

THE VISOR



MAGAZINE OF
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

SUMMER, 1959

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1st XI, 1959



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Photo by Cull.



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School Calendar

Summer term begins	April 13th
Half-term holiday	May 18th, 19th, 20th
Athletic Sports	May 28th
Parents' Evening (3rd Forms)	June 11th
H.M. the Queen Mother's Visit	June 23rd
School Concert	July 1st, 2nd
Sports' Day Holiday	July 17th
Term ends	July 24th
Autumn term begins	September 7th

Editorial

SUMMER Terms seem to come in only two stock sizes, the very long and the very short. Either the weeks flow by in almost Amazonian dimensions or else they plunge like mountain torrents. In the latter our members find themselves harried and pursued by relentless time. Scarcely have they donned pads and batting gloves, before they are required to doff both and transform themselves into grim contestants on track and field. In addition they also find themselves hurried off to engage in foreign conversation with a visiting examiner, and, before they have regained breath and composure, they are in the gym, grappling with the certificate examination or listening to the optimistic offers by Youth Employment Officers of directorships and other executive dignities. But at least this term cannot be accused of exerting this unforgiving pressure, although it has contained all the familiar features of a long Summer session from mid-April to late July; of shivery spells, of warmth and sunshine, of the inevitable thunderstorms which darkened our labours from time to time and unkindly curtailed some of our breaks. It has seen the welcome seasonal reappearance of swimming on the time table, and offered our geographers a long day in Snowdonia in late April. It has watched over the successes of our elevens and witnessed the long and arduous preparations for the annual Athletic Sports—one of the oldest fixtures of the sort in the district—as well as the successful climax on the day. If the term has been a protracted one, no-one can complain that we have not filled it worthily with the many activities which have so long marked Institute life at this pleasant season of the year. Each and every aspect of this term will be found reported and recorded in the following pages, adequately we trust to satisfy every taste and encourage every interest, whether in the continued high achievement of past and present members or in the day-to-day aspects of our pilgrimage. We awaited many events in this summer term, and time “like an ever rolling stream” bore them at length away. They are now part of the history of the School, the compilation of which is the first function of the *Visor* and which once more your Editor trusts has been achieved without the omission of anything which sustains our credit.

Salvete

4A. Gregory, G. O.

Valete

1B. Nagle, H. A.

5B. Brady, G. B.; Chambers, P. J.

Staff Notes

AT the beginning of this term we extended a hearty welcome to Mr. J. D. Hall, who joined the Staff as Physical Training and Games Master. Educated at Heaton Grammar School, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. Hall served in the Royal Navy from 1945 to 1947 before proceeding to Bede College, Durham, for his professional training. He took the Diploma in Physical Education at St. Luke's College, Exeter. Before coming to the Institute last April, Mr. Hall had been on the staff of Gosforth Grammar School, Northumberland. We trust that his time here will be a happy one and that our teams will flourish under his guidance.

While it is always a pleasure to welcome new members to the Staff, we have at the same time to bid a regretful farewell to others who have served the School faithfully and well but who have now secured appointments elsewhere. Early this term, Old Instionian Mr. A. A. Smith secured a post with the Dunlop organisation at Speke, and we were very sorry to part with him. He came to us last September during a temporary shortage of Staff, and we are grateful for the good work he did over two terms. We venture to wish him every success in his business career. We also wish to thank Mr. Griffiths, who will be leaving us at the end of the term, for all he has done while attached to the Institute Staff, and to wish him well in his subsequent posts. Finally we are saying good bye to Mr. Dalton. He has done yeoman work in the English department for two years, from which his pupils have gained much profit. He has our very best wishes in his new appointment to Sheldon Heath School, Birmingham, where he will be in charge of his department.

Athletic Sports

FOR many years the weather has not been too favourable for Sports Day, but Thursday, May 28th, this year's chosen day, was ideal, being bright and comfortably warm, although not hot enough to distress the competitors. No records were broken, but there was much keen competition, and many of the events provided exciting finishes. An innovation was the printing of the time of each event in the programmes, and everything was so well arranged that the time-table was kept to with admirable precision, and Mr. J. D. Hall and those members of staff who assisted him are to be congratulated on their efficiency.

The Mayoress attended and kindly presented the prizes and certificates. We were extremely sorry that His Worship the Mayor was

ill in hospital, and we wished him a speedy recovery. (Since the above was written, the School has heard with sincere regret of the Mayor's death, and offers the Mayoress its deepest sympathy.—Editor).

We were pleased to welcome many parents, Old Boys and others on this occasion, and hope that in future years the number attending will continue to increase.

Finally, we wish to thank the Ladies' Committee for their continued invaluable management of the catering at the Field, which reaches its annual climax on Sports Day, and leaves all of us their grateful debtors.

RESULTS.

Cross-Country (Junior): 1 Graham, T.J.; 2 Willan, A.K.; 3 Hill, B.J.

Cross-Country (Intermediate): 1 Steedman, A.; 2 Jones, A. T.
3 Tooley, P. W.

Cross-Country (Senior): 1 Humphreys, K. E.; 2 Jones, M. V.;
3 Pollock, S.

Long Jump (1st Year): 1 Bodels, R. I.; 2 Hughes, R. F.; 3 Bawn,
A. E. M. and Brown, G. F.

Long Jump (3rd Year): 1 Blease, G. R.; 2 Oldham, T. J.; 3 Young,
G. G.

Long Jump (Senior): Wylie, D. W. M.; 2 Boyd, R. V.; 3 McMaster,
I. D.

High Jump (2nd year): 1 Ratcliff, D.R.; 2 Hill, B.J.; 3 Murray, B.J.

High Jump (3rd Year): 1 Wade, R.; 2 Young, G. G.; 3 Davies, J. R.

High Jump (4th Year): 1 McIntosh, A.; 2 Manley, P.; 3 Canning,
B. M.

100 Yards (1st Year): 1 Oldham, R.; 2 Ritchie, L.; 3 Rothwell, W. J.

100 Yards (2nd Year): 1 Hill, B. J.; 2 Ratcliff, D. R.; 3 Blair, A.

100 Yards (3rd Year): 1 Blease, G. R.; 2 Oldham, T. J.; 3 Young,
G. G.

100 Yards (4th Year): 1 Walker, C. G.; 2 Steedman, A.; 3 Swindells,
H. C.

100 Yards (Senior): 1 Greaves, G. K.; 2 Wylie, D. W. M.; 3 Harris,
T. H.

Discus (3rd Year): 1 Wade, R.; 2 Williams, W. J.; 3 Oldham, T. J.

Shot (Senior): 1 Greaves, G. K.; 2 Hadfield, F.; 3 Colley, C. E.

Long Jump (2nd Year): 1 Hill, B. J.; 2 Ratcliff, D. R.; Hughes, D.

Javelin (4th Year): 1 McIntosh, A.; 2 Smith, J. M.; 3 Jones, A. T.

220 Yards (1st Year): 1 Oldham, R.; 2 Brown, G.; 3 Foulkes, P.

200 Yards (2nd Year): 1 Hill, B. J.; 2 Ratcliff, D. R.; 3 Blair, A.

220 Yards (3rd Year): 1 Blease, G.R.; 2 Oldham, T.J.; 3 Young, G.G.
 220 Yards (4th Year): 1 Walker, C. G.; 2 Steedman, A.; 3 Hughes,
 D. L.

220 Yards (Senior): 1 Greaves, G. K.; 2 Wylie, D. W. M.; 3 Lee, C. M.
 High Jump (1st Year): 1 Hughes, R. F.; 2 Ritchie, L.; 3 Roddick,
 E. F.

Shot (4th Year): 1 Steedman, A.; 2 Walker, C. G.; 3 Roberts, D.

Javelin (Senior): 1 McMaster, I. D.; 2 Povall, R.; 3 McCarter, A.

880 Yards (Senior): 1 Kay, A.; 2 Forrester, A. A.; 3 Lee, C. M.

880 Yards (3rd Year): 1 Kevan, P. W.; 2 Griffin, D. E.; 3 Swindles, J.

880 Yards (4th Year): 1 Humphreys, K. E.; 2 Jones, M. V.; 3 Hughes,
 D.

Discus (Senior): 1 Colley, C. E.; 2 Greaves, G. K.; 3 Evans, N. J.

Long Jump (4th Year): 1 Walker, C. G.; 2 Steedman, A.; 3 Dodd, J.

Obstacle Race (1st Year): 1 Cooper; 2, Dyble.

Shuttle Relay (Senior): 1 Tate; 2 Westminster; 3 Stitt.

