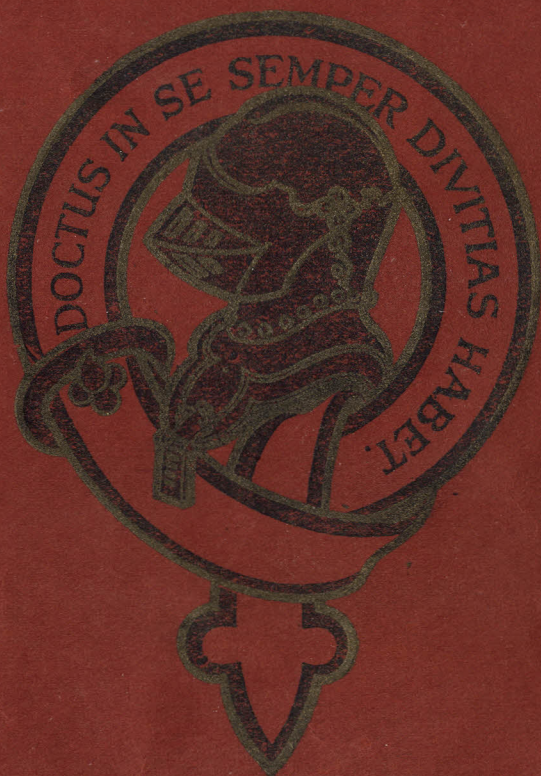


# THE VISOR

---



MAGAZINE OF  
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

---

SUMMER 1954.



---

## MERSEYSIDE'S FOREMOST PHOTOGRAPHIC SPECIALISTS

---

Comprehensive selection of guaranteed new and second-hand equipment.

Cine cameras and projectors, sound or silent.

Specialists in Visual Education apparatus, interested parties should send for the free booklet, "Film Strip Projectors—their use in Education and industry," available from us free of charge.

Professional and Commercial Photographers, School Teams and parties a Speciality.

---

### PROJECTOR HIRE

We hire projectors of all types, still or ciné, silent or sound, with experienced operators. Ideal for Parties, Lectures, Demonstrations, etc.

Send or call for particulars.

If you have any type of photographic problem, consult us without delay, we shall be only too glad to put our very comprehensive service at your disposal.



**MONTAGUE FISHER Ltd**

185 BRANCE ROAD, BIRKENHEAD, TELEPHONE 5881

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."





ALL  
REGULATION  
SCHOOL CLOTHING  
REQUIREMENTS ...

BLAZERS, CAPS, TIES, SCARVES  
STOCKINGS and PULLOVERS  
in School Colours,  
and ATHLETIC CLOTHING  
of all descriptions.

**Bibby and Perkin**  
LTD.

243/7 GRANGE ROAD, Birkenhead  
Telephone BIR. 2263

And at 176, Bedford Road, ROCK FERRY.

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



Telephone :

BIRKENHEAD 3690

Established:

1894

# CHARLES DASHLEY

Proprietor W. J. DASHLEY

**35 & 37, Oxton Road, Birkenhead**

---

COOKED MEATS : SAUSAGES  
: PIES OF FINEST QUALITY :

---

*All Products  
Processed*

*under*

*most Hygienic  
Conditions :*

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



*1st XI, 1954*



The Headmaster, Mr.Squires B.Walsh, T.R.Jones, J.G.Smith, N.Lindop, F.W.Taylor, R.Dean, Mr.Malcolm, W.J.Longton, A.Hodgson, D.M.Mathieson, A.G.Roberts(Capt.), I.Marrs, H.S.Jones, A.Jones, O'Hare(scorer).

Photo by Cull.





## School Calendar

Summer term began .....	April 29th.
Half term holiday .....	June 7th and 8th.
Athletic Sports .....	July 3rd.
Summer term ends .....	July 23rd.
Autumn term begins .....	September 6th.

## Editorial

SCHOOL magazines and newspapers both have editorials. In all else (for which we may be thankful) they are unlike. Now this is not immediately apparent for do not they share much common ground? Are not the regular features of the *Visor* with its select band of readers aped by the *Morning Howl* with its circulation of three millions? Do not both contain news, photographs and salutes to the illustrious? Let us assure our patrons at once that these are shallow contentions, and that our production is an altogether superior affair to the exasperating sheet which, propped up against the morning teapot, heralds another day of woe and tribulation. For our news is *always* good; we never (well hardly ever) harrow our readers' feelings. We challenge you to find in our pages any stories of aggression, of alphabetical bombs, of larcenies—major or minor, of prison mutinies, of paralysed transport. In fact the whole depressing pattern of the contemporary world is absent from the *Visor*, which shows what a reasonable and law abiding commonwealth ours truly is. Not that we are immaculate nor devoid of red corpuscles. "If you tickle us shall we not laugh?". But we have a way of settling our passing differences decorously and do not parade them in a twopenny diurnal bag wash. And our picture pages too! Our prefects and our teams, what a contrast to the gallery of celebrities brought daily to the surface after dragging operations in the national or cosmic pond! We offer no coy shots of gentlemen passing from police car to assize portals, no impassive oriental diplomats, no stars twinkling in the firmament of de luxe hotels. Our news like our portraits is blameless; achievement at the desk or in the



field recorded for the applause of the present and the admiration of posterity without the heartbreak that the tape machines too often bring from Wall Street, Westminster, Geneva, or Hurst Park. We think we may justly claim that, while a man feels like self-ending before he is fairly down the second page of a newspaper, he can rise from a perusal of this magazine heartened and invigorated.

Well, you may say having read thus far, let us prick this bubble of self-esteem now inflated to bursting point. On your own admission, do not the managers of the *Howl* and of the *Visor* both have to write editorials? Are they not therefore in the same boat? Superficially perhaps in the corrugations of the brow, the anxious harvesting of contributions, the inked fingers, the piling of reluctant pence. But in nought else. For while some editors ride the high horse, instruct the millions, rebuke the audacious who dare to disagree with them, jog the memories of those who fail to perceive the accuracy of their prophecies (or alternatively conceal dismay over unrealised forecasts by suavity, bluster or a discreet change of subject) *your* editor does none of these things. He remains serene, imperturbable, easy and philosophical. How could he be otherwise? If any other editors, in envy of our composure, ask our secret, it is that he can afford to be happy when he has turned out such a good magazine for such good readers.

## Valete

### EASTER TERM.

6S: Harris, D. H.

4B: Davies, W. D.; Goat, R.; Wood, D. I.

2A: Brown, T. S.

### SUMMER TERM.

6A: Ainslie, J. D.

## Speech Day 1954

**S**PEECH Day was held in the Town Hall on the 26th March. The chair was taken by his Worship the Mayor, and Professor A. J. D. Porteous, M.A., Professor of Education at the University of Liverpool, distributed the prizes and certificates. The singing of the choir accompanied by recorders was marked by the excellence of its quality.

In his report the Headmaster emphasised the need for boys to take the advanced course instead of leaving school at 15 to enter some "blind alley" job. "Nearly all the professions are crying out for more and abler recruits. We in this type of school hold the key position."

Professor Porteous in his address said that individual leaders setting a high standard of culture and character are needed in the world to-day, and it is our duty as a grammar school to produce such people. "Unless we can depend on you boys, the future of our country is dark indeed."



JOINT MATRICULATION BOARD  
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, 1953

AT ADVANCED AND SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL

FORM UPPER VI.

- Davies, B.—English Literature, Latin, French, Scholarship French.  
Evans, G. M.—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. Ordinary Level.  
English Language.  
Hodgson, T. S.—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.  
Hughes, J. T.—Chemistry.  
Jordan, J. E.—English Literature, Latin, French. Scholarship French.  
Marston, M.—Physics, Biology.  
Parry, K.—English Literature, History, French.  
Parry, N. A.—Physics, Chemistry.  
Smith, H.—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.  
Taylor, E.—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry (Distinction). Scholarship Physics, Chemistry.  
Turner, R.—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.  
Weir, W. C.—Geography, Physics. Scholarship Geography.

AT ORDINARY LEVEL.

Ainslie, J. D.; Almond, H. C.; Barr, K. M.; Barwell, D.; Batterham, N.;  
Baxter, J. H.; Booth, K. T.; Brown, M. H.; Carroll R.; Chambers, A. G.;  
Connolly, G.; Cookson, B. R.; Cross, D. F. W.; Dennis, M. T.; Doveston,  
G. A.; Dunn, W. H.; Edwards, R. G.; Finney, A. H.; Green, J. E.;  
Haggerty, G. A.; Harris, D. H.; Heath, P.; Hewitt, J. E.; Hodgson, A.S.;  
Horne, D. E.; Hubbard, E. H.; Hughes, H. R.; Hunt, H. S.; Jackson,  
D. R.; Jones, D. A.; Jones, K. W.; Jones, N. N.; Jones, W. A.; Lindop,  
R.; Longton, W. J.; Marrs, I.; Mathieson, D. Mc.; O'Hare, J. R. A.;  
Parsley, D. G.; Phipps, J.; Prendergast, B. G.; Prodger, P. G.; Redwood,  
R.; Roberts, A. G.; Roberts, J. G.; Shearer, R. D.; Slevin, C.; Telford,  
A. G.; Tudor, M. J. E.; Wilkinson, N. J.; Williams, D. G.

INTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS

TATE—Dodd, T. A.; Evans, G. M.; Houghton, B. A.; Roberts, A. G.  
ATKIN—Bryant, W. N.; Marston, M.; Williamson, J. G.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

State Scholarship, University of Manchester—Taylor, E.  
County Borough Scholarship—Taylor, E.



## PRIZE LIST 1952-53

- FORM 1B—1st, Boyd, E. F.; 2nd, Kay, A. W.; 3rd, Blackwell, R. R.  
 FORM 1A—1st, Williams, D.; 2nd, Blaylock, P. A.; 3rd, Needham, J.  
 FORM 2B—1st, Weaver, W. H.; 2nd, Harford, D. E. W.  
 FORM 2A—1st, Salmon, R. F.; 2nd, Haughton, D. J.; 3rd, Baxter, J. S.  
 FORM 3B—1st, Clampitt, R.; 2nd, Williams, G. G.  
 FORM 3A—1st, Hopner, K. R.; 2nd, Walsh, T. J.; 3rd, Arthur, W. J.  
 FORM 4B—1st, Dick, L.; 2nd, Andrews, A. E.; 3rd, Heggarty, F. G.  
 FORM 4A—1st, Peers, H. W.; 2nd Peterson M. N.; 3rd, Naybour, R. D.  
 FORM 5B—1st, Jones, D. A.; 2nd, Doveston, G. A.; 3rd, Finney, A. H.  
 FORM 5A—1st, Heath, P.; 2nd, Green, J. E.; 3rd, Hodgson, A. S.  
 FORM 6—English, Bryant, W. N.; History, Bryant, W. N.; Mathematics,  
 Haughton, B. A.; Science, Haughton, B. A.

