

THE VISOR



MAGAZINE OF
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

SUMMER 1958

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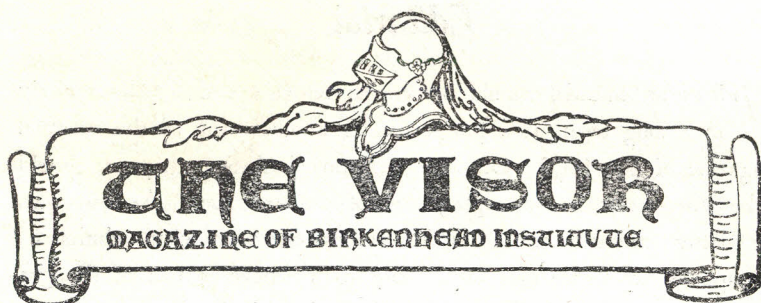
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1st XI, 1958



D. Docherty, D. D. Jones, M. R. Leeming, M. H. Parry, R. G. Taylor, F. Phipps, J. S. Baxter (Scorer),
W. G. Johnson, A. Kay, T. H. Harris (Capt.), P. J. Sampson, R. Povall.

Photo by Cull.



THE GOVERNORS.

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„ R. D. JONES, J.P.

„ Miss E. M. KEEGAN.

Professor K. MUIR, M.A.

Mr. G. A. HOLFORD.

* * *

School Calendar

Summer term began April 21st.

Athletic Sports May 22nd.

Half-term May 26th and 27th.

Summer term ends July 25th.

Autumn term begins September 8th.

Editorial

WHEN an editorial should be written remains a nice point. Early in a long term, as a prospectus, as a blue print of the eventual magazine of late July? Or, like some novelists' first chapters, should it be written last, as the coping-stone of the structure? At least with the latter method an editor knows how the term went, admits the triumph of experience over hope. But to whichever school of thought he belongs, to the idealist which writes editorials in April, or to the desperate which postpones the task until the printer's devil is at his very elbow, the Editor concedes that produce it at last he must. It is a fair British compromise to do so about half-way through a summer term, when enough of it has elapsed for its atmosphere and achievement to be assessed with some assurance, and before the sands begin to run out, before inspiration is choked by the cares which the winding up of another School year inevitably brings.

We write therefore with the Sports and Whitsun break behind us, and with the General Certificate already looming up in front like the Rockies seen from the prairie. "If the British Empire should last a thousand years"—to quote part of a famous phrase, an age may yet arrive when summer is not synonymous with examinations. But that time is not yet, and this number of the *Visor* once more records the passage of weeks which have seen the usual competition between nature's seductive call to the open air and learning's stern summons to revision. As usual, too, the inner conflict is aggravated by the wanton freaks of weather which can produce a downpour at the Sports and which may bring temperatures in the eighties during English Literature I. or Mathematics Syllabus I. Things were simpler in Wordsworth's day, when he could greet a bright summer morning with the words,

"Up! up! my friend, and quit your books,
Or surely you'll grow double."

Nevertheless there is a final phase in the most exacting summer term when even examinations are past and August is at hand—the one month in the calendar which has never yet (despite educational progress) appeared at the head of any homework problem or any detention exer-

cise. As readers of our pages will see, many new activities have mingled with old established practice during the last fourteen weeks. Some reluctant farewells have also to be spoken; for breaking up—as was said after the Christmas party at Dingley Dell—can bring sadness as well as joy. Since they are part of life, it is inevitable that this should be so. It has always been the purpose of the *Visor* to bring before its readers a full picture of each successive term as the years roll by, both in sunshine and shadow, and we believe this number will once more show that we have endeavoured to fulfil that duty with fidelity.

Salvete

1A. Adamson, J. S.

Valete

6. Brocklebank, D.

5A. Keating, W.

4B. Carpenter, A. H.

Mr Allison's Retirement

THIS term the School bids farewell to Mr. Allison with profound regret. It is now just over thirty-seven years since he first began to teach in Birkenhead Institute; for he was appointed when Mr. Smallpage was Headmaster, in May 1921, and he has been responsible for the School's Geography Department throughout that long period. Few grammar schools can have been served so faithfully by a distinguished specialist; for his renown as a geographer far transcends our confines. He has done more than anyone else to reconstruct the early history of this district by his researches in the ancient field maps. His advice was sought by Sir Charles Reilly when the Development Plan for Birkenhead was being drawn up after the Second World War. He was instrumental both in the preservation of Tranmere Cross and in the compilation of the history of Birkenhead Ferries. He wrote a book on the Mersey which a Liverpool Professor said was one of the very few really illuminating books on the subject. At Liverpool Uni-

versity, of which he is a Master of Arts, Mr. Allison is well known as Chairman of the Geographical Association, and, when the British Association met there, he had the leadership of a section. Thus, the countless number who have been privileged to attend his classes since 1921 have been in contact with a teacher of the widest reputation and achievement. Old Instonians will recall his interest in School football, the Dyserth Camps of 1921/2, and the Swiss Tour of 1930. But, above all, what his pupils are likely to remember most is his love of, and interest in, Merseyside. Himself a native of Liverpool, with an ancestry linked both with H.M. as well as merchant ships, he served with Liverpool men on the Western Front in the Great War of 1914-18. His knowledge of the commercial history of this district, based as it is on a profound mastery of its geography, has always infused his teaching with the best sort of local patriotism. As a colleague he has been intensely loyal, fearless, and just, but no one had a keener relish for a jest. Mr. Allison's place will be difficult to fill; for his long career among us is an important chapter of Institute history. That he may have many years of happy retirement ahead of him in which he may pursue those studies he has adorned is the wish of us all.

Staff Notes

IN addition to the loss of Mr. Allison (whose impending retirement is dealt with elsewhere in this issue), we are bidding farewell to Mr. Robins at the end of this term. Appointed to the Staff in January 1954, Mr. Robins has been in charge of Physical Education at the School during the last four years. Few schools could have been privileged to have so distinguished a figure responsible for its Rugby football. An international who was capped for Wales eleven times, who toured Australia and New Zealand in 1950 as a member of the Rugby Union Touring Team, and who was included in the Barbarians Team 1951-3, has obviously an impressive record in this code. We are certain that all Instonians who have been so fortunate as to be coached by Mr. Robins will value this experience throughout their lives. Above and beyond his stature on the field, Mr. Robins has been an excellent colleague from every aspect, invariably friendly and helpful in all School matters. We here can assure him that we part with very deep regret and wish him every success in his future, which we are confident will be a bright one, when we consider the brilliant qualifications he has to offer in a Britain becoming increasingly conscious of the importance of physical education.

