

THE BLUE POOL.

While we were staying at Bournemouth on our holidays, we decided to visit the Blue Pool, which is one of the many beauty spots in Dorset, and lies in a hollow near Corfe Castle. When we arrived, the coach driver said we had half an hour to look around, and so we decided to make the most of it. We paid at the gate, and when we arrived inside we were amazed at the beautiful peacock-blue colour of the water. We asked a man what caused this, and he said it was the deposits of clay in the bottom of the pool. The hollow was once a clay quarry. At the side of the pool were a few cages containing parrots and monkeys, and my brother thought the antics of the monkeys were very funny. Heather, gorse, and dark fir trees are the background of the pool, and together with the pool they make an unforgettable picture of great beauty, which has to be seen to be believed.

Scutt gives an account of his experiences when

CAMPING FOR THE FIRST TIME.

I joined the Boy Scouts last autumn and was just too late for the camping season, and so I had the next season to look forward to. Now, the summer is well on the way, and I have been to my first camp. I am still a "Tenderfoot," and I had heard stories of how a tenderfoot usually spend his first camp.

I started out, with my kit-bag on my shoulder, to meet the other lads with whom I was going. We arrived at our site to find some other boys waiting for us. First we pitched our tent. In my eagerness I helped the others a lot; and, when I had finished knocking in pegs, I had a large "blood blister" on each hand. After this, we sorted out our food supply, which consisted mainly of tins of beans and soup. Our lunch was just a few slices of bread and butter.

After lunch we roped off a small portion of ground to be our kitchen; and my friends and I collected wood while some boys were making the fire. When we came back, we all set about making plate-racks and mug-trees. The fire being ready, we had a tea of beans and toast, which seemed much better than any food of the kind I had eaten at home. That evening we held a camp-fire which lasted till about mid-night, when after drinking cocoa we went to bed. I had folded my blankets just as I had been told, but I soon woke up, cold and tired, and tried to go to sleep again. I do not remember now whether I slept again, but I woke very early and read some comics.

We had breakfast in good time and then went to church for the early service. When we came back, we cleaned our dixies, plates and mugs. We rested until lunch, when we had a huge meal of soup and potatoes. In the afternoon we played scout games. We then had tea, packed our bags, struck our tents, and so went home very happy.

2B.

WE are proud to report that two boys in this Form came 2nd and 3rd in the Junior Cross Country Run. They were Olssen and Cundill respectively. We have six boys in the Junior House Cricket teams, Billing is our champion swimmer, and Evans and Clampitt lead in brains. At the time that this is being prepared we are leading in the *Visor* sales.

From J. Williams's Form Notes we pass on to A. Black's article,

HOW TO KEEP A TORTOISE.

A tortoise will live for many years in the garden with a minimum of attention. It must have an inverted box, made weatherproof, for a "house," and of course an entrance must be made in one side. See that it is supplied with food and water, and it will be perfectly happy. Never forget that, although it lives in an arid climate, the tortoise needs water to drink; this can be provided in a shallow pan sunk into the ground, and always kept full of water. For food it will eat lettuce-leaves or almost any kind of vegetable, and will find quite a large proportion of its own food in the garden.

Next W. H. Billing makes

A COMMENT ON THE B.I.

Having been resident at the "State Penitentiary" (B.I.) for almost two years, the boys of block IIb. are wondering when they will be set free. Now they are resigned to saying "Only four more years to go." (Here a deep sigh). Still we are trying to make the best of it, and now, between periods, musical strains fill the air with:—"A-round the corner," but now I shall have to put down my pen and resume my mailbag because here comes Mr. Th*ck*.

We conclude with E. Stanley's

GOING TO THE BATHS.

When the members of 2B. hear the bell ring at the end of first period on Tuesday mornings, they make a grab for their swimming trunks and towels, and, throwing their books into their desk, sit up like angels so that Mr. Allan will let them go. The form dash up Whetstone Lane to the bus-stop in Hinderton Road. When they arrive at the baths, they

are in the water in a few seconds. When the whistle is blown by Mr. Davies as a signal for them to get dressed, there is another rush to be back in time for next period.

They all learn their poetry on the bus so that they shall have high marks, and, when they alight from the bus they all run to School before Mrs. Elmslie starts threatening them with slaughter for being late.

1A.