### SPECIAL PRIZES

- Connacher Memorial Prize for English—Jordan, J. E.  
 Solly Memorial Prize for History—Parry, K.  
 The George Holt Prizes—Science, Taylor, E.; Mathematics, Hodgson,  
 T. S.; Languages, Davies, B.  
 Forshaw Memorial Prize for Art—Green, J. E., Jones, N. N.  
 Special Prize for Mathematics—Taylor, E.  
 Special Prize for Physics—Taylor, E.  
 Special Prize for Chemistry—Taylor, E.  
 Special Prize for Biology—Marston, M.  
 Special Prize for Geography—Weir, W. C.  
 Special Prize for Latin—Davies, B.  
 Old Boys' Memorial Prize—Hodgson, T. S.  
 Headmaster's Prize—Hodgson, T. S.

### SPORTS

- COLOURS—*Rugby Football*, Barwell, D.; Jones, K. W.; Marrs, I.; Sher-  
 lock, G. D. *Cricket*—Hodgson, A. S.; Roberts, A. G.  
 CHESS CHAMPION—Dodd, T. A. (*Senior*); Jones, P. (*Junior*).  
 VICTOR LUDORUM—Jones, N. N. (*Senior*); Walsh, T. J. (*Junior*).  
 SILVER CUP FOR GAMES—Weir, W. C. (*Senior*); Jones, H. S. (*Junior*).  
 HOUSE TROPHIES—*Athletics*, Atkin; *Cricket*, Tate; *Chess*, Stitt; *Cross*  
*Country, Senior*, Stitt; *Senior Champion*, Dodd, T. A.; *Cross Coun-*  
*try, Intermediate*, Atkin; *Intermediate Champion*, Walsh, T. J.;  
*Cross Country, Junior*, Tate; *Junior Champion*, Lee, D.  
 His Majesty King George VI Coronation Cup—Atkin (*Champion*  
 House for the year).  
 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Cup for Rugby Football—  
 Tate.



## SUCCESES AT UNIVERSITIES

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE—

Degree of B.A., Medieval and Modern Languages  
Tripos, Part II, Class III—Davies, J. S.

### UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM—

#### *Faculty of Arts—*

Degree of B.A., School of History,  
Honours, Class II, Division I—Hudson, A. W. J.

### UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL—

#### *Faculty of Science—*

Degree of B.Sc., School of Chemistry,  
Honours, Class II, Division I—Perry, M. B.

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—

#### *Faculty of Medicine—*

Degree of M.B., Ch.B.  
Third Examination—Ledsome, J. R.  
Second Examination—Hellon, C. P.

#### *Faculty of Veterinary Science—*

Degree of B.V.Sc.—Garrett, T. R.

### UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS—

#### *Faculty of Arts—*

Degree of B.A.—Liggett, J. H.

#### *Faculty of Science—*

Degree of B.Sc. (Chemical Engineering)  
Second Year Examinations—Plimley, R. E.

### UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL—

#### *Faculty of Arts—*

Degree of M.A. (Economics)—Jenks, A. H., B.COMM.  
Degree of M.C.D., First Year Examination—Thomas, H. D., B.A.  
Degree of B.A., Special Studies in English Language and Literature.  
Part I Examination—Macdonald, R. F.; Smith, A. A.  
Degree of B.A., First Year Examination—Gleave, J.  
Diploma in Education—Mealor, V. A., B.A.



*School of Architecture—*

- Degree of B.Arch., Fourth Examination—Binyon, R.
- Degree of B.Arch., Fourth Examination—Dobbing, P.
- Degree of B.Arch., Third Examination—Silcock, D. D. J.
- Degree of B.Arch., Second Examination—Smith, V. L.
- Degree of B.Arch., First Examination—Ennion, J.

*Faculty of Science—*

- Degree of B.Sc. (Special).
- School of Physics, Honours, Class II, Division I—Palmer, R. G.
- Degree of B.Sc. (General), Class II—Henharen, D. B.
- Part I Examination—Brown, D. R.; Dodd, G. M.
- First Year Examination—Lovatt, J. H.; Morris, J. R.

*Faculty of Medicine—*

- Degree of M.Ch.(Orth)—Wetherell, G. A., F.R.C.S., M.B., CH.B.

*Faculty of Engineering—*

- Degree of B.Eng. (General), Final Examination, Part I—Moore, D. H.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—

*Imperial College of Science—*

- Degree of B.Sc. with Honours, First Year Examination—Lewis, D. J.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER—

*Faculty of Science—*

- Degree of B.Sc. (General)—Maxwell, D. J.
- Intermediate Examination—Rushton, B. J.

UNIVERSITY OF READING—

*Faculty of Horticulture—*

- Degree of B.Sc. (Horticulture)—Smith, G. A.
- Diploma in Education—Smith, G. A.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD—

*Faculty of Medicine—*

- Degree of M.B., Ch.B. (Part III)—Jones, D. O.

*Faculty of Science—*

- Degree of B.Sc. with Honours in Chemistry, Class II—Holden, J. C.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES—

*Faculty of Arts—*

- Degree of B.A., Prelim., Honours Examination—Gore, K. O.

PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAS

THE INSTITUTE OF COST AND WORK ACCOUNTANTS—

- Associate (A.I.C.W.A.)—Halling-Jones, D. C.

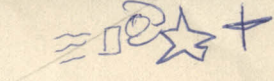
THE INSTITUTE OF THE RUBBER INDUSTRY—

- Licentiate (L.I.R.I.)—Osborne, D. N. A., B.Sc.

THE LAW SOCIETY—

- Intermediate Examination—Hurst, W. F.



  
Telephones:—

BIRKENHEAD 192

BROMBOROUGH 2171

: MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR :

**ALEX C. SMITH,**

*Funeral furnisher*

*Member of British Institute of Embalmers on  
Staff*

: ROLLS ROYCE EQUIPMENT :

ROMAN CATHOLIC & CHURCH  
: OF ENGLAND CHAPELS OF :  
REPOSE

*Head Office:*

**202 Conway St, BIRKENHEAD**

*Branch Office:*

**2 High Street BROMBOROUGH**

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



---

---

# HUBBARD & MARTIN

## (1949) LIMITED



*Bakers, Confectioners and Caterers.*

ESTABLISHED 1886.



Registered Office and Bakery:

**PILGRIM STREET, BIRKENHEAD.**



*Branches at:*

**CHARING CROSS, BIRKENHEAD**

**MARKET PLACE SOUTH, BIRKENHEAD.**

**LAIRD STREET, BIRKENHEAD.**

**WOODCHURCH ROAD, PRENTON.**

**BEBINGTON ROAD, TRANMERE.**

**BEDFORD ROAD, ROCK FERRY.**

**NEW CHESTER ROAD, ROCK FERRY.**

**BEBINGTON ROAD, NEW FERRY.**

**CROSS LANE, BEBINGTON.**

**ALLPORT LANE, BROMBOROUGH.**

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—

Associate (A.L.A.)—Spink, J. E.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATES—

In Civil Engineering—Ratcliffe, C. J.

In Chemistry—Jackson, A.; Ridgway, F.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY—

Member (M.P.S.)—Hughes, R. E.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS—

Member (M.R.C.V.S.)—Garrett, T. R., B.V.Sc.; Morris, J. E., B.V.Sc.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS—

Associate (Intermediate Examination)—Weir, B. A.

THE SOCIETY OF RADIOGRAPHERS—

Member (M.S.R.)—Gordon, R. A.

OLD BOYS' SUCCESSES

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

Herbert Manzonì, C.B.E., M.INST.C.E.—Knight Bachelor, Chief Engineer and Surveyor, City of Birmingham.

Gordon Bowen, M.A.—Economic Adviser to the High Commissioner of Canada.

Garry, W. N.—British Embassy, Washington, U.S.A.

Goodwin, T. W., D.Sc.—Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry, University of Liverpool.

Professor G. E. M. Hallett, M.D.S.—Special Lecturer (in French) to the European Orthodontic Society.

Perry, M. B., B.Sc.—Post Graduate Research Scholar in Chemistry, University of Bristol.

Plimley, R. E.—Brown Senior School in Chemical Engineering, University of Leeds.

Silcock, D. D. J.—Holt Travelling Scholar in Architecture, Holland Hannen and Cubitts Prizeman, University of Liverpool.

Smith, A. A.—Edward Rathbone Prizeman in English Literature, University of Liverpool.

Sudworth, J. F., M.A.—Lecturer in Economics, University of Liverpool.

Wood, R. E., M.Sc., Ph.D.—Principal, College of Arts and Technology, City of Leicester.



## Railway Journeys

HAVE you ever thought how many different kinds there are? A simple journey of pleasure, a day's trip to the seaside, a hurried dash across country to the bedside of a sick relative, a short daily trip to work, or a long journey half way across a continent to a new job. Early memories of train journeys are becoming dim. There were short excursions with school mates to cricket or football matches leaving a lively recollection of some forgotten humorist preferring the luggage rack to the comfort of an ordinary seat. It is hard to remember whether there was some golden journey at the beginning of the summer holidays; for the sea is a long way from the Midlands, and even before 1914 railway tickets were expensive. But let me describe a well-remembered trip, a true leap into the dark, a turning point in life, transmuting a civilian into a soldier of the first world war. Of course it is a tangled memory, compounded of an arrival at the outset at a dark and noisy barracks, of happy leave trains, and finally of the ultimate send-off with the whole town in attendance. Singing at first, a little excited chatter for a few miles, silence, the looming side of a ghostly ship, a voyage, a landfall still in darkness, and another train composed of trucks bearing the legend "chevaux 8, hommes 40." Early morning sunlight and soon a hubbub of excited questions "Where are we?" A long uncomfortable stage this with rare waves and shouts (for by that time soldiers in waggons are a familiar sight in the French countryside), and eventual achievement in the shape of a very queer-looking station.

There were, in succession, further removals by train to what the army called 'rest,' and then something quite fantastic on a narrow gauge railway carrying ammunition to the forward artillery positions. A truck loaded with rails and tools *in front* of the engine and behind it the long load of heavy shells. Sometimes it is raining, always densely black but intermittently lit by brilliant flashes in front and rear. Whether the illumination was provided by the enemy or by *our* guns was a matter of some urgency in view of our cargo, and of our situation in front. On paper our trip might have been along the old L.M.S., for we were booked to visit Coventry, Rugby, Stafford: H.Q.'s names for pin-points on a military map of a wilderness of mud and desolation. Two or perhaps three such journeys a week were enough for the nerves, and a change of scenery and occupation was always warmly welcomed. This was accomplished in a real train with carriages (although there happened to be no glass in the windows which made November travel a little uncomfortable) and from a point where it had been unhealthy even to show one's nose by daylight six months earlier, let alone a train. Period motor lorries completed this adventure, but the climax was the customary spot of bother. But I must not forget to tell you of another experience begin-



ning as usual in the dark and punctuated by peremptory command to get out and board another train. This turned out to be a hospital train complete with nice, big, shiny tea buckets, outsize bully-beef sandwiches, and a real 'old-soldier' to ask us, without irony, what time we would like breakfast. This, after the Somme, was heaven—as was the first sight of a civilian after nearly a year of ubiquitous uniforms, the voyage across the Channel, the quick rush to Waterloo, the crossing of war-time London to Paddington, and after ninety minutes' more clattering darkness, the walk home through the quiet streets and triumphant, unexpected arrival.

