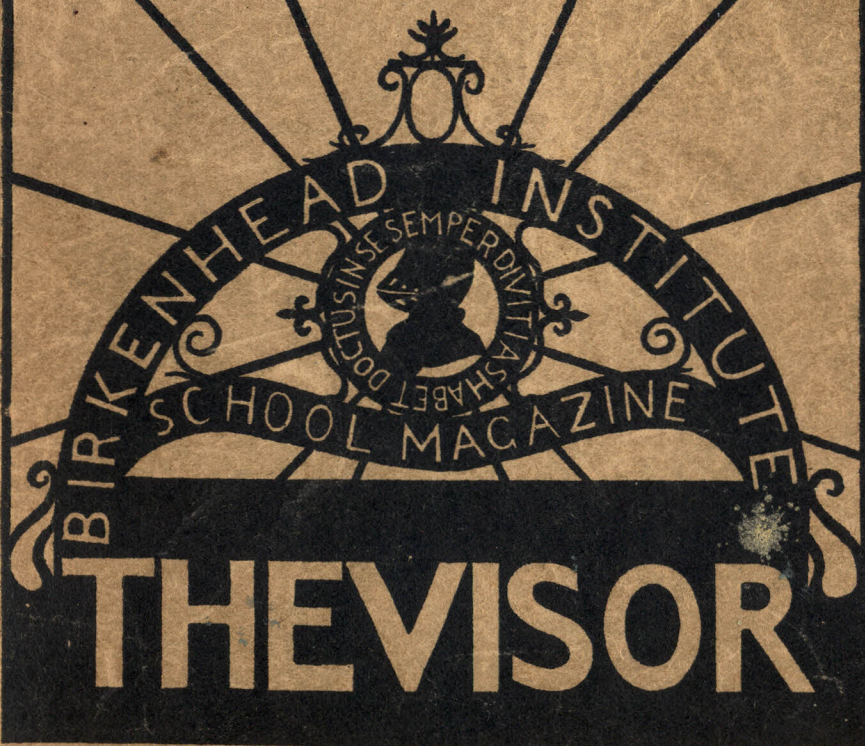


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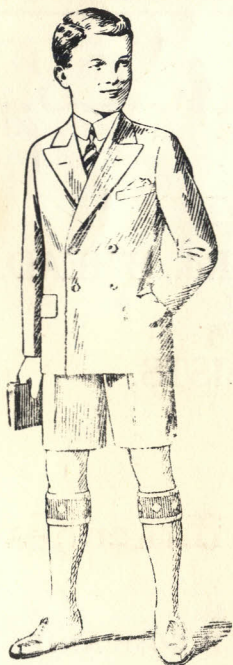
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THE SCHOOL, 1889.



THE SCHOOL, 1889.

BY the kindness of Mrs. W. Jackson, Leighton Court, Neston, daughter of the late Mr. George Atkin, we again print what we believe to be the first photograph of the staff and boys of the Institute. It was taken in the spring term of the year 1889, the School having been formally opened by the Duke of Westminster on January the twelfth that year.

On the extreme left is the late Mr. George Atkin, founder of the School, and Chairman of the Governors until his death. The staff included Mr. Connacher (Head Master), Mr. Calder (Secretary), Mr. Crofts, Mr. Thompson, and Miss Farrell (Preparatory Department).

Our thanks are due to Mr. Stanton Campbell, Mr. H. Hamilton, Mr. J. Ravenshaw, Mr. H. F. Stephens, and particularly to Mr. J. C. Band and Mr. W. D. Band for their invaluable aid in identifying the various members of the group. As will be seen from the accompanying key and list, most of those in the photograph have been recognised. Any additional information will be welcomed by the Head Master, who would be pleased to get into touch with the various members of the group.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1—Mr. Geo. Atkin. | 28— — Mashiter. |
| 2—Mr. Thomson. | 29— |
| 3— — Jones. | 30—E. Johnston (Mi.) |
| 4— — Pugh. | 31—S. Montgomery (Ma.) |
| 5— | 32—T. McQueen. |
| 6—Miss M. K. Farrell. | 33—J. Ledsham (Mi.) |
| 7—H. S. Johnston (Ma.) | 34— |
| 8—H. Johnston (Lt.-Col., D.S.O.) | 35—W. B. Pitt Taylor. |
| 9—F. McDonald. | 36—W. D. Band (Ma.) |
| 10—J. Swift. | 37—Adam Cloat. |
| 11—H. Hamilton. | 38—D. Montgomery (Mi.) |
| 12— | 39—W. M. Robinson (Mi.) |
| 13—O. Bratt. | ("Wayfarer," Cycling Journalist). |
| 14—D. Legg (Ma.) | 40— — Bainbridge (?) Pennock (?) |
| 15— — Eldridge. | 41—W. Delaney. |
| 16—H. Steele. | 42—A. Ledsham (Ma.) |
| 17—J. Ravenshaw (Ma.) | 43— — Robinson. |
| 18—M. Henderson. | 44—J. C. Band (Mi.) |
| 19—T. Ravenshaw (Mi.) | 45—Mr. Calder (Sec.) |
| 20—S. Richardson. | 46— |
| 21— | 47—D. Robinson (Ma.) |
| 22—L. Pitt Taylor. | 48— — Lord. |
| 23—C. E. Guthrie. | 49—Mr. W. S. Connacher (H. Master) |
| 24— — Mines. | 50—T. Postlethwaite. |
| 25— — Calder. | 51—Mr. Crofts. |
| 26— — Legg. | 52— — Carter (?) |
| 27— — Roberts. | |

MDCCCXXXVIII

Instituti Quinquagesimus Annus

*Multa canant alii centum per saecula gesta ;
Nobis sufficiunt aurea lustra decem.
Non erit hic evolvendum sine fine volumen ;
Annales nostros pagina parva tenet.
Mergetur frigidas Helicon Acherontis sub undas,
Ac sol lymphatos axe reflectet equos ;
At cinctus lauro florebit doctus in aevum
Cui illae divitiae semper inesse solent.*

J.W.H.



VOL. XII., No. 2.

EASTER, 1939.

School Calendar

SPEECH DAY	March 31st.
SPRING TERM ENDS	March 31st.
SUMMER TERM BEGINS	April 26th.
HALF-TERM	May 27th—30th.
SUMMER TERM ENDS	July 25th.

Editorial

THIS term the *Visor* has a new cover and an increase in size to mark the School Jubilee. In these pages an attempt is made to trace the history and development of the Birkenhead Institute since 1889. Accordingly, we present an official history of the School down to 1908—the period 1908 to 1939 will be dealt with in the next issue of the magazine. With this, we reproduce photographs of the three Chairmen of Governors and the three Headmasters who have directed our School's life from 1889 to the present day. Views of the buildings and photographs of School groups and teams are also included, but, unfortunately, the majority of the latter are of very recent date.

The history of the School has been ably compiled by Mr. G. W. Harris, who has an unequalled record of long service, having been appointed to the Staff of the Institute as far back as 1907. Shortly after his appointment Mr. Harris took and retained for many years complete charge of the organisation and control of all games, which he brought to a high level. On the death of Miss Dodge he became Senior History Master, and in 1935 he succeeded Mr. W. H. Watts as Second Master, a post which he still holds.

The *Visor* committee trust that this and the subsequent issue will sell widely among Old Boys by reason of their wider appeal, and they hope, too, that some of their new readers will decide to become permanent subscribers to their old School magazine.

George Atkin, Esq., J.P.

CHAIRMAN 1884-1907.

GEORGE Atkin, Esq., J.P., whose name recurs so many times in the pages of our history, is to us the most important of all those recorded here, since it is to him that the School owes its existence. His untiring efforts first to found and then to maintain the Birkenhead Institute are described in detail elsewhere in this issue. His eminent services to the School were so much appreciated by his colleagues on the governing body that they presented him with his portrait in oils, which he in turn gave to the School, where it hangs in the Library. The characteristics of Mr. Atkin which compel the attention of the modern student of the School history are his unwearying energy, his generosity, and his altruism. A nation which is capable of giving birth to men of such noble spirit, such unselfishness in the service of others, may well be considered fortunate, and if this School can produce men of Mr. Atkin's stamp it will be happy indeed.



G. ATKIN, Esq.

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P. W. ATKIN, Esq.

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Peter W. Atkin, Esq., O.B.E., M.A., LL.M.

CHAIRMAN, 1907-1908.

MR. Peter W. Atkin was one of the early governors of the Institute, becoming a director in 1887, and succeeded his father as Chairman of Governors, when Mr. G. Atkin died in 1907. In 1908, however, the Company was wound up, and the Institute passed into the control of the Board of Education and the Birkenhead Education Authority.

Mr. Atkin was educated at the Liverpool Royal Institution, at Mill Hill School, and at Jesus College, Cambridge, when he graduated M.A. and LL.M. He distinguished himself as an oarsman, stroking the Jesus boat head of the river, rowing in the University Fours, and rowing in the Boat Race in three years, 1881-2-3, although he was not fortunate enough to be in a winning crew in any of these years.

Having been called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1883, Mr. Atkin went the Northern Circuit, till he was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate of Salford in April, 1913, a position he held till his death in February, 1931. During the war, in which he lost his only son, Mr. Atkin rendered notable public service: he was chairman of the Manchester Munitions Court, arbitrator in the Manchester Ship Canal dock strike in 1916, chairman of the Salford tribunal, and chairman of the Moorlands Hospital, Kersall. For his eminent services he was awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1918.

Mr. Atkin was thus another of the illustrious and public-spirited men who have served the School.

G. A. Solly, Esq., J.P.

CHAIRMAN 1908—

LIKE his predecessors, the third Chairman of the Governors has a distinguished record of public service. Alderman Godfrey Alan Solly, J.P., has been a member of the Birkenhead Council since 1893 and Chairman of our Governors since 1908. From 1883 to 1888 he was Deputy Town Clerk of Birkenhead and from 1888 to 1938 Clerk to the Wirral Justices and Clerk to the Commissioners of Taxes for the Wirral Division. From 1902 to 1907 he was Chairman of the Birkenhead Education Committee, while in 1928-1929 he was Mayor of Birkenhead. A keen mountaineer, Alderman Solly was Vice-President of the Alpine Club 1921-2-3. His interest in educational matters is not confined to the Institute, and he is also a governor of Birkenhead School and a member of the Councils of both the University of Liverpool and St. Aidan's College. He was President of the Law Society of Liverpool 1910-11. He also edited the Rugby School Registers Vol. I. 1675-1857.

