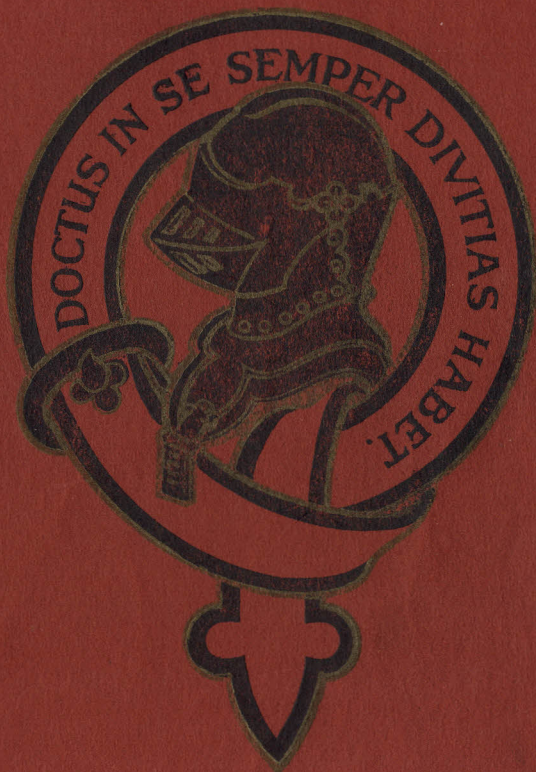


# THE VISOR

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MAGAZINE OF  
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

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CHRISTMAS 1959.

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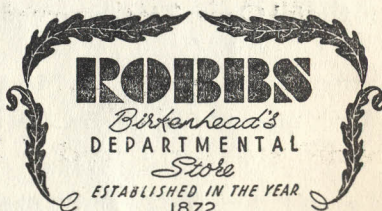
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Photo by Cull



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 Councillor S. V. GALLARD.  
 Mr. H. B. HALL, M.A.  
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## School Calendar, 1959-1960.

### 1959.

Autumn term began ..... September 7th  
 Half-term holiday ..... October 19th, 20th and 21st  
 Parents' Evening (5th and 6th Forms) ..... October 29th  
 School Examinations ..... December 4th — 11th  
 Carol Concerts ..... December 15th and 16th  
 Autumn term ends ..... December 18th

### 1960.

Spring term begins ..... January 4th  
 Half-term holiday ..... February 22nd and 23rd  
 Spring term ends ..... April 13th  
 Summer term begins ..... May 2nd  
 Half-term holiday ..... June 6th, 7th and 8th  
 Summer term ends ..... July 22nd  
 Autumn term begins ..... September 5th



## *School Committees and Officers*

### MAGAZINE.

Editor:  
Mr. R. HALL.

President:  
THE HEADMASTER.

Advertising Manager:  
P. W. ROCHE.

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### HOUSE CAPTAINS.

Atkin:	Stitt:	Tate:	Westminster:
W. PIERCE.	A. HARDING.	D. BARWELL.	F. HADFIELD

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### RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

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3rd XV.:	4th XV.:	Bantams XV.:
Capt.	Capt.	Capt.
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		D. R. RATCLIFF

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Captain:		Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:
D. BARWELL.		J. PENDLETON.

### NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP.

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### SCHOOL SCOUTS (23rd Birkenhead).

Scoutmaster: W. D. COUGHTRIE.

### Assistant Scoutmasters:

F. E. TOMLINSON; D. JONES; D. JACKSON.

### Troop Leader:

J. OXTON.

### Patrol Leaders:

K. SMITH; J. HUGHES; A. BIRCHALL.

### SENIOR TROOP.

Scoutmaster: J. CLARKE.

Patrol Leader: R. BROOKES.

## Editorial.

THE weather during the first half of this term must surely be deemed to have broken all records even against the yardstick of our own by now considerable history of seventy-one years. No former Instonian generation, we venture to assert, can have enjoyed a summer term, a summer holiday, and a considerable fraction of an autumn term, combining to make a virtually unbroken half year of warmth and sunshine. To have had weather more like California than England, predictable at times for weeks ahead; to have almost forgotten the feel of rain; to have been able to doff blazers during afternoon lessons in late September; to have seen the sun dissolve Parliament like a jelly; all these things will give our present members at least one memory of their spell at the Institute which they will recall for a lifetime. Many years hence, surviving greybeards of the classes of '59 will shake their heads sagely whenever statistics of other summers are impudently advanced to challenge their claim to have been at School during the best of them all. The view that schooldays are the happiest of their lives is usually greeted with suspicion, not to say derision, by those who are still in their toils. And, whenever we consider some who advance the claim, their opinion must often look like an adult conspiracy to conceal the pill in a very meagre spreading of jam. But, at all events, memory softens the edge of reality and, like the sundial, marks only the sunny hours. That is why we believe that our present members will find the events of '59 tinged, not only with the gold of reminiscence, but also with the afterglow of a summer in a thousand.

It is therefore a pleasant duty to compile a **Visor** with this golden backcloth. In it our readers will find the usual faithful story of our doings since the last issue, of School news, both academic and sporting; of changes in the Staff; of welcome visits from Old Boys from many corners of the globe; of School journeys to the continent, and of greetings to yet one more generation of newcomers. These are times of opening opportunity. If our old-established **Visor** gives this terminal retrospect of another full term, it fulfils its high function in preaching from the old text—that those who put most into our communal life while the chance still offers will reap most in after life, for which school days are the threshold of hope and promise.



## Salvete.

### Autumn Term:

- 3B Cowderoy, D.; Davies, N.; Evans, E. F.; Garner, H. F.; Gray, M. N.; Henderson, G. L.; Lewis, R.; McKittrick, L. R.; Thornton, C. J.; Watts, J.;
- 4B Williams, G. H.
- 1A Barclay, J. A.; Banks, S. S.; Cadwallader, M. C.; Callister, R. W.; Cheseldine, A.; Cooke, T.; Crighton, R. F.; Elliot, A. J.; Everard, W. T.; Fletcher, R. M.; Hayes, A. E.; Hedgley, D.; Heys, T. C.; Howarth, A. J.; Jones, G. T.; Jones, R. E.; Lawrence, B. A.; McLeod, A. J.; Manley, G.; Oxtan, P.; Parry, P. G.; Parsons, C. J.; Renshaw, P.; Salisbury, D. J.; Scoffield, P. L.; Scott, K.; Shaw, W. K.; Thompson, G. S.; Westwater, C. J.; Westwater, C. J.; Woods, A.
- 1B Armitage, I. A.; Aspinall, J. J.; Barker, W. T.; Binney, P.; Bird, D. L.; Birrell, D. S.; Bradley, M. P.; Brown, L. A.; Brown, P. J. H.; Burgin, P. J.; Callister, I. K.; Caplin, K.; Corfe, B. J.; Cotgrave, S. R.; Crowe, J. N.; Hayman, M. L.; Hendry, C. G.; Kenyon, E. A.; McDonnell, T. A.; Nethercott, R. A.; Robinson, F.; Scarisbrick, J. P.; Stauss, F. T.; Stonehouse, A. J.; Thorne, D. L.; Tilston, B. D.; Tofts, L. A.; Triggs, A. C.; Woods, D. A.; Woods, R.
- 6 Fisher, P. A.
- 4B Moorby, I. J.