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Speech Day

SPEECH Day this year was on March 28th, when School assembled at the Technical College for the annual presentation of prizes, certificates, and trophies. His Worship the Mayor, Alderman H. Dawson, J.P., who presided, was accompanied by the Mayoress, Miss Blanche Gill, and the platform party included the Chairman of the Education Committee, Alderman F. Garstang, M.A., J.P., and Mrs. Garstang, and Alderman J. Furness, J.P. (an ex-Chairman of the Governors) and Mrs. Furness, with other members of the Education Committee and the Governors. The principal speaker was Mr. W. L. Cottier, C.B.E., B.Com., an Old Boy of the School and Her Majesty's Staff Inspector for Regional Co-ordination of Technical Education, who had a large hand in securing Ministerial approval for the plans for the Birkenhead Technical College. After the presentation of bouquets to the Mayoress, Mrs. Cottier, and Mrs. Garstang, the Head Boy, R. F. Salmon, presented copies of the poems of Wilfred Owen, also an Old Institution, to the Mayor, Mr. Cottier, and Alderman Garstang, after which His Worship, in a characteristic speech, introduced the Headmaster, who presented his report on the previous year's work. Mr. Cottier in the course of his speech, which stressed the necessity of increasing the numbers of students taking technical courses, and showed the different ways of acquiring technical education, paid tribute to Mr. J. E. Allison, the School geography master, and emphasised his services not only to the School but to the whole of Merseyside. To mark his appreciation Mr. Cottier has endowed an *Allison* geography prize for the next three years.

PROGRAMME

School "Creation's Hymn" *Beethoven*

REPORT BY THE HEADMASTER

(E. G. Webb, B.A.)

Choir "On Wings of Song" *Mendelssohn*
 "Who is Sylvia?" *Schubert*

PRESENTATION OF

PRIZES, CERTIFICATES AND TROPHIES

AND ADDRESS

BY

W. L. COTTIER, ESQ., C.B.E., H.M.I.

(H.M. Staff Inspector for Regional Co-ordination of
 of Technical Education)

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Allsopp, J., Chemistry, Biology; Hoppner, K. R., Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; Jones, P., Mathematics, Physics; Kellett, C. V., Geography, Chemistry, Biology; Lythgoe, P. J., Physics; Mathews, D. A., Mathematics, Physics; Newcombe, J. R., Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; Roberts, R. J., English Literature, History, French; Walsh T. J., History (Distinction), English Literature, French.

At Ordinary Level—

Blackwell, R. R.; Blaylock, P. A.; Boyd, E. F.; Brocklebank, D.; Burdett, F.; Charters, D. M.; Colley, C. E.; Collins, N. S.; Dixon, R. A.; Duggan, G. B.; Edge, D.; Evans, P. G.; Greaves, G. K.; Green, A. E.; Harris, D.; Harris, T. H.; Harrison, L. B.; Holmes, W. B.; Irwin, P. L.; Jackson, A. H.; Kay, A. W.; Keating, W.; Lamb, W. D.; Lomax, P. A.; McIntosh, I. M.; McTear, G.; Marshall, I. D. H.; Moore, E.; Morgan, J. F.; Morton, D. B.; Motley, N. E.; Murtagh, G. M. Needham, J.; Nelson, K. M.; Parker, G.; Quinn, M. G.; Rimmer, G.; Robinson, P. J.; Simms, G. E.; Simpson, A. J.; Snowdon, R. W.; Sykes, L. R.; Thomas, A.; Turner, C. J.; Wild, P. M.; Williams, C.; Wood, J. E.; Woods, E. A.; Wylie, D. W. M.

Internal Scholarships —

HENRY TATE (School) Scholarships—Hardy, T. F.; McDougall, H. A.; Salmon, R. F.; White, L. E.

Scholarship and Awards—

University of Liverpool Entrance Studentship—Walsh, T. J.
Birkenhead County Borough Scholarship—Walsh, T. J.

PRIZE LIST 1956-57

Form 1B—1st, Forshaw, D. N.; 2nd, Jones, A. K.; 3rd, Muddiman, J.
Form 1A—1st, Douglas, R. J.; 2nd, Davies, J. R.; 3rd, Woodfine, E. T.
Form 2B—Squires, A. F.
Form 2A—1st, Wood, B.; 2nd, Sutton, R. J.; 3rd, Canning, B. M.
Form 3B—Ellis, D. S.
Form 3A—1st, Leeming, M. R.; 2nd, Peters, W. R.; 3rd, Mattingley, J. M.
Form 4B—Roberts, D.
Form 4A—1st, Kellett, G.L.; 2nd, Harding, A.G.; 3rd, Chesworth, D.C.
Form 5B—Dixon, R. A.

Form 5A—1st, McTear, G.; 2nd, Wylie, D. W. M.; 3rd, Blaylock, P. A.
Form 6—English, White, L. E.; History, White, L. E.; Mathematics,
Solmon, R. F.; Science, Salmon, R. F.

SPECIAL PRIZES

Chess Prize—(*Senior*) Jones, P.; (*Junior*) Carruthers, D.
Connacher Memorial Prize for English—Roberts, R. J.
Solly Memorial Prize for History—Walsh, T. J.
The George Holt Prizes—Science, Salmon, R. E.; Mathematics, Jones,
P.; Languages, Roberts, R. J.; Walsh, T. J.
The Forshaw Memorial Prize for Art—Parker, G.
Special Prize for Physics—Jones, P.
Special Prize for Chemistry—Hopner, K. R.
Special Prize for Biology—Kellett, C. V.
Old Boys' Memorial Prize—Harris, T. H.
Headmaster's Prize—Walsh, T. J.

SPORTS

Victorum Ludorum (*Senior*) Hardy, T. F.; (*Junior*) Boyd, R. V.
Silver Cup for Games—(*Senior*) Buckland-Evers, G.; (*Junior*) Boyd, R. V.
Old Boys' Sports Prizes—Hardy, T. F., Atkin; Walsh, T. J., Stitt;
Salmon, R. F., Tate; Lythgoe, P. J., Westminster.
House Trophies — Athletics, Westminster; Cricket, Westminster;
Chess, Westminster; Cross Country, *Senior*, Atkin; *Senior Cham-*
ion, Harris, T. H.; *Inter.*, Stitt; *Inter. Champion*, Forrester, A. A.;
Junior, Westminster; *Junior Champion*, Jones, M. V.
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Coronation Cup for Rugby Football
—Tate.
His Majesty King George VI Coronation Cup—Stitt (*Champion House*
for the year).

SUCSESSES AT UNIVERSITIES.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc. Part I, Hons. Chemistry—Marrs, I.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE—

Honours School of History—

Degree of B.A. History Tripos Part I. Class II. Div. 1—

Bryant, W. N.

Mechanical Science Tripos—

Preliminary Examination, Part I. Class I.—Green, J. E.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc. (Naval Architecture) Intermediate Examination—

Mountfield, A. R.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Faculty of Medicine—

Degree of M.B., Ch.B. 2nd Professional Examination—

Hodgson, A.S.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Faculty of Science—

Honours School of Mathematics 1st Year Examination—

Peers, H. W.

Degree of B.Sc. (Civil Engineering) 1st Year Examination—

Jones, H. S.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Faculty of Science—

Degree of M.Sc. (Chemistry)—Brown, D. R.

Degree of B.Sc.—Haughton, B. A.

Degree of B.Sc. Part I.—Naybour R. D.

Degree of B.Sc. 1st Year Examination—Reed, G. A.

Faculty of Engineering—

Degree of B.Eng. Final Part I.—Molyneux, B. H. P.

Degree of B.Eng. 1st Year Examination—Evans, G. M.

Degree of B.Eng. 1st Year Examination—Taylor, J. O.

Faculty of Medicine—

Degree of M.B., Ch.B. 1st Year Examination—Pritchard, J. H.

School of Dental Surgery—

Degree in L.D.S., R.C.S. Finals Part I.—Smith, H.