ONE of the world's greatest feats of artistic ingenuity is explained in Haughton's

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

For more than 65 years the Statue of Liberty has guarded the entrance to New York Harbour. The idea of making the big statue was conceived by Bartholdi, the French sculptor, who thought it would be one of the seven wonders of the world. His first aim was to set it up at the Port Said entrance to the Suez Canal, but the Canal authorities failed to give an assurance that they would provide a suitable pedestal. The idea was then put before the American people, who accepted it as a symbol of friendship between France and the U.S.A. Americans did indeed pay for the ornate base, while the people of France subscribed for the statue itself.

The building of the pedestal did not begin until 1883. Meanwhile the statue was slowly being made in France. Making such a gigantic figure was a very great engineering feat. A curiosity about the work on the statue is that it was made from the top downwards, the hand bearing the torch being constructed first. The figure is a copper shell made on plastic moulds with an intricate network of iron bars and girders. It was made in no fewer than 350 parts. Eiffel, the creator of the Eiffel Tower, helped in the engineering work, and also designed the massive iron framework inside which the statue was built, to test whether the parts fitted accurately before being shipped to America. Erecting this amazing monument on Bedloe's Island, New York, was a wonderful feat. Work in strong winds and at a considerable height is a risky job. The statue had been taken across the Atlantic by a French warship, and each section had been packed in a wooden frame to prevent it from bending. To-day, the powerful electric light in the torch is kept on from dusk till dawn. Until 1902 it was used as a kind of lighthouse to mark the entrance to New York harbour. The torch which the figure is holding is 305 feet above the sea.

Next we have an article on bird-watching from A. Jolley.

ORNITHOLOGY.

I am very interested in birds and their habits. The best way to study and watch birds, in my opinion, is to buy a small book with the common bird pictures and short descriptions of their habits and haunts. It is best to study local birds first, and learn how to watch by walking along country lanes and roads dressed, if possible, in dark colours, and, for closer study, camouflage yourself by hiding in a bush.

When you are successful in your own district, explore the neighbouring country. If you do find nests, do not disturb or touch the eggs or surroundings. Do not trespass on private property, and, if something of special interest is on private property, ask the owner's permission to enter. It will rarely be refused. Bird-watching is a most fascinating hobby and an all-the-year-round pastime.

We continue with some remarks by Dixon and Witts on their fellows.

The deadly silence and peace that reigns in this classroom is due partly to the exams. next door, and partly to masters walking up and down the corridors armed with the dreaded Detention Book.

Three of our form entered for the Sports Festival held at the Oval, but none of them succeeded in winning any events. In the School standards, D. J. Humphreys has managed to gain a high standard in every event, and Pinning has failed in only one event, the long jump, which he turned into the short jump.

This term's star comedian is Harry Andrews, whose "army" has not gained much favour with the prefects.

Finally, Dixon enlightens us on the history of

RAILWAY TICKETS.

At first, railway tickets were metal discs. These were first used by what eventually became the Midland railway (metal tokens are still used in some American cities). Soon paper tickets were used, however, and Thomas Edmundson had the great idea of keeping them in tubes, pressed in by steel springs, and, later, his invention had the dating press.

With transport undertakings constantly growing, the problem of how to supply fraud proof tickets with the greatest possible speed is one that is constantly being considered. There are tickets no bigger than postage stamps, and there are some as big as newspapers.

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WE begin with a few facts about the form itself according to D. McCann.

This term Salmon, the new boy, has come top in the mark-sheet, and Harford has risen from eleventh to second place, while another record has been accomplished in the form's attendance, which was 100 per cent. for one week. The sporting activities of the form are not forgotten, and we find that Humphreys and Lee are the athletes, the former having high standards in all six events in the Junior heats.

We continue with an article by R. F. Salmon, which he has called

THE B.B.C. EXHIBITION, 1951.

When I went to London last year to see the Festival, I paid a visit to the B.B.C. Exhibition. Just inside the entrance to the hall were some very old copies of the "Radio Times," including the first, and a little further on there were some earphones hanging from the ceiling by springs. Coming out of these earphones could be heard voices and occasionally music from B.B.C. programmes and those of other countries. Beyond all the various earphones was a television camera and some blue screen television sets. People could go in front of this camera and so appear on the sets and could also speak into a microphone which was above the camera's vision and which would relay their voices to the loud-speakers in the sets.