His interest in the Institute has always been notable, and unless he is present no School function is considered complete. His generosity is well-known:—he presented the Old Boys' Memorial Tablet, besides subscribing liberally to the pavilion and sports ground fund. More recently Mr. Solly has permanently endowed the Solly History Prize, and has also given to the school the photograph of himself which has just been presented to him. We trust that Mr. Solly will long continue to guide our destinies as ably as he has done in the past thirty-one years.

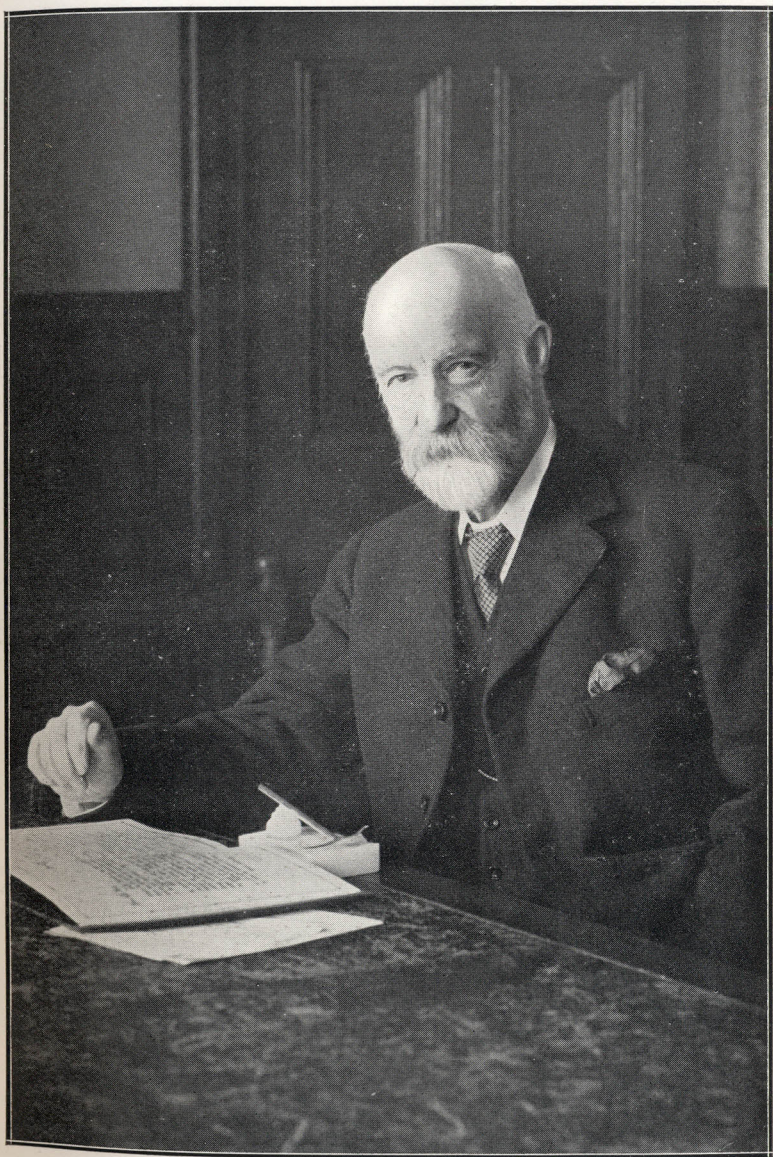
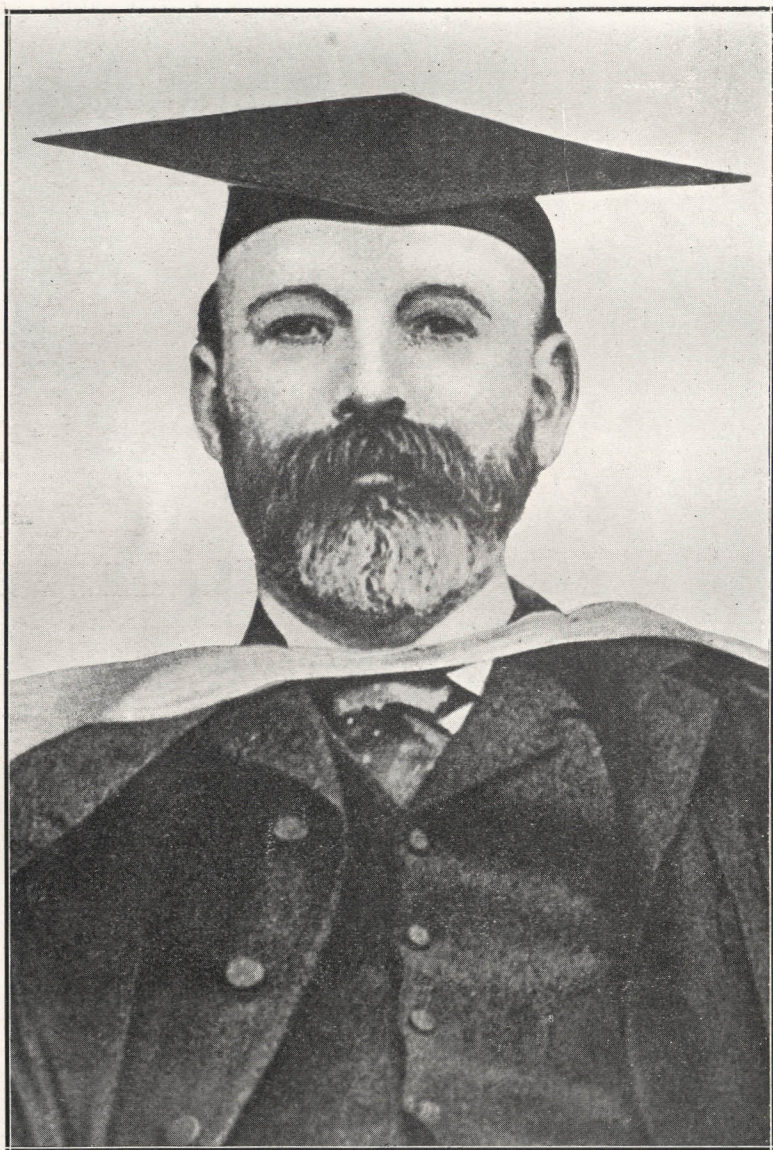


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G. A. SOLLY, Esq.



W. S. CONNACHER, Esq.

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W. S. Connacher, Esq., M.A., F.E.I.S.

H.M. 1889—1903.

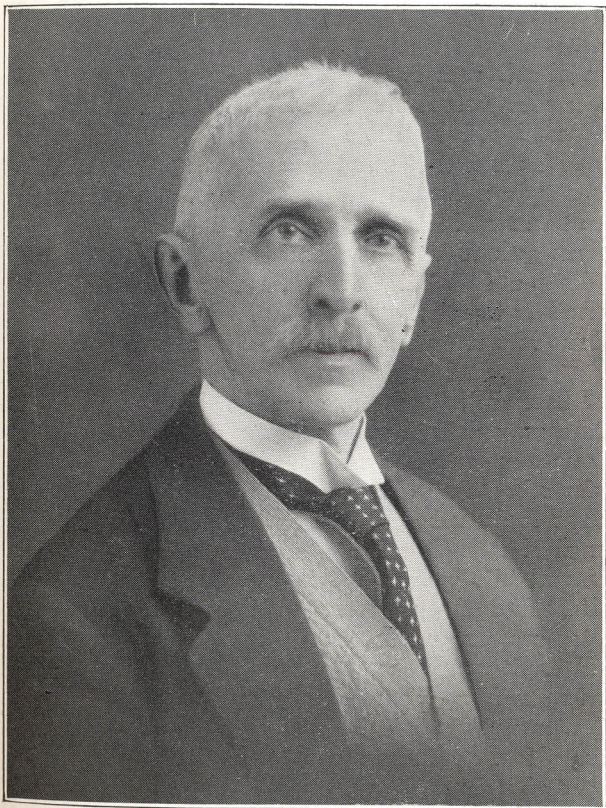
THE first headmaster of the Institute was the late W. S. Connacher Esq., M.A., who after serving for a time as head of Canvin's Institution, Edinburgh, became principal of the St. Andrew's Scotch School, Buenos Ayres, from which post he was invalided home. After his appointment to the Birkenhead Institute he threw himself heart and soul into the work of organising the School and establishing it on a firm and lasting basis. He worked so well that on his death, which occurred at the house of G. Atkin, Esq., Egerton Park, Rock Ferry, a former pupil, the Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, could write for the *Birkenhead News* of February 28th, 1903, "The sad untimely death of the headmaster of the Birkenhead Institute takes a prominent man from the town, and, as one of the Old Boys who on Thursday followed his body to the grave, I wish to say what I can. My own debt to him and to the school is a very great one. There I received my education, much of it from Mr. Connacher in person, and although it is now six years since I left, I do but speak for every Old Boy who has not lost touch with his old headmaster when I testify how interested he was, how eager to know how we were getting on, how full of careful advice and practical sympathy. He was a man of wide reading and sound scholarship, and one whose conversation was more stimulating I have not known. But his best monument is the Institute as we know it. No one else's work is being disparaged when I say that he made the school, and that without him it would not have been the flourishing institution that it is. He had every gift. He was a skilful administrator, a teacher of exceptional efficiency, and a great disciplinarian."