Degree of B.D.S. 2nd Examination, Part I.—Galt, I. A.

Faculty of Veterinary Science—

Degree in B.V.Sc. 1st Examination—Hunt H. S.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—

Imperial College of Science & Technology—Faculty of Engineering—

Degree of B.Eng. (Civil Engineering)—Finals Part II.—Heath, P.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER—

Faculty of Geology—

Degree of Ph.D.—Rushton, B. J., B.Sc.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR—

Faculty of Arts—

Degree of M.A.—Gore, K. O., B.A.

Degree of B.A. 2nd Examination—Prodger, P. G.

Degree of B.A. 1st Examination—Jones, S. J. R.

Degree of B.A. 1st Examination—O'Hare, J. R. A.

Faculty of Science—

Degree of B.Sc.—Sherlock, G. H.

Degree of B.Sc. 1st Examination—Tuder M. J. E.

CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION—

University of Liverpool—Davies, B., B.A.

University of Liverpool—Jordon, J. E., B.A.

University of Manchester—Parry, K., B.A.

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

The Lord Cohen of Birkenhead, M.D., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P., F.F.R.,
F.S.A., J.P.—Crown Representative to the General Medical Council.

W. L. Cottier, Esq., B.Com.—C.B.E. as Staff Inspector of Technical
Colleges, Ministry of Education.

K. O. Gore, M.A.—Awarded the Nathan Scholarship of the British In-
stitute in Paris for 1957-58.

C. D. Gracey Esq.—Justice of the Peace, County Borough of B'head.

Prof. G. E. M. Hallett, M.D.S.—Editor and Council Member, European
Orthodontic Society.

A. S. Hodgson—Scottish Rugby Union Final International Trials, Dec-
ember 1957.

Caleb E. Jarvis, Esq., MUS.D., F.R.C.O.—City Organist, City of Liverpool.

M. Makin, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Croix de Guerre, Hunterian Lecturer, Royal
College of Surgeons—Head of the Leprosy Department, Hadassah
Hospital, Israel.

H. W. Peers—Awarded the Ackroyd Studentship, University of Leeds.

B. J. Rushton, PH.D., B.SC. — Appointed Geological Research Officer,
Kenya.

Commander R. Wall, R.N.—Information Officer, Government of Rhodesia

J. H. Wilson, Esq.—Member of the Lord Chancellor's Commission on
Legal Procedure.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Institute of Works Managers—Graduate Examination—

Liggett, J. H., B.A.

The Royal Institute of Chemistry—

Fellow (F.R.I.C.)—Owen, W. J.

Associate (A.R.I.C.)—Ridgway, F.

Associate (A.R.I.C.)—Sherlock, A. J.

Merchant Navy, Second Mate's Certificate—Davidson, R. J.

Merchant Navy, Second Mate's Certificate—Fisk, J. E.

H.M.S. 'Conway' Certificate—Humphreys W. N.

Athletic Sports

THE Athletic Sports were held at the School Ground, Ingleborough Road, on Thursday, 22nd May, 1958. Unfortunately, the events and distribution of awards by the Mayor and Mayoress, Alderman R. N. and Alderman Mrs. D. Melville, were marred by continuous rain. The conditions were such that competitors found it difficult to return outstanding times, and hence no records were broken.

RESULTS.

1. CROSS COUNTRY (SENIOR):
1st, G. B. Evers (A); 2nd, F. Burdett (W); 3rd, P. G. Evans (T).
2. CROSS COUNTRY (INTERMEDIATE):
1st, K. E. Humphreys (W); 2nd, M. V. Jones (A); 3rd, P. Currie (T).
3. CROSS COUNTRY (JUNIOR):
1st, D. E. Griffin (T); 2nd, T. J. Graham (W); 3rd, T. J. Oldham (W).
4. HIGH JUMP (1ST FORM):
1st, R. W. Walker (T); 2nd, A. K. Willan (W); 3rd, L. E. Yates (A).
5. HIGH JUMP (2ND FORM):
1st, G. G. Young (W); 2nd, R. Wade (T); 3rd, G. R. Blease (A).
6. HIGH JUMP (3RD FORM):
1st, D. Roberts (W); 2nd, A. Steadman (W); 3rd, P. Manley (A).
7. HIGH JUMP (4TH FORM):
1st, A. A. Forrester (T); 2nd, D. McMaster (S); 3rd, K. Elliott (S).
8. LONG JUMP (1ST FORM):
1st, H. Hughes (A); 2nd, M. A. Jacobs (T); 3rd, R. A. McLoughlin (A).
9. LONG JUMP (2ND FORM):
1st, G. G. Young (W); 2nd, R. Wade (T); 3rd, T. J. Oldham (W).
10. PUTTING THE SHOT (SENIOR):
1st, D. M. Charters (A); 2nd, G. K. Greaves (T); 3rd, F. Hadfield (W).
11. PUTTING THE SHOT (4TH FORM):
1st, N. J. Evans (T); 2nd, B. M. Doveston (T); 3rd, R. Povall (T).
12. THROWING THE DISCUS (SENIOR):
1st, C. E. Colley (T); 2nd, G. B. Evers (A); 3rd, G. K. Greaves (T).
13. THROWING THE DISCUS (4TH FORM):
1st, N. J. Evans (T); 2nd, R. V. Boyd (S); 3rd, A. G. Powell (W).
14. THROWING THE DISCUS (3RD FORM):
1st, C. G. Walker (T); 2nd, D. Roberts (W); 3rd, P. Manley (A).

5. THROWING THE JAVELIN (SENIOR):
1st, E. Barrett (T); 2nd, P. J. Sampson (W); 3rd, D. D. Jones (W).
16. THROWING THE JAVELIN (4TH FORM):
1st, R. Povall (T); 2nd, D. McMaster; 3rd, N. J. Evans (T).
17. LONG JUMP (3RD FORM):
1st, A. Steedman (W); 2nd, B. M. Canning (T); 3rd, N. Capstick (W).
18. 440 YARDS (SENIOR).
1st, G. B. Evers (A); 2nd, T. F. Hardy (A); 3rd, D. W. Wylie (A).
19. 220 YARDS (1ST FORM):
1st, B. J. Hill (A); 2nd, M. J. Jones (T); 3rd, D. R. Ratcliffe (S).
20. HIGH JUMP (SENIOR):
1st, E. Barrett (T); 2nd, T. F. (Hardy (A); 3rd, P. Bird (W).
21. 100 YARDS (3RD FORM):
1st, A. Steedman (W); 2nd, C. G. Walker (T); 3rd, D. Roberts (W).
22. 880 YARDS (4TH FORM):
1st, A. A. Forrester (T); 2nd, D. Docherty (W); 3rd, R. B. Wallace (W).
23. 440 YARDS (2ND FORM):
1st, G. G. Young (W); 2nd, T. J. Oldham (W); 3rd, P. Kevan (W).
24. 100 YARDS (SENIOR):
1st, F. Phipps (W); 2nd, J. Lowry (T); 3rd, P. J. Sampson (W).
25. LONG JUMP (4TH FORM):
1st, R. V. Boyd (S); 2nd, M. Mattingiey (S); 3rd, J. K. Elliott (S).
26. 1 MILE (OPEN):
1st, A. Kay (W); 2nd, F. Burdett (—); 3rd, A. A. Forrester (A).
27. 440 YARDS (1ST FORM):
1st, B. J. Hill (A); 2nd, P. A. Edbrook (A); 3rd, A. K. Willan (W).
28. 880 YARDS (3RD FORM):
1st, K. E. Humphreys (W); 2nd, M. V. Jones (A); 3rd, D. L. Hughes (W).
29. 100 YARDS (4TH FORM):
1st, R. V. Boyd (S); 2nd, J. K. Elliott (S); 3rd, A. McCarter (W).
30. 220 YARDS (2ND FORM):
1st, T. J. Oldham (W); 2nd, G. B. Blease (A); 3rd, G. G. Young (W).
31. LONG JUMP (SENIOR):
1st, P. G. Evans (T); 2nd, D. W. M. Wylie (A); 3rd, D. Chesworth (W).