440 Yards (Senior): 1 Wylie, D. W.; 2 Lee, C. M.; 3 Pierce, W. V.

440 Yards (2nd Year): 1 Hill, B. J.; 2 Ratcliff, D. R.; 3 Jacobs, M.A.

440 Yards (3rd Year): 1 Blease, G.R.; 2 Oldham, T.J.; 3 Young, G.G.

440 Yards (4th Year): 1 McIntosh, A.; 2 Jones, M.V.; 3 Hughes, D.L.

440 Yards (1st Year): 1 Brown, G. F.; 2 Oldham, R.; 3 Keating, A. G.

and McCoy, J.

Discus (4th Year): 1 Walker, C. G.; 2 Roberts, D.; 3 Capstick, N. E.

High Jump (Senior): 1 McMaster, J. D.; 2 Boyd, E. F.; 3 Harris, T.H.

Mile (Open): 1 Forrester A. A.; 2 Jones, M. V.; 3 Kay, A.

Relay (1st Year): 1 Westminster; 2 Tate; 3 Atkin.

Relay (2nd Year): 1 Stitt; 2 Atkin; 3 Tate.

Relay (3rd Year): 1 Westminster; 2 Tate; 3 Atkin.

Relay (4th Year): 1 Tate; 2 Westminster; 3 Atkin.

Relay (Senior): 1 Stitt; 2 Tate; 3 Atkin.

Victor Ludorum: Greaves, G. K., 27 points.

Runner-up: Wylie, D. W. M., 24 points.

Junior Victor Ludorum: Blease, G. R., 29 points.

Runner up: Oldham, T. J., 18 points.

House Championship.

1	WESTMINSTER	274 points.
2	TATE	218 "
3	ATKIN	202 "
4	STITT	177 "

Conan Doyle

THIS centenary year of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's birth has already received much notice in the press and the reviews, and at least one of the famous Holmes adventures has been given a new film version. Mrs. Hudson herself, we believe, would accept Peter Cushing's interpretation of the man who brought the Hound of the Baskervilles to bay as a close approximation to the by now immortal original. But that Doyle was a much bigger man than the detective he created is apparent to anyone who has studied his career. His own awareness of this is illustrated by the well documented fact that he hoped to have rid himself of Holmes altogether after the famous death grapple with Moriarty at the Reichenbach pass, and only the impertinence of Newnes and the "Strand Magazine" readers brought about his resurrection in the fine story entitled "The Adventure of the Empty House." As Bacon said, "the more objects of compassion a soul hath, the nobler it is." Doyle's interests were legion, nor was he one of those dabbling amateurs tolerated with a patronising smile by the experts. Above and beyond his considerable claim to attention as an author, he introduced skiing into Switzerland. He was an unsparing critic of the unreality of our field manoeuvres on Salisbury Plain, a warning that was amply justified a few years later at the Modder River and at Magersfontein. Doyle's own "History of the Great Boer War" remains a classic of military history. But how many historians have intervened in the very conflict which engaged their pen to reform the medical system which alone could mitigate its horrors. If we owe much to Miss Nightingale for the design of formal military hospitals, it is to Doyle that we must ascribe the credit for the field hospital which assuaged the havoc of Kruger's bullets and the veldt fevers. Doyle wanted to see every infantryman equipped with entrenching tools and a 'tin' hat and to be trained to shoot from cover. He advocated "Mae West" life-belts and rubber rafts, and all this twenty years before the first World War. He forecast the use of submarines as surface craft employing guns in naval actions, an idea the Admiralty scouted until the bitter losses of 1917 proved him once more to have been right. Doyle was perhaps on less secure ground when he claimed to have invented or envisaged the convoy system; for nearly every man of affairs with marine problems, from Noah to Churchill, has claimed to be its patentee. He experimented with a mono-rail system on his estate, he was one of the pioneers of motoring, and he also had his share in cementing the Entente of 1904 when he entertained the officers of the French warship "Massena" at his own expense. He was as

trenchant a critic of injustice as Zola, and fought ruthlessly for the release of Oscar Slater.

Yet for the average man Doyle will be remembered chiefly as a writer, and in that field he was very much more than merely the creator of Holmes, Watson, Hopkins and Lestrade. His "Great Boer War" has already been noticed, and it is characteristic of the man that he would not allow his portrait to appear in it, insisting that this honour should be reserved for a photograph of Lord Roberts. He wrote a devastating attack on the Belgian rubber scandals in "Crime on the Congo" long before the attention of most publicists had been fixed on King Leopold. As a historical novelist, Doyle surely ranks with the best half-a-dozen in the language. One who has suffered much at the hands of many mediaevalists turns with amazement to "The White Company," for which he undertook vast researches. He did for the Hundred Years' War what Reade contrived to do for Burgundy and the Rhine in the early days of the Renaissance—and historians must admit with humility and despair that this was done by non-professionals in their spare time. He made it come alive, so that Du Guesclin emerged as one of the great captains of history, as real as Saxe or Grant. An admirer of Macaulay, he wrote an account of Sedgemoor and its aftermath in "Micah Clarke" which rivals even the genius of the history. He has left us the best picture in fiction of the Sun King's daily round at Versailles in "The Refugees" and the most convincing glimpse of the green-uniformed autocrat of the First Empire in "Uncle Bernac." That egregious boaster Brigadier Gerard is nearer to solid fact than many of his admirers suppose; for the "Exploits" were based on the Memoirs of General Marblot and remain one of the most effective records of Torres Vedras and the Peninsular War. From a man who always believed in physical fitness came the matchless boxing scenes in "Rodney Stone," over which latter-day commentators on the noble art might still ponder with profit.

Inevitably, however, one returns to Holmes. Much has been said of his perennial appeal, of the atmosphere of late Victorian London of which he is the distilled essence, of hansom, gas lamps and fog, of gigs awaiting the great sleuth's arrival from Waterloo at remote Surrey Stations. What strikes one most on re-reading the Holmes stories is that they were told with such artistry that the surprises and climaxes still hold the attention even when one knows they are coming. Time cannot blunt the great moment in "The Valley of Fear" when Pinkerton's man tells the discomfited Scowfers "I am Birdy Edwards." Colonel Sebastian Moran still snarls "You

clever fiend," when he realises that his air rifle has been trained on a plaster bust, Holmes still invites Watson out of the hut on the Devon Moors when the worthy doctor thought him three hundred miles away, the retired colour merchant of Acton still springs up with chagrin at the apparently artless question "What did you do with the body?", Doctor Mortimer still chills our spine when leaning forward he says impressively, "Mr. Holmes, they were the footprints of a gigantic hound." These moments are timeless. There was often more genuine pioneer work in these and a hundred other such stories than has been supposed. For instance "A Study in Scarlet" first described the use of plaster of Paris in footprints and ante-dates consideration of the method in Hans Gross's "Criminal Investigation" as well as anticipating the "Murder Bag" of our own day. Again was not the whole conception of Moriarty as the very prince of crime the arch-type of all subsequent leaders of the criminal underworld? Many have aped the celebrated Holmes formula, "I perceive on examining this walking-stick that the owner is five foot three, that he has a prominent squint, owns a bull mastiff, and at one time lived in Brazil. Apart from these trifles, my dear Watson, I am afraid it offers us very little," but whoever did it before or who has done it so well since? True, Doyle did not invent the deductive method, but Holmes was the first to make it incisive, trenchant, devastating; and above all supremely entertaining. He remains the greatest professor of his own axiom, "Eliminate all the impossibles. What remains is the truth, however improbable?" Who was it inaugurated the alphabetically-arranged scrap-book register of famous crimes, the true sire of the card-index records of New Scotland Yard? Nor should we forget that pretentious scientific detection, which has been so much exploited since, was born on a side table at 220 B Baker Street. That fictional miniature laboratory was actually based on Doyle's recollections of Professor Bell's dissecting table in the Edinburgh Medical School in the seventies.

What was the secret of Doyle's mastery? Probably he would have said it was due to his remembrance of a maternal injunction, "Wear flannel next to the skin and never believe in eternal punishment." More likely it was due to an essential bigness in the man himself, reflected in his burly physique. He had an unerring gift for striking titles—"The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist," "The Speckled Band" (the dramatised version of which established him as a playwright and brought him an additional fortune), "The Three Napoleons." Above all he possessed clarity and fearlessness of

thought and expression. Holmes himself has much of Doyle's character—the wide range of interests, the promptitude in action, the chivalry and clemency, and the rare outbursts of anger when confronted by the mean and the contemptible. Doyle told his stories so well because he was an exponent of old Cobbett's dictum—"Know what you want to say, and say it as clearly as possible."