## Valete.

### July.

- Adv. Blaylock, P. A.; Boyd, E. F.; Colley, C. E.; Evans, P. G.; Greaves, G. K.; Harris, T. H.; Harris, D.; Kay, A. W.; McTear, G.; Marshall, I. D.; Morton, D. B.; Williams, C.; Wylie, D. W. M.
- 5A Carbery, T. A.; Dalton, E.; Douglas, J. J.; Easdown, M. G.; Edbrooke, G. R.; Ellis, D. S.; Forrester, A. A.; Hales, R. J.; Haworth, L. W.; Jones, W. R.; McCarter, A.; Macmaster, I. D.; Roberts, D.; Steadman, H. G.; Williams, J. R.

3A Brown, D. W.

2A Eden, C. J.

### Sept.

6 Evans, N. J.

### Oct.

5B Challoner, C. T.

2A Latham, A. J.; Norris, L.

## Staff Notes.

THIS term we have welcomed three new members of the Staff. Mr. Illsley joined the English Department in succession to Mr. Dalton, who now has an appointment in the Midlands. Educated at Barnard Castle School, Mr. Illsley is an M.A. of the University of Durham and also holds the Diploma in Education. During the second World War he served in both the Grenadier Guards and in the Second Royal Lancers (Indian Army), and saw service in India and Malaya. Before coming to the Institute, Mr. Illsley had wide and varied teaching experience, having been on the staff of Brewood Grammar School and later, for a period of ten years, in the Colonial Education Service (Northern Nigeria).

Mr. Holt, who fills the vacancy in the Modern Languages Department unfilled since Mr. Meador's departure, was educated at Quarry Bank High School. His advanced studies were carried on in no fewer than four universities, at Liverpool, Paris, Brussels, and London. He proceeded to his M.A. degree in 1958.

We first welcomed Mrs. Kinch's arrival early in the term to assist us during Mr. Thompson's illness, but have now been fortunate in securing her services permanently. From the Clarendon House County School, Ramsgate, Mrs. Kinch went to Westfield College, University of London, for her degree, proceeding thence to the Institute of Education at that university. We trust that all three will enjoy a happy and successful time at the Institute.

The annual appointment of a French Assistant to our staff is by now a firmly established tradition. This year we are glad to welcome Monsieur J. C. Gorge of La Rochelle in the Gironde. Educated at the Lycee Eugene Fromentin, he has studied in the University of Bordeaux and completed his degree course at the Sorbonne, University of Paris. M. Gorge is now reading for his advanced diploma in English studies, and is already very much at home among us.

This is a convenient place to offer our thanks to those who kept the School Office going during the first month of this new School year. During Miss Cojeen's illness and up to her resumption of duty on October 5, Miss Webb and Mrs. Powell gave invaluable service as acting-secretaries. The former, indeed, grappled single-handed with all the intricate documentation of a new academic year, for the first week of the term. We assure both ladies of our real sense of obligation for what they did in bringing us through a season of difficulty. The School owes so much to Miss Cojeen in countless ways that it goes without saying that her return—we trust with renewed health—was welcomed by all.



# Examination Results 1959.

## ADVANCED LEVEL.

Upper VI: Blaylock, P. A.; Physics. Boyd, E. F.; History, Geography, French; Scholarship Geography. Colley, C. E.; Geography, Maths, Physics. Evans, P. G.; Physics. Greaves, G. K.; Physics. Harris, D.; Maths, Physics, Chemistry. Harris, T. H.; Physics. McTear, G.; English, History, French; Scholarship History. Marshall, I. D. H.; History. Morton, D. B.; Maths, Physics, Williams, C.; Maths, Physics, Chemistry. Wylie, D. W. M.; Physics.

## ORDINARY LEVEL.

VA: Anderson, M.; E, EL, F, M. Bonney, M. W.; E, EL, H, F, M, P, C. Boyd, R. V.; EL, G, F, M, P. Carbery, T. A.; M, P. Dalton, E.; F, M. Ronahue, M. J.; E, EL, G, A, F, M, P, C. Douglas, J. J.; EL, H, F, M, P, C. Doveston, B. W.; EL, G, F, M, P, C. Easdown, M. G.; F, M. Edbrooke, G. R.; E, EL, G, L, F, M, P, C. Elliott, J. K.; E, EL, G, F; M, P, C, W. Ellis; D. S.; E, EL, G, F, M, P, W. Evans, N. J.; G, F, M, P, C, W. Forrester, A. A.; E, F, M, P, C. Hales, R. J.; EL, F, M, P, C. Haworth, L. W.; E, EL, H, A, L, F, M, P, C. Johnson, W. G.; E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C. Jones, W. R.; EL, H, F, M, P. Langley, J. A.; A, M, P, C. Lee, C. M.; M, C. Leeming, M. R.; E, EL, G, A, L, F, M, P, C. McCarter, A.; F, M, P, C. Macmaster, I. D.; E, EL, G, F, M, P. Mattingley, J. M.; E, EL, G, F, M, P, C, W. Ogden, P. E.; E, EL, H, M, P. Peters, W. R.; E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, W. Roberts, D.; G, F, P. Saunders, V. R.; E, EL, G, F, M, P, C. Shorthill, C. G. C.; E, EL, G, M, P, C. Steadman, H. G.; EL, G, A, F, M, P, C. Strutt, G. K.; G, F, M, P, C. Williams, J. P.; E, EL, F, M, P. Wood, R. E.; G, A, M, P, C.

VB: Allsopp, R.; C; Almond, F. H.; A, F; Burgess, D. W. H.; F; Carruthers, D.; F; Currie, P; F, M; Davies, J. I.; EL; Davies, R.; H, G, F; Davies-Patrick, R; P, C; Denny, R. M.; E, G, P, W; Docherty, D.; E, EL, G, A, F; Dulac, L. J.; F; Litherland, B. W. J.; G, A; Lord, A. H.; EL; McLaren, N. B.; C; Oliver, J. H.; F, M, W; Parry, M. H.; E, EL, M; Pendleton, J. W.; EL, M; Pollock, L.; M; Povall, R.; EL, F; Powell, A. G.; F; Stewart, C. S.; E, EL, G, A, P, C; Stewart, K. F.; G, W; Taylor, R. G.; H, F.

## Key to Subjects.

E—English Language;

EL—English Literature;

H—History;

G—Geography;

A—Art;

M—Maths.;

P—Physics;

C—Chemistry;

L—Latin;

W—Woodwork.

## Simple Proportions

EVERYONE knows that mathematics is the art of expressing your quantities correctly. Not so many know (or if they do they only learn it slowly and painfully) that life often confounds mathematics. One recalls the story of Jowett, Master of Balliol, being asked, "Could a saint be happy on the rack?" To which he replied, "Well, perhaps a very good saint on a very small rack." We must not permit ourselves, however, to stray into theology. The point can be made equally in recounting the astonishing story of the Buckmoor Muddle which happened some few years ago.