There were other less heavenly periods, when the army was unhurried and set you walking with all your goods and chattels on your back, or when you returned to your inhospitable trucks in deep winter. Nearer the end of the war, going on leave meant a nerve-racking wait on Arras station; for by that time bombers had been added to the apparatus of frightfulness. As usual the break went like lightning, and there you were coming in the opposite direction a very short fortnight later. But the last trip was the measure of German defeat; for it ended at Cologne (two hundred miles away in a *straight* line—I leave you to imagine what actual distance the P.B.I. covered). A month later we were on the way back, this time for good, and saying farewell to our old "Chevaux 8" conveyances, now boasting two braziers apiece against harsh winter and correspondingly thick in atmosphere. Sixty-four hours of this 'blue' train brought us to Dunkirk which has been 'in the news' subsequently. At length, after the usual processes by which the army transforms one back into a civilian, one was in a train unchaperoned by any N.C.O. Then one reached familiar stretches where every curve of the track meant home. A warrior returned from war carrying a sand-bag containing his 'battle-bowler'. A.R.T.

## *The Growth of Birkenhead*

**B**IRKENHEAD must have been a very pleasant place at the beginning of the last century. Its population of 110 lived in houses near the headland on which stood the Priory ruins; inland lay scattered farms and hamlets; and a road known as Grange Lane (the site of our shopping centre) ran from the Grange or Priory Farm to Woodside.

By 1820 the primitive, uncomfortable ferry had been replaced by a steamer service, and Woodside began to flourish as a small pleasant resort; the present Woodside Hotel was built, and many private houses sprang up. The architect Thomas Rickman designed St. Mary's church, which stands near the Priory.



The enormous areas that are to-day covered by the docks and ship-yards were then bays and inlets such as Tranmere Pool and Birkenhead Pool. In 1824 a Greenock shipbuilder, Mr. William Laird, bought a farm on the banks of the great inlet known as Wallasey Pool, and the following year established a shipbuilding yard and boilerworks where Vittoria Street now stands. The possibilities of Wallasey Pool as a site for docks were realised, and ambitious plans were made for its development.

Although the docks and yards were the beginnings and still are the real makings of the town, and although this development has been so important to the history and economics not only of Merseyside, but of the whole country, Birkenhead deserves to be remembered for another reason. The pioneers of Birkenhead decided to lay out the new town on orderly, aesthetic principles. What opportunities they had! Here was a perfectly clean sheet on which a town of growing importance and endless possibilities was to be planned.

A vast series of streets on the American gridiron plan was started in 1826. Hamilton Square was built by the Edinburgh architect Gillespie Graham (a space being left for the town hall), but apart from the square and a few neighbouring houses, the kerb stones of the great streets were all that materialised of the original plan. The very long and wide arterial thoroughfares, such as Price and Cleveland Streets, and numerous smaller ones, such as Beckwith and Livingstone Streets, are all part of the great pattern, the like of which can be seen nowhere else. But these beautiful streets were built up with typical Industrial Revolution cottage property, whereas the original plan was for fine stone houses of varying sizes in the style of Hamilton Square.

Birkenhead grew too quickly for itself, and its chances were thrown away. The gridiron was far too ambitious, and planned on too vast a scale for the then requirements of the town; the yards and docks were ever increasing, and there came an influx of destitute Irish with nowhere to live or work. So the present houses were hurriedly built, and the railway has cut across the pattern, leaving awkward triangular spaces.

The long streets to-day present an attractive appearance at night, when the street lamps converge in two endless, graceful lines. This is best seen from the Argyle Street end of Conway Street, which together with Park Road North and Laird Street, has a length of almost two miles.

One part of the plan which did fulfil expectation is the Park. Laid out in 1847 by Sir Joseph Paxton, designer of Crystal Palace, at a time when open spaces in industrial towns were almost unknown, it is, with its magnificent main entrance, something of which any town may be proud.



Further development of Birkenhead was unplanned and haphazard, largely following the lines of old lanes. About 1860 the present writer's great grandfather bought a house in Oxtan Road, where his pleasant garden descended to the Happy Valley, where a river had flowed. This is now Borough Road. The writer has spoken to a lady who remembers walking across cornfields from her home in Tranmere to Whetstone Lane.

Birkenhead had in the mid-19th Century come to be known as the "City of the Future," where men might come to a new town for opportunities, and it can be seen that crowds of people coming to seek their fortunes in an industrial town of the 19th Century were rather detrimental to the art of town planning.

With new industries and increased prosperity the town continued to grow—Cloughton, Oxtan, and Prenton have been incorporated as residential districts, and now Woodchurch is being enveloped in a corporation estate. A town with such a unique history presents many problems to the civic designer, and a plan for further development and the rectification of past errors has been prepared by two eminent architects, but its realisation seems unlikely. So the rectangular plan—the pavements of Brook Street and Beckwith Street, Conway Street and Cathcart Street—will remain as monuments to a magnificent "might have been."

E.H.H.

### *Apres-midi francaise*

ON June 25th, M. Gacher organised a "Grande apres-midi francaise."

The programme comprised songs, sketches, monologues and competitions. We were honoured by the presence of M. Chicoteau, the representative of the French Consul at Liverpool. He was so impressed by our performance that he officially invited us to give a repeat performance of one of the short plays ("Le Bruit Court") for the French Consul on the July 14th celebration. M. Chicoteau then had tea at the School with the Headmaster and Staff and the boys who took part. The afternoon's programme started with the song "Alouette," which was followed by "Le Bruit Court." The 3A Boys gave a very good rendering of "Ma Normandie," and M. Gacher came next with a monologue entitled "Le mort du loup," by Alfred de Vigny. We had a short interval of five minutes, followed by another short one-act play "L'autorite paternelle," and continued with an interesting game entitled "Quitte ou Double" (we believe that the shop-assistant who counted out the 400 'snooker balls' is still in hospital recovering from a nervous breakdown). Then came one of the highlights of the afternoon—Mr. Webb's excellent representation of the tirade from Moliere's play "L'Avare." Although the afternoon was a complete success, we all agreed that the best performance was by Haggerty. In fact, we all agreed he was the most life-like tree we had ever seen.





WE regret to announce the death at Bombay in his fifty-second year of Mr. Thomas Bell, an old Instonian. He was a civil engineer of celebrity, holding the position of Chief Engineer to the Indian Western Railway. After leaving the Institute, Mr. Bell assisted in the construction of the Bromborough Oil Dock before going to India. At the moment of his death, vast construction works, including the seventeen span Sevalia Bridge, were in hand under Mr. Bell's superintendence. This great bridge—one of the most considerable railway works of recent years—will be opened in July, and the event should remind our readers that the School has produced several eminent civil engineers.

\* \* \* \* \*

The whole School felt the menace of the posters displayed by an unknown hand in mid-term. That he has genius in publicity none will deny. "Watch this space!" may be an old dodge but it always works. *Our* posters were more subtle even than the "Beware the Ides of March" variety. They merely said "Le Vingt Neuf Juin" and left it at that. Those who recognised the language of this announcement (and the even more select few who could translate it) savoured its sinister import to the full. As each successive issue carried the image (we use the word under the poster's spell) of a bewhiskered apache or pefemptory gendarme, all waited for what the fateful day might bring—a Saint Bartholomew of patriots, the descent of a cobalt universe buster or merely another mark sheet?

\* \* \* \* \*

Time, which solves everything, at length resolved the above mystery. Owing to an uncivilised examining body, the 'vingt neuf' was transmogrified into the 'vingt cinq,' and turned out to be a brilliantly successful entertainment—a vaudeville conducted by Monsieur Gacher in his own tongue. Had the examiners who mark our French been privileged to hear the impeccable accent of the performers and the spontaneous eclat of the audience, we should no doubt have been created Chevaliers of the Legion of Honour to a man and promoted to the Academy en bloc.



# Everything for the HOME and the FAMILY...

ROBBS... The complete departmental Store,  
where personal service & courteous attention  
are household words...& where 'value for money'  
in School clothing is an established fact.

## 40 Departments



Hours 9 a.m.—5-30 p.m.

Thurs. 1 p.m.

**ROBBS**

*Birkenhead's*  
DEPARTMENTAL  
*Store*

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR  
1872

CAFE-RESTAURANT • LADIES HAIRDRESSING

ROBB BROTHERS LTD • CHARING CROSS • BIRKENHEAD

TELEPHONE: BIRKENHEAD 2880



# THE "BOROUGH"

(Prop., E. E. HARTLEY).



Shoe Repairs in Leather, Rubber and Crepe



119 BOROUGH ROAD,  
BIRKENHEAD.

---

## A. BAKER

FURS, COSTUMES, MILLINERY, GOWNS

*"Corsonia" Coats & Suits Made to Measure.*



744/6 Borough Road :: Prenton

Tel. BIRKENHEAD 2101.

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."







We take pleasure in recording the award of a decoration to an Old Istonian in this summer's Birthday Honours. Mr. Ivor Bowen, principal director of Equipment Research and Development (Air) at the Ministry of Supply becomes a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. From the Institute, Mr. Bowen proceeded to Liverpool University, and afterwards went on to Cambridge where he was research assistant to the famous physicist, Sir J. J. Thomson, at Trinity College. He subsequently held appointments at the Imperial College of Science and in the Armament Research division of the Ministry of Supply, being at one time chief of the Ministry's staff at Melbourne. We offer Mr. Bowen the heartiest congratulations of the School on his latest distinction.

A party from the School paid two visits to the Philharmonic this term. The highlights of the first programme, which was conducted by Mr. James Robertson, were Bach's *Sheep May Safely Graze* and Benjamin Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.

The conductor at the second Concert was Mr. Rignold. The sensitivized among us preferred Handel's *Berenice Overture* and the Elgar *Serenade for Strings* to the more powerful orchestration of Richard Strauss.

This term we said "Au revoir" to M. Gacher who is leaving us to take up a post in Algiers. He has been at the Institute for the past year and has left a profound impression on the whole School in that very short time. We in the Sixth form, who have known several French Assistants, are unanimous (for once) in agreeing that he is the best we have had so far. As a result, when the time came for him to leave, we presented him with a School plaque and a silver propelling-pencil in recognition of his services to the School. We earnestly hope that he will be very happy in his future career.



ATKIN	STITT	TATE	W'MINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

### ATKIN.

**T**HIS term has proved to be one of mixed fortunes. In Cricket the House has not done well. The Senior team lost to Tate and was very fortunate to beat Stitt; the Junior team lost to both Tate and Westminster. Two matches have still to be played, but, on the showing so far this term, Atkin deserves to occupy a very lowly position.

In Athletics the picture is a good deal brighter. The House has done reasonably well so far in both the Individual and Standard competitions. Whether it manages to repeat the success of the last three years remains to be seen. Whatever the outcome, certain boys in particular deserve to be congratuated on their efforts. Among the Seniors, Hodgson and K. Jones have both tried very hard, Hodgson winning both the Long and High Jumps. He is to be commended on breaking the record in the latter event. T. A. Dodd set up a very fast pace to win the 880 yds. In the Intermediate section, Lee, Hopner, and Caldwell have reached many of the finals, and, among the Juniors, Pierce, Halewood, Wylie, Mathews, and Winder have done well.

### STITT.

**T**HIS term has not been a very eventful one so far. Only four Cricket matches have been played. Stitt Seniors played Atkin first, and were very unlucky to lose. Stitt batted first and were all out in 13 overs for 58 runs. Atkin then went in, and after an early collapse recovered well to win in the last over.