Easter Holiday Landscape Competition

RESULTS.

1st Forms: 1st, Holt, 1B.

Highly Commended: Jackson, 1B, Pye, 1A; McNulty, 1A;
Bishop, 1A; White, 1B.

2nd Forms: 1st, Birchall, 2A.

Highly Commended: Wilson, 2B; Thurgill, Cooke, Parry,
Walker, Winder, 2A.

Commended: Maskrey, Fitch, 2B; Gethin, T. Hodgson, Kelly,
2A.

3rd Forms: 1st, Halligan, 3A.

Highly Commended: Blaylock, Miller, Cotgrave, Peterson, 3A;
Laird, McCoy, Fox, 3B.

Commended: Wade, Clays, Muddiman, 3A.

1st Forms: 1st = K. Johnson and J. A. G. Williams, 4A.

Highly Commended: Glynn, 4A.

Commended: McGregor, 4B.

Initiative & Endurance Test, 1959

ONCE again this year a voluntary Initiative and Endurance Test was arranged. Entries were accepted from members of the Fifth and Sixth Forms. The task set this year was: "To visit, within four days, at least five counties of Great Britain, and in each county to see and write an account of at least two Churches of Historical or Architectural Interest."

There was a limit set to the amount of money which could be taken. Points were awarded for initiative, preparation and choice of route, choice of churches, means of transport, time and distance, and finally the recording in the Log Book.

There were eleven entries. Some concentrated too much on covering great distances, forgetting the aim of the test. Others lacked real initiative and showed little preparation. Even the winners did not reach the hoped for standard in their account and descriptions of the churches visited. The entry of Ogden (5A) and Denny (5B) was considered to be the best and they were awarded the First Prize, second place being given to Ellis and Haworth of 5A. It was disappointing that so few Sixth Formers could find the time and energy necessary this year to take part. Participation, even unsuccessfully, in such competitions, is often considered by prospective employers as evidence of the qualities they seek in young men.

The Account of the Winners

DURING the Easter holidays an endurance and initiative test was organised by the Headmaster for fifth and sixth form boys. The object was to visit two churches in each of five counties, other than Cheshire, and to bring back information about each. A log was to be kept, and proof obtained showing that all the places named in the log had actually been visited. As little money as possible was to be spent, and the undertaking was to last no longer than four days, the log being delivered to the Headmaster before midnight on the fourth day.

We decided that Tuesday to Friday of the second week of the holidays was the best time for the journey, and that hitch-hiking would be the cheapest and quickest way to travel. We carried all our food and a tent in rucksacs, in addition to light-weight sleeping-bags, and we both carried about thirty-four pounds of equipment.

We started at the unpleasantly early hour of five o'clock on Tuesday morning, and before midday were in Coventry, having travelled from Chester through Shrewsbury and Birmingham in a transport lorry. We wasted no time in Coventry, but got a lift on another lorry and were soon passing through Banbury and Oxford on the road to Reading. At a small village called Streatley in Berkshire we were halted by a minor explosion in the engine, and in spite of some colourful language from the driver, it would not restart. A doctor took us into Reading by car, and from there we took a short bus ride to Bracknell, where we camped for the night in a farm orchard, and vastly amused the farmer's teenage daughters with our rather temperamental spirit stove, and our primitive methods of cooking.

We rose early the next morning and travelled to Bagshot on the A.30 trunk road, from where we got a lorry to Salisbury. We spent

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some time there and visited the magnificent cathedral and various other places of interest. By the end of the morning we reached Bath and spent another hour sight-seeing, visiting the quaint Pulteney Bridge and the beautiful abbey. We next travelled to Bristol and Gloucester, and reached Ross-on-Wye as dusk was falling. We then decided to travel over-night to reach Birkenhead by morning. Accordingly we started walking north towards Hereford, which we did not reach until eleven o'clock, having been given a lift by the County Ambulance Officer, who took us to the Hereford Ambulance Headquarters and gave us each a much-needed cup of tea. At midnight we started walking north again, this time towards Leominster, and were given a short lift in a car, the driver of which had the unusual habit of driving on the right and left hand sides of the road alternately and with his eyes apparently closed. There was a strong smell of alcohol, and we formed a vague idea that he was more than a little intoxicated. He was only able to take us a few miles, and soon we were walking along the pitch-black country road once more. After walking for two hours with loads which appeared to get heavier every mile, we finally made camp at two o'clock in the morning, very tired.

We continued our journey five hours later, and by various means reached Shrewsbury. We were given a lift by a student in what he called a "hot rod" and was little more than four wheels and an engine. We covered twelve miles of twisting country lanes in twelve minutes and then spent half-an-hour in Shrewsbury gathering together our shattered nerves. From Shrewsbury we were given a lift by a lorry bound for Carlisle, and, having a day in hand, we decided to go to Carlisle ourselves by way of Preston, Lancaster, Kendal, Shap Fell, and Penrith. We reached Carlisle by four o'clock. We spent an hour there and then started back south, again hoping to reach home overnight and camping in the early hours of the morning, exhausted.

The next day we were fortunate to meet a gentleman who had been camping in the Cairngorms and who was on his way to Liverpool by field car. He gave us a lift, and at one o'clock we arrived at the Tunnel entrance in Liverpool. We crossed the river by boat and arrived home in time for a late lunch, having covered seven hundred and thirty miles in three and a half days.

We eventually won the competition and are looking forward to undertaking a similar project at a later date, purely for pleasure.

P. E. OGDEN.

R. M. DENNY.

School Trip to Snowdonia

ON 21st April those boys in the fifth and sixth forms who are studying geography boarded a coach which was to take them on a tour of North Wales. At ten o'clock we stopped at a vantage point outside Llangollen to admire the local limestone scenery and the incised meanders of the River Dee.

After passing through Bettws-y-Coed and Capel Curig, both of which are good examples of valley settlements at route junctions, we left the coach near the glacial "ribbon lake" Ogwen, and stretched our legs by walking into Cwm Idwal as far as the famous Idwal Slabs to have lunch. At the head of the cwm could be seen the renowned "Devil's Kitchen."

At one o'clock we set off again, and in half-an-hour arrived at Pen-y-Pas, from which point we began our ascent of Snowdon.

As we walked along the well-known Pyg Track we were able to examine at close quarters derelict copper mines (serving to remind us of the old crystalline nature of the local rock). The debris from these mines was deposited in the conveniently near tarns, scooped out by former glaciers and hundreds of feet deep.

Up till then the party had remained together, but the steep ascent which followed soon separated the fit from the others. Those of us who were first up were able to see the lakes below, reflecting the surrounding hills, a phenomenon frequently described by Welsh poets. At the summit refreshments were enjoyed, and then the majority of the party returned by the same route with Mr. Hughes. The remainder of us made our way back to Pen-y-pas by walking along the famous ridge Crib Goch which is extremely precipitous on both sides. Despite the nonchalant ease with which Mr. Blake negotiated its difficulties, we were only too well aware that one false step on our part would enable us to rejoin our comrades below prematurely, and we therefore proceeded with more caution.

However, the whole party arrived back at the coach without mishap, and we set off home along the coast road almost to our scheduled time. The day was a most enjoyable one and proved an invaluable practical introduction to the realities of physical geography. Our thanks are due to Mr. Blake for organising this successful outing.

E. BOYD, VI.A.

Continental Trip

FOR many years a party from the School has been to the Continent during the summer holidays, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden having been visited recently. This year a group of twenty-four boys with Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Thompson will be going to Paris. They will be staying near the Bois de Boulogne only a few minutes by Metro from the Champs-Elysees and Concorde districts. Apart from a coach tour of the capital and a boat trip on the Seine, visits will be made to the Eiffel Tower, the catacombs, Versailles, and many other places of interest.

War Memorial Prize

Trustees:

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AFTER the last war an appeal was launched for funds so that a memorial Tablet in memory of the Old Boys of the School who had died could be erected in the entrance hall. Subscriptions were received from parents, Old Boys, and friends of the School, and the tablet was unveiled after a memorial service on 18th December, 1949.

The balance of the funds was invested, and the interest is used to provide annually an Old Boys' War Memorial Prize, which is presented at the Prize Distribution. It is awarded by the Trustees, six Old Boys of the School, to the boy who has most merited the award by some noteworthy performance or achievement in athletics, or any of the School's sporting or recreational activities, during the preceding twelve months.

THE WINNERS OF THE AWARD.