There were other things of interest such as photographs of bygone performers, but the exhibits which interested me most were the space-ship and recording machine. In the space-ship there were models of the planets and models of the radios which would be used with different voices speaking in both English and foreign tongues to represent how other planets would hear us. In the recording booth an interviewer came round and asked various questions into a microphone, and, when everyone had answered, the tape was played back, shocking various people. After this, at the end of the hall, was a large television screen as big as a desk lid, where programmes could be viewed free of charge.

Our final article is by W. N. Humphreys, and is entitled

A LAUNDRY.

My friend's father owns a laundry, and I have been round it several times. It is quite large and contains some new equipment. When the washing arrives, it is sorted and put into bundles, and the larger articles go into a machine which turns the washing round. After the articles are washed, they are either pressed or ironed. The presses are in a circle, and, when the clothes are placed on one, a pedal is pressed by foot, and the top half of the press comes down. However, when clothes are

ironed, they go through a series of rollers and are removed at the far end by a girl. While some of the irons are powered by electricity, others use gas.

Finally, it must be emphasised that articles intended for the magazine must be original, and such things as "Sweet and Low" should not be submitted.

Rugby

THE inter-House series was won by Tate, whose teams won five of their games, the sixth ending in a draw. Atkin were runners-up. The results of the Junior House matches were as follows:—Tate 36—Stitt 0; Tate 39—Atkin 3; Tate 58—Westminster 0; Stitt 39—Atkin 3; Stitt 44—Westminster 15; Atkin 43—Westminster 0.

At the end of the season, colours were awarded to A. Hodgson, C. Roberts, and Turner.

Dodd, T. Hodgson, N. Jones, Morris, and Roberts played for Birkenhead Schools against Liverpool Schools at Aigburth on March 31st, and Cadman, Dodd, Gardner, A. Hodgson, T. Hodgson, N. Jones, Mathieson; Roberts, and H. Smith played for South Birkenhead Schools against North Birkenhead Schools at Birkenhead Park, on April 19th.

Although in the two seven-a-side competitions entered the School lost its first round games, credit may be drawn from the fact that our victors, on both occasions, reached the finals.

It is suggested that players get into training during the holidays in order to be prepared for the coming season.

Anyone leaving School and wishing to join the Old Boys' Club should get into touch with Mr. Webb at the earliest possible opportunity.

Cricket

SO far the first XI. has had an average season. Out of 9 games it has won 5, drawn 1, and lost 2. In the other match rain stopped play. The outstanding feature of the 1st team games has been the performance of J. R. Morris, the captain, who has put his excellent all-round ability to good purpose. So far he has taken 30 wickets for an average of 8.3. In the game against Liverpool Institute, he scored 89 runs out of a total of 141 for 6 declared, and took 7 wickets for 36 runs in helping to dismiss the visitors for 105. For this brilliant performance he won his second *News Chronicle* bat. Weir, the vice-captain, has also been steady at batting this season, and scored 53 out of 82 for 6 wickets, against Liverpool Collegiate. Moore has bowled steadily,

successfully tying up one end. Throughout he has proved a perfect foil to Morris. In the game against Rock Ferry he took 5 wickets for 2 runs, and against Chester he took 7 wickets for 15 runs in 16.2 overs. G. M. Dodd has kept wicket exceptionally well this season, and Mathieson has been quite promising with both bat and ball, and is perhaps the most improved player since last season.

Of the younger members of the team, Marrs is developing into a very steady opening bat.

The fielding of the team as a whole has steadily improved, owing perhaps to the excellent teas served by the Mothers' Committee, to whom must be extended a hearty vote of thanks, and also to Mr. Martin, the groundsman, who has never failed to provide a good wicket to play on.

This term Mr. Mitchell is leaving us to take up a new post in Liverpool. Under his guidance the standard of cricket has improved to such an extent that the School team is now widely known for its high standard of play. The Cricket Club wish him the best of luck in the future.

1ST XI. RESULTS.

OPPONENTS.	GD.	FOR.	AGST.	RSLT.
St. Anselms	H.	37	— 45	— L.
Rock Ferry High School	H.	57—3	— 56	— W.
Oldershaw Grammar School ...	H.	82	— 83—7	— L.
Holt High School	H.	75	— 43	— W.
Wirral Grammar School	A.	96—5 dec.	— 68	— W.
Liverpool Institute	H.	141—6 dec.	— 105	— W.
Liverpool Collegiate	H.	82—6	— 110	— D.
Alsop High School	H.	26—1	— 63	— R.S.P.
Chester City Grammar School H.		77	— 57	— W.