Against Westminster, Stitt again batted first, and thanks to some enterprising batting, scored 41 all out in 13 overs. In reply, Westminster, after a good start, collapsed from 27 for 3 to 27 for 9. Dean was mainly responsible for this, taking 6 wickets for 15 runs, including 4 for 0 in one over. Jones, H. S., took 2 for 3, and Longton 1 for 11.



Stitt Juniors were badly beaten by Westminster Juniors. Stitt batted first and were all out for 23 runs. In reply Westminster passed their score for the loss of one wicket.

Against Tate Juniors, the Juniors did very well. They batted first and scored 42 for 6. When Tate batted, Pinning 4 for 9 and Wild 6 for 13 soon had them back in the pavilion.

At the time of writing these notes, the School Sports are still to come, and it is hoped that Stitt will improve on their position of 4th last year.

### TATE.

SO far this term the House has been attended by somewhat mixed fortunes. The senior Cricket team, which contained no prodigious cricketers, as did the other three Houses, and which looked on paper to be well in the running for the wooden spoon, surprised everybody by beating Westminster in the last two balls of the game, and following this by winning their match against Atkin by a surprisingly large margin. In this latter match, all praise must be given to A. Jones and Wilkinson, who between them scored 28 runs, and to J. G. Smith, who took 6 wickets for 5 runs. A. Jones also bowled well. It is hoped that the teams will produce a similar performance when they meet Stitt towards the end of term.

The junior Cricket team, which, unlike its senior counterpart, looked quite formidable on paper, beat Atkin by a wide margin, but then lost to Stitt and Westminster by equally wide margins. There is considerable talent among the junior members of the House, and we know that they are capable of a better performance than this. It is hoped that in the future they will show what they really can do.

With the athletics and summer mark sheets still to be decided, a maximum effort is needed from every member if the House is to do well in the Coronation Cup competition.

To Marston, House and School captain, now in Clatterbridge hospital, recovering from his so untimely illness, goes the sympathy of the whole House. We wish you a speedy recovery, Malcolm, and the best of luck for your future. J.E.G.

### WESTMINSTER.

WHILST the men in whose hands the destinies of Westminster House may be said to have reposed in this rapidly dying School year have latterly had their heads immersed in historical tomes of terrifying magnitude, the rest of the House, left to itself, has not done very satisfactorily.

In the senior Cricket matches Westminster lost narrowly to Stitt and Tate; the match against Atkin has still to be played off. The junior



Cricket team, however, has made up for these defeats by winning all three of its matches. Also, the House has had its fair share of 1st XI. places, Mathieson, Lindop, Taylor, and Walsh all playing regularly; and Lythgoe has several times distinguished himself in the Colts XI.

The result of the Spring marksheets was surprising, for the House finished bottom—a queer terminus for the ‘top dogs’ in the Autumn marksheets, and one that suggests that the Westminster boys in the Lower School might profitably do a little more homework in future.

In the realm of Athletics it has again been impossible to ensure that every boy does all the standards possible, owing to examination pre-occupations: it is not surprising therefore that once again the House starts Sports Day with a mighty deficit. A real effort is needed on the day. Remember that Westminster expects every boy to do his duty.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all those boys in Westminster who have pulled their weight, and the House-master, Mr. Webb, for his supervision throughout the year. N.N.J.

## Libraria

NOW at last, like the hymn writer, we may well exult and sing “The strife is o’er, the battle done,” as we survey the seven years spent at the Institute. And what memories those years conjure up! Our arrival, just two years after Japan’s capitulation before the latest triumph of Western Physics, coincided with the Staff’s restoration to full strength once more. “Crush them or they will crush you” was the formula which sent die-hards like Br\*\*nt and H\*\*ght\*n for the Detention Book in those grim days at the turn of the ‘fifties; whilst the terrifying “Get to my study, boy!” was your none too felicitous reward if the H.M., on his daily prow, happened to catch you. They were halcyon days indeed, with Tojo daily helping to reduce the gym piano to its present state of pathetic ineffectiveness; with a form in the middle of the school which strongly resembled the backwash of the Paris mob after the Terror in 1793 (better a detention, one thought, than to fall into their hands); and with a School Captain who treated us like a private army every break. We have witnessed, too, two great events in the history of the School: the retirement of Mr. Wynne Hughes in 1950, and of his successor, Mr. Harris, two years later. While Mr. Hughes’s exit can be described as the ending of a chapter in our history, that of Mr. Harris marked the end of an epoch, and is like the ending of a great volume which can at last be returned to the shelves, or, to vary the metaphor, like a grand harmonic finale from a small theme of a few notes announced back at the turn of the century. He was the last link connecting the School with pre 1914-18 times: the days of Victor Trumper, Clem Hill and F. R. Spofforth; of W. G. Grace, Richardson and Lockwood.



Prefects had always fascinated us; we regarded them as the backbone of the School: a species of strong arm oracles to whom the harassed Staff frequently had recourse, for aid mental and physical, against forms like the above mentioned revolutionaries. Sweet thought! and quickly shattered after our own accession to power in 1953. In sober fact, our year of office was a mere theatrical extravaganza: "A spectacle of the reign of the Upper VI. as it used to be presented by that pretentious (but by no means successful) trio the Arts Mob of 1953-4." Act I. stretches to the Christmas Examination: an ineffective conclusion to the sensations of fourteen weeks: Atkin beaten in the Senior House Rugby; the dramatic albeit unsuccessful attempt of the Boss to quit the country via the Playhouse with two adherents; the inauguration of the Lenhamland system; and N\*wb\*'s tremendous spate of tries. That term also was the hey-day of prefectorial persecution when second formers flew into detention at the same speed as the Godly once fled from Babylon. Act II. takes us to Easter with the vacillations of the producers becoming painfully evident: were we to be historians or binmen? French professors or dirt track riders? P.T. instructors or Members of Her Majesty's forces? In the last tragic act the lights went out one by one: West Brom. did *not* achieve the double (and that left us hopelessly out of pocket); N\*wb\* dried up as a try fountain; and the History Examination effected the ultimate downfall of the unfortunate Westminster Assembly. Cromwell once said that nobody rises so high as he who knows not whither he is going. In one of his more penetrating outbursts of candour, N\*wb\* parodied this dictum brilliantly and asserted that "No one scores so many marks as he who knows not what he is writing!". If this is not true, then our chances of success in the History examination are remote. Lower VI. be warned in time! Soon ye too shall witness the approach of that June monster—the Examiner Bird with his brilliant plumage of red pencils.

But the sands of time are running out; another chapter has ended in the history of the School and also reminded us (as that other hymn says) that the ever-rolling stream of time bears all its sons away. We wonder if the School really does 'weep to see us haste away so soon' and find it hard to believe that by next year, nay next term, our names will have been relegated to the limbo of antiquity. Taking it all round, however, and notwithstanding the fact that a certain Professor — might at this moment be scrutinising our Scholarship History Scripts with the air of a man who has a Greek unseen translation placed before him; nor that the announcement of our general doom is only two months away (shall we be in the privileged "list of them that hope"?); nor yet that, sooner than we had anticipated, we may be proudly swelling the ranks of Her Majesty's forces, we agree that our seven years at the Institute has been well worth while.

W.N.B.



## Science Notes

THE time of *Visor* notes has again arrived, and as they were absent from last term's issue, it is of great importance that we give you some of our news. We gladly turn our minds from our studies (i.e. those of us who have been engaged in them) now that all our examinations are past (with the exception of one foreigner in our midst).

Unfortunately our number, small as it is (though we have nearly twice as many as the arts mob) has been depleted through Marston's illness. We are pleased to hear that he is at last recovering again. Some of us have been to see him in hospital. We hope that he will soon be well again and able to be here for the last day of term.

The rest of this term will be spent in trying to amuse ourselves to avoid being bored. You may not like work, but when you have none to do you are bored with School, unless there are other activities available. The great day of the results does not come until the middle of August. However, we have all been provisionally accepted at Universities.

This term we have had the privilege of allowing the rest of the School to hear our voices, and we are sure that they much enjoyed it and took to heart the words of wisdom. Our responsibilities were taken over by our junior 6th form members during the exams, and this accounts for any unruly behaviour and drowsiness during that time. The School have been inclined to think that just because we have finished our exams they need not do any work either.

It is sad to think that it may be our last appearance in Form Notes in the *Visor* after seven years, but we hope that our names may appear in a more honourable setting within its covers in the near future.

B.H.

## Form Notes

6S.

WE are not going to write you a sonnet to Summer or tell you about our conducted tour around the local lunatic asylum. We are not going to try to be different by writing anything that is relevant or interesting. In fact, if you consider that you have any literary taste at all, you had better turn to 1B. form notes, or to the "Letters from Old Boys in prison" page immediately. On the other hand, if you have only just learnt to read, and you prefer Roy Rogers comics to Browning, you may be able, with the aid of a couple of cylinders of laughing gas and a slightly deranged mind, to crack a smile at some of the tripe written hereunder.



## ENGLAND EXPECTS—

NELSON said it, everyone knows it, but what does England expect? That's the point of this advert. Every man has a job to do, and he cannot do it if he is not well fed. That is where our job comes in—to feed England.

Not that other people could not do this, but we can do it best; remember that!

Of course you will know who we are, but so that you will not forget us we will sign our name at the bottom in the usual respectable manner . . .

---

# NIXON'S

THE GROCERS,

50 MARKET STREET,

BIRKENHEAD.

TEL. BIRKENHEAD 6212.

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# ==== TUTTY'S =====

20 Grange Road West

BIRKENHEAD 1520

44 Upton Road

BIRKENHEAD 1901

CHANDLERY

DOMESTIC HARDWARE

CHINA

*Everything for the Garden*

=====  
CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.

EST. 1902



**JAMES HEANEY & CO.**  
*General Electrical Contractors  
& Radio Engineers*

AUTHORISED DEALERS FOR HOOVER CLEANERS AND  
WASHING MACHINES

**363 WOODCHURCH ROAD,  
PRENTON, BIRKENHEAD**

Telephone : Mountwood 2603

=====  
Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



McH\*dgs\*n (of the haggis-bashing nature) has passed through the MacIavish and MacFudd phases to MacDonald, which we now learn has been discarded in favour of the name Banks. However, at least we don't swig gin in school like 4A. (back row please note!). Also, we refrain from adorning our desks with the names of acquaintances (friends in 4A. of Barbara and Elaine please note!).

Pr\*dg\*r (6A. thank Heaven), who has made for himself a mighty reputation as a man of words, has been tongue-tied whenever asked why he is not going on this year's River Trip. Considering his remarkable success with the fairer sex last year, we can't understand it. One school of thought believes that following his rocket-like developments in affairs of the heart last year, he is afraid that another such affair might lead to the blowing of a gasket. The other school of thought prefers the eminently simpler theory that the young lady will be waiting for him this year—with a shotgun! Ah, well, "Censi pro Philipppo," as the poet didn't say. The aforesaid, inspired by his success in this field, has now led many members of the 6th into leading a life of sin. Several others amongst us have blossomed out this term, and are conducting experiments into the nature of a new (to them) universal constant; even our "mad professor," whose speciality in flowers at the moment is Lily of the (Fender) Valley.

Having seen the new artistic efforts in the "dinner"-room, we are dying to know which master painted his self-portrait above the large ship entering the flag-bedecked harbour. We thank the artists for showing that Science is best.