1948-49 ...	A. SMITH.	1953-54 ...	T. S. HODGSON.
1950-51 ...	J. R. MORRIS.	1954-55 ...	I. MARRS.
1951-52 ...	G. M. DODD.	1955-56 ...	H. S. JONES.
1949-50 ...	A. A. SMITH.	1956-57 ...	T. H. HARRIS.
1952-53 ...	T. S. HODGSON.	1957-58 ...	P. J. SAMPSON.



W E congratulate G. McTear, Deputy Captain of the School and Captain of Stitt, on the distinction he has gained in being awarded one of the ten prizes offered by the Council for Education in World Citizenship for an essay on the future prospects of international co-operation. The Council of Europe awards a gold medal for the best essay, and each European Country is allowed to put forward one only of its candidates' efforts for consideration for this supreme prize. As McTear's essay has now been submitted to the Council for this final adjudication, we can congratulate him still further on having come first in Great Britain. He will attend the official prize-giving ceremony at Strasbourg in July, joining successful competitors from a dozen other European countries. Afterwards he will tour the area covered by the Coal and Steel Community of Europe for a fortnight, and then submit a written account of his journey. McTear's essay was clearly an outstanding achievement. His success has brought distinction to the Institute, and is a worthy climax to his work here, both in the Lower School and latterly in the Advanced Course

* * *

We acknowledge with many thanks the gift of the following books to the Art Library by Old Instonian R. Binyon. The set includes a copy of that great standard work, "The History of Architecture" by Banister-Fletcher; "Toward new towns for America" by Stein; "Towns and Buildings" by Rasmussen; "Swedish Housing" edited by Hald. This welcome gift from a former member of the VI Form who distinguished himself in our advanced course in Art before proceeding to the Liverpool School of Architecture, recalls the period when Birkenhead Institute produced a succession of able students in this field who have since gained responsible positions both as teaching and practising architects. A member of the Committee of the Old Instonians Association, Mr. Binyon, is on the staff of the Borough Architect's department, Wallasey Corporation.

* * *

In a competition organised by the British Trades Alphabet, E. L. Pye of Form 1A, worked out a special 'project' on Morris Cars, collecting material illustrating their development and writing a descriptive essay to accompany it. For this he was awarded a prize including a chess set and a stamp collector's outfit.

* * *

Copies of the History of the School 1879—1959 are still available at four shillings a copy or four and sixpence including postage.

* * *





We congratulate D. Ellis of 5A on gaining one of the Duke of Edinburgh's awards, which was presented to him by the President of the Birkenhead Boys' Brigade Battalion during their display in May. The badge, which bears the Duke's own cipher, is the bronze version awarded for the first series of tests, which have been planned to encourage initiative, citizenship, and physical fitness. In addition, its holders are also given a certificate of commendation signed by Sir John Hunt. This great and imaginative enterprise has been designed to encourage boys, working either through their Schools or some recognised club, to master first aid, life-saving, and fire-fighting; to undertake journeys across country to test stamina and resourcefulness, and finally to qualify for various athletic standards. The more exacting grades earn silver and gold badges. Another member of 5A, I. MacMaster, already holds the Duke of Edinburgh's silver badge, which he gained in 1958.

* * *

The Headmaster wishes to acknowledge the receipt of a cheque from an Old Instonian who desires to remain anonymous, to assist a senior boy either to travel on the continent or to attend a school scout camp. While respecting the condition of anonymity, we can assure the generous donor of our deep appreciation of his gift.

* * *

On Tuesday, June 23rd, on the occasion of the Queen Mother's visit to Birkenhead to launch the new Orient liner "Windsor Castle," the School enjoyed a full holiday. This proved to be a glorious summer's day, and many of our number witnessed some of the auspicious proceedings, either along the royal route or in the shipyard. The rules of the Joint Matriculation Board were unfortunately inexorable, and, as June 23rd had been fixed for the French Papers at both Advanced and Ordinary levels of the General Certificate, several members of the Upper 6 and all the candidates in 5A, 5B had to attend School that day, together with the Headmaster and three members of the Staff.

ATKIN	STITT	TATE	W'MINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

ATKIN.

THIS term has seen a lifting of the air of apathy which pervaded the House during the Autumn and Spring Terms. After the dismal Rugby and Chess failures the House tackled the remaining events wholeheartedly. An immediate improvement was the result. Strong running by the Junior and Intermediate cross-country teams enabled Atkin to finish third in the Championship. It was most unfortunate that the Senior team—despite the strong running of M. V. Jones, Taylor, and Burgess—could not improve on its position, since three Houses—Atkin, Tate, and Westminster—were level after the Junior and Intermediate events.

The Senior Cricket Championship has provided the one highlight in Atkin's achievements this year. In the opening match, a victory was recorded against Stitt, but in the following match against Tate, the House suffered a setback when victory seemed assured. However, Atkin's magnificent victory over Westminster—or should it be the School Cricket XI?—more than compensated for the House's previous shortcomings. In a very tense struggle Atkin won by two runs. In all these matches Parry performed mighty feats with bat and ball, and the standard of fielding was high.

In the Athletic Sports the House had the honour of providing the Junior Victor Ludorum, Blease, and the runner up to the Senior Victor Ludorum, Wylie. Hill was also an outstanding performer who easily outclassed the second form opposition.

With only the Junior Cricket matches and the Summer Examinations to be completed, it is to be hoped that this improvement will maintain its momentum and lift Atkin from its present position of fourth.

I.D.M.

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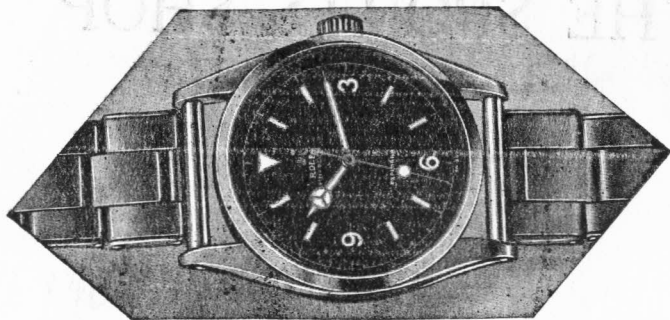
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STITT.

IT has now become a commonplace that Stitt is the most optimistic of the Houses, and at the end of another school year the house notes are concerned more with what the future has in store than with what the dying year has achieved. We do not claim that this has been an exceptionally successful year for the House, but it has shown a considerable improvement on last year's performance.

But what does the future hold? Despite the wild and exaggerated claims about Stitt's potentiality which have been made throughout the three terms, the year has been one of experiment and trial, and next year we should see the fruits of the work. If all goes well, Stitt should have a large number of representatives in the sixth form to dominate senior events, as well as a very strong third-form to dominate the juniors. In addition, there will be little opposition from the other houses. Westminster's sun has already begun to set, and Tate and Atkin will suffer the same disadvantage that Stitt has had to contend with over the last two years—a shortage of boys in the sixth form.

Thus, with Stitt once again basking in the brilliance of potential absolute victory, there remains but one thing to be done and that is to wish all members of the House—and for that matter the whole School—a long and contented future.

G. McTEAR.

TATE.

ATHLETICS and cricket have been the only house activities this term, and it is clear that the promising start made by Tate in the house activities at the beginning of the year has not been maintained.

The most successful activity this term was athletics, in which the house proved to be second only to Westminster and provided the senior Victor Ludorum, G. K. Greaves. Its strength lay mainly in the relays, in which the 4th year did particularly well, and the field events. Walker played a particularly large part in both track and field events.

Cricket at the time of writing has been most disappointing, though both the seniors and the juniors possessed potentially good teams. The seniors managed to beat only Atkin, in their first match, a victory depending largely on the hitting power of Jones, who scored 18. The bowling of Povall and Greaves was of a much higher standard than the very uncertain batting, which failed badly against Stitt. The juniors have played Atkin and Westminster so far and have lost them both, and it is hoped that they will do better than the seniors

against Stitt. The team has been very ably captained by Storry, who has been the most successful bowler, taking 8 wickets against Atkin. Batting as with the Seniors was the main weakness.

C. E. COLLEY.

WESTMINSTER.

THE main events this term have been cricket and the athletic sports, in both of which the House returned creditable performances, and, if at the time of writing we know of our great success on Sports Day, we can be equally confident of a similar result in the cricket.

On Sports Day, Westminster had the edge over the other Houses before the first shot from the starting-pistol, because of our greater number of finalists. We thus entered the fray in the lead and held that position throughout the twenty-nine events. Our victory was assured by the margin of fifty-six points which separated us from Tate, our 'nearest' rivals, and our thanks and congratulations must go to Steedman, Young, and the Oldham brothers who set the House a magnificent example and gained 102 points among them.

The results of the senior cricket matches are a little disappointing when we consider that potentially ours was the strongest side.