At that moment there were, almost in the middle of Exeshire, two establishments both composed of odd assortments of humanity, the one as fixed as the Pole Star, the other nomadic. For at Buckmoor, well off the high road connecting Muncaster and Hightor, frowned the portals of H.M. Convict Prison, home of lifers and long-term men, the terror of transgressors. This a mathematician (with the cordial agreement of its inmates) could fairly describe as 'a constant' while the second community with which the story deals might be exactly dubbed 'a particle', since it had the two requisite qualities: it was small and it moved. In fact it was Chipmunk's travelling circus, a procession of yellow vans, horsy men, disillusioned elephants, and bellowing, though invisible, creatures of less amiable species. An odd freak of fortune linked the prison and the circus on a June day in 192—. Both had suffered bereavement at the same time, and both lamented after their kind like Rachel for her children, the one in the bray of its escapes Siren, and the other in the blasphemies of the 'guv'nor', Theophilus Rigg, sole proprietor of the Chipmunk Ark. Buckmoor Jail mourned the absence of diminutive Brixton 'Pete', whose nickname registered his earlier devotion to the celebrated metropolitan prison. Ambition had earned his promotion to the moor; for just as honours graduates proceed to research, so Pete, having added aggravated violence to his already considerable talent for robbery, had been sent to the stone quarries for a long ten years. But that day he had vanished from a working party out on the moor, and fairies appeared to have charmed away his five-foot two. Practically coincident in time, too, the Chipmunk Giant, a sad-visaged gentleman described on the florid bills as Signor Ruperto Antonelli (though perverse documents relating to him at Somerset House designated him Joseph Briggs), was also found to be missing. As he combined the functions of turnstile man and giant, the gross Rigg suspected financial irregularity, but the romantic will be reassured by some gossip about an unhappy affair with the Bearded



lady. At all events he had deserted his post and sought liquid consolation in the tavern at Hightor on the day after the Exeshire circus season ended. At the moment while others struggled to dismantle tents and to goad intractable monsters into the yellow wagons, an intoxicated Ruperto was being ejected from the "Blue Boar", and, when the Chipmunk column at length set out northward to confound the crowned heads and gentry of faraway Wells and Bristol, he was lying unconscious in a meadow fringing the High Tor Road. Rigg had departed only after frightful objurgations directed against the missing henchman. Indeed his wrath had some justification; for one of the ring ponies could also not be found. But, as Rigg observed, the (decorated) blockheads he employed had most probably miscounted.

It was natural that neither jail nor menagerie slumbered when these defections were revealed. Descriptions of Pete were circulated by authority, and, if Circus Master Rigg's anathemas had been less decorously expressed, the locals found his meaning as unequivocal as the constabulary's. Both Pete and Roberto were wanted back and that urgently. But events moved faster than the inquiries. As Bonaparte discovered to his cost in the Peninsula, orders were obsolete before they reached the line. While two different sets of searchers were bidden to look for a very small man and a very tall one respectively, these simple desiderata had already become more complicated. Pete had not been free long before he discovered that he was bearing away from the rendezvous with the Camberwell gang embassy which had planned to rescue him near the Muncaster cross roads. Inspiration had visited him when he came upon a huge but docile plough horse at pasture. Scouting round the outskirts of the farm, an opportune scarecrow provided him with properties which converted him into a passable imitation of the character immortalised in Gray's "Elegy". He had actually had the temerity to pursue his way in this new character down the high road and even to salute some passers-by in bucolic idiom which his cockney wit had treasured from the radio "County Magazine". The apparition of Pete mounted on peaceful Buttercup had thus begun to register itself upon the rustic mind at about the same time that flat caps and uniforms had become insistent for information about a diminutive person who had no business to be at large.

"Well, reckon I see'd a little chap on a big horse like, some time back" asseverated the yeomanry after mature consideration and much tilting of hats and chewing of straws. Thereafter the local Lockhart had enlarged the scope of his original communique from "Look out for small man" to "look out for small man on a big

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horse". By that time, however, Pete had found his assignation faithfully kept and was well on his way out of the neighbourhood in a fast car. Buttercup had returned to her grass cropping, albeit some distance from her first course.

Meanwhile Signor Ruperto had come out of his stupor and was tottering upon the high road again with a very hazy notion of the Exeshire road system. He had not been afoot long before he was astonished to see a moor pony (a creature which abounded in those parts and which normally eschewed human society like the plague) pursuing him with every indication of joy and affection. At first he took this to be a manifestation of the staggers in geometrical progression—brown horses instead of pink mice—and strove to brush away the vision. But when he considered the demonstrations of the obstinate creature more objectively, he perceived they were old acquaintances. This was no rude denizen of the bogs, but the sophisticated Queenie which twice nightly took the Crown Princess of Rumania (who bore a remarkable resemblance to Miss Sally Miggs of Lewisham) triumphantly round the ring. Hailing the encounter as a signal mark of the intervention of Providence, Ruperto took the weight off his feet, mounted the jubilant Queenie, and set off (in the wrong direction) towards Muncaster.

The attentive reader will see the story moving towards its denouement with the two motifs of wanted men now elaborated with an equine sub-plot, though it is true that Pete had actually abandoned his brief cavalry phase, while Antonelli was in the process of converting himself from a tipsy pedestrian into an alarmingly swaying cavalier. Those locals who had earlier encountered Buttercup with Pete up (as the racing journals put it) and whom a merciful release from the labours of the day enabled to converge upon the clustered homes of Hightor were now met with an expurgated account of Rigg's departing reflections on his missing pony and giant. A fluttering post-mistress, excited by the dual sensation of the day, saw that duty is a relentless goddess. True, the information now vouchsafed by returning ditchers and hedgers conflicted in its minutiae with the charge laid upon her by the formidable Rigg. The adjectives (as Mason's Grammar used to say) did not seem to agree with the noun substantives. But courage! Such details could be cleared up later. Besides could not a giant who has somehow survived into the twentieth century be also a sorcerer in addition, and have contrived this trap to undermine her reputation for efficiency? Consequently, at 6 p.m. Miss Kite sent her telegram to the giantless



and ponyless Rigg. "Reporting as requested new evidence re your loss. Stop. Several witnesses swear to having seen small man on large horse. Stop. Wire instructions".

But about that time, too, Ruperto and Queenie had at length blundered into the road block set up at Muncaster Cross, now manned by zealous contenders for personal notice by the Home Secretary. Their last instructions from their distant district superintendent we already know. Here again as at the Post Office miles away there was some temporary misgiving as to the apparent discrepancy over comparative quantities. But telephones are sometimes indistinct. Many impudent rogues have got past road blocks by appearing other than they actually were. What about the Scarlet Pimpernel and Spring-heeled Jack? Small and large are after all somewhat elastic terms. No risks could be taken. Ruperto was therefore roughly seized. It was Constable Rudge who after some ugly scrimmaging with blue clothed rivals first actually lifted the receiver within the road side box. When the the bell rang sharply at the Superintendent's elbow, he sprang to the instrument with an assured "Some news at last" to his acolyte, only to hear Rudge's complacent announcement, "Am holding biggish small man on smallish big horse".

### *The School Trip to Paris, 1959.*

OUR school party arrived in Paris on the evening of Wednesday, 5th August, 1959. The party consisting of twenty four boys, Mr. Malcolm, and Mr. Thompson, was to stay at the "Foyer des Lyceennes" in Rue du Dr. Blanche. The journey from Hamilton Square Station had taken twenty hours, and many forms of transport had been used. The most breath-taking part of the journey was the last fifteen minutes through Paris from the Gare St. Lazare to the "Foyer" by a first-class French coach travelling on the "wrong" side of the road. This short journey was made more alarming by the fact that there is no speed limit in Paris.