The next instalment of "Sixth Form Scandals," this colossal, stupendous, magnificent, nerve-shattering, soul-searing, heart-rending and passion-rousing series, will not unfortunately appear until December. No other magazine will print it, so order your *Visor* now! "Sixth Form Scandals" is brought to you by Cheetham and Moppitt Ltd., makers of the famous "Even less than That" toothpaste, which is so efficient that you don't have to use any at all! Buy a family 5-gallon tin to-day and have the wonderful pleasure of actually watching your teeth decay!

In general, we enjoy life in the Sixth, but, as Naravarsilarakoffsky the Thick once said, "Every silver lining has a cloud," which at the moment is the prospect of exams., after which several of us are considering careers in the Foreign Legion—who knows, one day they may even make us sergeants.

In closing we would like to congratulate Mr. Gachër for an excellent "apres-midi française." Best wishes go with him for his prospective career as next-week's Prime-Minister of France.

Our sincerest condolences to two of our members in their recent bereavements.

J.E.G.—P.H.



AS usual the form has covered itself with glory this term. Despite the fact that we have lost Ainslie, we seem to be able to hold our own with the "Science Mob."

I myself paid a visit to the Advanced Physics Lab. Here, under the direction of the Curators—Messrs. H\*\*g\*\*ty and L\*nt\*n—I was shown some repulsive biological specimens. I can tolerate these wretched creatures, provided they are kept in the Lab., but I wish these hard-hearted scientists would not bring antiquated, frizzled rats into the Library—most distasteful to students of Marlowè. By the way, the hard-hearted trait is best depicted in "Macfudd."

Both 6A. and 6S. will be going on the River Trip this year. It is noticeable that H\*\*th (Oil-can Harry) had paid his 2/6 before anyone else had heard that the trip had been arranged. "Oil-can" must be a very enthusiastic geographer—or does he find some other attraction aboard the "Royal Iris"? Ah, yes: probably the diesel engines!! (I don't think).

The School was obviously delighted by the brilliant and talented acting by Messrs. Phipps, Lindop, K. W. Jones and Prodger, etc. (all form 6A.) in the French afternoon. The best actor—indeed, by far the best actor—from 6S. was Haggerty, who (bedecked with greenery from the Junior School garden) posed as a tree for 15 minutes.

Unfortunately, I am not a prolific "mud-slinger," but as it is my duty to do so, I have done my best!

To our regret, Monsieur Gacher has to leave us this term. The Sixth are especially grateful for his services, and wish to congratulate him on his "French Afternoon"—it really was a splendid show. As a result of this, we are to do a repeat performance of the play "Le Bruit Court" before the French Consul, on July 14th. We all wish Monsieur Gacher every success in his career and hope he will visit us again some time.

J.R.A.O'H.

ALL the world knows that, when we returned to the School last September, we entered the year of our dreaded contest with the J.M.B. Now that all that is over our members may be seen disporting themselves and rejoicing in various parts of the School premises. Whether our previous studies excluded any possibility of our writing for the *Vsor*, or our examination has sapped our inspiration, is not clear, but the only contribution that we have produced is F. W. Taylor's article on



## THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.

The Chinese Emperor, Chin Shik Whang said that he would prevent the Tartars from the north from raiding Northern China, and this is how he did it.

Emperor Chin lived in the 3rd century B.C., and his way of protecting his Empire was to build a wall round the land boundary. Two parallel walls of brickwork, each 2500 miles long, were built on granite foundations, and the space between them was filled up with stones and earth.

The wall is twenty to thirty feet high, twenty-five feet wide at the base, and fifteen feet wide at the top. At regular two hundred yard intervals, there are watch towers forty to fifty feet high.

Proof that the workmen knew their trade all right is borne out by the fact that 1400 miles of the wall still stand to-day.

It is said that the Great Wall is the one evidence of man's earthly activity which could be seen by an observer on the moon.

### 5B.

**T**HERE was not a great amount of good work received from this form, but, as they are entangled in the throes of the General Certificate of Education, this can be excused. We open with form notes written by J. G. Smith.

At last our days at the B.I. are drawing to a close. Nothing very notable has happened to us this term. Although many of our members have played for their various House Cricket teams, only one of our members has been able to gain a place in the School 1st XI., that one being Walsh. We are now in the middle of the General Certificate of Education Examination, and, although there is not now much sign of worry in the form, I think we shall be glad to get it over now that it is here. Four of our form have been picked to represent the School at the Birkenhead School Sports, but none of them stands a chance of winning. We now live in the old 4A. room, and, as it is one of the highest form rooms in the school, the fun we can have throwing things out of the window is boundless. We are forbidden to lean out of these windows, as someone may fall out and damage the beautiful, painted railings at the bottom. The form has now been reduced to nineteen. Blyth has joined the navy to see the world ("all the nice girls love a sailor"); Beaumont has enrolled in the police force to enforce law and order (we hope); Bell has gone to Lever's; D. F. Jones is on the way to becoming an electrical engineer; Thwaite is making planes, and Stevenson is a motor mechanic. I must finish now; for I have to catch up on my swotting for the G.C.E.



Our next article is one that is very topical. It was written by K. Davies, and is entitled:

### THE HORSE SHOW.

A good horse show usually includes a wide selection of horses of all breeds and uses. These range from the horses which take part in the intricate manoeuvres of the "Haute Ecole" events to the highly-decorated heavy-draught horses. There are different events for the appearance of the horses, their obedience and skill, and for their running and jumping powers. Perhaps the most interesting is the show jumping event. In this event both horse and rider must be expert judges of timing, distance, and of each other. The jumps range from simple over rails to walls, gates, and bushes. The next interesting event is the dressage or "Haute Ecole" event, in which the rider needs perfect control of his horse, in order to make it perform the actions ordered by the judge. These manoeuvres look very easy when done by experts, but when one tries them oneself the difficulty is soon realized. The heavy draught horses are usually decorated with ribbons and flowers which sometimes completely hide the horse itself. Another event not yet mentioned is the hackney or light-harness horse event. There are many horse shows in the spring and summer, and they are becoming more and more popular.

Our last article was contributed by A. Macdonald and is entitled:

### THROUGH THE SOUND BARRIER.

The sound barrier is caused when, at a speed greater than 760 m.p.h., air becomes almost solid, producing great stress on both planes and pilots. A spectator may hear an aircraft break through the sound barrier by the supersonic bangs, but in the cockpit the pilot hears nothing as he is travelling faster than sound. When passing through the Sound Barrier, a pilot wears a special suit to prevent him from "blacking-out" in the thin air at high altitudes. A ten-ton fighter, when passing through the Sound Barrier, wobbles as if its wings have been torn off. The controls reverse themselves, so that if a plane turns to the right, a pilot must not try to turn the plane in the normal way, as it will turn further to the right. To bring a plane back to the "subsonic" side of the Barrier, the pilot must reverse his controls again. After a pilot has broken through the Sound Barrier, he feels limp and weak because of the tremendous pressure which has been exerted on him. When the pilot has gone through the Sound Barrier, another obstruction arises in the path of high speed flying; that is to say the Thermal Barrier. The speed of an aircraft while passing through the Sound Barrier generates enough heat to weaken metals, and an alloy shell that can withstand such heat must be used to protect the pilot.



THE standard of articles from this form was very high, but owing to lack of space many articles have been omitted. Contributors who just failed to have articles printed were K. Hopner, P. Jones, W. J. Arthur, J. R. Newcombe, and D. Matthews. A. Jones commences with:

#### THE WIDTH OF A CRICKET BAT.

Thomas "Shock" White, of Reigate in Surrey, is famous in cricket history, because it was due to his exploit that the regulation width for cricket bats came to be introduced. Whilst playing in a match on September 23rd, 1776, White came out to bat carrying a bat that was so wide that it completely obscured the bowler's view of the wickets. There were immediate protests from the fielders, and a penknife was used to whittle it down to a reasonable size.

Two days later, the Hambledon Cricket Club—the most famous club in England at the time (Lancashire is now the most famous)—regulated the size of a bat to four and a quarter inches. Thus ended White's attempt to be "the batsman who could never be out."

There were a great many articles on the subject of aeroplanes, the best of which was D. S. Hodson's

#### HIGH ALTITUDE FLYING.

British jet aircraft, such as the Comet, which fly between 35,000 and 40,000 ft., are gaining high-altitude wind and weather experience. They make use of the winds, when they can be reliably forecast, but they often strike turbulent regions, and severe gusts. B.O.A.C. research has shown that these regions are usually from 50 to 100 miles wide, but a change of altitude of 300 ft. by the pilot can take the aircraft into calm air. The strongest wind recorded by B.O.A.C. was over 350 m.p.h. These winds are unpredictable, and so far have not been satisfactorily explained.

Finally, we have C. V. Kellett's article on

#### THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.

The Aurora Borealis, often called the Northern Lights is a natural phenomenon in the form of a luminous quivering glow. It can be seen at night in the sky, in northern latitudes, usually between 50 and 300 miles from the earth's surface. On its commencement, it takes the form of an arch, and displays almost any colour from grey to a brilliant yellow. Some auroras are very beautiful and have magnificent streamers. These often stretch in straight or wavy lines for hundreds of miles. The cause of this spectacle is unknown, although it is almost certainly connected with the emanations of the sun. A peculiar hissing sound often accompanies these aurora displays. This effect also, is unexplainable. In March, 1926, a crimson aurora was seen over London. The name Aurora Borealis is derived from Aurora, meaning the Roman goddess of Dawn, and Boreas, meaning the north wind.



WE begin 4B. notes with an article by D. Garnham which he calls:

#### A VISIT TO THE MERSEY TUNNEL.

One Saturday in May I was allowed to go behind the scenes in the Mersey Tunnel at Liverpool, where the main control room is situated. Inside the control room a man is seated behind a large desk, which has on top of it a chart, a switch board, and an illuminated diagram of the tunnel. If any accident takes place in the tunnel the man records it on the chart. Behind him there is a semi-circle of gauges, charts, dials, levers, lights and bells which regulate the air flow, oxygen flow, the traffic, and the water. The traffic is counted by means of light beams directed at light-sensitive cells, and when a vehicle breaks this beam it registers on a dial in the control room. There is one of these beams for every entrance of the tunnel. If a vehicle is too high for the slow lane another beam causes a bell to ring in the toll gate, and the vehicle is directed to the fast lane. In the tunnel there are many air-shafts. They contain large fans which drive air through the tunnel at over one hundred cubic feet per minute. Throughout the tunnel there is enough electric cable to stretch half way across the Atlantic Ocean. Underneath the roadway of the tunnel there is another tunnel which was used as a control room during the war when the official main control room was bombed.

The symbol of the Mersey Tunnel is three buddhas in a triangle, the large one at the top meaning transport, and the two small ones depicting night and day: thus the whole symbol means "Transport day and night."

Next we have an article by R. Hodson which he calls

#### OLYMPIC GAMES.

The world's most important international contest is the Olympic Games. Representatives from every country in the world take part. The modern Olympic Games date only from eighteen ninety-six, but they may be regarded as a descendant of the ancient Greek Games.