Only two of the junior matches have so far been played, and these have been decided in our favour. The result of the cricket competition will depend on the outcome of the match against Atkin, and on recent performances, victory seems certain.

We thus come to the end of another successful Westminster year, a year in which we gained first place in rugby, cross country, athletics, and probably cricket, and only narrowly failed to oust Stitt from the examination domination which that House has enjoyed for so long. We have thus emulated last year's brilliant achievement, and it is to be hoped that the blue flag of Westminster will fly at the top of the Coronation Cup Competition for a good many years to come.

T. HARRIS.

Cricket — 1st XI

RESULTS.

St. Anselm's College (Draw)—B.I. 71; St. Anselm's College 69 for 8.
Wirral Grammar School (Win)—B.I. 53; Wirral 47.
Park High School (Win)—B.I. 137 for 9 dec.; Park High 52.
Quarry Bank H.S. (Draw)—Quarry Bank 109 for 8 dec.; B.I. 83 for 9.
Caldy Grange G.S. (Win)—Caldy 76; B.I. 78 for 9.
Chester City G.S. (Loss)—B.I. 88; Chester 90 for 5.

Alsop High School (Win)—Alsop 92; B.I. 93 for 4.

Oldershaw Grammar School (Lost)—Oldershaw 97; B.I. 47.

Rock Ferry High School

Holt High School

Old Instonians

The first match, against St. Anselm's College, proved to be closely contested as have most of the matches so far this season. The school won the toss and batted first making 71, the only respectable score being that of Parry who made 22 not out. St. Anselm's College made 69 for 8 wickets, Parry taking 3 for 20 and Povall 3 for 21.

The story was much the same in the game against Wirral. The school batted first having won the toss and made 53, Parry hitting 20 runs. When Wirral had made 30 runs for the loss of 2 wickets it looked as if they would be victorious. At this point, however, Povall took a hat trick and Wirral were all out eventually for 47, Povall taking 5 for 14 and Parry 4 for 33.

The school again batted first in the match against Park High and scored 137 for 9 declared, Taylor making 48, Greaves 30 and Povall 19. Park were all out for 52, Povall taking 5 for 8 and Greaves 5 for 11.

At Quarry Bank the school fielded first and the home side took a long time to score 109 for 8 declared, Greaves taking 4 for 29. With 80 minutes left, the school scored 83 for 6, Evans making 38, several batsmen being out while going for the runs.

Caldy batted first in the next game and made 76, Greaves taking 4 for 30. In the School's innings, 8 wickets were down for 45 and 9 for 58, but a last wicket stand between Harris and McMaster saved the day, Harris hitting 22 not out.

It was after this match that cricket colours were awarded to T. H. Harris, the captain of the eleven, for the excellent way in which he had been leading the side.

The school batted first when playing Chester and scored 88 runs, McMaster hitting 22. Parry took a wicket with his fourth ball in the Chester innings but thereafter success eluded the team until the score had reached 61 and the school's total was passed for the loss of 5 wickets, McIntosh having taken 3 for 17. This first loss of the season was due largely to the fact that the fielding fell well below the standard reached in previous games.

In the following match, having won the toss, Alsop elected to bat and scored 92 runs in 125 minutes, McMaster taking 4 for 21. This left the school 75 minutes in which to bat and, in five minutes short of time, the team hit 93 runs for 4 wickets, Kay making 36 not out and Phipps 24.

THE OLD INSTONIANS' ASSOCIATION.

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G. VENABLES, Esq., 26 Bickerton Avenue, Bebington.

THE Old Instonians' Association continues to thrive, its membership having increased appreciably during the past few months.

The Dinner held on January 17th at the Town Hall to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the founding of Birkenhead Institute was voted a most happy and memorable occasion by those who attended it. It gave opportunity for the renewal of old friendships and for the re-affirmation of good will towards the School. It is intended to hold another Commemoration Dinner in 1964. Meanwhile annual dinners will be arranged, the next in October 1960.

The club room in Elmswood Road has been open to members 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 has been meeting on Wednesday evenings during the summer at Mayer Park, Bebington.

A party visited the Liverpool Playhouse on May 14 and adjourned for coffee afterwards. Members wishing to be included in theatre parties in the future are asked to notify the secretary. Wives and friends are most welcome on such occasions.

Members interested in the golfing section are asked to contact Mr. George Venables.

Cricket matches have been played against St. Mary's Cricket Club and Birkenhead Institute.

A notice board has been placed in the Sports shop of Messrs. Heslop and Dukinfield, North John Street, Liverpool, on which details of activities will be posted from time to time.

The Old Instonians' Sports Prizes will be awarded at the end of the Summer Term, 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 again invited a representative of the Association to present the prizes at the breaking-up ceremony, at which Old Boys are most welcome.

The Association tie will be on sale at Bibby and Perkin's shops in the near future. 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.

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

The Secretary will welcome letters from members, and it is hoped to publish news of Old Instonians in future copies of the *Visor* which is printed at the end of every term. Copies of the complete history of Birkenhead Institute may be obtained from Mr. Hall at the School (Price 4/- each and postage).

Any suggestions for the furtherance of the Association's aims will be most carefully considered by the Committee.

Membership of the Association may be secured by payment of an annual subscription of five shillings payable by postal order, cheque, or banker's order. If desired a further five shillings may be sent as a yearly subscription to the *Visor*, which will be forwarded on publication. The appropriate forms may be obtained from the Chairman.

News of Old Boys

ON March 19 last at Buckingham Palace, Lieutenant Colonel J. D. B. Thornton was invested with the M.B.E. which he had been awarded in the previous Birthday Honours for distinguished service both with the Army of the Rhine and in Cyprus. A former captain of the Institute Old Boys' Football Club, Colonel Thornton as a signals officer had served in Malaya before being appointed to R.A.F. Headquarters (Middle East Air Force), Cyprus.

Yet another service honour achieved by an Old Instonian was announced in March. Lieutenant Colonel J. Norris Smith has been gazetted Commanding Officer of 372 Flints and Denbigh Yeomanry R.A. (Territorial Army). At the Institute, Colonel Smith was a member of the first XV. During the early days of the second World War, while a member of the Prenton Home Guard, he won the Chief Constable's trophy for the best shot. He served with H.M. forces overseas during the greater part of the war. Instonians of an older generation will recall the deep interest which Colonel Smith's father took for many years in our Athletic Sports, providing us with aerial for the running of many events.

* * *

Turning to academic achievement we record, somewhat belatedly, the first Class Honours secured by H. W. Peers in his second year examination at the University of Leeds in Special Studies (Mathematics and History and Philosophy of Science) in June 1958. For this performance Mr. Peers was confirmed in the tenure of the Senior Scholarship which he gained the previous summer. He has been advised to continue with the Diploma in Mathematical Statistics on completing his degree course.

* * *

During its long history many high academic positions have been secured by Old Boys of the School. The most recent of these has been secured by T. W. Goodwin, D.Sc., at present Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry in the University of Liverpool. On March 21st Dr. Goodwin was appointed Professor of Biochemistry at the Aberystwyth College of the University of Wales, thus continuing a long tradition of Instonian achievement in British Universities.

* * *

We record with pleasure the appointment of Old Instonian R. E. P. Wright to the post of Physical Education Organiser to Lincoln County Council. During his time at Birkenhead Institute Mr. Wright was a tireless worker with the School Scouts, and was Head Prefect in his last year. After leaving the Institute, he took his professional diploma at Loughborough College and he has recently gained further qualifications at Carnegie Hall where courses in Physical education are run in conjunction with the University of Leeds. Mr. Wright has Physical Training Master at several local schools, latterly at Rock Ferry High School. We wish him every success in his new appointment, in which he will have some thirty schools and over sixty youth clubs in his care.