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33: 880 YARDS (SENIOR):

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34 440 YARDS (4TH FORM):

1st, D. W. Burgess (A); 2nd, D. Docherty (W); 3rd, G. K. Elliott (S).

35 SHUTTLE RELAY (SENIOR):

1st, Tate; 2nd, Atkin; 3rd, Stitt.

36. 100 YARDS (1ST FORM):

1st, B. J. Hill (A); 2nd, A. Blair (S); 3rd, K. Anders (S).

37. 220 YARDS (3RD FORM):

1st, A. Steedman (W); 2nd, C. G. Walker (T); 3rd, A. F. Squires (T).

38. 100 YARDS (2ND FORM):

1st, T. J. Oldham (W); 2nd, G. G. Young (W); 3rd, G. B. Blease (A).

39. 220 YARDS (SENIOR):

1st, D. W. Wylie (A); 2nd, G. K. Greaves (T); 3rd, T. F. Hardy (A).

40 220 YARDS (4TH FORM):

1st, J. K. Elliott (S); 2nd, A. McCarter (W); 3rd, R. V. Boyd (S).

41. 440 YARDS (3RD FORM):

1st, A. Steedman (W); 2nd, D. L. Hughes (W); 3rd K. E. Humphreys (W).

42. RELAY (1ST FORM):

1st, Atkin; 2nd, Tate; 3rd, Stitt.

43 RELAY (2ND FORM):

1st, Westminster; 2nd, Atkin; 3rd, Tate.

44 RELAY (3RD FORM):

1st, Tate; 2nd, Westminster; 3rd, Atkin.

45. RELAY (4TH FORM):

1st, Stitt; 2nd, Westminster; 3rd, Tate.

46. RELAY (SENIOR):

1st, Tate; 2nd, Atkin; 3rd, Westminster.

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HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD:

1st, Westminster; 2nd, Tate; 3rd, Atkin; 4th Stitt.

The Easter Project

THE first notification we had of the project was when one day just before the end of the Spring Term the Headmaster gave us the bare details of a competitive endurance and initiative test to be held during the Easter holidays. Taking less than five days and using the minimum amount of money, we were to travel in pairs to various places in North Wales, bringing back proof of having been there.

McDougall and I decided to go, and presented ourselves at Mr. Webb's house at 7-30 on the grey morning of Wednesday, 9th April. For kit we carried blankets, a tent, a sleeping bag, several sweaters, shirts, toilet accessories, a camera, capes, windcheaters, and heavy boots. Against an emergency we carried a first-aid kit and a small quantity of food. The actual details of our various destinations were contained in a small log book which the Head gave us before wishing us good luck and good morning. Most of the places were well-known, although two, Marianglas and Din Lligwy, were as far as we were concerned, as remote as the North Pole. We were not overjoyed at the ominous entry "Top of Snowdon," as high mountains are not the places to visit for fun in early spring.

Starting from the Tunnel entrance, we made slow progress to St. Asaph, our first port of call, and were taken the last 18 miles by our former Sports Master, Mr. Davies. A series of lifts, including one from a student of Loughborough College and another from a Sixth Former from the Rhyl Grammar School for Girls, took us to our next stop, Llandudno. Finding very little traffic, we went from there by bus to Conway, and walked a few miles from there to a caravan site just off the Bangor road, where some friends have a caravan parked. They had offered to let us use it in return for doing a few odd jobs about the caravan. We spent the night there, having travelled 61 miles during the day.

The next day, rising at 5-30, we went to Bangor, and after doing some research at the library, located Marianglas and Din Lligwy. Walking a few miles in a fine drizzle, and travelling in most uncomfortable commercial vehicles, we reached Marianglas, a small village on the East coast of Anglesey, and Din Lligwy, an old ruined town a few miles away. Travelling by bus and a light van, we crossed the island to Holyhead via Amlwch. Our goal at Holyhead was South Stack lighthouse, which we reached after a few miles' walk and a back-breaking climb, laden with our heavy packs, down a zig-zagging cliff face path to the lighthouse. Pausing to pant and recover after the climb back, we returned to Holyhead, and, as it was now dark, pitched our tent in a small field and slept fitfully, shivering in a biting wind, after having covered 65 miles during the day.

At 6-30 the next morning we were lucky enough to be taken by a van from Holyhead to Carnarvon, our next stop. From there we went to Llanberis, to begin the ascent of Snowdon. Instead of retracing our steps, we decided not to return to Llanberis, but to take our packs with us and cross over the mountain to Rhyd Ddu, on the way to Beddgelert. When we left the comparative shelter of the lower slopes, we found that the wind was of arctic severity. The higher we climbed, the colder it became, and the deeper was the snow. The path, too, was almost impossibly steep to anyone carrying a load such as ours. At one stage we were forced every few yards to stop and freeze, while we panted and summoned enough energy for the next stretch. At the top, a gentleman offered us a lift to Beddgelert from Rhyd Ddu, and from there we reached Portmadoc, where we spent the night in the warm straw of a barn, dead to the world, and oblivious to the incessant cries of many voluble sheep. On this day we had covered 58 miles.

Again rising at 5-30, we reached Blaenau Festiniog, our next stop, in two lifts, and from there went to Festiniog. We obtained a lift a short way along the bleak moorland road to Bala, which was to be our next stopping place, and had resigned ourselves to walking 14 miles across the inhospitable moor in a boiling sun when we were picked up by a van after only an hour's walk. Reflecting that variety is the spice of life, we flavoured our trip with a train ride from Bala to Corwen, and from there walked four miles before being picked up by a lime lorry. After what seemed hours we were deposited at Ruthin, covered from head to foot with a fine white powder which had been our travelling companion in the lorry and was reluctant to part.

After dusting ourselves down, we took a bus to Denbigh, our last stop, and from there had a most precarious ride to Queensferry on the back of a flat lorry with nothing but our sense of balance and a prayer to stop us from falling off. Feeling now more than a little tired, we took a bus to Rock Ferry, travelling the last few miles in comparative comfort.

Reporting back to the Head immediately, we discovered that we had taken a bare five hours less than the other pair in the competition, although we later learned that we had spent a little more than they had, just under 15 shillings each, and had visited all the places specified while they had omitted Bala.

In spite of the fact that we had been chilled by the snow and wind, tanned by the sun, frozen one minute, roasted the next, and hungry all the time, we had enjoyed the trip immensely, though we are not quite sure why.

R. F. SALMON.

Landscape Painting Competition

ON the last day of the Spring Term, the Headmaster announced that a new competition in Landscape painting was to be inaugurated.