The first evening was spent lazily, and we had an early night after having a quick look round the building where we were staying. A fifth former's efforts to communicate with a French woman were not so successful, but he was the first to try to do so. The senior members were hoping to see some young ladies at our place of residence, because the "Foyer des Lyceennes" was a "Home for schoolgirls". To their dismay there were only a few, and these were from a school in Wiltshire, having travelled with us from London.

Our place of residence was a seven-storey building built in 1954. Each member had his own bedroom, of which no two were identical.



Our party were fortunate in the fact that they occupied all the first floor. We had a small private lounge and a shower room with first-class showers. For all visitors to the "Foyer" there was a spacious lounge, where many a franc changed hands; a television room (I thought the idea of a holiday was to get away from television); a table tennis room; and a huge dining-room, which seated over three hundred people.

On Thursday morning, after a typical French breakfast of bread roll and coffee, we were taken on a three-hour sight-seeing trip of Paris. We had a quick glimpse of the Tour Eiffel, l'Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, Place de la Concorde, L'Opera, L'Eglise de la Madeleine, and many other famous buildings. Our tour finished with a half-hour visit to the Sacre-Coeur, which commanded a fine view of the city. On this outing I noticed how clean and tidy the streets were. Many of them had ample room for four lanes of traffic. The trees on each side of the roads provided pleasant shade during the heat of the day.

In the afternoon we travelled on the "metro" for the first time. Even in these trains there was no litter. One disadvantage of the "metro" was the lack of seats. A notice in each coach stated, "Room for twenty-six seated and one hundred and sixteen standing". We were usually of the one hundred and sixteen. Another fact that we did not realise at first was that the door did not open automatically but closed automatically. This caused some panic during the first few days. Another difference between the "metro" and the London "tube" was that we had to walk quite a distance between two different lines at the same station. At one station we had to walk for more than five minutes before we even saw the other line. I came to the conclusion that the London "tubes" are more efficient but less tidy than the Paris "metro".

When we had sampled the "metro", we went to the Arc de Triomphe, the massive structure built for Napoleon in 1836 to celebrate his victories. The Arc de Triomphe stands in the Place de l'Etoile, a road junction with twelve avenues radiating from it. The proportions of this work of art are gigantic; it is over one hundred and fifty feet high and about one hundred and twenty feet wide. After climbing our first spiral staircase (the members of the party will know what that means), we had a marvellous view of Paris. We could see down the Avenue des Champs-Elysees which begins at the Place de l'Etoile and ends at the Place de la Concorde. This avenue consists of a central roadway, wide enough for six streams of traffic; and two side alleys planted with trees, flower beds, and lawns. As



we looked down the Champs-Elysees we could compare Paris to London. In Paris everything is on a grand scale and looks neat and tidy. This is probably because this part of Paris was built about one hundred and thirty years ago and Napoleon had some ideas about town planning. When we had descended the spiral staircase and walked down the Champs-Elysees we went to the Science Museum of Paris. Here we were fortunate to have an English-speaking guide. Here also things were done on a grand scale. The mathematical geniuses amongst you will know that  $\pi$  is equal to 3.142 for our school calculation, but in the museum it had been calculated by men to eight hundred places of decimals. When it was checked by an electrical computer it was found to contain two mistakes. We did not have time to find where the mistakes were, but we were asked to watch some experiments, which included demonstrations with liquid air and electricity.

The next morning we visited the Paris Cathedral of Notre Dame. This splendid Gothic monument took two hundred years to build in the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries. Inside, it did not seem like a church because of the tourists, but the actual artistry of the internal appearance of the church was marvellous. We saw the magnificent rose window, which is over forty feet in diameter. We then had the pleasure of climbing our second spiral staircase, and when on top of one of the towers we visited the famous "Big Ben", the second largest bell in France, which the Hunch-back used to ring. After descending, we visited the Conciergerie, which was a prison in the time of the Revolution, where we saw the very cell where Marie-Antoinette spent her final days. Her lamp and crucifix can still be seen.

No outing had been arranged for Friday afternoon, and so we decided to go to the zoo which we had heard so much about. It was on the other side of Paris, and the journey there took the best part of an hour. I do not know why, but the people of Paris seem to like high structures. Even at the zoo an imitation rock, standing over one hundred feet high, had been built with concrete; we could go to the top in a lift for forty francs, the equivalent of eight pence, and have an excellent view of the zoo. The afternoon went all too quickly, and we found that it was time to make our way back to the "Foyer" before we had seen all we wished. We were allowed to make our way back as long as we were in pairs. This was a good rule, as being lost by oneself was not very funny, but with a friend it was just a joke.

After dinner we went to the waxworks. Some senior boys thought that this would be rather boring, but the visit proved them wrong. The first room was similar to an English waxworks with a few



models of celebrities, but then it became more interesting. We saw a model of the cells where Marie-Antoinette and many other French heroes died. The most interesting room was the hall of mirrors. The room was hexagonal in shape, and all the walls were mirrors. Suddenly all the lights went out, and when they came on we saw one of the most wonderful sights that we shall ever see. There were hundreds of different coloured lights in the ceiling which were reflected to infinity in the mirrors. The patterns of the lights were changed and the lights were dimmed and brightened. This produced a magical and glorious effect. It was a really marvellous sight, which had to be seen to be believed. Suddenly the lights went out again, and we heard some strange sounds. Then the room was lit up again, and we appeared to be in a forest. There were illuminated butterflies flying up and down and different scenes through the year. That was not all! The lights went out for a third time, the strange noises were heard again, and we appeared to be in an Eastern country when the lights came on. Statues of Goddesses were lit up in different colours. Their eyes changed colour, and their arms moved about. The whole party was tantalised by this marvellous exhibition of lights. We were so enthralled by this hall of mirrors that we were loth to leave. It was after eleven o'clock when we returned to the "Foyer" that night.

When we awoke on Saturday morning, the weather was dull, and, as it happened, it was the only day that it rained in the week. In the morning we had a boat trip on the Seine. That Saturday morning appeared to be the most enlightening morning of the trip for some boys (not to mention any names). Whilst on the boat some boys managed, to their great amazement, to make conversation, in French, with two Italian girls who were on the same boat.

A pleasant Saturday afternoon was spent in the darkness of the Catacombs where with our candles, which cost us nine-pence each, we sang amongst the thousands of bones, after descending our third spiral staircase. I think that the strains of "John Brown's Body", echoing through the miles of passages, were very appropriate. Perhaps I should explain that the Catacombs are underground caves neatly stacked with human bones which came from different cemeteries which had to be cleared when Napoleon was building parts of Paris. These underground caves proved invaluable to the resistance movement in Paris in the last war, as the Germans did not know all the entrances.



On Saturday evening we took a coach trip round Paris, which took three hours, and we saw the famous buildings illuminated at night. This proved to be another late night, but we could not sleep late on Sunday morning. So it was a case of "Knock! Knock!" "Are you awake, laddie?" "Er, (yawn), I, (yawn) think so Sir (yawn)" at half past seven on Sunday morning.

We spent Sunday morning at the Louvre, the Paris art gallery. Originally this building was a home for the Kings of France; the last to live there was Louis XIV, but after the revolution it was made into an art gallery. Here we saw the famous painting "Mona Lisa" and the statues "Venus de Milo" and "Winged Victory". The appearance of the interior was one of spaciousness.