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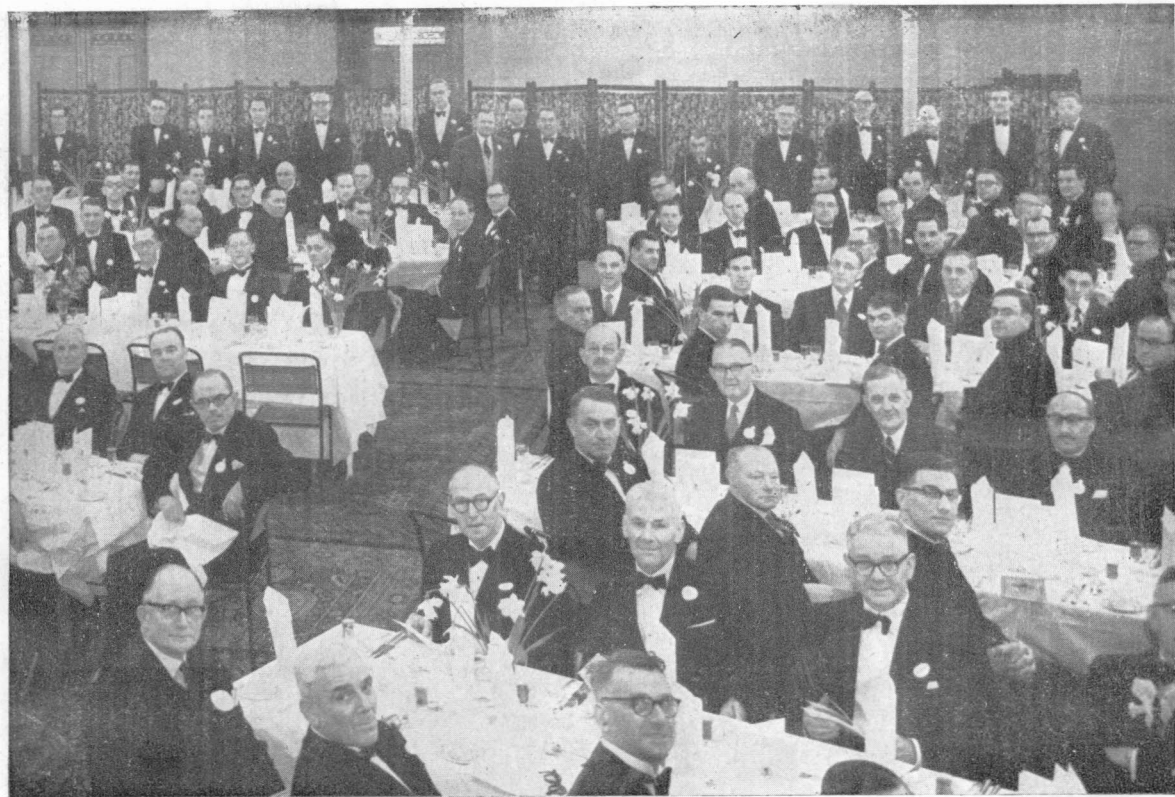
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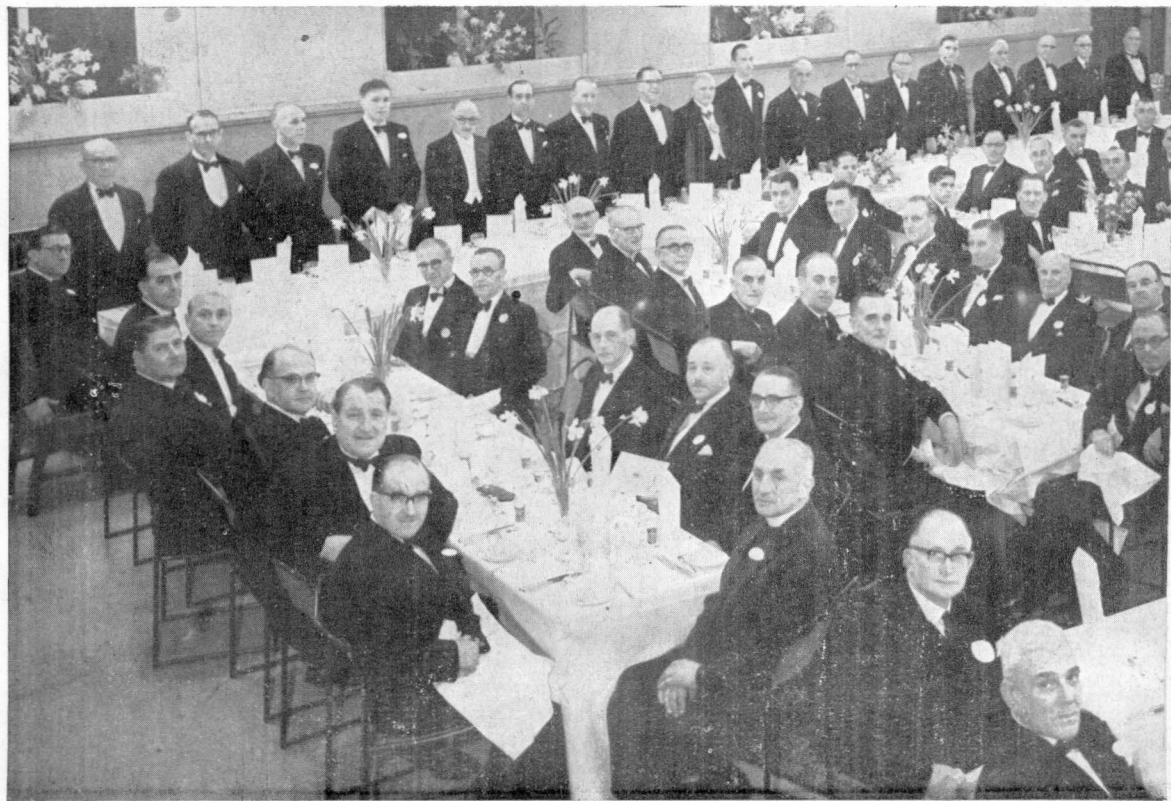
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Some Impressions of the Association Dinner

AS the Chairman rose to greet members and their guests in the Town Hall, I was considering an interesting antithesis. The Association, re-constituted as recently as November, 1957, had hardly finished teething, and, as Mr. L. T. Malcolm spoke of the School's seventy years, of those Old Boys present and of those who had written to express regrets for absence (including one Grand O.B. who left the Birkenhead Institute in 1892), the Association's youth seemed both a foil and a contrast to the age of its parent and of its members, who were, of necessity, old. Moreover, during a wide-ranging review by Alderman R. N. Melville, J.P., Mayor of Birkenhead, of the many changes he had seen in education in this country, of its successes, and of the prospects and problems which the future offered, I thought that one small achievement he did not specifically mention was amply in evidence that evening, for none seemed crabbed with Age, and Youth, though full of sport, was, it appeared, not inharmoniously in contact with its elders.

At any rate, an interval which came at that point was much enjoyed by everyone, and the company seemed reluctant to come to order again, the last late-comer, so often witty himself when squarely in the public eye, having on this occasion the added distinction of being the cause of wit in the next speaker. Proposing the toast to the Birkenhead Institute, Lord Cohen perhaps appreciated that such pleasurable mingling of the generations was a tribute to the School which fostered them. Certainly he reminisced delightfully about his own days at the Institute, and with that stimulus, who knows what pangs of nostalgia were not stirred in the mind, what purging, what regeneration? Lord Cohen pointed, more seriously, to the remarkable improvement in opportunity there had been since his own schooldays for those with academic talents and ambitions, and the Headmaster, Mr. E. G. Webb, in replying to the toast, also touched on this theme.

Principally, however, Mr. Webb called attention to what he thought a cardinal feature in his School, the good relationship which existed between masters and boys. Several members of the staff were present, as well as a former Headmaster, Mr. E. Wynne Hughes, and a number of the senior boys. It was the staff, I reflected, which held the key position, acting then, as so often, as a kind of catalyst in the inter-action, fulfilling the valuable role of always remaining to large numbers of Old Boys, despite incidental changes, recognisably the same as when they were at school, in essence unaltered by the changing pattern, though by no means unobservant of it.

Mr. J. E. Allison, only recently retired as Senior Geography Master at the School, seemed to me to exemplify this point when he proposed the toast to the guests. Most people, remembering their school-days, expected a geographical address, and they were not disappointed. In a most engaging and humorous speech Mr. Allison referred to the way Lord Cohen had combined professional skill with geographical acumen, to his famous Rodney Street annexe to the Liverpool University School of Medicine, and to the medical motto of "Faith, Dope, and Charity." Other guests had brought lustre to the name of the School by their eminence in a great variety of professions, and in many parts of the country, not least in Birkenhead itself.

Finally, Sir Herbert Manzoni replied on behalf of the guests. At his request we readily forgave him for introducing a serious note, not only because of the real danger of the situation he outlined, in which over-specialization appeared as a principal evil in modern education, but also because he was able, engineer though he was, to demonstrate by offering an original translation of the School's Latin motto that he had not fallen a prey to the disease: Doctors, he maintained, always have plenty of money.

of different parts of the assembly room, but, unfortunately, all fail to show the full gathering.

The Mayor of Birkenhead, Alderman R. N. MELIVILLE, J.P.
The Lord COHEN of Birkenhead, M.D. LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P.,
F.F.R., F.S.A., J.P.