J. A. Smallpage, Esq., B.A.

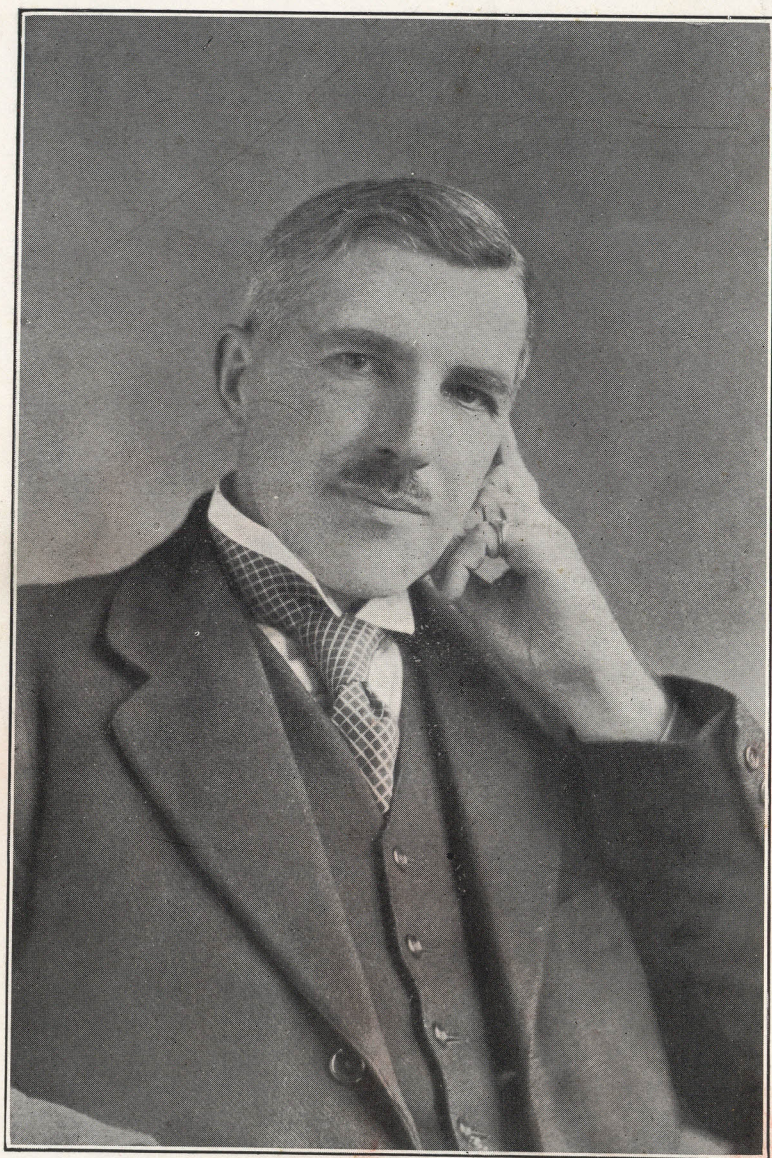
H.M. 1903—1929.

TO succeed Mr. Connacher the Governors chose James Smallpage, Esq., B.A., who, after being educated at Burnley Grammar School and London University, where he took a First, became second master of the School for Sons of Missionaries, and headmaster in turn of York Castle High School, Jamaica; Kent College, Canterbury; and the Boys' High School, Bournemouth, before coming to Birkenhead. Mr. Smallpage successfully directed the Institute for just over twenty-six years, during which time he saw it develop to twice the size it was when he took charge. Mr. Smallpage has now enjoyed nearly ten years of retired life, and we wish him and Mrs. Smallpage many years more of happy retirement.

The qualities which Mr. Smallpage displayed during his long headship of the School have called forth an appreciation by G. Grant, Esq., Registrar of Southampton University College.



J. SMALLPAGE, Esq.



E. WYNNE HUGHES, ESQ.

Photo by LAFAYETTE.

E. Wynne Hughes, M.A., M.Sc.

H.M. 1929—

OUR present headmaster, E. Wynne Hughes, Esq., M.A., M.Sc., is now approaching the end of his tenth year at the Institute. Educated at Penygroes County School and Cardiff Howard Gardens High School, Mr. Hughes was an honours graduate of University College, Cardiff, in chemistry and geology, before going to King's School, London, where he took a research M.Sc. He afterwards went to Downing College, Cambridge, where he became a Prizeman and took a First in Parts I. and II. of the Geographical Tripos. Beside his war service, when he was a member of the Inns of Court O.T.C., lieutenant in the R.A., and commanding officer (Sound Ranging Section) in the R.E., Mr. Wynne Hughes served as science master at Perth Academy, Royal Academy, Irvine, and Erith County School, Kent, and as headmaster of Hadleigh Secondary School and Llandrindod Wells County School before coming to the Institute in 1929.

Those Early Days.

By W. M. ROBINSON
(Robinson Minor).

IN the absence of notes recorded at the time, it is notoriously difficult, if not impossible, accurately to re-create the events of the dim past, and this seems particularly so in my case, when half a century of intensely active and somewhat varied life, replete with all the changes and chances the thronging years are in the habit of providing for a mildly adventurous spirit, has gone by since that day in January, 1889, on which I became a pupil of the Birkenhead Institute.

How excellent a thing it would be if the slogan: "Verify your quotations," adopted by every responsible writer, were accompanied by another relating to the substantiation of reminiscences; more excellent still if one were now able, by means of the written word, to implement that supplementary advice!

The frailty of the human memory trips me up at the very outset, for in my mind throughout all the years which have passed since those early days at the Institute there has been firmly fixed the figure "36," representing the number of boys who attended on the first day. My own copy of the photograph which was produced in these columns a few months ago gives one pause. It is hardly likely that we superior beings in the big school would exclude from our calculations the "brats" of the kindergarten, and the explanation of the discrepancy appears to rest on the possibility of the photo having been taken some little time after the opening of the school, further entrants making their appearance in the interim.

The Institute as we first knew it comprised an entrance lobby with a class-room on either side and a double class-room at the far end. The latter was on the Holly Bank Road aspect of the building, and was capable of being completely divided by a wood and glass partition. In this room—the left-hand portion of which contained the Headmaster's desk—the whole school assembled to commence the day with a brief devotional service. Underneath were two rooms used as gymnasium and as shelter during wet play-times. The former was in charge of one who was always called "Janitor." He was an old

soldier, I believe, and I do not think that we boys ever knew his name. Occasionally he drilled us, but I have no recollection that his attitude towards us possessed any of the traditional fierceness and sarcasm usually credited to army sergeants—and not unjustly credited, as I was to discover years later during the Great War!

William Sang Connacher was a Headmaster with a first-class brain. He was severe at times—we boys could see the storm approaching when his lips thinned—but he was a just man. To some of the seniors—as to me in the fulness of time—was given the opportunity of participating in the hospitality he dispensed in his residence, that fine old house adjoining the school, and I have always looked upon this as part of my education. Mr. Connacher was old-fashioned enough to believe in the virtues of corporal punishment, and I can claim the rather doubtful honour of being brother to the boy (Robinson Major) who received the first caning!

I recall with gratitude the way in which, on one occasion, the Head “talked to me for my good”—and I thoroughly deserved it! At the end of my first year at the Institute I was fortunate enough to win a Scholarship (£5, I think), that being the only occasion when my name was called out at Speech Day, and I had to go forward and receive my prize. Some time after that I began to “slack,” having come under the influence of a group of work-shies, and Mr. Connacher evidently wished to rescue me from that company.

The second in command, J. H. Crofts, was a genial soul who also knew his job. He may have been a trifle easy-going, but he got the work done, and one supposes that this is all that matters. I recall one morning, at assembly, when Mr. Connacher came in alone, and we surmised—conscience told us!—that something serious was afoot. Nor were we wrong. Some of us had been “ragging” Mr. Crofts, and the Head spoke to us gently but firmly on the subject. That “ragging” had to cease forthwith. It did! As nobody was singled out for punishment, it is to be presumed that Mr. Crofts—a good sportsman!—had not mentioned any names. Thus I, for one, escaped caning!

J. V. Thomson was forbidding in appearance and manner, but he proved to possess a heart of gold, and I believe we all liked him. Mr. Samuel, who came later, concealed a friendly

and jovial nature behind a façade of austerity. In later years it was delightful to see him unbend on social occasions and entertain the company with his simple little songs.

Miss Farrell had charge of the kindergarten, and to this day I can hear her speaking. The aptest description of her is contained in the expression "a great Victorian lady," for that is how she always impressed me.

Mr. George Atkin, who was Chairman of the Directors in those early days, took a deep interest in the Institute. It seemed a point of honour with him to be with the boys as much as possible, and I recall that it became a habit—and a very acceptable habit—for him to bring his daughter and her husband to any special "do."

I remember very few nicknames at the Institute. Harry Hamilton was "Square," though I never knew the origin of this pseudonym. Because I wore a silver pig on my watch-chain, I was "Piggy," and my friend Harold Bally, now Vicar of Needham, Norfolk, calls me that to this day, on those rare occasions when we meet. "Shiner" Jones was so known because he once remarked to a group of school-mates "I am rather good at Euclid—I shine." That settled matters!

During the very early days of the school the rumour that we boys were going to wear "mortar-boards" caused a great deal of consternation, and I suppose that some of us wondered what would be the re-action—and possible response—of the *gamins* to this unwonted head-gear. Fortunately, as I see it (and as I vividly saw it then!), wiser counsels prevailed, and the fates were kind to us. We had ordinary caps of dark blue, with a red star in front—a neat and distinctive mark of the school to which we went.

In February, 1893, when I had reached the mature age of 15½, I left the Institute and entered the service of one of the giant Insurance Companies which had (and has) its Headquarters in Liverpool, and I served that great organization until my retirement just a year ago. (For a period, it may here be added, I was Hon. Secretary of the B.I. Old Boys' Club). I was never able to subscribe to the doctrine which is so often impressed on boys, namely, that the happiest days of one's life are those spent at school. It may be rank heresy to say such a thing in these columns, but I feel bound to add

that, happy as were my days at the Birkenhead Institute, I found a far greater measure of delight and enjoyment in my long years of commercial life. I had no definite ideas of employment when I left school—the usual wild dreams of “going to sea” had long since faded—but, as I told my Father (thereby raising his ire!), I did *not* want to sit on an office stool. So on an office stool I sat, and, as life developed, I had an intensely interesting career.

* * * * *

P.S.—In connection with the preparation of the foregoing, the Headmaster has given me a sort of roving commission, of which I take advantage to this small extent. I would desire to impress on every present pupil of the Birkenhead Institute the importance of having a hobby of some sort. Important as is such a thing during the years of business—and I may say here that I have no use whatever for the individual who consecrates the whole of his time and thought to his employment, thus becoming in the end something of a monomaniac and doing a disservice to his employer and to himself—a hobby entailing the full use of one's leisure in the late afternoon of life is vital. In my own hobby of cycling, and of journalism, lecturing, and administrative work in the cause of cycling, I found during my workaday years a happy method of filling up “the magic after-hours” of a strenuous business life, just as to-day, in retirement, enriched in mind and body by all that cycling has taught me, I am deriving greater and ever greater joys and advantages from what is now almost a full-time job.

Mr. James Smallpage.