The afternoon was spent in the Bois de Boulogne, a huge park about ten minutes' walk from the "Foyer". Here we were able to roam at leisure amongst the many trees and shrubs. The hustle and bustle of the Champs-Elysees seemed miles away, and four members of the party sat for almost an hour on a seat overlooking the lake without being disturbed in any way. As we sat, we did not seem far from home because across the lake we saw three Scotsmen dressed in kilts, who quickly responded to our call of "Up the Scots!". Other members of the party passed the time either boating on the huge lake, or playing golf on a crazy golf course.

On Monday we spent an enjoyable day at Versailles, which was about half an hour's train journey outside Paris. In the morning we were shown round this historical palace built by Louis XIV. The appearance of each room was not genuine, because most of the original furniture had been destroyed by the famous "mob" which had marched from Paris. After lunch we were shown the small village where Marie-Antoinette used to play at being a milkmaid. It was her husband's idea that she should sample the life of the common people to find out how they lived. But in this small village the only occupants were Marie-Antoinette and her maidservants. So the King and Queen did not get a true picture. The rest of the afternoon we were free to do as we liked. Most of the party tried their not too expert hands at rowing on the huge lake.

The morning of the final day was spent at the best-known structure in Paris, the Eiffel Tower. After wondering whether we should have to climb the Tower Eiffel by the spiral staircase, our minds were put at rest when we were given tickets for the lift. From the top we had a marvellous view of Paris and its "environs", and could pick out the most famous buildings. There were a number of telescopes

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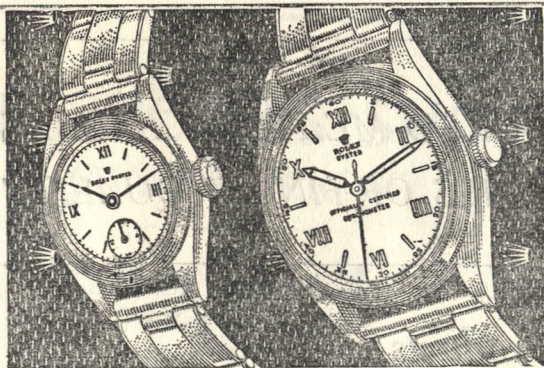
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which cost two hundred francs, about three shillings and fourpence, to look through. A few of us decided to club together, and we each paid about thirty francs, which was more reasonable. Some of the senior boys were anxious to start their practical physics lessons whilst at the top of the "Tour". They tried to calculate the acceleration due to gravity by dropping one franc pieces over the top. The people in the park below must have been very pleased to find that it was 'raining' francs.

In the afternoon we had a short visit to "Les Invalides" and saw the tombs of Napoléon and other famous generals of that time. We then took a short walk to the modern U.N.E.S.C.O. buildings. This was a violent change from the historical buildings which we had visited in the week. We were conducted round the buildings by an English-speaking guide who let us sit in the acoustically perfect Assembly hall, where many cultural issues had been argued.

Alas, our holiday had come to an end, and after breakfast on Wednesday morning we said our farewells to the many friends that we had made during our short but thoroughly enjoyable stay.

Throughout our holiday we had been served with excellent continental food. Breakfast was only coffee and bread roll, lunch was a good meal with fruit juice, and dinner in the evening was usually a four-course meal with wine diluted with water.

Our holiday was not by any means serious. Everything was done in a light-hearted manner, and the only things that bothered us were the spiral staircases and broken oars. In one cafe our mother-land was forgotten, and there was a sign which read "American spoken here". In another cafe there was a juke box, which played pop English and French records, and the boys were soon known there.

On behalf of the whole party I should like to thank Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Thompson for making this holiday so enjoyable for all of us.

J. M. MATTINGLEY.





ON returning to School this term at the end of the summer holidays, we discovered our building looking spick and span under fresh coats of paint. This, in addition to the extensive exercise in interior decorating which had enlivened our labours and disturbed our routine earlier in the year, has given us a cheerful background. A good deal less exuberance was displayed by the external painters. If we are contemporary within, we remain conventional without.

\* \* \*

Old Instonian G. A. Haggerty, now a student in the School of Agriculture at Bangor, captains the University College of North Wales rugby team this season.

\* \* \*

It has been pleasant in recent months to receive visits from Old Boys representing several by-gone generations. Of recently left pupils we were glad to welcome J. G. Smith (1949-56) on a holiday from Canada. During the summer holiday an old Instonian, Mr. H. Stormley, visited the School. A retired bank official now living in North London, he was at the Institute between 1898 and 1902. Two visitors from the period immediately before the first World War were Mr. E. R. Long (1912-1914) of the San Francisco Federal Savings and Loan Corporation, who called at the School in September, and also Mr. W. R. Jones (1912-1916) from Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

\* \* \*

The Institute has witnessed many General Elections during its long history, going as far back as Gladstone's last fight; through the "Khaki Election" during the Boer War; the great Free Trade landslide of 1906; that unique year 1910 when there were two elections, reaching on to the "Coupon" and "Red Letter" campaigns of 1913 and 1924 respectively. Yet few of these older battles could have evoked less interest in the School (which in times past grew excited as polling day drew near and even on occasion ran its own domestic hustings) than the General Election of October 8 this term. What the reasons are for this laodicean attitude is somewhat difficult to explain. Is it because we regard the education policy of both parties with caution,



or that we are all floating voters, or perhaps that authority does not use the School as a polling station?

\* \* \*

A photographic competition was held during the summer holidays in connection with the visit of a party to Paris. Prizes were awarded to D. McRae of 4A and W. E. Ward of 1B.

\* \* \*

At the end of the summer term Cricket Colours were awarded to G. K. Greaves, M. H. Parry, and R. Povall.

\* \* \*

A party from the School has been to the continent during the summer holidays for the last seven years, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden, having been visited. Next year a group is to tour Belgium and Holland, staying at Ostend and Noordwijk aan Zee. Places to be visited include Rotterdam, Delft, Amsterdam, with a boat trip on the canals and an inspection of the airport, The Hague, Ijmuiden, and Haarlem.

\* \* \*

The Old Boys' War Memorial Prize for the year 1958-1959 has been awarded by the Trustees to D. Docherty.





\* \* \*

We acknowledge with many thanks gifts of books to the library from past and present members of the school, and especially from J. H. Stewart and R. Hill (formerly of 5B) who contributed "Doctor Zhivago" and "Groundwork of British History" by Warner and Marten (1957 edition) respectively. We are also indebted to Mr. Sorby for a set of Dickens's novels, as well as to the undermentioned, some of whom have contributed several books—the list of titles would take up too much space, but we append the names of the donors: Rodels, Newbold, and Tunley, of 2A; Goldsmith, Jackson, Keating, and Reynolds, of 2B; Green and T. V. Hodgson, of 3A; Forshaw and Peterson, of 4A; Mason of 4B; Lanigan and Price, of 5A; Quinn of 5B; Oliver, formerly of 5B; C. Stewart, of the 6th, and P. Evans, formerly of the Advanced.

\* \* \*

We congratulate R. Meacock of 5A on becoming a Queen's Scout. A member of the 10th Birkenhead (Saint Catherine's) Senior Scout Troop, Meacock received his badge during November. It was interesting to note in the press-photograph of this occasion that Old Institution J. Clarke, Assistant Town Commissioner, made the presentation of the Queen's Badges and also that the group included another Old Boy, A. McCarter, who is a Queen's Scout too.



ATKIN	STITT	TATE	WMINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

#### ATKIN.

**T**HE results of Atkins efforts this term can be described as consistent—unfortunately they have been consistently bad.