For more than a thousand years these games were held in July of every fourth year in the honour of the God Zeus, in the valley of Olympia in Elis, where in a sacred grove the greatest artists of the land built temples and statues dedicated to the Olympian Zeus. After sacrifices had been made to the gods the athletes marched to the stadium where the events took place. At first the only event was a two hundred yards sprint, but later this gave way to the Pentathlon. This consisted of running, wrestling, jumping, and throwing the javelin and the discus. Other trials of strength and skill were added still later, and included boxing and chariot racing.

The prizes were simple wreaths from a sacred olive tree planted according to tradition, by Hercules, the founder of the Games.



---

*The name that means quality . . .*

# **W. Y. Hodgson & Co.**

*. . . Specialists in Good Bread & Confectionery  
since 1876.*

**381/3 BOROUGH ROAD, Birkenhead**  
(Tel.: 1789)

**48 UPTON ROAD, Birkenhead**  
(Tel.: 81)

**THE CROSS, Bromborough**  
(Brom.: 2037)

**CHILDER THORNTON**  
(Hooton 3109)

*We also announce to all who appreciate the BEST in  
CHOCOLATE, that we are Sole Agents in the district for  
COQ D'OR CHOCOLATES  
famous for quality among connoisseurs*

---

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



# W. & J. E. PLATT

---

Builders and  
Contractors -

---

422 Woodchurch Road  
BIRKENHEAD.

---

Telephone - - - Mountwood 2687

---

PLEASE PATRONISE OUR ADVERTISERS.



We conclude with an article on birds by D. Jones.

### BIRDS.

During the winter the commonest birds are the robins, thrushes, blackbirds, house sparrows, and crows. These birds nest in the early spring. The robin lays its eggs twice a year and by the time the summer birds are about, these birds have hatched their young.

During the summer we see a great variety of birds which have flown to this country for the warm weather. An example of the hibernating birds is the swallow which can be found flying around farm houses. This bird can reach 60 m.p.h. in flight. In Scotland there are eagles, but these are very hard to find as they build their nests high up in the mountains. In Dartford there is a small bird which is called the Dartford warbler. This bird can be found in the marshes.

When one is walking in the country one cannot miss the distinct sound of the pewee or lapwing and that of the cuckoo and stock-dove. Often the skylark can be seen singing high up in the sky. When walking across marsh land or following a stream one may see a water-hen or a king-fisher. The water-hen is a small dark bird which makes its nest by the side of a river or pond. The king-fisher is a smaller bird than the water-hen and makes its nest in a hole in the bank of a river.

We now come to the sea birds, the largest of which is the albatross. This bird has the largest wingspan of all birds, and it is said to bring bad luck to any sailor who kills one. The commonest sea bird in Britain is the sea-gull. This bird has a wingspan of about 24 inches. Other sea birds that are common to Britain are the petrel, the cormorant, the shag and the diver.

### 3A.

I. J. Stanley begins 3A's contributions with an article on

### THE STONE OF DESTINY.

Legend tells us that the Stone of Destiny, or Stone of Scone—the coronation seat of ancient Scottish kings—was the pillow of Jacob at Bethel. It is generally known that the stone was removed to London by Edward I., and it can now be seen beneath the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey. But there is an old Perthshire tradition that when the monks of Scone heard of the approach of Edward I. and of the depredations carried out in his advance northwards, they hid the Stone of Destiny and substituted a block of local sandstone in its place.

The author of "Highways and Byways in Central Scotland" tells that while he was conversing with the Earl of Mansfield, the subject of the Perthshire tradition arose. The Earl said that about 150 years ago two employees of the Dunsinane Estate found an opening in the side of Dunsinane Hill. The men entered, and at length came upon a cavern in which



they found a stone slab supported on pillars. There were traces of hieroglyphics on the stone. On a subsequent visit to the hill they were unable to find the entrance owing to a landslide. About sixty years ago it was rediscovered owing to the fact that the Laird of Dunsinane employed men to carry out excavations on the site of Macbeth's fort on the summit of Dunsinane Hill. Towards the end of the excavations the underground chamber was again found. When the hieroglyphics were translated they read: "The Shadow of a Kingdom till sylphs in air carry me to Bethel."

The stone was similar in size and shape to the Scone Stone, but was of a much heavier material—possibly of meteoric origin.

All the early Scots historians are unanimous in describing the stone as being of a heavy material "a grit marble stone." It must certainly have been of durable composition, to have been transferred, as the old tradition says, through Egypt, Spain, Ireland, and Iona to Scone. The present Coronation Stone is however of red sandstone. Is the Dunsinane stone the Stone of Destiny? Certain it is that the obvious care taken to hide the stone and, most significant, the reference to Bethel on the stone, give strong support to the tradition of substitution in 1296.

Does it now lie cobwebbed and dusty in the vaults of some Scottish manor, or moss-grown in a corner of a burial ground, or on the bleak hillside from where it came?

Next T. Hardy writes about

### THE TOWER OF REFUGE.

The Tower of Refuge on the Flakes of Conister in Douglas Bay, Isle of Man, was built through the efforts and largely at the expense of Sir William Hillary. Many a good ship and many a fishing smack had found their destruction on the sunken reefs; the "St. George," the Manx packet-boat, was driven on the rocks. Sir William lived in what is now Fort Anne Hotel directly overlooking the harbour and bay, and as he stood at his windows he saw the crew and passengers struggling in the surf of the sea, and heard their agonising cries for help.

In 1823 Sir William founded the National Lifeboat Institution and himself took part in many a rescue. Hence the idea of the Tower of Refuge was carried to completion. When there is a very low tide, people may walk out to the tower.

Sir William is buried in St. George's churchyard.

### 3B.

It was an extremely difficult task to select articles for 3B's column, due to the large number of good contributions. Among the less fortunate essayists were K. E. Newton, D. Harford, R. A. Jones and A. Copeland.



F. G. Snowden commences with an article entitled

#### LATE FOR SCHOOL (written from experience).

The bell of the small green alarm clock heralds the birth of a new day. I sleepily pull off the blankets and stagger into the bathroom. I wash my face and hands, dry them and, still very tired, I dress.

It is a bright summer's day, and not the sort of day when one wishes to be at school surrounded by those French and Maths books.

Having hastily gulped a cup of milk and eaten a few biscuits, I heave on my blazer and plant my cap on my head. Glancing at the clock, I see that it is eight-thirty. What! Late again? A million thoughts rush through my head—can I make it?

Now, fully awake for the first time, I dash into the street and race to the bus stop. But there it goes, the number fifty-two—my bus. Oh Gosh! not again . . . Wait! here comes the number eleven. It only goes to Charing Cross, but it will have to do.

Once aboard, one is in a world of one's own—a fidgeting, nervous world, in which one is wondering and hoping. I am just in the act of vowing never to leave it so late again when I realise that I am at the stop. I am in so much of a hurry that I almost fall down the stairs. I start racing along Whetstone Lane, stumbling and still hoping.

At last I reach the School. Will the front door be open? . . . No! Oh! What shall I do? I race round to the back of the School, up the steps and flop exhaustedly against the door. I must not lose hope yet. Perhaps I shall be able to sneak past the "Pre" in charge. I try the door—it is locked. What! But how? . . .

Then, slowly the terrible truth dawns upon me; the horrible truth, mocking me from all sides—It's Saturday!

M. D. Williams continues by giving us a brief history of

#### THE PENNY.

The penny has a long history. Offa, King of Mercia in the 8th Century, first coined it, using as a model a continental coin known as a "denarius." From this word we get the sign 'd' in £ s. d. A denarius was a Roman silver coin worth approximately 8d. From the time of Offa until 1257, the penny was always a silver coin; in the latter year a gold penny was issued by Henry III., worth twenty silver pennies. Silver coins continued to be coined until 1661, but no copper pennies were minted until 1797, though copper halfpennies were in circulation in Charles II.'s reign. The bronze penny, as we know it to-day, is very recent; it dates from 1860.

We continue with A. Copeland's

#### THREE FAMOUS BRIDGES.

Telford, that famous engineer, built many bridges. The two most famous ones are the Menai Bridge, which stretches between the Welsh



coast and Anglesey, and Conway Bridge, across the River Conway. Both these bridges are made of iron, and are over a hundred and twenty years old. They are both suspension bridges.

The bridge over the Firth of Forth in Scotland is known as the Forth Bridge. It is made of iron and steel and is a railway bridge. The painting of the bridge takes about three and a half years, and therefore it is always being painted. Some tubular-steel stanchions are large enough for a tube train to run through them; they are used instead of girders. The bridge is over one mile in length.

Finally we have an article by D. Stubbs, entitled

#### RUBBER PRODUCTION IN THE AMAZON BASIN.

The best rubber formerly came from Brazil. It grew wild in the Amazon Basin and came from the Hevea tree, which was scattered about the forest. Natives, living in isolated huts, made a "round" of these trees every day. They made a cut in each tree so that the latex (sap) could drip into a clay bowl, which was placed at the side of the tree.

In the late afternoon they made a second "round," collecting the latex. They then hardened it by pouring it over a stick, which was arranged in a spit-like fashion over a fire. Thus, a ball of rubber was formed on the stick. After several collections, the natives took their rubber to a trading post, in canoes.

Brazil wished to keep its rubber monopoly, and therefore would not allow any to leave the country, but in 1879 an Englishman, Henry Wickham, smuggled a canoe of rubber seeds out of Brazil, and had them planted in a hothouse at Kew. Later they were taken to Malaya, and formed the basis of Malaya's great industry.

#### 2A.

**T**HE first article is by Duggan who tells us about

#### THE 1954 GRAND PRIX.

The 1954 Grand Prix Motor Race was held on two successive days, Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th June. On Saturday the fifty-seven competitors of all nationalities lined up for the unique Grand Prix starting method. This start is put into action by the drivers running to their cars from a distance, jumping in and driving away. So at 4 p.m. on Saturday at Le Mans in France the race started. For 24 hours the fifty-seven cars were racing round the seven mile track which is made up of main French highways. They did not stop except for re-fuelling and re-tyring which was done approximately every 300 miles. For a whole day and a whole night the driver's mechanics, usually two to each car, were kept busy changing the tyres and putting oil, petrol and water into their respective tanks. I think it is very sporting of the organisers of Le Mans, the Automobile Club de L'Ouest, to give these mechanics a prize as well if



---

---

Sweets ?

Fancy Boxes ?

Tobacco ?

Pipes ?

—M. SAMPSON,—

736 Borough Rd, Phone 3223

---

---

J. B. McCALL

587 Borough Road, Birkenhead.

(Opposite Plaza Theatre)

---

Registered Plumber & Building Contractor

---

PROPERTY REPAIRS IN ALL BRANCHES

GRATES & SANITARY WARE SUPPLIED & INSTALLED

Tel.: B'head 2734

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# ROBERT FOSTER

REGISTERED PLUMBER, HOT WATER AND HEATING  
ENGINEER, GENERAL CONTRACTOR

CENTRAL HEATING, DOMESTIC INSTALLATIONS,  
MAINTENANCE REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS

---

51 CHRISTCHURCH ROAD,  
OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.

Telephone No. 3234

---

---

ESTABLISHED 1919

## THE SPORTS SHOP CHARING CROSS

The Goods  
— for —  
Ever" Game

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF THE "WIZARD" and "SPEDEX"  
BRANDS OF SPORTS GOODS

---

# ROBERTS & JOBSON

LIMITED

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



their car wins or comes second. The first prize for this race is 2 million francs. This prize was won by Italy with a "Ferrari."