It is hoped to make this an annual event, allowing the Easter holiday for choice of subject and completion of the work, which will be judged early in each summer term. This year there were some 35 entries, and 3 were awarded prizes in the form of book tokens. As a general criticism it may be said that, while the drawing in most entries was good, the execution is still too timid and the subjects chosen too conventional. The Prize-winners were V. Smith (Upper 6); P. Lomax (5A); and I. McGregor (3B). Smith produced a sombre mountain landscape which clearly showed an appreciation of the structure, substance, and wildness of the subject. The large scale gave added grandeur to the scene, and the oil paint was handled with apparent ease. Lomax's work was almost a miniature, a pictorial view of a valley with woods, farms, and lake, clearly depicted. He introduced an interesting innovation by changing from tempera to enamel for the lake. This was successful except when the picture was seen from an angle, when the lake shone so brightly that it eclipsed the rest of the painting. The success of McGregor's entry was due to the rich contrast of industry viewed against natural mountain scenery. The composition was ingeniously arranged to knit together many interesting features, and his choice of colour gave added force to the subject.

It is felt that the entries of Lee (5B) and Dodd (1B) deserve honourable mention, the former for his expert drawing, and the latter for his work in water colour, which shows great promise. We congratulate all the above, as well as all other competitors who gave this new venture such an excellent start, and trust that we shall see the competition firmly established in the future, when it may rank as a points-earner for the Coronation Cup.

N.P.

Evening on Bidston

THE setting sun has charmed away all joy
From what at earlier hours would thrill my eyes,
And, by their hues which intermingle now
Or softly fade, only to emblazon forth
With yet more glorious and more radiant splendour,
The clouds, in delicate transparency,
Have drawn a misty veil o'er flowers and trees
And touched all nature's lips with silent praise.
No blackbird bursts with bold and boisterous songs;
No jubilant warbler pours his bubbling tones;
Only the viewless cuckoo's echoed note
Remains to make night's shadows seem less dread
As now they filter through the silent glades.
Now is all nature paying homage to
The deep warm glow of the descending sun
Kissing its lessening image in the waves,
Until it seems to sink into itself,
And vanish, as the crystal tears of dew.
Shed now to mourn the passing of the day,
Are spirited away by dawn's first beams.
The trees, which trembled in the noontide breeze
And shimmered as a sunlit chandelier,
Now stand in silent tribute, and up-stretch
Their boughs, full loth to let the dying sun,
Shrouded in glorious light, pass from their leafy gaze.
And yet, throughout the quiet, peaceful groves,
There is a silent hymn, a requiem,
A universal voice, which, though unheard,
Is deeper far, more moving, more devout
Than even the organ's deepest harmonies
Which swell in majesty, and fill with awe
The silent worshipper. The joy of dawn,
The ecstasy of noon, are far surpassed
In this last, breathtaking adoration.
For nature, though eclipsed in radiance now,
Never possessed a beauty more complete,
Her loveliness enhanced by worship so intent.
The sun has gone; a holy peace descends;
The soothing calm of tender night envelopes all.

Dickens in 1958

CHARLES Dickens died as long ago as June 1870, and Dean Stanley tells us that a vast and endless throng filed past his tomb in Westminster Abbey. It seems highly unlikely that the Abbey Chapter will ever be put to such inconvenience by any of our contemporary novelists. On the face of it, indeed, it would appear that Dickens himself only died in time, and that a changed and changing England could scarcely have offered him such a spontaneous tribute at a later hour. Put the strongest case against him. All his work is dated. It teems with grotesque, illiterate, and disreputable figures; it rattles with the progress of stage coaches; it is turgid with insufferable moralists; it abounds in phrases which require a glossary. Who now can understand what "living in a two pair back" meant? What was Bob Sawyer's shop boy really doing when he "flew the garter in the horse road"? What *was* "the College Hornpipe"? Set these unpromising ingredients against the archaic and dissolving background of debtors' prisons, elections on the hustings, public executions, Doctors Commons, and the Workhouse, and one might confidently assert that such a novelist had not the remotest chance of survival in the age of the bungalow, of the flat, of the internal combustion engine, of the welfare state, and of universal education. Dickens ought to be dead as mutton. Not a bit of it. Any book shop will tell you he is still a best seller. He has supplied radio with innumerable serials. When televised, his stories come over as well as, and frequently a good deal better than, the slickest script from the syndicates. The motion-picture people have made fortunes out of him. He has even triumphantly survived that supreme assault on a literary reputation—being prescribed as a set book by the Joint Matriculation Board. What is the secret of his amazing survival? Remember that he has now lasted long enough for us to be certain he is one of the immortals. What keeps this man alive?

To say that the secret is that Dickens is always being quoted of course begs the question. It remains true nevertheless that, if people who go on reading you (and even more important those who do not) continually, unconsciously often, allude to your written work in the idiom of ordinary, contemporary speech, then you need never employ a publicity agent. The old lady who complained that there were too many

quotations in "Hamlet" got the matter back to front, of course; but at the same time she had stumbled on the secret of literary eternity. It is that men go on using the phrases of an author or of a work. This, as we have said (and it must be said with some sadness), is not the same thing as to go on *reading* such work. But enough reading in them has been done at one time or other to incorporate their experiences in the vernacular, as though the weight and momentum of the reading of one age impelled itself irresistibly into another. This is the real secret of the power of the Authorised Version, of Burke, of Wordsworth, of Tennyson. And it is supremely the secret of Dickens. Consider. From a hundred who call a burglar Bill Sykes, only a handful may have read "Oliver Twist," and, while there is no doubt that Sykes in all his sins was a more interesting character than Oliver, as long as we conjure up the brutal cracksman, the book has little fear of oblivion. The best name for a humbug is still Pecksniff. No one will ever find a better name for an optimistic bankrupt than Micawber (though Dickens assures us he dug the name out of as unpromising a source as a London Street Directory). Is there a pompous official strangled with his own red tape? Call him Bumble, and pillory him for ever. Does a cunning rogue affect a wheedling self abasement? Call him Heap, and he stands indicted as long as our language lasts. Whatever epithet of retributive abuse you may come to need for the flibustier, the unctuous, the sadist, the confidence-trickster, or the active partner who hides behind the sleeping one, you will discover that Dickens was there before you with Dolly Varden, Chadband, Squeers, Jingle, Spewlow and Jorkins. Chesterton once said that the only modern novelist who could make such a claim was Conan Doyle; for 'Sherlock Holmes' passed into the language. But, where Doyle did this only once (and then presumably after such exertion rested from his labours), Dickens stamped upon the ground, and hosts of such creatures emerged. They are all still very much alive, and, though contemporary civilisation is doing its best to make all men look alike (which is very hard on some of us), you can still come across Pickwicks and William Dorrits, Betsy Trotwoods and Dick Swivellers.