The only senior rugby game played, the three junior rugby games, and the two senior chess matches, have been lost. This is not to say that all players have done badly. Some boys, particularly in the forwards in the senior rugby team, have worked hard and performed notably; that they have not achieved success is due partly to a lack of real effort in other team members.

#### STITT.

**T**HIS year we have taken over from Tate the task of Westminster's nearest rivals for the champion house. This is reflected by the fact that, out of five house matches, we have lost only one.

In rugby the juniors have played all their matches, beating Atkins 15-0, Tate 3-0, and losing to Westminster 11-20. The seniors beat Atkins 16-0.

In the senior chess competition our strongest team since the era of Morgan crushed Atkins  $6\frac{1}{2}$  games to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

With the completion of the chess competition and the examinations in the near future, we can look forward confidently to putting up a strong challenge for the Coronation Cup. A.G.H.

#### TATE.

**S**O far this term the House teams have not done so well, losing more games than they have won. There has been only one Senior rugby match; this was against Westminster, when a rather weak Tate team was well beaten. The Juniors have played all three games, winning one, against Atkins, and losing two.



The only other House activity so far has been the Senior Chess match against Westminster, which Tate won 4-3. It is hoped that Tate will repeat last year's performance and win the championship.  
D.B.

#### WESTMINSTER.

**W**ESTMINSTER began the year in good form after winning the Coronation Cup last year. The first event of the year was the Senior Rugby match against Tate, which resulted in a convincing win of 25 points to nil. After this victory the House Juniors excelled themselves by winning all three of their matches, totalling 77 points for and only 11 points against. In the Senior Chess matches, the House has not fared so well, losing to Tate by 4 games to 3. If the House shows as much enthusiasm in the rest of the events that are to follow, as it does in Rugby, then it should be quite successful in the Coronation Cup. F.H.

#### *In Memoriam.*

**W**E record with deep regret the death of Old Instonian Robert Lindop on October 4th last. Robert Lindop had taken his B.A. degree at Liverpool University in June and had proceeded to Swansea University College to continue his studies. It was while bathing at Caswell Bay, Gower, that he got into difficulties and was drowned. He was at Birkenhead Institute from 1949 to 1956, spending his last two years with us in the Advanced Course when he was a School Prefect. His contemporaries will remember him as a trustworthy friend, always reliable and cheerful, and will long feel a deep sense of loss at a life so full of promise thus tragically cut short. The whole School extends to his Mother and Family the deepest sympathy in their bereavement.



# Rugby.

## 1st. XV.

IT took the 1st XV a while to settle down, and perhaps it was unfortunate that our two opening games should have been against such strong opposition as Wirral G.S. and Birkenhead School, both of whom defeated us narrowly. Changes were necessary to cope with injuries to the backs, mainly due to heavy tackles on very hard grounds. Team spirit has been excellent, and training sessions have been well attended by players and reserves. Frank Hadfield, the Captain, has set a fine example of enthusiasm and fitness, coupled with a high standard of play. Success has been gained by a hard-working team rather than one or two clever individualists, and one hopes this influence will spread through the School and infect the junior sides. The younger members of the team are gaining in confidence and learning from their more experienced team mates.

The Sports Committee has been so pleased with Hadfield's Captaincy that it was decided to award him his colours.

### Results to date:—

v. Wirral G.S. ....	Lost	3—8
v. Birkenhead School ....	Lost	6—9
v. Holt High School ....	Won	30—0
v. St. Anselm's College ....	Won	11—3
v. Grove Park G.S. ....	Won	9—3
v. Helsby G.S. ....	Lost	3—8
v. Park High School ....	Won	11—0
v. Helsby G.S. ....	Lost	3—21
J.D.H.		

## 2nd. XV.

Played 7, Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 3.

The results achieved have been very encouraging, especially as none of the last four matches has been lost. After two heavy defeats at the beginning of the season the team settled down to play effective, though not always skilful, football. The pack particularly have always given of their best and have never relaxed before "no side"; they have enjoyed the advantage of developing as a unit, few important changes having been necessary. Team building as a whole has been made rather difficult by the fact that several original members of the team have been promoted to the 1st XV, to replace injured players, and so many matches have taken place on Wednesday afternoons that little time has remained for full-scale practice and for testing reserves. The team at the moment is especially short of ex-

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perienced three-quarters, and therefore the efforts of the pack do not always produce the points required to gain convincing victories.

v. Wirral Grammar School .....	Lost	0—20
v. Birkenhead School .....	Lost	3—39
v. St. Anselm's College .....	Lost	10—12
v. Grove Park G.S. ....	Won	13— 0
v. Rock Ferry H.S. ....	Won	9— 5
v. Park High School .....	Drawn	3— 3
v. Wallasey Technical College .....	Won	6— 3

## COLTS XV.

Although comparatively not a small side, the Colts XV have made a poor start to the season, as the results show. They are devoid of thrust and determination, and are very susceptible under pressure. They are not without the willingness to learn, however, but if they are to improve they will have to think and react quicker as a team and be much more resolute in their tackling—an example set by too few in the team.

Played 7, Lost 7, Points for 38, Points against 102.

## BANTAM XV.

The Bantam XV have not fared well this season, sustaining their heaviest defeats against much stronger opposition.

With determination, and a greater knowledge and skill, I am confident that the team can improve their game considerably next term.

## Chess Notes.

**T**HE School First Team, with four of last year's team still with us, have yet to record their first win.

Both Wright Shield matches so far played have been lost, the first to King George V School, Southport, whom we met for the first time, by 5 games to 2, and the second more narrowly to Ormskirk G.S. by 4 games to 3. This match could easily have gone in our favour with more care in mid-game play.

An inexperienced Second team was also well beaten by King George V School, Southport, by 6 games to 1, and in a friendly match with Wirral G.S. the 'A' team lost by 4 matches to 2 and the 'B' team by 5 matches to 1.



Senior House matches are being played this term, and at the moment the Senior Championship lies between Stitt and Tate, who have each won two matches and are due to play each other this term. The Junior House matches will be played next term.

Although School match results have so far been poor, the club itself is flourishing and vigorous. After a rather slow start the membership number has reached nearly 60 from all parts of the School. Fewer new members have joined this year from the First Forms, but those who have joined are assiduous players, and a knock-out Competition has again been arranged for them. The ladder competitions and dinner-hour chess are again in operation, and all club members, especially the seniors, are urged to avail themselves of dinner-hours and club nights (Tuesday and Friday) for practice, which alone can bring about improved results.

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### **Golf Secretary:**

R. M. DELF, Esq., 47 Moreton Road, Upton, Wirral.

THE next Reunion Dinner has been arranged for Saturday, 22nd October, 1960, and details will be sent to all members in due course. Judging by the experience of the Commemoration Dinner last January, early application for tickets will be advisable.

The club room in Elmswood Road has been open to members and their guests on four evenings each week and has been used in addition for meetings of committees and of the affiliated sections, the A.F.C. and the R.U.F.C. The Association Committee have been looking for premises which would enable more activities to take place on any one night and would welcome news of suitable accommodation from any member.

The tennis section had a successful summer season, meeting on Wednesday evenings at Mayer Park, Bebington.