I gladly welcome this opportunity of paying a tribute to my old Head Master and friend, Mr. James Smallpage, and of expressing to him the deep sense of gratitude which I, in common with countless old boys of the school, feel towards him for the influence which he exerted and the example he set during the long period of his headship.

The respect and affection which I had for him as a boy at school were to be confirmed and strengthened when, at a later date, I was privileged to serve under him on the staff.

The staff in my school days included such fine men as Mr. Robert Galloway, who might easily have been the original "Mr. Chipp's" with his delightful attributes; Mr. H. P. Wood, universally liked and respected; Mr. W. H. Watts—was there ever a better teacher of Physics?—and Mr. Bennett, strict, conscientious and just; and later it was to include a very young and enthusiastic member in "Dicky" Harris, who quickly made his presence felt in the athletic activities of the school. Surely no school ever had a more efficient band of masters, and no staff a more considerate and sympathetic Head. He got the best out of the staff because he trusted them, as I was to realise when later I joined that happy community. "Jimmy," as he was affectionately known to many generations of boys, commanded respect and loyalty by the inherent goodness of his nature, and a deep wisdom which staff and boys alike were quick to recognise and appreciate. He occupied his position with a quiet natural dignity and a rare courtesy, but there was no element of weakness about him, as, when the occasion demanded, he was found capable of a firmness and strength of purpose which surprised those who did not know him intimately.

In one respect only did I find him guilty of low cunning, and that was on the cricket field, when, good sportsman that he was, he took part in the annual games between staff and boys, and I can see him now, as I write, tossing up those innocent looking slows in the approved Grimmett manner, full of guile, and causing much discomfiture to the unwary batsman.

As a colleague and friend, James Smallpage was, in the best sense of the word, a gentleman. There was nothing mean or paltry in his character. He always looked for the best in people and found it. His sympathy and consideration for others was genuine and unbounded, and it is chiefly because of this kindly and sincere attitude towards us that we remember him; it has gained for him an enduring place in our hearts.

We are delighted to know that he is well in health, and able to share our congratulations to the old school on the attainment of its jubilee, and I know that at this time all old boys would wish to join me in sending him and his dear wife our warmest greetings, and every good wish for their continued good health and happiness.

GEORGE GRANT.

SENIOR SHIELD WINNERS, 1908-9.



G. Browne, F. N. Pyke, T. McNaught, L. M. Lewis, E. P. Blundell, E. T. Carruthers, E. McGill,
 S. Thomas, E. P. Woodward, J. McLeavy, J. P. McGill (Capt.)
 F. G. Taylor, H. C. Mann.

Recollections

REV. J. Ivory Cripps, for the last fourteen years General Superintendent of the West Midland Area of the Baptist Union, was one of those who entered the School in 1889. Starting in the Preparatory Department under Miss Farrell, he went right up to the VIth Form, and left in 1897 with a scholarship to Liverpool University College, as it then was. "Looking back on it all now," he says, "I feel I never can repay the educational debt I owe to the School. The teaching, I consider, was first class." He pays a high tribute to the gifts of Mr. Connacher as a teacher and organiser, gifts which won and maintained for the School the high position it enjoyed in those early days.

"I kept in touch with some of the masters until fairly recently," he continues. "For example, I saw Mr. Crofts only a few years ago in Whitchurch, Salop, where I think he was headmaster at the Grammar School. Acworth Stewart, who taught us English in the VIth. Form, later on left school-mastering to enter the Baptist ministry, where I often met him . . . We loved to talk over old times."

He still meets, he tells us, some of his former class-mates from time to time, and is looking forward to meeting others at a Jubilee re-union.

The History of the Birkenhead Institute

CHAPTER I.

THE FOUNDING OF THE SCHOOL.

IT was in November 1883 that Mr. George Atkin of Egerton Park, Rock Ferry, issued the preliminary circular which led to the foundation of the Birkenhead Institute. To him, therefore, must be ascribed the honour of being the Founder of the School, but he had not taken the step without consultation with other leading citizens of the borough whose names are here recorded as they appear on the original Memorandum of Association under which a company was formed, known as Birkenhead Institute, Limited. They are:—

Thos. W. Oakshott, of Rock Ferry.

Chas. Houston, of Oxton.

John Hargreaves, of Rock Ferry.

William Legg, of Tranmere.

Thomas Deakin, of Birkenhead.

J. B. Moffat, of Rock Ferry.

The object of the Company is set forth in clear and precise terms. It was to establish a Public High School in Birkenhead to provide a first-class Mercantile and Collegiate education for boys, on terms "not exceeding those charged at the best public schools in Liverpool," and the management was to be vested in "*laymen of all denominations.*" The course of instruction was to fit pupils for Commercial Life, the Civil Service, the various professions, the Universities, and the various branches of industry requiring a Technical Education.

The need of such a school had long been felt, for Birkenhead was expanding rapidly at this time. Between 400 and 500 boys and many girls crossed the river daily to attend Liverpool schools. The Liverpool Institute had already been founded and had proved remarkably successful, and the founder undoubtedly had this in mind when the circular was issued, for the Birkenhead High School was to be "similar in principle to the Liverpool Institute."

The founders were business men. They did not intend to make claims on the community for donations or charitable contributions. They laid it down as a leading principle that the school, when once organized, must be self-supporting. The best way was to form a Company, and the support must assuredly come from the middle classes, for whose sons the school would supply an efficient education.

Little time was lost in putting these ideas into practice. The Company was formed in November, with an authorized capital of £10,000, in 2000 shares of £5 each, £1 payable on allotment and the balance as required. By this time Mr. Oakshott had retired from the Board of Directors, but further directors appear in the persons of Messrs. T. Castle, S. Cross, G. Grierson, W. Hinson, and G. Strongitharm, J.P. The prospectus set forth the aims previously mentioned in the circular, and as an inducement there was extended to shareholders the privilege of nominating students at a reduced fee. It was also stated that the directors had purchased desirable premises on land in Whetstone Lane, Clifton Park. The Company's bankers were the North and South Wales Bank, Ltd., the solicitors Messrs. Tyrer, Kenion, Tyrer and Simpson of North John Street, Liverpool, and the secretary Mr. Robert Calder. The gentlemen mentioned as having given their approval and cordial support to the project included many of the most influential citizens of Birkenhead, and of these Mr. T. H. Jackson of the Manor House and Mr. S. Stitt of The Grange are worthy of note, since both were to play an important part in the future life of the school.

The first general meeting of the Shareholders was held on January 23rd, 1885, in the Common Hall, Hackins Hey, Liverpool, and Mr. Atkin was unanimously voted to the chair. The business was brief but precise. The original directors were confirmed in their office, and the meeting was then informed by Mr. Atkin that he and Mr. William Legg had purchased the house "Brooklands," Whetstone Lane, and was asked to approve the purchase. The area of the land was 5,608 yards, and the price paid £2,725. The whole amount had been advanced by the founder, a striking tribute to his determination. The directors were further authorized to prepare a scheme for the working of the Institute.

With the project thus successfully launched, the directors lost no time in getting down to business. Five meetings were held in 1885. Mr. T. Mellard Reade, F.R.I.B.A., the well-known school architect, was engaged to prepare plans for buildings to accommodate 300 scholars, but the cost was prohibitive, for the hope that the shares would be promptly taken up was not realised. By September 1885 the total was only 812, and by December it was 923. The general depression in trade had been severely felt in Birkenhead, and it seemed

as if the ambition of the founder would never be achieved. But in spite of the fact that by December 1885 two of the directors had resigned, Mr. Atkin nobly stuck to his task, and in an endeavour to attract subscribers a new prospectus was issued in January 1886 with a frontispiece designed by Mr. Reade showing the perspective of the proposed buildings; but by June the number of shares had risen by only 55, and Mr. Henry Tate wrote advising the abandonment of the scheme. Mr. Atkin's letter in reply to this suggestion is unhappily lost, but we may conjecture that its purport was an emphatic refusal to entertain such an idea.

The directors' meetings for 1886 appear to be mostly concerned with discussions with the architect, and the original ambitious scheme was abandoned in June 1886, for in that month he was asked to prepare plans for converting "*Brooklands*" and *its stables* into a school for at least 100 scholars. In the following month Mr. Reade submitted his report, and as might be expected, it was unfavourable to the idea. "The building," he said, "would only be an altered stable when done with, and would probably damage the success of the school." The fortunes of the founders seem at this juncture to have touched rock bottom, but Mr. Atkin, ably supported by Messrs. Hinson, Moffat, and Legg, refused to be disheartened, and the architect was instructed to prepare plans and procure tenders for a building to house 150 scholars.

At this critical period it was apparent to Mr. Atkin that the necessary funds could not be raised in Birkenhead, and he must have written to several influential citizens of Liverpool, urging them to take shares in the company. His policy bore fruit, for at the meeting held in January 1887 a letter was read from Mr. Philip H. Holt, the shipowner of Liverpool. It was characteristic of the man who had done so much for education in his own city, and its main purport was to advise the directors not to proceed with the buildings until the financial position of the company was reasonably safe. Mr. Holt would not become a shareholder, but he would *lend the company £200 free of interest*. Mr. Henry Tate also wrote in the same strain, and as a consequence of these warnings the building programme was suspended.

The year 1887 thus opened on a brighter note, for Mr. Holt's interest in the Company had provided the necessary stimulus. A new director appears in the person of Mr. Peter

Atkin, and still further to improve the position of the company Mr. George Atkin generously waived the interest due to him for 1886 on the money he had advanced. By July the number of shares taken up had risen to 1022, and in September the prospects became considerably brighter, for Mr. George Holt followed his brother's example by offering the company £200 on loan.

Early in the following year the Company was within reach of its goal, for it had been decided that when the number of shares taken up had reached 1200, the building of the school could be safely begun. Mr. Atkin's determination that his cherished object should be achieved is never more clearly marked than now. Once more he waived his interest on the money he had advanced, and in March he further guaranteed the disposal of the 80 shares necessary to bring the total to the required 1200. Another change in management occurred in this year, for in February Mr. Moffat resigned his seat on the Board, and Mr. T. E. Blenkarn took his place. In March 1888, after three years of patient labour and in face of enormous difficulties, the historic meeting was convened, which set the building scheme in motion, with Mr. Mellard Reade once more in attendance. Plans were submitted for a *one storey building* to accommodate 150 boys, and the cost was estimated at £2000 for a brick building with stone facings, and about £160 more for a building all of stone. Tenders for the work were to be ready in *nine days' time*!