Again, many of Dickens's phrases which were originally put into the mouths of the above titans are still actively employed. The Lord Chief Justice only recently at Chester Assizes, perceiving that the jury

was one man short, told the Crown Counsel to "pray a tales," and there we were back with Mrs. Bardell. We still speak of a Circumlocution Office, when more than usually exasperated by official delay. We find that democracy, as at Eatanswill, "shouts with the largest mob"; we say with Bumble the Beadle that "the law is a ass"; we relish the opportunity to retail sinister intelligence, only waiting like Jo in the bower "to make your flesh creep." The coy and the demure can still find no better exercise for ladylike lips than "Prunes and prisms." If we are a genius like Ibsen, we see that one of the Dickens flashes has illuminated a whole continent of speculation, and we lift Bella Wilfer's phrase "I don't want to be the doll in the doll's house" out of "Our Mutual Friend," and begin the emancipation of women. Much of this is explained by two other aspects of Dickens which have continued to keep him alive. One is the bulk of his output. "Here's richness," as Squeers himself put it. King George III., in a rare, lucid moment, said Shakespeare wrote such sad stuff; and the criticism is even more true of our novelist. The point is that both turned out so much, so that both are like vast quarries. Secondly, nearly all of Dickens is radical in tone, which—until recently at any rate—was the essential and vital outlook of the English. There was much in the England of his day, as there is in our own, for a man to hate. But he would not rest until it was swept away. It is not fanciful to suggest that in our time when "tact comes before principle," when it is unfashionable to make a shindy, when authority resents criticism, when the representatives of the people behave as though they were their masters, men turn for refreshment to the great radical who destroyed the Marshalsea, Spitalfields, the old Chancery Courts and Patents Office, and the Yorkshire Schools.

How was it all done? By drawing up prosy manifestoes or hiring a draughty church hall? Oddly enough, it was done by making people laugh—another of the Dickens miracles. People might hate Dotheboys Hall, or Boffin's dustheap, or the workhouse gruel, but they remained. The moment the nation roared over the eccentricities of their leading characters, they were done for, gone (as Mantalini would have said) to the "demnition bow wows." Among the greatest of men of letters this must surely remain a unique achievement. Most literatures can boast intrepid publicists whose pen flashes like the flaming sword at the portals of Eden. Not so many can produce the ageless wits. But where

else may one find a prophet wearing the motley, a Zola as entertaining as Moliere, an Upton Sinclair with the accents of Mark Twain? Dickens could be both dull and tedious, but he was never either when fighting causes which the zealot has nearly always weakened by dulness and tedium. Dr. Arnold once warned his youthful hearers in Rugby Chapel (he probably had East and his like in mind) against the insidious triviality of "Pickwick Papers." Time has been against the worthy doctor who fancied himself a reforming radical; and, while his collected works slumber on forgotten shelves, "Pickwick" remains the best mirror ever held up to nature of elections, slanging editors, breach-of promise trials, puffed-up magistrates, and unlucky sportsmen. Dickens came to literature from journalism and would have liked to forsake both for the stage. This accounts for the zest, the accuracy of reporting, the gift for caricature, which are rarely missing from his pages. Two examples out of many might be offered to illustrate his diverse gifts. First, his capacity to register an essentially human experience—the man in *Nickleby* "who frowned to stop his hat from falling off." Secondly, when out walking with a friend he suddenly lay down on a doorstep in imitation of the well-known pantomime clown's trick. In a flash he was up again, staggering and tumbling over the road as though he had just been upset by his own prostrate body. It was the same joke as Swivellers offering himself a glass of ale humbly and taking it haughtily.

Dickens was intensely alive, living at fever heat with brilliant, restless eyes and with a face, as a contemporary finely said, as "as though he had been forged out of steel." Recent books have shown that he was not immune from frailty, but such research is more likely to endear him to our times than it would have been to his own. But the vitality of the man, the pulsing energy, may be felt anew every time we open one of his books—or better still open him anywhere and read him as though he were one vast book. Whether we catch him denouncing American violation of the Copyright Laws, or racing to evade capture with Carker in "*Dombey and Son*" (surely the most gripping episode of the whole literature of pursuit), or describing the great storm at sea off Yarmouth in "*Copperfield*," we feel we are in the presence of a master, we echo Carlyle's words—"the great Charles Dickens, every inch of him an honest man."

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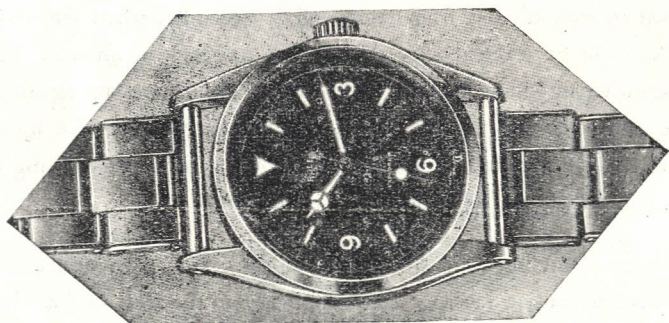
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THE once flourishing Form libraries have this term been combined into a single collection. By this means we hope that our not inconsiderable stock of fiction and of volumes of general interest (as distinct from the specialist and reference library chiefly used by the VI. form) will be more accessible to readers. This reorganised library is now housed in the old Junior School Building and will normally be open each mid-day. We should welcome any gifts of books from those who have volumes which have given them pleasure in the reading but which they might care to pass on. Such acquisitions will be promptly acknowledged. We record with thanks the gift of books from Shales (Adv.); Allsopp; Lord, Oliver, Stewart (all of 4B); Quinn (3B); Delves (3A).

An old Instonian, Mr. John Allan, was in May elected President of the Liverpool Society of Chartered Accountants, having previously held office as its treasurer and secretary. After leaving the Institute in 1927, Mr. Allan was articled to the firm of which he is now the senior partner, and at present is a director on the boards of six companies. This last appointment of an old boy to the presidency of the Merseyside accountants is a reminder of the very close link which has existed for so many years between the School and the commercial life of the district.

We also record the appointment of Commander Robert Wall R.N. as Principal Information Officer on the Staff of the High Commissioner for Rhodesia. After his years at the Institute, Commander Wall was commissioned in the Royal Navy in 1933, serving with the Fleet Air Arm and on the Carrier "Ark Royal." Before securing his new African post, he worked on the staff of the United Kingdom Commissioners in both Ceylon and Pakistan.

The Institute can claim to be well represented in the modern field of nuclear weapon tests; for at Christmas Island (a war time operational base in the Pacific) are stationed Flight-Lieutenant Frank Leeming and Sergeant Norman Tunna, a signaller of 240 Squadron. Flight-Lieutenant Leeming joined the Royal Air Force in 1951, and while attached to 230 Squadron took part in the British North Greenland expedition. No. 58 Squadron, to which he now belongs, runs an air-courier service to fly back to Britain, for examination and research, radio-active samples

from atomic cloud. Between these flights, the Squadron carries out high level meteorological flying, which is a vital part of British Nuclear experiments. Sergeant Tunna serves with the branch which maintains constant radio communication between Christmas Island and London.

We congratulate Brocklebank of Form VI. on his appointment to a clerkship in the Foreign Office as a result of the Civil Service Examinations. In wishing him a successful career in this distinguished atmosphere, we trust he will not find any serious discrepancy between the historian's view of diplomacy, which has hitherto occupied his time, and the professional conduct of it at its fountainhead.

We regret that in the list of Old Boys' Appointments which was printed for the Prize Giving last term, Dr. B. J. Rushton was stated to be working in Kenya. In fact, after gaining his Ph.D. degree at Manchester, Dr. Rushton was appointed to the Department of Geological Survey at Dodema, Tanganyika Territory, where he is at present doing his first tour of duty.