The golf section had a meeting at Prenton Golf Club on Thursday, 24 September, when F. H. Heslop won the W. J. Pyke Cup for the second successive year. The organization of next year's meeting is in the hands of R. M. Delf, who hopes to arrange it at Prenton on the second Friday in June. Interested members should contact Mr. Delf, who will circularise them nearer the date.

The Old Instonians' Sports Prizes were awarded at the end of the Summer Term, one to a boy from each House who, in the opinion of his Housemaster, had done most to foster sport in that House during



the year. On behalf of the Association, C. R. Lockyer presented the Prizes to M. H. Parry of Atkin, I. D. MacMaster of Stitt, G. K. Greaves of Tate, and T. H. Harris of Westminster.

Wreaths were laid on the two war memorials in the School on Remembrance Day.

The Association tie is now on sale at Bibby and Perkin's shops. It is a black tie in terylene with open gold visors in diagonal lines. Members must produce a current membership card when making the purchase.

The membership secretary reports a steady increase in numbers, and a list of some of those who have joined recently is appended. It is most pleasing to find many living in distant parts among them. These latter Old Boys are, in the main, from years long past and serve to show the interest which exists to this day in the School. Many Old Boys have written to enquire of others of their time. Where possible we shall try to satisfy them, but we cannot do so without your help. If you will write to us and tell us a little about your present life and whereabouts, we will include the information in future issues. If you contact Old Instonians on your travels, let us know, and we will do the rest.

How many remember the Ramsey brothers? Alexander (1914-18) is now Director of the Mond Wicks Company Ltd., Swansea, whilst Max William (1916-20) is an I.C.I. plant manager and lives in Middlesborough. Both are PH.D.'s of Liverpool University.

Dr. L. B. Wood, who left in 1930 and by 1935 had joined English Electric at Stafford, complete with B.Eng. and PH.D. of Liverpool University, joined what eventually became the Central Electricity Generating Board in 1948. He now holds the post of assistant divisional electricity engineer. He recalls being a member of the team which won the Wright Challenge Shield for Chess in 1929-30.

Our oldest member to date is J. Stanton Campbell, now living in Hoylake, who left the school in 1893. During last winter he made a most interesting tour of South Africa.

One of our most recent members is L. F. Stelfox, now resident in New Jersey, U.S.A. Having once played in the Zingari League, he complains bitterly of the lack of decent football over there. He has joined the British Schools and Universities Club which gives him the privileges of the Princeton University Club. Thanks to his interest we have heard of Captain Fred Mason, to whom we have written, who is also resident in New Jersey.

Our circle is certainly growing; we hope you will help to make it bigger.

- J. P. Almond, 47-48 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.  
 J. H. Albiston, 8 Edgemoor Drive, Irby.  
 H. Andrews, Municipal Buildings, Bromley, Kent.  
 J. W. Anderson, 10 Teasdale Road, Bebington.  
 L. Berkson, 20 North John Street, Liverpool 2.  
 B. Bithell, 6 Morland Avenue, Bromborough.  
 Dr. J. Berkson, 40 Menlove Gardens South, Liverpool 18.  
 P. J. Beacall, Westwood, Storeton Road, Birkenhead.  
 A. J. Burns, Upton Lane, Upton by Chester.  
 I. Bowen, Stancote, Kippington Road, Sevenoaks, Kent.  
 W. J. Barr, 27 Bispham Drive, Meols.  
 B. C. Braide, 5 Rock Park, Rock Ferry.  
 D. Boggie, Wanstead, 16 St. Stephens Road, Birkenhead.  
 L. K. Corran, 9 Silverdale Road, Birkenhead.  
 R. Clegg, 17 Wheatlands Grove, Bradford 9.  
 J. Stanton Campbell, 4 Drummond Road, Hoylake.  
 G. R. Cockram, 104 Dingwall Drive, Greasby.  
 T. Cotgrave, 18 Carlisle Road, Birkdale, Southport.  
 J. R. Dykes, 11 Malpas Avenue, Birkenhead.  
 N. I. Dearnley, 'Juana', The Paddock, Heswall Hills, Cheshire.  
 E. M. Dodd, 32 Alder Hey Road, St. Helens.  
 G. Dodd, 30 Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead, Surrey.  
 H. V. Evans, Lansdown, Lever Causeway, Bebington.  
 L. Evans, 12 Coniston Avenue, Birkenhead.  
 G. S. Faragher, 14 Harley Avenue, Bebington.  
 L. C. Faragher, 20 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.  
 H. G. Faragher, 14 Agden Park Lane, Broomeedge, Lymm.  
 G. Grant, 'Brackenridge', Sway Road, Brockenhurst, Hants.  
 Dr. T. H. H. Green, 112 Grove Road, Wallasey.  
 E. P. Gill, 'Glenelg', 11 Portico Lane, Whiston, Nr. Prescott.  
 I. A. Galloway, 130 Mather Avenue, Liverpool 18.  
 Dr. R. C. Gubbins, 5 Copthorne Road, Wolverhampton.  
 C. D. Gracey, J.P., 12 Riviera Drive, Birkenhead.  
 Dr. J. F. Galloway, Health Dept., 59 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.  
 F. Heslop, 35 Roland Avenue, Bebington.  
 W. Hirst, 116 Claughton Road, Birkenhead.  
 L. Hird, Pensby House, Pensby Road, Heswall.  
 Professor G. E. M. Hallett, Dental School, Kings College,  
 Newcastle-upon Tyne.  
 G. E. Hughes, 5 Kindale Road, Birkenhead.  
 H. Jones, 2 Palm Hill, Birkenhead.  
 F. A. Jobson, 43 Bramwell Avenue, Birkenhead.  
 Dr. G. N. Jenkins, 26 Sanderson Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.  
 G. Jellicoe, 37a Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire.  
 Rev. A. G. Lee, Innisfree, Edward Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex.  
 S. A. McCreery, 65 Cowper Street, Ipswich.  
 N. S. Mumby, 'Glendyne', 18 Prenton Lane, Birkenhead.  
 J. G. McCoy, 'The White House', 4 Coombe Road, Irby.  
 Rev. J. M. McTear, St. Andrew's Vicarage, 2 Lingdale Road, W Kirby.  
 J. D. McCullen, 8 Thompson Avenue, Culcheth, Warrington.  
 Cllr. C. S. McDonald, 48 Wellington Road, Birkenhead.  
 W. D. Milne, 9 Carey Avenue, Higher Bebington.