On March 22nd, 1888, the tenders, eleven in all, were duly considered, and it must be recorded to the credit of the directors that they decided to erect a stone building, and entrusted the work to Mr. W. H. Forde, of Cloughton Road. A call of £2 per share payable on May 1st was announced, and arrangements for the laying of the foundation stone were left in the chairman's hands. This ceremony seems never to have taken place. There is no further mention of it at any subsequent meetings of the directors, and there is certainly no foundation stone in the present school buildings. It can only be surmised that Mr. Atkin was unable to secure someone suitable for the occasion, and, rather than waste time, dispensed with the ceremony. It seems a pity that such an opportunity of commemorating the founder's great work for the School has thus been lost, for there is in its walls no permanent memorial of him.

It is impossible therefore to give the exact date when the first stone was laid, but by July the building was well and truly begun, and was expected to be completed by December 1st, and it was hoped that the school would be open in January 1889. But there was still much to be done, and some idea of the task involved may be gathered from the fact that no fewer than nine directors' meetings were held between September 18th and December 31st, the last, two days after Christmas. The furnishing of the school, supplies of gas and water, the fees to be charged, and the laying out of the grounds were discussed and settled with the greatest care; even the door-mats and scraper were not forgotten. A tribute must here be paid to the untiring efforts of the secretary, Mr. Calder, who has recorded every detail with scrupulous care. His work at this period must have kept him fully occupied.

The appointment of the Headmaster was, however, the matter that received the most serious attention, and once again the Liverpool Institute served as a pattern; for its regulations governing the appointment of a principal were adopted as far as possible. One cannot help noticing that included in them was a clause that "the Directors desire that it shall be a leading object with the Masters so to carry on the work of the School as to infuse into the minds of the Pupils a Christian and philanthropic spirit." One wonders whether the pupils always realised this when leaving the headmaster's study.

The post was advertised in September, and on October 19th the secretary reported that 184 applications had been made. From these a short list of twenty-five was selected, and finally four were chosen to meet the Directors. The choice was unanimous, and on October 31st, 1888, Mr. W. S. Connacher, M.A. (Edin.), F.E.I.S. became the first headmaster of the Birkenhead Institute.

Mr. Connacher was 35 years old when he came to Birkenhead, having been born in Perthshire in May, 1853. He was a man of sturdy build and strong personality. His photograph showing the eyes set well part, and surmounted by heavy eyebrows, reveals great strength of character. Like many other Scotsmen of his day, who were not born in affluent circumstances, he had maintained himself at the University of Edinburgh chiefly by coaching other students, and after three years had taken his M.A. degree. After a year or two as an assistant master, he became in 1877 Headmaster of

Canvin's Institution at Duddingston, near Edinburgh, and stayed there until 1883, when on the recommendation of Dr. Laurie, Professor of Education at Edinburgh, he went abroad to Buenos Ayres as Headmaster of St. Andrew's School, where he remained till 1888. He was to be headmaster of the Birkenhead Institute for fourteen years.

Mr. Connacher lost no time in appearing at his post, for there was much to be done if the school was to open in the following January. The furnishing went on apace, the playground was asphalted, railings and gates were fixed, and the important question of the school staff was settled. It was decided that there should be two assistant masters, one for Classics and one for Mathematics, a Drawing Master (two days a week), a Kindergarten Mistress, and a Janitor, a title much too pompous for the schoolboy, whose familiar abbreviation of "Janny" is well known to several generations of Institute boys. We must here place on record the first staff of the school. They were:—

Mathematical Master ...	Mr. J. H. Crofts, B.A. (Cantab.)
Classical Master	Mr. J. V. Thompson, B.A. (Oxon.)
Liverpool Academy of Arts	Mr. James Towers.
Certificated Teacher and holder of Kindergarten Certificate	Miss Farrell.
Janitor and Drill Master	Adam Johnston.

In December 1888, the first school prospectus was issued. It reveals at once the organisation of the school and the wise scope of the curriculum. There was a Preparatory, a Junior (Forms I., II. and III.) and a Senior Department (Forms IV., V. and VI.), the latter being divided into a Classical and a Commercial side. The course of study included English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Spanish (for those who may desire it), Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Short-hand, Algebra, Geometry, Drawing, Natural and Physical Science, Chemistry, Vocal Music, and Drill. A detailed syllabus of the work to be done in each form was included, and makes interesting reading by comparison with a syllabus of to-day. Latin was begun in Form I., French in Form II., Greek in Form IV., and German in Form V. By the time a pupil reached the Sixth he was considered proficient enough to study Horace, Virgil, Livy, and Cicero in Latin, and Lucian, Homer, and Plato in Greek. The English syllabus for the sixth included Chaucer and Anglo-Saxon.

It is interesting to note that the following were extra subjects—Music (Piano, Violin), Drawing, Shorthand, Gymnastics, Spanish—for which an extra fee was charged—and 2s. 6d. a term was paid for the use of Slates, Copy-Books, Pens and Ink. The fees charged were:—

Boys under 3	£1	10	0	per term.
„ of 9 and under 12	£2	10	0	„
„ over 12	£3	0	0	„

The Holidays were:—six weeks at Midsummer, three weeks at Christmas, one week at Easter, and Bank Holidays.

By the end of the year 1888, then, arrangements had been practically completed for the opening ceremony, which was fixed for Saturday, January 12th, 1889, his Grace the Duke of Westminster having consented to perform it. The directors met twice before the great day to make the final arrangements. Every detail was most carefully prepared, and included such items as plants, flags, red baize for the platform and hall, and four policemen supplied free by Mr. Strongitharm, who was High Bailiff of Birkenhead. Finally it was decided to give a special luncheon to the Duke and Duchess, the menu to consist of:—

	HARE SOUP.
	MUTTON CUTLETS.
	BOILED TURKEY AND HAM.
ROAST BEEF.	SADDLE OF MUTTON.
	VEGETABLES.
	CHEESE AND CELERY.

Presumably the Duke and Duchess had no liking for sweets.

The order of proceedings at the Inaugural Ceremony was as follows:

MISS ELANCHE W. ATKIN presented a bouquet to the Duchess.
OPENING PRAYER BY REV. F. MILLARD, Vicar of St. Catherine's, Tranmere.
ADDRESS BY GEO. ATKIN, ESQ., J.P.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING BY T. MELLARD READE, ESQ.

AIM AND OBJECTS OF THE SCHOOL BY THE HEADMASTER.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WESTMINSTER THEN DECLARED THE BUILDING OPEN,
AND DELIVERED AN ADDRESS.

ADDRESS BY PRINCIPAL RENDALL, M.A., of Liverpool University.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE DUKE AND DUCHESS:

Proposed by HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF BIRKENHEAD

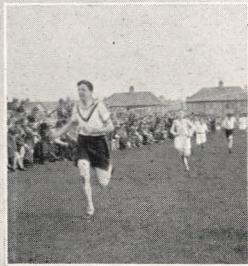
(C. T. GOSTENHOFFER, ESQ.)

Seconded by SAMUEL STITT, ESQ., J.P.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN:

Proposed by REV. WM. HUTTON.

Seconded by PETER OWEN, ESQ.



ATHLETIC SPORTS, 1931.

The speeches were of a nature usual to such occasions. Mr. Atkin confined himself mainly to giving the *raison d'être* of the school, and once more made it evident how deeply the success of the Liverpool Institute had influenced him. He further disclosed the fact that he had been connected with that school since 1840.

The Headmaster, in speaking of the aims and objects of the school, called attention to the deficiencies of the English educational system of that day, the most glaring of which, he said, were, firstly, the lack of state-aided schools for the middle classes, and secondly, the lack of qualifications which was so common among those who ran private schools. He advocated an Act of Parliament setting up a Teachers' Register. It is interesting to note that these defects have now been remedied.

The Duke, in a happy speech, stressed the importance of the classics, both ancient and modern. He was pleased with the Headmaster's remarks, and wished him success. He was glad the school was to have a gymnasium, and had no doubt the system would be humane. He believed that in the XVI. century it was thought necessary to flog the boys throughout the school; not that they had done anything wrong, but as a reminder that they were not to do anything wrong in the future.

Mr. Samuel Stitt, however, after expressing his gratification at knowing that the school was un-sectarian and undenominational, created a genuine surprise by proposing to endow it with an annual scholarship of £20. This generous offer had an immediate response from the Duke. It had been not erroneously supposed, he said, that he was not a poor man, and he would follow Mr. Stitt's example and found a scholarship on similar conditions. The school thus gained two of its most valuable scholarships on its opening day. The proceedings ended with a photograph by Messrs. Robinson and Thompson of Hamilton Square.

Thus, after four and a half years of patient endeavour in the face of great difficulties and many discouragements, the Birkenhead Institute was launched upon the career which has made its name famous in the town. Mr. Atkin must have been a proud man when he saw that the ambition of his life had been achieved. His name will live for evermore in the annals of the school.

CHAPTER II.
EARLY DAYS.

The school opened in January 1889 with 42 pupils, the record of whose names has been unfortunately lost. A photograph of the original staff and scholars has, however, done much to help in identifying them. It was in the possession of Mrs. William Jackson, of Leighton Court, Neston (daughter of the founder), to whom we are much indebted. Our thanks are also due to Mr. John Band, of Rock Ferry, for his help in the task of identification. He was in 1889 a small boy in the group. The photograph is reproduced as worthy to be placed on record.

The task of organising the work of the new school seems to have been undertaken with zeal by the headmaster and staff, and among the first notices to appear on the walls was a set of school-boy maxims, fifteen in all, which were evidently meant to cover the whole range of youthful delinquency. The spirit of our Victorian forbears is breathed in every one of them.

"Idleness is the first step to all unhappiness."

"One thing mastered is better than a dozen half-done."

"Acting a lie is worse than telling a lie."

"A bully is invariably a coward with an empty head."

"An honest boy makes a confession, a coward makes an EXCUSE."

"When a bad boy is popular, the school is bad."

There is no record of the number of times these maxims were reproduced in the form of lines by those who failed to live up to them, but doubtless they served their purpose in that direction, and there must have been some who knew them by heart.

By the end of February the school cap made its appearance—navy-blue with a red star—at the price of 1s., but it was not until November that the school got its motto, selected by the directors from several submitted by the Headmaster—"Doctus in se semper divitias habet"—"A learned man always has riches in himself." This, too, soon became familiar, though never contemptible, to the boys of the Institute. Many hands have ached in copying its simple truth.