Sir Herbert MANZONI, C.B.E.

E. G. WEBB, B.A.

J. E. ALLISON, M.A.

W. L. COTTIER, C.B.E.

I. BOWEN, C.M.G., M.Sc., F.R.Ae.S.

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H. GLYNN WILKINSON, M.Sc., M.Ed.

E. WYNNE HUGHES, M.A., M.Sc.

R. J. GRIFFITH, M.A.

The Birkenhead Institute, even in deference to the Association's youth, could scarcely prolong a sixty-nine year procrastination over its three score and ten. The Dinner, I felt, was thus an act of faith by a young Association, made at a time when faith is, perhaps, thought to be an unfashionable attitude with the young, when one of youth's most delightful, because really rather unlooked-for, qualities—appreciation of its elders' achievements—is, they may think, a gift to value very highly.

K. I. SMITH.

* * *

A list of those who attended the Dinner is included together with photographs of most of the company. These photographs were taken

J. P. ALMOND, 48 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.
 J. F. ALLAN 'Erwood,' Bertram Drive, Meols.
 J. H. ALLDIS, 'Romsdal,' Prenton Lane, Birkenhead.
 W. C. ALMOND 29, Braeside Avenue, Patcham, Brighton
 J. ABBOTT, 12 Bangor Road, Wallasey.
 E. G. BIBBY, 3 Berkley Avenue Birkenhead.
 R. BINYON, 264 Spital Road, Bromborough.
 P. J. BEACALL, 177 Storeton Road, Birkenhead.
 J. S. BASSETT 'Southbank,' Thurstaston Road, Irby.
 J. B. BUSHELL, 22 Irvine Road, Birkenhead.
 D. S. BRUCE, 26 Waterpark Road, Birkenhead.
 L. BERKSON, 'Arfryn,' Prospect Road, Birkenhead.
 H. B. BARKER, 'Heswall,' 114 Hales Road, Cheltenham.
 Dr. H. O. M. BRYANT, 2 Lodge Road, West Bromwich.
 Dr. J. BERKSON 40 Menlove Gardens South, Liverpool.
 D. BOGGIE, 16 St. Stephen's Road, Birkenhead.
 M. H. BAKER, 7 Waterpark Road, Birkenhead.
 A. J. BURNS, Upton Lane, Upton by Chester.
 R. BLACKWOOD, 'Wood Lawn,' Prenton Road West, Birkenhead.
 K. BRECKNELL, 635 Borough Road, Birkenhead.
 G. BUCKLEY, 138 Grosvenor Road, Birkenhead.
 J. COLLINSON, 69 Grosvenor Road, Birkenhead.
 W. D. CHRISTIAN 98 Windermere Road, Birkenhead.
 R. CLEGG, 17 Wheatlands Grove, Bradford.
 D. COLQUHOUN, Banks Avenue, Meols.
 R. CEHA.
 H. L. DAVIES, 'Acrefield,' Acrefield Road, Birkenhead.
 R. D. DORRITY, 22 Riviera Drive, Birkenhead.
 R. M. DELF, 'Rook Wood,' 47 Moreton Road, Upton.
 H. DAVIES, 26 Heath Drive, Upton.
 J. DALTON, 33 Mather Road, Birkenhead.
 N. DALE 11 Mallory Road, Birkenhead.
 J. DAVIES, 46 Langley Road, Slough.
 F. M. DODD 32 Alder Hey Road, St. Helens.
 A. G. DAVIES, Woking.
 L. FROWE, 128 Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead.
 H. G. FOSTER, 'Duncairn,' Church Road Upton.
 L. C. FARAGHER, 20 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.
 T. H. FISHER, 92 Mill Hill Road Irby.
 G. S. FARAGHER, 14 Harley Avenue, Bebington.
 H. G. FARAGHER, 14 Agden Park Lane, Broomedge, Lymm.
 C. FARAGHER, 31 Sherington Avenue, Hatch End.
 C. D. GRACEY, J.P. 12 Riviera Drive, Birkenhead.
 S. GRIFFITHS, 60 Queens Drive, Birkenhead.
 Dr. T. W. GOODWIN, 120 Village Road, Bromborough.
 Dr. J. F. GALLOWAY, Ladywell House, Orton Lane Lower Penn,
 Wolverhampton.
 I. A. GALLOWAY, 130 Mather Avenue, Liverpool.
 E. P. GILL, 'Glenelg,' 11 Portico Lane, Whiston.
 Dr. R. C. GUBBINS, 5 Copthorne Road, Wolverhampton.
 Dr. T. H. H. GREEN, 112 Grove Road, Wallasey.
 J. G. GREEN, 42 Christchurch Road, Birkenhead.
 Professor G. E. M. HALLETT, 120 Queen's Road, Whitley Bay.
 W. Y. HODGSON, 'Ravensheugh,' Spital Road, Bromborough.
 R. HALL, 24 Regents Way, Bebington.
 E. W. HUDSON, 9 Thorneycroft Street, Birkenhead.
 J. D. O. HUGHES, 20 Greenheys Road, Irby.
 A. HENDERSON, Bank House The Mount, Heswall.

W. Y. HODGSON, 23 Heathbank Road, Birkenhead.
 E. W. HUGHES, 64 Prospect Vale, Wallasey.
 T. H. HARRIS Birkenhead Institute.
 A. V. HUMPHREYS, 2 Greenbank Road, Birkenhead.
 G. E. HUGHES, 5 Kindale Road, Birkenhead.
 I. D. HARRIS, The White House Templemore Road.
 H. HURST, 116 Claughton Road, Birkenhead.
 W. HURST, 116 Claughton Road, Birkenhead.
 F. HOLLAND 39 Village Road, Eastham.
 L. HIRD, Pensby House, Pensby Road, Heswall.
 C. B. HAYWARD, 21 Fairacres Road, Bebington.
 H. M. JONES, 49 Kingsville Road, Higher Bebington.
 H. JONES, 2 Palm Hill, Birkenhead.
 J. KERNAGHAN, 55 Escolme Drive, Greasby.
 N. G. LITTLE, 8 Singleton Avenue Birkenhead.
 N. LEWIS, 35 Beachcroft Road, Meols.
 C. R. LOCKYER, 24 Kingswood Boulevard, Bebington.
 E. V. LANE, 'Rockcliffe,' Hurworth on Tees, Darlington.
 H. S. LITTLE, 12 Park Lane, Penwortham Preston.
 J. H. LIGGET, 14 Brookfield Road, West Kirby.
 Councillor A. MADDOCKS, 45 Upton Road, Birkenhead.
 R. MOFFATT, J.P. 19 Ennerdale Road, Birkenhead.
 L. T. MALCOLM, 5 St. Seiriol Grove, Birkenhead.
 N. S. MUMBY, 'Glendyne,' Prenton Lane Birkenhead.
 R. MAY, Park High School, Birkenhead.
 V. MEALOR, 28 Ullswater Avenue Birkenhead.
 Rev. J. M. McTEAR, St. Andrew's Vicarage, 2 Lingdale Rd., W. Kirby.
 E. T. MARSDEN, 37 Heath Road Bebington.
 H. S. MUMBY, 'South Bank,' 14 Chester Road, Helsby via Warrington.
 J. D. McCULLEN, 8 Thompson Avenue Culcheth, Warrington.
 W. H. MANLEY, 60 Park Road South Birkenhead.
 I. S. McDONALD, 614 Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead.
 G. McTEAR, Birkenhead Institute.
 G. E. NUTT, 15 Palm Hill, Birkenhead.
 Dr. F. OWERS, 16 Shrewsbury Road, Birkenhead.
 H. H. OWEN, 19 Bramwell Avenue, Birkenhead.
 Councillor K. W. PORTER, 89 Highfield South, Birkenhead.
 M. K. PORTER, 89 Highfield South Birkenhead.
 Dr. J. W. PICKUP, 9 St. Catherine's Hill, Worcester. ,
 J. A. PRYDE, 29 Curzon Road Birkenhead.
 W. J. PYKE, 8 Harley Avenue, Bebington.
 A. S. PATON, 'Hilbre,' Thornley Drive Teignmouth.
 W. H. PENLINGTON, 76 Langdale Road, Bebington.
 K. R. PERCY, 8 St. Albans Road Birkenhead.
 Councillor A. E. RICHMOND, 55 Christchurch Road, Birkenhead.
 W. G. ROCHE, 4 Gerald Road, Birkenhead.
 A. RUSHTON 45 Marlston Avenue, Lache Park, Chester.
 G. W. ROBINSON, 25 Ludlow Drive, West Kirby.
 E. RISE.
 A. REDFERN, 28 Kings Mount, Birkenhead.
 W. RENNIE 50 Eltham Hill, Eltham, S.E. 9.
 W. R. STRINGER, 21 Regents Way, Bebington.
 K. I. SMITH, 64 Egerton Park, Birkenhead.
 R. A. SHALES 25 Garrick Road, Birkenhead.
 P. P. SIMPSON, 12 Sandiway, Meols.