Second Prize, one million francs, was won by England with a "Jaguar." Third was America with a "Cunningham," and fourth was Belgium with a privately entered "Jaguar."

Kay describes

### A VISIT TO THE GAS-WORKS.

When I visited the Gas-works opposite to Cammell Laird's I was astounded by all the intricate machinery which is needed to make the gas. One of the buildings we visited was the furnace room which, funnily enough, was on the top floor of a four-storey building. The furnace heats up to around 400—500 degrees c. and it was quite hot in there, so I was glad when we came down and went into the canteen. As we were walking round we went into a room where three men were experimenting. They showed us some very marvellous apparatus which we looked at. We were given a leaflet which described and illustrated the method of preparing the gas. Last of all we went to the top of a gas-holder.

Lastly Morgan tells us of

### A VISIT TO LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL OVER WHITSUN.

On Whit Monday, in spite of the fact that it rained hard for most of the day, I visited Liverpool Cathedral in the afternoon at 3 o'clock to hear a Bach recital of organ music given by Noel Rawsthorne. As the recital did not start until 3-15 p.m. I had a chance to look around. The organist may play one of two consoles: a detached one on the floor, on the N.E. side of the Central Space and some distance away from the pipes to which it is connected by means of electricity, or from one about 20 feet from the ground on the North side of the Chancel. Although Mr. Goss Custard, the regular organist, always plays from the detached console Rawsthorne, his deputy, plays on the other. From the Chancel of the Cathedral, the organ pipes are placed in two parts in two chambers on either side of the Chancel about twenty feet from the ground.

One writer has said that it is better to play from the detached console because "the player hears his giant instrument in almost perfect balance as opposed to audition from the original console which is with the sections of the organ on the North side of the Chancel." However, Rawsthorne played from the original console this afternoon, and gave a superb recital; the best piece was Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor.

So cleverly did he play this brilliant piece of music that the echo which usually spoils Fugues, was scarcely noticed.



G. Lyon begins 2B's contributions with an account of the remarkable achievements of

### ROGER BANNISTER.

When Bannister ran the mile race, he started off in second place with Chris Brasher first and Chris Chataway third. All three kept their positions until 250 yards from the winning post when Bannister took over the lead from Chris Brasher.

This spurt made by Bannister to pass Brasher was not only to win the race, but to try to break the world record, which he did in the excellent time of 3 minutes 59.4 seconds. Brasher finished second, and Chataway in third place.

Later Bannister competed in the half-mile race. He held the lead for nearly all the way but within 75 yards of the finish, Stanisaw Jungwirth, a Czechoslovakian, overtook him, and so won the race. Roger Bannister finished second.

Next R. Easdown writes about

### PIGEON RACING.

One of the oldest and most interesting sports in this country and many others is pigeon racing. The birds which the fanciers propose to send away are ringed with a silver and with a rubber ring. The silver ring is put on when the pigeon hatches out of the egg. The rubber one is put on at the start of the journey which is made by train. When the pigeons reach the place appointed by the Federation, they are released, but if the weather forecast is unsatisfactory, the Federation postpones their release. When the birds come back to their lofts their rubber ring is immediately taken off, and put in a clock which records the time they returned.

Finally P. Robinson has written some notes on

### BRITISH BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

The most common British animal is the rabbit, which is a pest to farmers, because it eats corn and damages fences. Another pest, the mole, burrows under fields causing small mounds of earth to appear on top, which you may see if you are out walking in the country. But the fur of the mole is valuable for it is very silky. The fox is also a nuisance to farmers because it kills their poultry, but it will never attack a human or a large dog unless it is cornered. The badger is very rarely seen, because it mostly comes out of its "set" at night time. It is very brave and strong.

The most common British bird is the house-sparrow, which lays small white eggs with black markings. A much rarer bird, the peregrine falcon, is carnivorous, and attacks smaller birds.



D. Roberts writes on

### CASTLES OF NORTH WALES.

There is a magnificent chain of castles extending along the North Wales coast from Flint, near Chester, to Aberystwyth in Mid-Wales. Most of them were built by Edward I. He defeated Llewellyn who was forced to give up land to the King. The King started by building Flint and Rhuddlan Castles. Later the work moved on to Conway, Harlech, and Beaumaris.

In 1277 Edmund, the King's brother, began to build the Aberystwyth Castle. It is uncertain when Caernarvon Castle was started, but it is said to have been about 1283 when the King promised a charter to the town. Criccieth is said to have been built at the same time as Caernarvon. It is a small castle built on a rock by the sea.

In the following hundred years the Castles were neglected and became ruins. All these Castles are found by the sea shore.

Next Farrer tells of

### THE APPOINTING OF THE NEW MAYOR OF BIRKENHEAD.

On Monday, May 24th, the Town Council elected the new Mayor of Birkenhead.

First came the Town Councillors, and five minutes later the Mace Bearer entered the Council Chamber and ordered silence. He then announced the Mayor, and everyone stood up until the Mayor, Mr. Short, had come in and sat down on a big chair, in front of the Council.

A member of the Council then arose and made a speech, saying that he thought Mr. Platt deserved to be Mayor, because he had performed great services to Birkenhead. Another member then seconded the proposal. Both members went out in order to bring in Mr. Platt. The Mace Bearer took from Mr. Short the chain of office and his gown and placed them on Mr. Platt, who then read out the declaration and signed a book. The proposer and the seconder also signed this book.

Some business was then discussed, after which the ceremony was over.

Hill gives us some facts on

### ROCKETS.

Although the first rockets were put together some 750 years ago, the science of rockets is only about thirty years old. The Chinese first used rockets to frighten the horses of fierce raiding tribesmen. They were later used by Rajah Hyder Ali in a rebellion in 1780. These rockets drove the British right off the field at Guntar.

A British Colonel of artillery read about this and began to experiment and design war rockets; his name was William Congreve. Rockets were frequently used in war until 1900 when they were abandoned. To-day



there is much speculation over flight to other planets, but this proposition presents many problems such as fuel, etc.

Lastly Winder describes

### CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

One day during the Easter holidays we went to Chester. We went round the Cathedral which is the chief church in the Diocese of Chester, and if you live in Cheshire, it is your Cathedral. In it stands the Bishop's Throne of the Diocese. Chester Cathedral was not always a Cathedral, for up to the time of Henry VIII., Cheshire was part of the Diocese of Lichfield. The building was an Abbey then. The Abbey was founded not many years after the Norman Conquest, but before that there was a Saxon Church close by the site of the Abbey.

The Cathedral does not look very big from the outside, but when you travel round inside, you find it is very big. The carving and stonework are very beautiful, and there are many stained glass windows. It really is a wonderful building and one well worth a visit.

### 1B.

THE form submitted much excellent work, and the editors experienced great difficulty in selecting the best articles. The first one chosen is by A. Bird, and he calls it

### WHILE WE SLEEP.

Night is the natural time for us to sleep, but many things go on during the night for our well-being and safety. Your breakfast herring was caught the night before, and transported along the road in the dead of night, so that you can eat it fresh. Doctors and nurses have to sit up all night because pain waits for nobody. Farmers have to be alert, because calves can be born, or sheep may be troubled by dogs. In the pits it makes no difference whether the sun shines or the moon's work is still going on. The policeman patrolling the beat is always alert. All the while we have our heads on our pillows.

Next D. Lewis tells us about

### THE TOLLUND MAN.

Some time ago the corpse of a man was found in a peat bog in Denmark. This man is said to be two thousand years old. The body had been so well preserved by the coffin carved out of an oak tree, in which it was placed, that scientists were able to find out what the Tollund Man had eaten for his last meal. It consisted mainly of seeds such as maize and corn, and many other things, mixed with water.



## ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

*Agents for Philips, G.E.C., Marconi & Cossor*

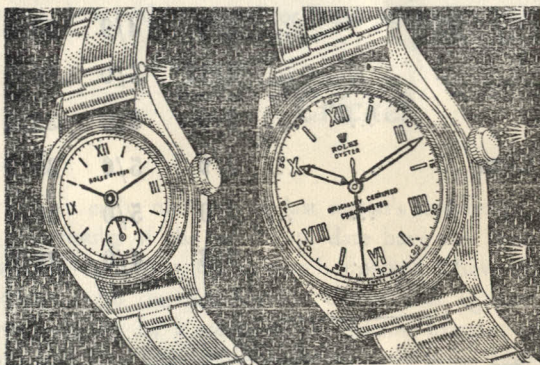
+++  
+++ **E. H. JONES** +++  
+++++

**RADIO AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS**

Also specialists in Radio and Television Repair

**11 WESTBOURNE ROAD  
BIRKENHEAD**

*Tel:*  
*Birkenhead 2382*



FOR  
THE  
WORLDS'  
FINEST  
WATCHES

OMEGA, ROLEX, LONGINES,  
CRUSADER, ACCURIST, ROTARY,  
CYMA, AVIA, VERTEX, etc.

VISIT . . .

**PYKE & SONS**

Phone : B'HEAD 7444/5

57 Grange Rd.  
BIRKENHEAD

Phone: CENTRAL 2956

16-18 Exchange St. East  
LIVERPOOL

Phone B'HEAD 403

42 Market St.  
BIRKENHEAD

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



---

---

# HARTHEN'S

32 PENSBY ROAD  
(Heswall 115)

49 OXTON ROAD  
(Birkenhead 2547)

---

## Specialists in Animal Feeding

---

				7 lbs.	14 lbs.	1 cwt.
Layers' Meal	...	...	...	2/6	4/9	33/6
Layers' Pellets	...	...	...	2/11	5/9	38/9
Plate Maize	...	...	...	2/9	5/0	35/6
Mixed Poultry Corn	...	...	...	2/9	5/0	35/9
Wheat	...	...	...	2/9	5/0	36/0
Oats	...	...	...	2/3	4/0	28/0

---

We have a big Variety of  
BUDGIE TOYS, DOG COLLARS AND LEADS, ETC.,  
Always in Stock.

*WE DELIVER QUANTITIES IN  
CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES*

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



Some people think that the Tollund Man was murdered, but scriptures tell us that many people were sacrificed in those days. Some people were hanged and buried on a hill, and some were hanged, put into a coffin, and thrown into a peat bog. The scientists think that the Tollund Man was sacrificed to some god.

Finally C. Myers writes about

### MAKING POTTERY.

The materials used in the making of earthenware are china and ball-clay, china-stone, and flints. The clays are mixed with water separately, and then the correct amounts of each ingredient are carefully blended together to produce the fine clay for the potters to work. The right amount of each ingredient is pumped into a measured tank. Then the pug-mill kneads the clay into a fine even texture.

Plates are made on a revolving disc; the potter shapes the back by lowering the profile. Cups are shaped on a ball of clay; handles are fixed to cups by a mixture of water and clay. When the clay article is dry it is placed in an oven until it is hard and durable. Then it is dipped in a creamy glaze, and heated again in an oven. Finally the ware is decorated by stencil or hand painting.