The school rules appeared in due course, drawn up by the headmaster and approved by the directors. They are reproduced in full, so that it may be appreciated how little they have altered in the course of time. At first printed on a cardboard sheet, they have now become traditional.

1. Boys must be punctual in entering School immediately after the bell rings.
2. No Games are allowed in front of the school.
3. In coming through the grounds in front of the school, every boy is expected to keep to the walks. Walking or running on the grass is forbidden.
4. No boy is to ring the School bell unless he has been asked by a master to do so.
5. All games are strictly forbidden in the classrooms and corridors.
6. Injury to school property will be charged as far as possible to the parents of the boys inflicting such injury.
7. Leave to go outside the gates at the intervals must be obtained from a master.
8. Boys who do not go home to dinner must pass the interval from 12-30 to 2 p.m. within the school grounds, unless leave to go out has been obtained from a master.
9. School caps must be worn, unless special permission is given to do otherwise.
10. Smoking, and the possession of smoking materials, are strictly prohibited.
11. Outside the school gates, boys, when they meet a master, must at once cap him.
12. Boys must enter each day in their note-books the lessons prescribed for the school day following. No boy is to leave school until he is sure what lessons have been prescribed for next day.
13. Boys must have left the school grounds by 5 p.m., except when permission to stay longer has been given by a master.

There were now monthly meetings of the directors, who appointed a visiting committee, passed accounts for payment, approved the rules for the Stitt and Westminster scholarships, fixed holidays, let the stables to Mr. Davies, and dealt with a host of other details. In the life of the school a monthly merit holiday was instituted, and a school Cricket field rented in Willmer Road for £3 for the season. This happy state of affairs, however, was not to last long, for by February 1890, the approach of the builder had driven the school to Mr. Gaskell's field in Woodchurch Road. No football was played in the autumn of 1889.

The first examination of the new school took place at the end of the autumn term, and was conducted by John Marshall, Esq., M.A., Rector of the Royal High School, Edinburgh. His

report was very favourable, dealing with the buildings, staff, organisation, discipline, and the results of the written and oral examinations. A unique feature was, he said, that there had been no case of corporal punishment during the term.

The first Speech Day was held on December 21st in the Town Hall, when the prizes were distributed by Mr. E. R. Russell, editor of the *Liverpool Post and Mercury*. The chairman's speech revealed that the numbers of the school had now reached 100, and there was loud applause when Mr. Atkin announced that Mr. Henry Tate had given four scholarships of £10 each, and had promised to provide a Science Laboratory—truly a magnificent gift. The programme included a speech by Mr. Marshall, the examiner, and scenes from "Der Nachtwächter," "L'Avare," and "The Merchant of Venice," presented by the boys. The first prize list of the Institute was as follows:—

IV A.

Form Prize	Young.
French and German	Young.
Mathematics	Band mi.
English	Young.

IV B.

French and German	Scholl.
Mathematics	Barr.
English	Stevens.

III.

Form Prize	Clow.
Latin	Ledsham mi.
Mathematics	C. Robinson.
English	Ledsham mi.
French	Ledsham mi.

II.

Form Prize	Fish.
English	Fish.
Latin	Fish.

I.

1st Form Prize	Foster.
2nd Form Prize	Band tertius.

Kindergarten.

1, Lamb; 2, Guthrie; 3, Murphie; 4, Sayer.

Drawing Prize.

Forms III.—IV.	McWean.
Forms I.—II.	Fish.

Shorthand Prize	Pitt Taylor ma.
Music Prize	Jones.
Head Master's Prize	McWean.
Mr. Croft's Prize	Bratt.
Mr. Thompson's Prize	Hughes ma.
Stitt Scholarships	1. McWean.
	2. Robinson mi.

The year 1890 opened with bright prospects. The increased numbers having necessitated an addition to the staff, Mr. H.N. Waterhouse was appointed and took up his duties in January. In May Sergeant Mahoney began his gymnastic classes, and Mr. R. Wordsworth Davies undertook the teaching of singing. For these extra privileges a fee of 2s. 6d. per term was demanded. Twelve single sticks were ordered. In May the first winners of the Westminster scholarships were announced—John Gordon Barr and Leonard Atkinson, and at the end of the summer terms J. G. Barr and Harold Foster won the first two Tate scholarships, the Stitt awards going to J. D. Bratt and J. O. Roberts. Mr. Waterhouse resigned in July, and was succeeded by Mr. C. W. Berry, whose stay was short, for he left at the end of the term, being succeeded by Mr. T. Samuel. At this time some trouble was caused by the tenant of the stables, whose dogs and poultry caused a nuisance to the headmaster. A protest was sent to him, and the nuisance was abated. At the end of the year Mr. Marshall again examined the school, and his verdict was once more very favourable. Speech Day on December 20th with the distribution of prizes by the Mayor (Alderman G. B. Crow) ended the school's second year. There were now 144 on the roll.

The year 1891 was memorable for two events—the first School Sports and the building of the Tate Laboratory. The Sports were held on the Birkenhead Park Football Ground on June 27th, the weather being fine. Music was provided by the band of the 1st Cheshire Rifles. Two silver challenge cups were generously given, one by Mr. J. F. Blake-Campbell for the Seniors, and the other by Mr. Stitt for the Juniors. The former was won by Fish who won the 100 yards, Cricket Ball, Long Jump, High Jump, and Quarter-Mile, and the latter by Garlick, who won the High Jump, and was second in the 100 yards. The mile provided a good finish between Boulton and Stevens, the latter just winning after Boulton had led all the way. A two mile bicycle race was won by Henderson, but the Hurdles proved a fiasco. Handicaps were given up to 30 yards,

and all the runners started in one heat. The crowd knocked down the first hurdles, and the back markers had no chance, the race being won by the two boys, Andrews and Whyte, who were on the 30 yards limit. Of the other races, the 100 yards under 13 was won by Highfield, the Long Jump under 13 by Heath mi, the Kindergarten races by Guthrie and Sanchez, the Sack race by Scarratt, the Old Boys' by Bishop, with W. Band 2nd, the Obstacle by Symons, and the Consolation by Bratt ma. Mr. Geo. Atkin distributed the prizes.

In July the school lost a good friend by the death of Mr. Strongitharm who had done much in its formation. His wise and judicious counsel was much missed by his colleagues. A further loss was sustained in November by the passing of Mr. W. Legg, one of the founders of the school, who had been ill for some time. He had always taken a keen interest in the progress of the school.

In July the Stitt £20 scholarship to Liverpool University was won for the first time by J. G. Barr, who also carried off the Tate Senior award.

The third examination was undertaken in December 1891 by Professor Core, M.A., of Owen's College, Manchester, and Speech Day followed in the Town Hall, the prizes being distributed by S. G. Rathbone, Esq., J.P., ex-chairman of the Liverpool School Board.

The early part of the year 1892 saw the Tate Laboratory nearing completion, and its equipment occupied most of the directors' attention at their monthly meetings. In February the school suffered a heavy loss by the death of Mr. Calder, the esteemed secretary of the Company. To quote from the words of the resolution passed on the occasion: "From the very first, he took the deepest interest in the formation and progress of the school, and discharged his duties as secretary with a combination of enthusiasm and accuracy, as rare as it is valuable. His keen foresight, thorough mastery of detail, and earnest discharge of duty were much appreciated by the Directors, who realise that his services, characterised as they were by the above qualities, will be difficult to replace in the future." The appointment of his successor was deferred until May, when Mr. W. F. Terry was unanimously chosen.

By May, some of the new rooms had been occupied by the Kindergarten and Forms II. and IV., and in June the second annual Sports were held. New events included an Egg and

Spoon Race, and a Football Contest between seven present and five past pupils, the former winning 3—1. The Hurdles fiasco of the previous year was avoided by eliminating the race from the programme. The Blake-Campbell Cup was won by Roberts, but the Stitt Cup could not be awarded as so many boys had secured an equal number of points. Mrs. E. Evans distributed the prizes, and Mr. W. H. Lever, Liberal Candidate for Birkenhead, was present.

July 29th was a memorable day in the annals of the School, for it saw the official opening of the new Tate Laboratory. It was a great disappointment to everybody that Lord Brassey, who had promised to perform the ceremony, was at the last minute unable to do so, but the Mayor, Alderman Willmer, graciously stepped into the breach. A distinguished company attended the proceedings, and included Messrs. S. Stitt, W. H. Lever, Alfred Billson, M.P. (a director since 1889), and Rev. A. Sloman of Birkenhead School. There was general regret that, owing to the state of his health, Mr. Henry Tate was unable to be present.

The new buildings, exclusive of the laboratory, provided accommodation for 120 boys, and were built of Storeton stone, the laboratory being distinguished by a pedimented gable with TATE LABORATORY thereon in raised letters. The south gable was of brick to allow of future extensions.

In September it was proposed to advertise the school by fixing enamelled signs at all the Mersey Railway stations and also at Woodside and Tranmere Ferries. These proposals had to be modified, however, owing to the difficulty of procuring suitable spaces, and in November it was decided that signs should be placed on the outside wall of Woodside station, on the hoarding opposite, and under the daily weather report at Woodside Ferry. A battered survivor may still be seen at the school, where it now serves in the menial office of a firescreen in the dining room. *Sic transit gloria signi*. In December the fourth annual examination was undertaken by the University of London, and the school entered candidates for the Cambridge Locals for the first time, Barr and Balby gaining honours, and Rowlands coming out 15th in all England in Drawing. The South Kensington Examinations in Science and Art were also taken, and many certificates gained. The first Old Boys' success was achieved in this year, F. S. Pitt-Taylor passing his first M.B. examination at Victoria University. Speech day

was made memorable by the presentation to the headmaster by A. Gray of a handsome time-piece. The prizes were distributed by the Mayor, Alderman Rawcliffe, J.P.

The year 1893 was marked by the first Old Boys' Reunion, to which the directors generously subscribed £7. A supper was attended by nearly 60 Old Boys, and the affair was most successful. The Sports were held as usual in June, the prizes being presented by Mrs. W. H. Lever, and the challenge cups going to Allen and Heath mi. respectively. The school sustained a loss in July by the resignation of Mr. Crofts who had secured a better appointment at Nottingham High School. He was succeeded by Mr. S. Andrade, B.A., a scholar of St. Catharine's, Cambridge. A Mr. Smith, whose methods seem to have been more forceful than persuasive, resigned in December, being succeeded by Mr. W. H. Poynton, B.A.