Correspondence

A PICTORIAL LETTERCARD FROM CYPRUS

Sergeants' Mess,
1st Bn. XX The Lancashire Fusiliers,
Kermia Camp,
Nicosia,
B.F.P.O. 53.

The Editor,
The Visor.

Dear Sir,

Greetings from *Terror Isle*. It's now over five months since I promised to write, although it doesn't seem so long ago.

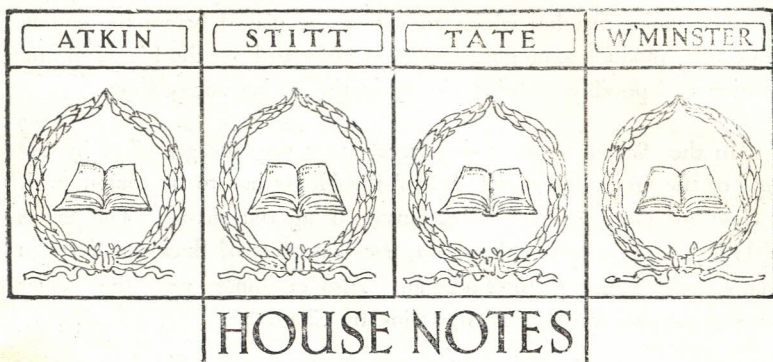
You've probably heard a great deal about the trouble here, and I thought it would be a good idea to show you the less seamy side of life here. As when off duty we have been confined to camp since the end of April, I'm beginning to forget what, in fact, life outside is like. However, these pictures are unlike most other view-cards in that they don't lie. I've been to Kyrenia a couple of times (once being greeted by a bomb), and the sea really is blue. I've also been to the top of St. Hilarion Castle (almost 3,000 feet up), from where you can see the coast line winding away east and west, and, on a clear day, the coast of Turkey. Up there it's easy to see why the terrorists can hide away so long.

Roll on August 21st, when I come home for a month's leave.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

K. PARRY.



ATKIN.

AT the end of last term Atkin lost their record of winning all the post-war cross-country runs by coming 2nd to Westminster. In the juniors event the House was 2nd, although there were some promising results by Swindells, Edbrooke, and Hill. The intermediate event ended likewise with Jones M. V., Burgess, and Chambers, all doing well. However, the Senior event ended more to our liking with Buckland-Evers running exceptionally well to win. All the senior boys ran well and the House gained first place again.

In the mark sheets of last term Atkin were once again below average and were 4th in the Coronation Cup Competition. A much greater effort is needed in the future by all boys throughout the School in order to make the competition results more respectable.

During the first half of the term the Senior cricket matches were played, in which the House fared favourably. In these games the opening pair of Smith V. and Taylor played very well, and the bowling of White, who took 5 wickets for 9 against Stitt, and Buckland-Evers, who took 4 wickets for 4 against Tate, were all worth mention. The cricket results were as follows:

v. Stitt. Atkin won by 20 runs.

Atkin: 68 all out; Stitt: 48 for 8.

v. Tate. Atkin won by 7 wickets.

Tate: 41 all out; Atkin: 42 for 3.

v. Westminster. Atkin lost by 39 runs.

Westminster: 87 for 7; Atkin: 48 all out.

The junior matches which are due to be played before the end of term must produce some good results in order to keep the House in 2nd position and possibly to bring victory in the cricket competition.

In the School sports, owing largely to a very meagre effort by the boys of the junior and middle School the House had to be content with a close 3rd place to Tate, Westminster being the victors. The efforts of Hill (1A) were noticeable, as was the fine effort of Buckland-Evers in winning the Senior Victor Ludorum. Also of note was the senior putting the shot record of 40 ft. 11 ins. by Charters.

All in all, the term has not been outstanding from Atkin's point of view, but we shall hope for a hard effort by the junior boys in their cricket matches.

T.F.H.

* * *

STITT.

THIS year has seen a gradual decline in the House's fortunes. We started the year basking in the brilliance which had enabled the House to win the 1957 Coronation Cup: we finish it in the gloom of utter defeat. Chess, rugby, cricket, and athletics, have all contributed to what can only be described as a very dismal record of defeat, upon defeat, upon defeat. At the end of the Summer term 1958, Stitt is at its nadir.

It is not worth the trouble of repeating what has been said above by presenting the factual record of the term's activities, although we might point out that a faint glimmer of hope was perceived when the junior cricket team scored eighty runs against Atkin—our marked superiority over this House is nothing to be proud of; what glory is there in defeating an "also-ran"? In fact, the Juniors played with great enthusiasm but little skill.

However, next year we must make a concerted attempt to put Stitt back at the top. This can only be done if every member of the House will make an effort. "United we stand, divided we fall" will be our maxim for the coming year.

G.McC.

TATE.

* * *

THE first event to be decided after the last House Notes were published was the Cross Country Run. As last year Tate finished fourth, this year was a little better with the House taking third place in each section and in the overall placings. The standard of running generally and the interest shown were greatly improved, and among those who deserve special mention is Griffin, who won the Junior event. There is little doubt, however, that a greater effort all round could have been made, and this would have improved the placing and earned valuable points towards the Coronation Cup.

Mark Sheets do not appear to be of much help to the House generally, and in the last one Tate could finish only third.

The Senior Cricket games which have now all been played off, were most disappointing, since the side possessed considerable talent. Against the powerful Westminster side a loss by 35 runs was not surprising, but a loss by 7 wickets to Atkin was disappointing. A face-saving win by 10 runs was recorded against Stitt. The batting proved generally poor, although Povall was most useful, while the bowling was first class. Considering the unsympathetic pitches, Greaves and Povall did excellent work with the ball.

By the time these notes are published, the Junior games will have been played, and it is hoped that they will improve on the present position of third.

On Sports Day, the House finished second, a long way behind Westminster. All members of the House who took part in the Sports deserve praise for their efforts, giving of their best at all times. The Relay teams deserve special mention, putting up fine team efforts in every race. The Senior team had particularly hard luck and almost succeeded in "pulling off the double."

Apart from the junior cricket, there remain this term only the summer mark sheets, and here a great effort is necessary.

The members of Tate in the Upper Sixth thank all those House members who have helped to make this a most interesting year, and wish them every success in the future.

R.F.S.

WESTMINSTER.

AT the end of last term, the house notes were unable to cover the cross-country, because the *Visor* had already gone to print.

In the junior event the House gained first position by nearly 100 points over its nearest rival. Individually, Graham and Oldham did very well in gaining second and third positions respectively.

In the intermediate event Westminster again gained first place, and also provided the individual winner in Humphreys.

The seniors were not able to maintain the high standard and could only gain second place, F. Burdett being second for the second year.

The final places were: 1. Westminster; 2. Atkin; 3. Tate; 4. Stitt.

The mark sheet proved to be the first event in the Coronation Cup competition in which the House had to be satisfied with a position other than 1st,—finishing 2nd.

In the Senior Cricket, Westminster won all its three matches by very comfortable margins. It now remains for the juniors to win their matches. If they are successful, it will mean that the House will have gained all six trophies, which is a considerable achievement.