## Cricket

### 1ST XI.

With eight members of last season's undefeated team still left with us, the results of the 1st XI. to date have not been as good as it was reasonable to expect. Of 10 matches played 4 have been won, 5 lost, and 1 drawn. All the matches lost except that against Liverpool Institute have been lost by a comparatively narrow margin, and might well have been won if a little more enterprise had been shown. Our defeat by Quarry Bank H.S. was particularly disappointing to us, after dismissing our opponents for the comparatively low score of 51 and ourselves scoring 18 before the first wicket fell, a subsequent collapse resulted in our reaching the meagre total of 31. The main cause of our failures has, in fact, been the poor quality of the batting, which has generally been diffident and ineffective especially against slow bowling. The weakness of the team in this department may be gauged from the fact that out of 100 individual innings played, only 14 have reached double figures, and of these 5 occurred in one match. Only Marrs has consistently batted with any appearance of confidence, though Roberts has shown himself capable of attack when he has stayed long enough. Both the bowling and fielding have greatly improved during the course of the season, and good per-



performances in bowling have been given by Mathieson, Roberts, Dean, and Lindop, H. S. Jones has kept wicket well, but must be more on the look-out for opportunities of stumping.

The best individual performances have been:—

In batting: Marrs, 24 against Calday, 20 against Holt H.S.; and Roberts, 21 against Oldershaw G.S.

In bowling: Mathieson, 8 for 4 against Oldershaw G.S. and 6 for 5 against Rock Ferry H.S.; Dean, 6 for 21 against Liverpool Collegiate School; Roberts, 6 for 15 against Quarry Bank H.S. and 5 for 3 against Wirral G.S.

Results in full to date are:—

May 1—v. Rock Ferry H.S.—Lost by 2 wkts. (44 and 45 for 8).

May 8—v. Park H.S.—Lost by 3 wkts. (48 and 49 for 7).

May 12—v. St. Anselm's College—Won by 5 wkts. (75 and 80 for 5).

May 15—v. Holt H.S.—Drawn (Holt 101—B.I. 68 for 8).

May 19—v. Calday G.S.—Won by 5 wkts. (43 and 46 for 5).

May 22—v. Oldershaw G.S.—Won by 38 runs (58 and 20).

May 26—v. Liverpool Collegiate School—Lost by 2 runs (44 and 42).

June 5—v. Liverpool Institute—Lost by 8 wkts. (50 and 53 for 2).

June 19—v. Quarry Bank H.S.—Lost by 22 runs (53 and 31).

June 23—v. Wirral G.S.—Won by 2 wkts. (45 and 46 for 8).

#### UNDER 13 XI.

The Under 13 XI. have to date played one match v. Park H.S., which they won. The team contains a number of promising young players who should make useful members of the Colts XI. next season.

#### COLTS XI.

The Colts XI., ably led by their captain, Fitzgerald, have enjoyed a successful season.

The majority of the team have not had the opportunity of demonstrating their prowess with the bat, being seldom called upon, for the five victories out of the six matches played have been won by six or more wickets. However, they have proved their ability in the bowling which has been keen and good throughout.

With four matches remaining to play further successes are assured.

Fitzgerald tops the batting with an average of 17.3, and Watt, who has bowled extremely well, heads the bowlers with an average of 2.3.

#### FIXTURES AND RESULTS.

May 8—v. Park High School—Won by 6 wkts. (48 and 51 for 4).

May 13—v. St. Anselms—Lost (72 for 8 and 39).

May 15—v. Holt High School—Won by 7 wkts. (41 and 44 for 3).

May 22—v. Oldershaw G.S.—Won by 2 wkts. (37 and 39 for 8).

June 5—Wirral Grammar School—Won (46 and 50 for 3).

June 19—v. Quarry Bank School—Won by 7 wkts. (31 and 40 for 3).



## Chess Club

**D**ESPITE the advent of Cricket and a whole host of other activities which makes Chess essentially a Winter pastime, the enthusiasm of eleven of our younger Chess players was given an outlet in the Easter holidays in the shape of a Tournament at Liverpool Collegiate School. Out of a field of about three hundred entrants, four of our representatives received prizes, and three of those achieved 1sts. In the Under Twelve Section Nine, R. Byrne came second with nine and a half points out of eleven; in the Under Twelve Section Eight, P. W. Wright came first with nine and a half points out of eleven; in the Under Twelve Section Seven, D. Barwell came equal first with ten points out of eleven; in the Under Fifteen Section Twelve, M. Noel came first with ten points out of eleven; and W. N. Bryant tied for second place with three points out of five in the Open, Section Two.

In the Annual Tournament held at Wallasey, the School's only representative was J. F. Morgan, this year promoted to the Under Fifteen Section, where he came second with three points out of five.

The only match played since the last *Visor* was against Wade Deacon Grammar School: the first team won by eight games to nil, but the second team were held to a draw—four games each. It is hoped that another friendly match against Wade Deacon will be arranged later in the term.

W.N.B.

## Music Club.

**A**T the time of going to press the Music Club has been inactive since last term, but it is proposed that, with Mr. Hughes as chairman and E. H. Hubbard as secretary, three meetings will be arranged before the holidays. It is hoped that Mr. Hughes will give another of his illustrated talks, this time on "Modern Swing Music"; the secretary will play and explain some records; and finally there will be a meeting which should prove very interesting—a "free for all" record session when all will be invited to bring along and play their own records.

E.H.H.

## Scout Notes

**T**HIS term, though without any major event, has seen plenty of outdoor activity, especially by the junior troop, who held a weekend camp at Whitsun with the P.L.'s in charge, spent at least one very wet evening burning up their excess energy in the precincts of the Solly Ground, and are holding another weekend camp in the very near future.



Four junior P.L.'s have just completed first-class hikes in the Capenhurst—Shotwick region, and are awaiting the verdict of the examiner.

Among the senior troop members the accent has been on quality rather than quantity. We haven't done quite so much, but what we did took some doing.

An all-night wide game on a large scale was held in the Storeton Woods area, which for some people extended as far as Parkgate and Caldby, and Chris Slevin and Prof. Jones completed a Venturer badge hike, somewhere in the region of the Horseshoe Pass in a very thick fog one Sunday night.

Towards the end of term, after nearly two years at the helm, T.L. Chris Slevin was obliged to relinquish his post in order to take out a warrant as an A.S.M. After a re-shuffling of the senior troop with a redistribution of honours, J.E.G. succeeded Chris as T.L., and Prof. Jones became senior P.L., with Dennis Garnham as his second. Derek Potter, formerly Prof's second, became P.L., with Pête Carruthers as second.

The main event of the future is the annual summer camp, which will this year revisit the beautiful countryside around Knighton in Radnorshire. The camp promises to be on the small side, and this fact coupled with the ideal surroundings should yield a camp with plenty of scope for outdoor activities. In fact, if the weather gives us a break, this could be one of the best camps the troop has had since it last visited the site.

T.L.

## **Ston Press**

### **CORONATION CUP.**

Usually at this point of the Summer Term the competition for the Coronation Cup has been decided, one House having gained a winning lead before the Summer examinations. This year, however, an exciting struggle has developed. Atkin, for the fourth successive year, won the Athletic Sports, Westminster being second, and Stitt third. As a result of the Cricket matches, however, Atkin finished a poor fourth, Stitt being the winning House. The Summer Term activities have resulted in three of the Houses being very close together, Westminster having 24 points, and Atkin and Stitt 23 points each. For the first time then for many years the final result of the Competition depends on the School examinations and on the General Certificate results.

### **CRICKET.**

June 5—v. Liverpool Institute—Lost by 8 wkts. (50—53 for 2).  
June 19—v. Quarry Bank High School—Lost by 22 runs (53—31).  
June 23—v. Wirral G.S.—Won by 2 wkts. (45—46 for 8).  
July 7—v. Chester G.S.—Lost by 3 runs (55—52).  
July 10—v. Alsop H.S.—Lost by 7 wkts. (52—58 for 3).  
July 12—v. Wirral G.S.—Drawn (Wirral 81 for 7 dec.—B.I. 30 for 6).



Weddings  
Cremations

Qualified  
Embalmers

Modern  
Equipment

Private  
Chapel

Telephones { Birkenhead 2323  
                  { Upton 1714

## Taylor's Funeral Services

146 CONWAY STREET,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Presented by  
J. A. Taylor & Sons

---

---

CHINA, EARTHENWARE, CHANDLERY  
and HARDWARE

L H. CHRISTIAN.

Garden and Electrical Accessories

---

IRONMONGERY, PAINTS AND DISTEMPERS

---

778 BOROUGH ROAD,  
PRENTON :: BIRKENHEAD

Telephone: Birkenhead 4391

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# ROGERS BROS.

for

**Cycles : Auto-Cycles : Mini-Motors**

**Cycle-Masters : Cairns Mocyc.**

**RADIO : TELEVISION**

**Prams : Go-Chairs : Toys**

etc., etc.

*Note Addresses . . .*

73/7 Exmouth Street . 49 Market Street,

1 Sussex Street . 67 New Chester Road,  
New Ferry.

Phones : Birkenhead 3400, Ext. 123.

Rock Ferry 1730.

**DON'T DELAY : CALL TO-DAY**

**LARGEST STOCK IN THE NORTH.**

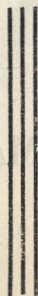


---

---

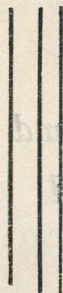
# NOLANS

FLORAL ART DEPT.



FRESH FLOWERS  
.. DAILY ..

—  
FLORAL TOKENS  
FOR ALL OCCASIONS



24 OXTON ROAD,  
BIRKENHEAD

Telephone: Birkenhead 2155

---

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# A. E. MEGGS

(LATE G. TAYLOR)

---

OXTON ROAD FRUIT MARKET

—

FRESH FRUIT  
and VEGETABLES

(CANTEENS, SHIPPING, ETC., SUPPLIED)

---

*Quick Frozen Fruit and  
Vegetables Supplied*

---

51/53 OXTON ROAD  
BIRKENHEAD

Phone. : B'HEAD 330

---

Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."





# GRIFFIN and EVANS

(Evans, Bristowe Ltd.)

SPORTS GOODS.

SPORTS CLOTHING.

SPORTS FOOTWEAR.


SCOUT CLOTHING.

CAMPING EQUIPMENT.

---

44 GRANGE ROAD WEST,  
BIRKENHEAD.

Telephone : 2918



Please patronise our Advertisers and mention the "VISOR."



# JAMES McKENZIE LTD.

*Wirral's Photographic Centre*

**27-29 Grange Road West,**

**BIRKENHEAD**

Phone: BIRKENHEAD 4833 (5 lines).

---

THE NEWEST

CAMERAS

ENLARGERS,

ACCESSORIES.

*We have them in Stock*

---

Sound on Film Projectors

Silent Projectors

Film Strip Projectors

Epidiascopes

Screens

Cine Spares

Chemicals

Measures

Thermometers

Tanks

Albums and Mounts

Exposure Meters.

AND

EVERYTHING FOR YOUR DARK ROOM

SPECIAL DEVELOPING and

PRINTING SERVICE.

---

And Branches at—

**98 MARKET STREET,  
HOYLAKES,**

Telephone: Hoylake 3559

**88 NEW CHESTER ROAD,  
NEW FERRY,**

Telephone: Rock Ferry 2369

**2d WHITBY ROAD  
ELLESMERE PORT,**

Telephone: Ellesmere Port 292