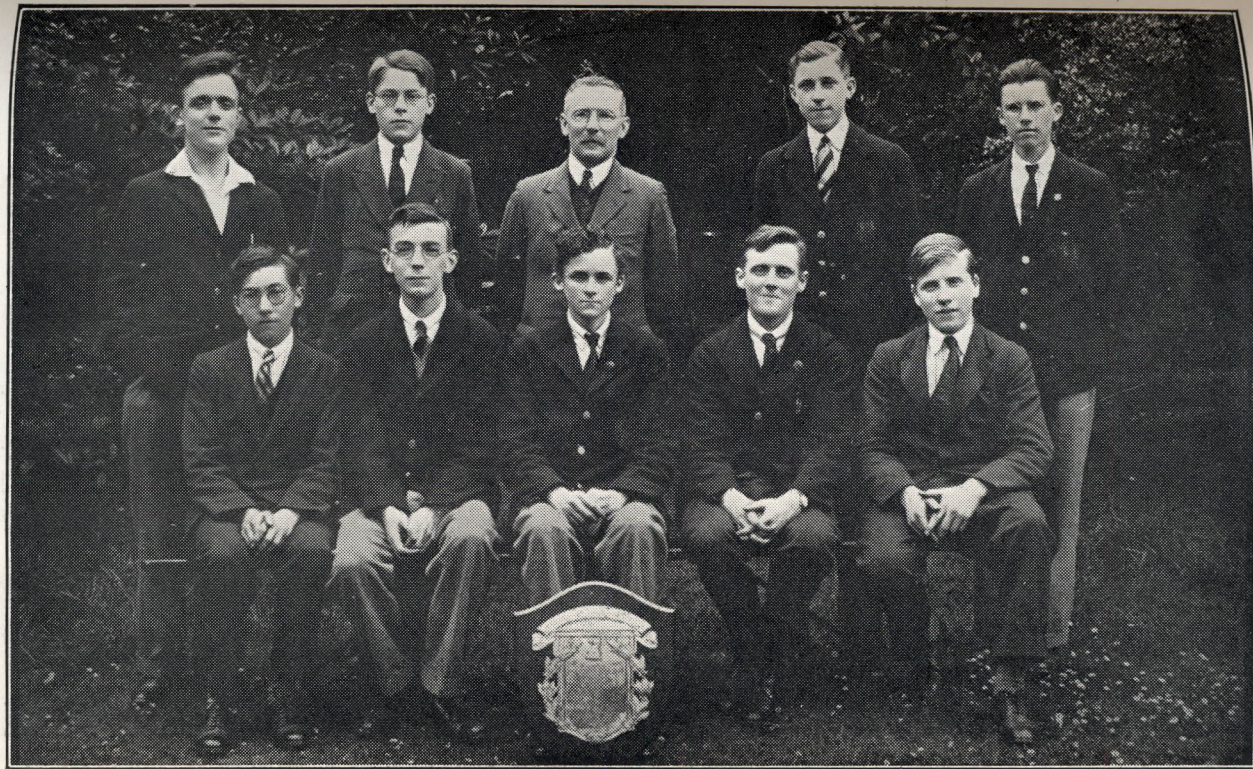
Speech Day was marked by the presence of Sir (Mr. Justice) W. R. Kennedy, who distributed the prizes. Balby, Furniss and Raby carried off most of the prizes in Form V., J. C. Mannings in Form IV., and H. E. P. Roberts in Form III. There were now 189 boys on the school roll. Many successes were gained in the Cambridge Locals, and the College of Preceptors examinations were taken for the first time. In the latter J. M. Furniss came out 14th in all England, and 1st in the Liverpool Centre, and in January took a post in the Bank of Liverpool, and went from success to success until he finally became general manager of Martin's bank, a position he still occupies. He has never lost his interest in his old school, and was mainly responsible for the Connacher Memorial Prize Fund.

The second reunion of the Old Boys was held at the school in February 1894, about 70 sitting down to supper. Professor Strong of Liverpool gave a lecture on Winchester School, and toasts were proposed by W. D. Band and H. Stephens.

In March carpentry was added to the curriculum, and 48 boys started on the new subject at an additional fee of 7s. 6d. a term, Mr. J. C. Thompson being appointed as the teacher.

A new cricket ground was obtained this summer in Birkenhead Park, and in November a corrugated iron shed made its appearance in the playground as a shelter for the boys in wet weather. This was removed when the new wing was added in 1908 and has never been replaced.

CHess TEAM.



WINNERS OF THE WRIGHT CHALLENGE SHIELD (1929-30).
 G. W. D. Wright, T. H. Green, Mr. Moat, G. Jellicoe, J. A. Halliday,
 C. D. Greaves, L. B. Wood, J. M. McNeill, G. V. Ovens, J. Pritchard.

Photo by CLARKSON, Birkenhead.

The prizes this year were distributed by Principal Rendell of Liverpool University College, the school keeping up its reputation for successes in the Cambridge Locals and College of Preceptors' as well as in the South Kensington examinations, and by the end of the year the numbers had reached 211.

So well had the school prospered during its five years of existence, that in March 1895 the directors were able to declare their first dividend, 3 per cent. free of income tax, and from this time it proceeded on its ordered way under the able guidance of Mr. Connacher, with Mr. Atkin always at his post to help and advise, ably seconded by Mr. John Hargreaves and Mr. P. W. Atkin. Successes were achieved, masters came and went, prizes were gained, and games were lost and won, as is the way of schools. It is not the purpose of this history to record all these events in full—the task would be too great. A record of the chief successes has, however, been compiled, and is preserved in the school, where he who runs may read.

The year 1896 saw the last and the most munificent gift that Mr. Henry Tate presented to the school, the endowment of the Tate University Scholarship, a capital sum of £2,000 being given for the purpose. Speech Day of this year was memorable, for the prizes were distributed by Mr. Augustine Birrell, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Geo. Atkin was presented with a portrait of himself painted in oils by Mr. Percy Bigland, the well-known portrait painter. This portrait of the founder was afterwards presented to the school by the Atkin family, and now occupies a place of honour on the wall of the School Library.

1897 passed rather uneventfully, but two incidents are worthy of record. Mr. Samuel, after six years of good service, was appointed to the Secretaryship of the Technical Education Committee, and afterwards became Director of Education for the County Borough of Wallasey. He was succeeded by Mr. E. H. Crump, who was to stay till 1904. Among the boys, Warry distinguished himself by passing the London Intermediate B.A. direct from the school—a great achievement.

Early in 1898 a change was made in the school badge, and the red star was displaced by the now familiar vizor device. In August the school suffered a loss by the death of Mr. Geo. Grierson, one of the original directors of the company. Mr. Stitt died later in the year.

The South Kensington Science and Arts Department had for some time stressed the necessity for a lecture theatre and demonstration table, and these were installed early in the year 1899. The table still remains with its sinks and gas-jets, but the theatre has been removed to allow the room to be used as an ordinary classroom. Mr. James left in the spring after six years at the school. The janitor, too, departed.

Mr. H. Bennett was appointed to the staff in January of this year, and spent the rest of his teaching life in the service of the Institute. A strict disciplinarian of the old type, he will be remembered for his independence of character and a meticulous regard for detail. Towards the end of his career he became head of the modern languages department, retiring in 1929.

Mr. H. P. Wood came in May to fill the post of Mathematics master, a position he too occupied until his retirement a few years ago in 1931. He became second master in 1924. There are hundreds of old Institute boys who can testify to his skill and patience in expounding the strange behaviour of x , or the stubborn waywardness of y . He possessed a sound knowledge of the classics as well as a wide acquaintance with English literature. He was held in high esteem by all with whom he came in contact, and his sudden death after two years of retirement came as a great shock to all who knew him.

The end of the year saw the death of Sir Henry Tate, and the school lost a great benefactor.

The directors' meetings for 1900 were mostly concerned with proposals to make the Institute a Science centre recognised by the Department of Science and Art, and in September it was decided to enlarge the school once more, by an addition to the south wing. A mortgage of £2,500 at 4 per cent. was raised for the purpose, and the building was immediately put in hand under Mr. Reade's direction. The first scholars from Port Sunlight under a scheme arranged by Mr. Lever made their appearance at the school in this year.

Very little of importance happened in 1901, except that the new wing was completed, and the extension to the Science side of the school necessitated a change of staff.

In January 1902 Mr. W. H. Watts came to the Institute as Physics master, and remained in that capacity until his retirement in 1935. Becoming Second Master in succession to Mr. Wood, he will best be remembered for his famous lectures, especially those on matters astronomical, and for the interest which he took in the Old Boys' Society, of which he is still

chairman. His skill in the teaching of his subject is attested by all who came under his care, and his versatility is shown by the play "The Horoscope," written and produced by himself, which was acted by members of the staff in 1926.

The school was now recognised by the Board of Education as a School of Science, and was visited by the district inspector, who expressed himself pleased with the start that had been made. Mr. Connacher was in this year honoured by the new University of Liverpool by being made a member of the University Council.

In May the Cheshire County Council placed the Institute upon the list of schools at which the Cheshire County Scholarships could be held, and many boys have since taken advantage of this concession.

The year was made still more memorable by the honour gained by G. Pollexfen, the first winner of the Tate University scholarship. He proceeded to Balliol College, Oxford, and afterwards secured a good post in Ceylon. He enlisted on the outbreak of the Great War, and was one of the first of the Institute Old Boys to be killed on active service.

The year, however, which had seen such development in the school, was destined to end on a tragic note. Mr. Connacher's health had been failing for some time, and it was obvious that he was a sick man. The customary Speech Day at the Town Hall was abandoned, and the prizes were distributed at the school. In February 1903 Mr. Connacher died at the early age of 50. He had lived long enough to see the school achieve the aims and scope of its founder, and he handed on to his successor a worthy inheritance.

Until the appointment of the new headmaster, the school was ably administered by Mr. Crump. The previous term had seen the arrival on the staff of Mr. R. S. Hilton, a member of the famous Hoylake golfing family, whose prowess on the Royal Liverpool course where he was a plus player, brought him high esteem among the boys whom he taught. A man of charming personality and courteous manners, he devoted himself mainly to the younger side of the school, and there must be many old boys who remember the games of soccer and cricket in the school yard in which he took an active delight. On the amalgamation of Mr. Galloway's school with the Institute, he took charge of the Junior School in Clifton Road, and remained there until 1913, when he left to become Secretary of the Chester Golf Club.