T. N. McBride, 3 Ashburton Avenue, Birkenhead.  
 W. H. Manley, 60 Park Road South, Birkenhead.  
 G. E. Nutt, 15 Palm Hill, Birkenhead.  
 Dr. F. M. Owers, 16 Shrewsbury Road, Birkenhead.  
 D. G. Parry, 26 St. Alban's Road, Birkenhead.  
 W. H. Penlington, 76 Langdale Road, Bebington.  
 Rev. A. S. Perry, St. Barnabas Vicarage, Calton Avenue,  
 Dulwich.S.E. 21.  
 W. J. Pyke, 8 Harley Avenue, Bebington.  
 J. A. Pryde, 29 Curzon Road, Birkenhead.  
 Cllr. K. W. Porter, 89 Highfield South, Birkenhead.  
 M. K. Porter, 89 Highfield South, Birkenhead.  
 A. L. Reeve, 2 Firs Avenue, Bebington.  
 W. Rennie, 50 Eltham Hill, Eltham, S.E. 9.  
 T. Rushton, 26 Parkhurst Road, Birkenhead.  
 K. H. Roylance, 31 Blossom Way, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.  
 Dr. A. G. Ramsey, Cofiston, Clydach, Swansea.  
 G. Shaw, 'Long View', Telegraph Road, Heswall.  
 R. W. Snelson, 14 Nottingham Street, Melton Mowbray.  
 J. G. Stott, 6 Prior Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.  
 W. R. Stringer, 21 Regents Way, Bebington.  
 W. P. Symons, 28 Barn Hey Crescent, Meols.  
 L. F. Stelfox, 146 Bogert Road, River Edge, New Jersey.  
 H. B. Thomas, 6 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.  
 T. M. Thompson, 19 Heath Bank Avenue, Irby.  
 F. J. Tector, 6 Mount Road, Upton, Wirral.  
 J. W. Tector, 195 Baginton Road, Styvechale, Coventry.  
 G. E. Taylor, 'Kindore', Barnston Road, Barnston.  
 R. E. Wood, College of Technology and Commerce, The Newarkes,  
 Leicester.  
 G. Wadlow, 805 Drake House, Dolphin Square, S.W. 1.  
 J. G. Williams, 5 Bidston Road, Birkenhead.  
 J. P. Wilson, 1 West Lawn, Sunderland.  
 N. W. Willcox, 25 Cropwell Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham.  
 Dr. A. Hyatt Williams, 32a Fognal Lane, Hampstead, N.W. 3.  
 Dr. L. B. Wood, 71 Chesterwood Road, Birmingham 14.  
 A. G. Williams, 19 Balls Road, Birkenhead.

\* \* \*

Mr. T. Cotgrave, M.B.E., has been appointed Manager of the Liverpool Employment Exchange. By this appointment to one of the most important posts under the Ministry of Labour, Mr. Cotgrave returns to take command of a department which he first joined as a junior clerk when he left the Institute in 1920. After seeing service with the Board of Admiralty, he had successively held such senior appointments as Officer-in-Charge of the Ministry of Labour's Appointments Office in Liverpool, and Manager of the Manchester Employment Exchange. Mr. Cotgrave was awarded the M.B.E. in the 1958 Birthday Honours List for his distinguished work in the Civil Service.

Old Instonian Ewart Mitchell, who has recently completed a three-year research course in electronics at Liverpool University, is to take up a managerial post at Unilever House in London. Ewart Mitchell proceeded to Cambridge University after leaving the Institute, and followed the National Sciences Tripos course for his honours degree. He is the only son of the late Chief Inspector H. Mitchell of the Birkenhead Borough Police. Another Old Instonian to achieve managerial rank this year in the Lever Organisation is Stuart (S. D. J.) Thacker, who holds an appointment at Port Sunlight.

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Old Instonian G. A. Smith is now the Acting Principal of the Teachers' Training College at Youdom, West Africa. After leaving the Institute, he studied horticulture at Reading University and took his B.Sc. degree. Mr. Smith is now engaged on research for a Ph.D. He has been in West Africa since 1954.

### *Old Instonians A.F.C.*

1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions Liverpool Old Boys League.

Grounds: Arrowe Park, Birkenhead; "Woodslee", Bromborough.

**T**HIS has been a very quiet season to date. Few notable events have taken place and our playing records are a poor comparison with the successes we have enjoyed in the three or four seasons past. Unfortunately we seem to have reached a stage where the many valiant Old Boys who have carried the flag for many seasons have become "Old Old Boys" all at once and in fact, some notable characters have retired from the scene altogether. Those who are fighting on are now taking their place in the lower spheres and quite frankly we are not getting sufficient replacements for them in the form of new recruits.

A very sad reflection this—I am convinced that if the many Old Boys who play Soccer and the boys currently leaving School came to us en masse we could field teams which would be the equal of any on Merseyside in a similar class of football. I do earnestly invite any boy leaving School to join our ranks where he will find a ready comradeship, a truly friendly atmosphere and the chance to enjoy many fine games among familiar faces. Strangely enough, it is a fact that although our wins have been few this season, it is generally agreed that our games have been of a most enjoyable nature.



Of our newer members, it is very pleasing to see 'Chinky' Greaves holding his place regularly in our first XI whilst Paul Lomax and Alan O'Connor are making good progress in our second XI. It is also good to see the consistent and loyal performances of Chris. Farrer. It is on the keen lads such as these that the future of the Club rests. Alas we unfortunately lost the playing services of Brian Riley early on in the season as the result of a broken ankle—a loss we can ill afford. However, he still manages the '30 steps' outside the Association Clubroom to the weekly meetings. What a blessing his tongue escaped damage!

We are not able to hold our usual Club dance this year due to being unable to obtain a suitable venue through circumstances beyond our control. We have, however, held our usual 'Stag Night' for members at the Yacht Inn, Willaston, and those who attended voted it a most successful and enjoyable evening. It is also intended to hold a Social Evening for members and their friends in the Association Clubroom on December 16th. and with full support from our members this should be a happy night for the Club and our Association.

It is with great regret that I have to report the loss of a very good friend of the Club when Mrs. Whittaker was killed in a road accident. Mrs. Whittaker, the Sister of our former Chairman Mr. Christian, provided us with a most welcome cup of tea after our games at "Woodslee" — apart from performing helpful jobs in connection with the running of the ground. A cheerful lady with a kind smile for everyone, she is very sadly missed.

As this is the last opportunity before Christmas I should like to extend, on behalf of all our Club members and myself, most sincere Christmas and New Year Greetings to the Staff and all Scholars at the School and wish you success in all your studies and games during the coming year.

Don't forget if you play football yourself or know of any Old Boys who do, we shall be most pleased to hear from you or them. You will find a genuine welcome and an open acceptance into any of our three teams. You may contact me or see us at either of our grounds at Bromborough or Arrowe Park—or of course any Monday evening during the football season at our weekly meeting in the Association Clubroom at Elmswood Road.

J. KERNAGHAN.

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

**T**HIS season we are again fielding three teams each Saturday, and all three are now playing satisfactorily. The 1st XV in particular has an excellent record; the first game of the season was lost 6-0 to Old Parkonians, but all subsequent games to date have been won, making a total of eight victories. We look forward confidently to a very successful season again.

One of our players, Geoff Williams, played in the Uncapped XV's Cheshire Trial, and is to be congratulated on this achievement. Congratulations must also go to J. Crowe, a regular member of our 1st XV for several seasons. Jim joined Birkenhead Park at the beginning of the season, went straight into the Park 1st XV, and then into the Cheshire team. To date, he has played for the county against Staffordshire and against Durham, and has been picked for the next county game also. We are very pleased indeed to see these well-deserved honours come to Jim, and feel that it reflects also on the standard of Rugby of both the School and the Old Boys.

Our social programme is also well under way, a Barbecue and a Hallow'een Party having already been held. A Christmas Party is planned on December 15th, to which everyone is welcome. Details of this can be obtained from Mr. P. A. Ryan, 96 Highfield South, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.

We are thus carrying on our usual plan of providing good Rugby and enjoyable social facilities for our members, and we welcome enquiries from all Old Boys, whether players or not, who are interested in Rugby. Membership of the Club, incidentally, automatically includes membership of the Old Instonians Association. Any Old Boy interested in joining the Rugby Club is invited to contact our Membership Secretary, Mr. J. R. Lamb, 28 Bedford Drive, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.

G.A.T.



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