In Athletics the House was again 1st. Much of the credit for this success must go to the House-Master, Mr. Hughes, who held weekly training sessions at the field. The enthusiasm of the House was illustrated by the fact that we had nearly twice as many representatives in the events as any other House.

Mention must be made of Steedman, who by his excellent running became the Junior Victor Ludorum.

As a result of Athletics, Westminster have made certain of their winning the Coronation Cup, thus fulfilling the aim of the House at the start of the year.

P.J.S.

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THE Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Club on March 21st, when the Officers and Committee Members were elected. Membership has continued to increase and is now around the two hundred and fifty mark. Both the Rugby Club and the Soccer Club are affiliated to the Association, and have nominated a member to serve on the Committee.

On May 1st, Staff and former Staff of the School spent the evening at the Club with Officers and Committee Members. About twenty-five gentlemen and their wives were present, and passed a couple of happy hours together. The Committee are most pleased that the majority of the Staff are now Association Members.

The House Sub-Committee have continued to work hard, and several improvements have been made at the Club in recent months. The Social Sub-Committee have also been active, and during the summer months have organised such activities as tombolas, a car rally, social, and darts matches. Chess and draughts may be played at the Club, and a wireless and a record player are also available. A cricket match was played against St. Mary's Cricket Club on May 18th and resulted in a draw. The match against the School team will also have been played by the time these notes appear in print.

Tennis facilities have been available to Members throughout the summer, a court in Palm Grove having been booked between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sundays.

A Golf Sub-Committee was formed early in the summer under the Chairman of Mr. George Venables, and the Committee were pleased to find that it attracted some of the older Old Boys.

The Old Instonians' Sports Prizes are to be awarded again this year, one to a boy from each House who, in the opinion of his Housemaster, has done most to foster sport in that House during the year. The Headmaster has invited a representative of the Association to the School on the last day of term to present the Prizes.

All boys leaving this term are invited to the School Leavers' Social, and the Committee hope to welcome them as Members of the Association.

Old Instonians R U F C

ANOTHER season has now ended, and the playing records of the three teams are as follows:—

<i>Team.</i>		<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Pts. for.</i>	<i>Pts. Agst.</i>
1st XV.	...	27	15	1	11	306	213
2nd XV.	...	26	20	0	6	267	117
3rd XV.	...	22	14	1	7	354	180

The first team has perhaps not been quite so successful as in recent years, but nevertheless has a very respectable record. Unfortunately it lost a number of players early in the New Year for various reasons, at which point it had won thirteen games and lost five, and the loss of these players showed itself in the remaining matches. The best win was probably when it beat Birkenhead Park second team by 26 points to nil. The second team had a very good season, and showed the best record of all the teams. This was particularly praiseworthy in view of the fact that a lot of its regular players were promoted to the first team in the New Year. The third team also did well, despite an occasional shortage of players, and here we should like to thank those members of the School fifteens who turned out for us during the season. Altogether, the Club's playing records were good, and show that we continue to be a force in local Rugby.

At the beginning of the season two of our members were honoured by being chosen for a Cheshire trial, and Mike Pollard and Jim Crowe have our sincere congratulations. In the recent Seven-a-Side competitions our best performance was undoubtedly at Shell, where we defeated a Birkenhead Park Seven in the second round in extra time having had only six men for most of the game, and then lost to Old Wirralians in the next round by one try to nil, again having only six men for a large part of the game.

Although next season does not begin until next September, we hope to start training at the end of July as usual, and we shall be very pleased to see all the boys who have left School and are interested in Rugby. We can promise you good Ruby and a happy time with us, so let us know if you want to join us. If you are in doubt as to whom to approach, Roy Lamb, our Membership Secretary, at 48 Whitford Road, Birkenhead, will be very glad to hear from you.

Finally, we should like to send, as always, our sincere good wishes to the Headmaster, Staff and Boys at the School, together with our grateful thanks for the help and co-operation we have received during the year.

Old Instonians AFC

WE can look back on a successful season all round. The first team once again finished high in the league this season, being third in Division One, and won through to the final of the League Senior Trophy only to be beaten by Prescot G.S.O.B. after having 75 per cent. of the play. The second team have improved their league position of previous seasons, finishing fifth, and emulated the first team's feat in reaching the final of the League Junior Trophy. In this they were beaten after extra time by Essemay O.B. after a truly exciting and enjoyable game. The third team, in their first season in the field, have battled very hard against all the inevitable teething troubles which beset a new side. Although they finished right down the league table, they played many hard games, and lost several of them by only the narrowest of margins. It is to their great credit that although they started their fixtures late in the season, they completed their full programme in spite of playing very nearly every night for a fortnight at the close of the season. In this direction the Club owes a lot to Alan Clays who has worked indefatigably and who has undoubtedly been largely responsible for the survival of this team in its inception. We sincerely hope that with the expected influx of new boys leaving School this year, they will not have as hard a time of it next season. The records of our three teams read as follows:

<i>Team.</i>	<i>Played.</i>	<i>Won.</i>	<i>Lost.</i>	<i>Drn.</i>	<i>Gl.s. for.</i>	<i>Gl.s. agst.</i>	<i>Points.</i>
1st XI. ...	24	18	4	2	85	39	38
2nd XI. ...	22	9	11	2	60	71	20
3rd XI. ...	24	4	18	2	48	109	10

It has been gratifying to note the progress of several of last season's recruits. Already some of them have played their way into the second and first elevens, whilst one or two of them have even earned the reputation of being among our outstanding players. This is a very pleasing reflection and bodes well for the future of the Club. We were honoured by the selection of two of our players—H. Kneale and E. Molyneux—for the league representative side, the latter as captain, on two occasions this season. Our new Chairman, Mr. W. Christian, has devoted himself to our interests with an enthusiasm and generosity which is much appreciated. Not the least of his acts has been the presentation to the Club of a fine hand painted plaque of the School crest, for eventual display in the pavilion at "Woodslee." We have been very gratified this season to welcome back as non-playing members, several Old Boys who had playing connections with the Club in earlier years.

We have made steady progress at our new ground at "Woodslee," Bromborough, where in addition to a fine hot shower after the game, we can now enjoy a welcome cup of tea—this latter thanks to the kindness of our Chairman's sister, Mrs. Whittaker. We hope to make further improvements to the ground during the Summer months.

Social events were not neglected during the season, and two dances were held at St. Saviour's Hall, Oxtou, which, in spite of numerous difficulties, proved most popular and remunerative. In addition, the usual "Stag Nights" were held, the second one in the Association Club, Elmswood Road, our first Social function there, and these were most successful evenings, enjoyed by all who attended. It is our intention to run three dances, and two or three "Stag Nights" during the coming season.

The Old Instonians' Association, to which we are affiliated, continues to thrive. In addition to the usual regular facilities at the Elmswood Road Headquarters, a couple of highly successful "Party Nights" have been held and two sessions of the currently popular "Tombola" have been promoted there. Once again tribute must be paid to the hard work and valuable time put into these efforts by the Committee Members and their helpers.

In closing, we extend a most warm and cordial greeting to any of those boys leaving School this Summer who wish to join us. Our Officials will be attending the School Leavers' Meeting, and will be most pleased to discuss any queries and give any information regarding our activities you may wish to know. In the meantime, to the Staff and all Scholars we send our best wishes and hopes for a most enjoyable Summer Holiday.

J. KERNAGHAN, Hon. Secretary.

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