HOUSE CRICKET.

In the Senior Games Atkin won all three matches, Stitt two and Westminster one, while Tate lost all three.

Atkin v. Westminster	60	—	11
Atkin v. Tate	70 for 5	—	69
Atkin v. Stitt	29 for 4	—	28
Stitt v. Tate	27 for 2	—	26
Stitt v. Westminster	32 for 0	—	31
Tate v. Westminster	46	—	62

In the Junior games, Stitt and Atkin each won two games, and Westminster and Tate won one each.

Atkin v. Westminster	33	—	34—6
Atkin v. Tate	34 for 7	—	33
Atkin v. Stitt	48 for 5	—	47
Stitt v. Tate	33	—	26
Stitt v. Westminster	108 for 5	—	39
Tate v. Westminster	46 for 6	—	45

As a result the Houses finished in the following order:—Atkin, Stitt, Westminster, Tate

COLTS.

The results of matches played to date are:—Played 7, Won 3, Lost 3, Drawn 1. Although this would appear but a moderate record, in fact steady progress has been maintained throughout the season, as, apart from the first two matches of the season when the team was largely at an experimental stage, an unbeaten record has been preserved up to the last match, when the team was seriously weakened by last-minute withdrawals.

The team contains a number of promising young players who should do well next year and in subsequent seasons, and individual performances particularly deserving of mention are Booth's 5 for 18 and Dean's 4 for 15 and 21 runs against Holt H.S., Booth's 5 for 15 and Hodgson's 4 for 1 against Wirral G.S., and Rimmer's patient 33 and Carroll's 23 against St. Anselm's. D. F. Jones, Clampitt, and Bell also have to their credit good performances in bowling.

The bowling and fielding have generally been satisfactory, but the batting has not been consistent or reliable. This is partly to be attributed to bad wickets on away grounds, but more often to lack of confidence and aggressiveness. It must be realized that it is possible to score even off good length bowling by using the feet and getting out to the pitch of the ball.

H. S. Jones has proved an able captain and has used his bowlers well, but he must learn to move his field about more as the situation requires. He has also kept wicket well.

Results in detail are as follows:—

- v. Park H.S., 10th May, at Home—Lost by 10 runs.
Birkenhead Institute 46 — Park H.S. 56.
- v. Rock Ferry H.S., 17th May, Away—Lost by 8 wickets.
Birkenhead Institute 19 — Rock Ferry H.S. 25 for 2.
- v. Holt H.S., 24th May, Away—Won by 11 runs.
Birkenhead Institute 73 — Holt H.S. 62.

- v. Wirral G.S., 28th May, Away—Won by 16 runs.
 Birkenhead Institute 42 — Wirral G.S. 26.
- v. St. Anselm's, 12th June, Away—Drawn.
 Birkenhead Institute 94 — St. Anselm's 52 for 3.
- v. Oldershaw G.S. (Junior Match), 14th June, Home, Won by 7 runs.
 Birkenhead Institute 53 — Oldershaw G.S. 46.
- v. A'sop H.S., 21st June, Away—Lost by 6 wickets.
 Birkenhead Institute 34 — A'sop H.S. 36 for 4.

Chess

DURING the Easter Holidays, five boys from the School competed in various sections of a four day Chess Congress held at Wallasey.

Three of them gained prizes:—E. Taylor won the Second Class Tournament, F. W. Taylor won the Under 15 Section, and I. Marrs was equal second in the Junior Minor Tournament.

Liverpool Chess Club played against a combined team of Birkenhead School and Birkenhead Institute, and were beaten by 8½ games to 5½. This is the first occasion on which Liverpool C.C. has lost to the winners of the Wright Challenge Shield. C.W.W.

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1st Year Examination: D. R. Brown.

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Final Examination. Part 2: J. E. Morris.

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Ordinary Degree of B.Sc.: D. J. Maxwell.

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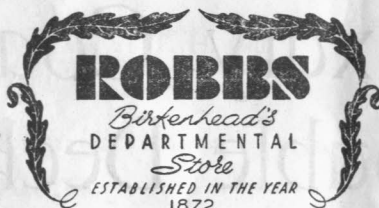
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