G. W. SHAW, 'Long View,' Telegraph Road Heswall.
 E. SORBY, 'Carfax,' Barnston Road, Thingwall.
 H. SMITH 92 Willmer Road, Birkenhead.
 R. F. SALMON Birkenhead Institute.
 R. W. SNELSON, 14 Nottingham Street, Melton Mowbray.
 H. B. THOMAS, 6 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.
 E. C. TOWNSEND, 17 Penkett Road, Wallasey.
 J. H. THOMPSON, 11 Neale Drive, Greasby.
 A. R. THACKER, 27 Prenton Road East, Birkenhead.
 S. D. J. THACKER, 27 Prenton Road East, Birkenhead.
 H. M. TURNER, 70 Fountain Street, Birkenhead.
 G. E. TAYLOR, 'Kindore,' Barnston Road Bebington.
 G. C. VENABLES, 26 Bickerton Avenue, Bebington.
 Councillor E. G. WILLIAMS, 28 Berwyn Avenue, Thingwall.
 Dr. J. WETHERELL, 133 Oxtan Road, Birkenhead.
 G. A. WETHERELL, 63 Lingdale Road, Birkenhead.
 A. R. W. WETHERELL 23 Regents Way, Bebington.
 A. G. WILLIAMS, 'Kynlas,' Barnston Road Heswall.
 T. K. WARD, 10 Osborne Road Birkenhead.
 D. WOLFE, 10 Dunsdon Road, Liverpool.
 N. WILSON, 1 Gerard Avenue, Wallasey.
 H. A. WILMOT, Home Farm, Boultham Park, Lincoln.
 Dr. HYATT WILLIAMS 32a Frogmal Lane, Hampstead, N.W. 3.
 R. E. WOOD, 24 Holmfield Avenue, Stoneygate, Leicester.
 J. G. WILLIAMS, 5 Bidston Road Birkenhead.
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Old Instonians A.F.C.

1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions Liverpool Old Boys' League.

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

FROM the playing point of view this has not been one of our more successful seasons. Our good record of the 1957-58 season has not been maintained, and the final league positions for our teams were as follows:

1st XI.	P. 24.	W. 6.	D. 7.	L. 11.	61 for. 64	against. 19	pts.
2nd XI.	P. 19.	W. 6.	D. 3.	L. 10.	58 for. 58	against. 15	pts.
3rd XI.	P. 18.	W. 6.	D. 1.	L. 11.	53 for. 69	against. 13	pts.

By coincidence all three teams finished 8th in their respective divisions. We were beaten in the first round of the Grammar Schools Old Boys' Shield Competition by Old Wallaseyans. One point of consolation is that, as the team records show, many games were lost by very small margins, and it may well be that the several changes made last season in the first and second teams will give us more settled sides next season, and this in itself should give us improved performances.

Off the field of play, a much happier state of affairs prevails. Our membership has improved, and a closer contact is being established with non-playing Old Boys. We have a very happy liaison with the Old Boys' Association, and our Monday night meetings at the Club premises are becoming an established part of our weekly calendar.

Next season we welcome back as our Chairman Mr. Arthur Sagar who takes over from Mr. W. D. Christian, who, after excellent service to the Club, has unfortunately had to retire for business reasons. It is a pleasure to report that both Mr. Sagar and Mr. Jack Bushell were elected Life Members of the Club at our Annual General Meeting this year. Both these members have given many many years of valuable service to the Club and are most deserving of the honour.

We have lost the services—temporarily we hope—of Alan Clays, who has joined H.M. Forces. Alan ran the third eleven with unbounding enthusiasm, and we look forward to his eventual return. We were lucky, however, in that his departure coincided with the return of Brian Riley from his stint of service, and he has carried on where Alan left off.

We are looking forward to the commencement of the new season, and already preparations are under way in many directions to make the coming season a most successful and enjoyable one. We hope we shall be joined by many of you who will be leaving School this Summer, and the officials of the Club will enjoy meeting you at the School Leavers' Social evening. You will find many old friends among our ranks, and with your help it is our intention to make the Old Instonians' A.F.C. a mighty name in local soccer circles.

In closing, we would offer our best wishes to all Scholars and Staff for a very pleasant Summer holiday.

J. KERNAGHAN,

Hon. Secretary.

Old Instonians R.U.F.C.

IN these notes it is hoped to give a brief outline of the Rugby Club's history since the last war. As with most Clubs, the war caused the suspension of the Club's activities, its members being occupied with more important matters. At the end of the war, there was, in effect, no Club, no officers, no funds, no players. It was at this point that one of the two men who are directly responsible for the existence of the Club took a hand. No history of the Club, however brief, is possible without mentioning Mr. E. Wynne-Hughes, who introduced Rugby to the School, and Mr. A. Q. Jones, who originally founded the Club in 1935. It was Mr. Jones, who, after the war, refounded the Club.

He advertised in the local Press that a meeting of interested Old Boys would take place, and presided at that meeting. (Incidentally, Mr. Jones maintains that the Club has not yet paid him for those advertisements). From this meeting the Club was reborn, and has not looked back since.

In the early days after the war, games took place on a field in Upton, and it was not possible to field three teams. Eventually the Club moved to the School playing-fields at Ingleborough Road, and, although Club funds were low, the playing strength of the Club boasted members of the calibre of Hallin Winter, Ken Carr, and Bill Garry, to mention only three. In 1947 the Club had what is probably its most successful season, playing nineteen games without defeat, and winning the Birkenhead Park Seven-a-Side Tournament. As could only be expected many of that team joined senior Clubs, and some went on to win County caps. Ken Carr, in addition, became captain of Birkenhead Park later.

The Club carried on, with little money but a good deal of enthusiasm, and one of the stalwarts of those days, who combined the functions of Secretary, Social Secretary, and general factotum, is, I am glad to say, still playing a very active part in the Club, both on and off the field. I refer, of course, to Norman Little, who has done a tremendous amount of work for the Club over the years.

It was in these days, in the late forties and early fifties, that Selection Committee meetings were held every Sunday morning at Mr. Jones's house in Bebington, and Mr. Jones still delights in telling the story of the dear old lady who lived near him. Apparently this old lady told everyone what a good man Mr. Jones was, holding a Bible Class for young men every Sunday.

It was about this time that Stuart Huntriss was being capped for Cheshire, as was Jasper Bartlett, who went on to play for England. By this time the Club was fielding three teams regularly, and in 1954 it was decided to form a Ground Sub-Committee whose object in life would be to raise funds to buy a ground. This decision marked a turning-point in the Club's career, particularly with regard to its finances, and the Club has now nearly one thousand pounds in assets and investments—a far cry from the days when the total funds were kept in an old tobacco tin!

The year 1956 saw the Club's twenty-first birthday, and a most successful Dinner was held to mark this event. That year also saw the retirement of Mr. Jones as Headmaster and President of the Club. A Dinner in Mr. Jones' honour was held, at which a presentation was made. Thus the Club's direct links with its founder were

broken, Mr. Wynne-Hughes having retired as Headmaster and President in 1950. We are, however, very glad to see that both Mr. Wynne-Hughes and Mr. Jones are still active, and we see them at many of our Club events.

In 1957 another big step was taken, and the Club moved to a ground at Greasby. This was a break with Ingleborough Road after many years, and it is only fitting that this opportunity should be taken to record the sincere thanks of the Club to the Education Committee and to successive Headmasters for their help and understanding over the use of the School playing-fields.

The Club's total membership has now grown to over two hundred, and three teams are fielded regularly each week. The playing records of these teams have been consistently good for many seasons, and for some years now every team has won more games than it has lost, and has shown more points on the credit side than on the debit side. The team records for 1958-59 are:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
1st XV. ...	30	16	3	11	282	193
2nd XV. ...	28	22	1	5	337	195
3rd XV. ...	26	14	0	12	369	243

The new ground at Greasby is excellent, but, unfortunately, it is only rented from the Air Ministry at the moment, although every effort is being made to purchase the ground should the Ministry allow us to do so. However, there is little doubt that, with the support and enthusiasm which exist in the Club at present, the Club can look to the future with confidence, and we hope to provide enjoyable Rugby for Old Instonians for many years to come.

G.A.T.

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