CHAPTER III.

MR. SMALLPAGE'S REGIME.

The new headmaster was appointed in April, and the directors' choice fell upon Mr. James Smallpage, B.A. Educated at Burnley Grammar School and London University, he had acquired considerable experience before coming to the Institute, and had been headmaster of York Castle High School in Jamaica, Kent College, Canterbury, and Bournemouth High School. From the start he took a personal interest in the boys, and was especially keen in furthering their sporting instincts. New better playing fields were soon obtained: cricket was played on the ground of the Victoria Club in Birkenhead Park, and football on the Archery Ground in Park Road East. Before the end of the year he had formed a shooting club, which was attached to the Oxton Rifles, and himself took an active part in it. The outcome of this was seen in the summer of 1906 when Mr. Smallpage took a team from the school to Bisley to take part in the annual Volunteer manœuvres. To quote from the *Birkenhead News*: "Praise from Lord Roberts, especially when it is bestowed for efficiency in connection with military matters, must always be gratifying to its recipients. This is a distinction which has fallen to the team of boys who represented Birkenhead Institute at Bisley. The boys acquitted themselves excellently, and they and the headmaster, Mr. Smallpage, were personally complimented by Lord Roberts on the interest they had shown by having come such a long distance to take part in the manœuvres. Mr. Smallpage was the only headmaster in camp from the North of England."

His headmastership was to see many important changes in the life of the school, the first of which occurred the following year, when Mr. Robert Galloway, who since the retirement of his father in 1893, had been sole principal of Clifton Park school, was appointed second master at the Institute in succession to Mr. Crump who had taken the post of second master at Leeds Modern School. This change brought about the amalgamation of the two schools, and henceforth Mr. Galloway's premises in Clifton Road were used to house the Junior School, Mr. Hilton being placed in charge, and Miss Farrell looking after the Preparatory. From this time the Junior School began to have a history of its own, and many of the most distinguished old boys of the Institute once sat within its gates. Mr. Galloway remained at the Institute until 1924, when he retired, and



THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Photo by CLARKSON.

at the time of writing he is still alive to prove that in his case, at least, the human boy did not disturb the even tenor of his way.

The first Speech Day under the new headmaster saw the venerable chairman, Mr. Geo. Atkin, presiding, and his wife distributing the prizes. For the first time in the history of the school four boys were proceeding to Liverpool University. Of these T. W. A. Shaw won the Stitt Scholarship at the School, and the Bibby Scholarship at the University. He now holds a responsible post with Messrs. Lever Bros. The others were E. H. G. Roberts, R. B. Billington, and E. M. Powell. The year had seen other successes too, for G. A. Duff had taken his final B.Eng with honours, and the Rev. J. D. Lamb, a master at the school, his degree of M.A. in Philosophy, both at Liverpool University. The Trial Scene from the *Merchant of Venice* and *Vice-Versa* were well acted by the boys, the Duke in the former being played by George Grant, and Clegg, a cabman, in the latter, by R. E. Roberts. Both had distinguished careers at the university, and the former came back to his old school as a master in 1912, and stayed until 1914, when he enlisted in the Pals' Battalion of the King's Liverpool regiment on the outbreak of war; he now occupies the post of Registrar of University College, Southampton. The latter is now the famous radiologist.

In May Mr. and Mrs. George Atkin celebrated their golden wedding and were presented with an illuminated address by their numerous friends. One of the four who formed the deputation was Mr. John Hargreaves, one of the original directors of the Institute, whose concern for the good of the school had been second only to Mr. Atkin's.

The Sports of 1905 deserve more than a passing notice, for on this occasion the prizes were presented by Mr. Atkin's daughter, now Mrs. William Jackson, whose interest in the school has persisted through the years, and who, as late as 1935, presented a silver challenge cup for competition, and attended the sports to see it won. The 1905 sports were chiefly remarkable for the feats of Jack Price among the Seniors and D. Hale among the Juniors.

It was in this year, too, that the Institute held its first swimming gala at Livingstone Street Baths, and another sporting feature of the school's life was successfully inaugurated.

So, under Mr. Smallpage's direction, the school continued to flourish. But early in 1906 the shadow of impending changes began to make its appearance. The directors had for some time been in communication with the Board of Education which had formulated a scheme for turning the school into an Educational Trust, with a view to its being administered by the Board of Education. In July a shareholders' meeting was held, at which it was decided to wind up the Company, with the Secretary as liquidator, and he was to hold the site, buildings and contents of the School upon trust for a Secondary School to be conducted in accordance with a scheme to be made by the Board of Education. The Balfour Act of 1902 was to secondary education what Forster's Act of 1871 had been to elementary, and the government was bringing pressure to bear on private schools in receipt of government grant. The directors of the Institute realised that they were unable to carry on without such assistance, and although they made a gallant fight to obtain the best terms possible, they were clearly fighting a losing battle, and no other course was open but the liquidation of the company.

It was at this critical period of the school's history that Mr. George Atkin passed away. He attended his last meeting as chairman in December 1906, but he died in the following February, and so was spared the sorrow that it would have caused him to see the school of which he had been so proud pass into other hands. Of him it may truly be said that he spent his life in the service of the school, and his name will never be forgotten.

His son, Mr. Peter Atkin, now took his father's place in the chair, and it is at this juncture that there appears in the school's history the name of one who has most ably carried on the tradition of the Institute—Mr. G. A. Solly. He was in 1906 Chairman of the Birkenhead Education Committee, and in that position took a prominent part in the negotiations which finally led to the adoption of the school by the County Borough of Birkenhead. The proposal to do so came before the Higher Education Committee in February 1907, and met with immediate opposition. It is not intended in this history to do more than summarise the stages in the dispute which occupied the attention of the Committee throughout the year. On April 27th the Higher Education Committee passed by 11 votes to 6 a resolution in favour of taking over the school, but on June

6th the Council, in spite of an able plea by Mr. Solly, rejected it by 24 votes to 21, and referred it back to the Education Committee for further consideration. At their next meeting on June 26th two new factors appeared which somewhat altered the position. The liquidator, Mr. Terry, sent a letter stating that, as the draft scheme proposed by the Board of Education had not been completed, the government had withheld its grant, and he would have no option but to close the school, while the secretary of the Education Committee, Mr. R. T. Jones, read a letter from the Board of Education, requiring the Council's immediate action in the matter. On July 3rd the question was raised again at the monthly meeting of the Council, and after several heated arguments the proposal was eventually carried. All that now remained to be done was to settle the terms. On October 7th, 1907, a general meeting of shareholders approved the sale of the Institute to the Corporation for £3,362. On February 7th, 1908, the Board of Education issued its scheme for administering the school, which passed into the hands of the Corporation on May 22nd, 1908.

(To be completed in the July issue of the *Visor*).

Roll of Honour

OLD BOYS OF THIS SCHOOL WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR OF 1914-1919.

1914.

John H. H. Smith,
Despatch Rider R.E.

1915.

S. V. Radcliffe, R.N.D.	Gomer S. Roberts, 1/4th Ches. R.
Angus Macdonald, 1/10th K.L.R.	H. T. Burns, 1/4th Ches. R.
G. B. Pollexfen, B.A., 1/10th K.L.R.	A. C. Maclean, Australian E. F.
T. McNaught, 1/10th K.L.R.	Harry Raby,
R. A. Robinson, 1/10th K.L.R.	Lt. R.N.R., H.M.S. "Ramsey."
R. H. Falla, S.Sgt. A.S.C.	

1916.

Malcolm Guthrie, 17th K.L.R.	C. H. Easton, Sgt. 20th K.L.R.
John Nixon, Sgt. 11th K.R.R.	H. V. Hughes, Sgt. 20th K.L.R.
C. Leslie Evans, 5th K.L.R.	Richard Pell, 26th R.F.
Ralph Seward, Sgt. 21st K.R.R.	T. Glyn G. Williams, 1st R.W.F.
W. M. Campbell, Lt. 9th R.I.R.	E. M. McGill, Sgt. 1/6th K.L.R.
E. R. Ratcliffe Gaylard,	T. Stanley Davies, 26th R.F.
2/Lt. 1/5th D.C.L.I.	P. F. Cannon, 26th R.F.
R. Dodd, Australian E. F.	Frank Bunnell, 8th K.O. R.L.R.
E. Clarke, 1st K.L.R.	G. W. Watson,
Percy Hancock, 20th K.L.R.	2/Lt. R.W.F. & R.F.C.
W. L. Harris, M.C., Capt. 9th R.S.	Edgar C. Jones, Australian E. F.
P. D. S. Broad, Canada P.P.L.I.	J. C. Chandler, 2/Lt. 17th Ches. R.

1917.

E. Donald Miller, 1/10th K.L.R.	Harry Davies, 8th K.L.R.
Mark S. Watson, M.A.,	J. H. Robinson, R.E. & 9th K.L.R.
Lt. 4th H.L.I.	W. E. Galloway, Lt. 4th R.W.F.
Norman Bell,	F. Edwards, 2/6th K.L.R.
Lt. Ches. R. & R.F.C.	F. J. Schenkel, Lt. East African E.F.
W. H. Williams, 2/6 Manchester R.	C. E. Neale, Royal Warwicks.
H. E. Coates, Major K.L.R.	F. I. Mercer, Sgt. 9th Northants R.
A. G. Paul, 2/Lt. K.L.R.	E. P. Beaumont,
James Robinson, 2/Lt. 9th K.L.R.	M.C., Capt. 17th K.L.R.
Harold Ridgeway,	H. G. Bickley,
Lt. 3rd East Lancs. R.	Lancs. Hussars & 18th K.L.R.
W. E. L. Broad, Lt. 5th Canadian I.	H. Vernon James,
A. C. Beer, Corp. M.G.C.	Lt. East Anglian R.F.A.
Fred Jump, 2/10th K.L.R.	A. L. Calvert, 2/7th L.F.
E. Breuninger,	Ernest G. Goy, Lt. R.F.C.
2/Lt. London Scottish.	A. H. Hindle, Lt. W. L. Artillery.
Douglas Terry, 17th K.L.R.	John S. Tuckett, Sgt. R.A.F.
Donald M. C. Brown,	J. H. Good,
286th Brig. R.F.A.	H.M. Transport "Pancras."
C. T. Pearson, Lt. K.E.H. & R.F.A.	

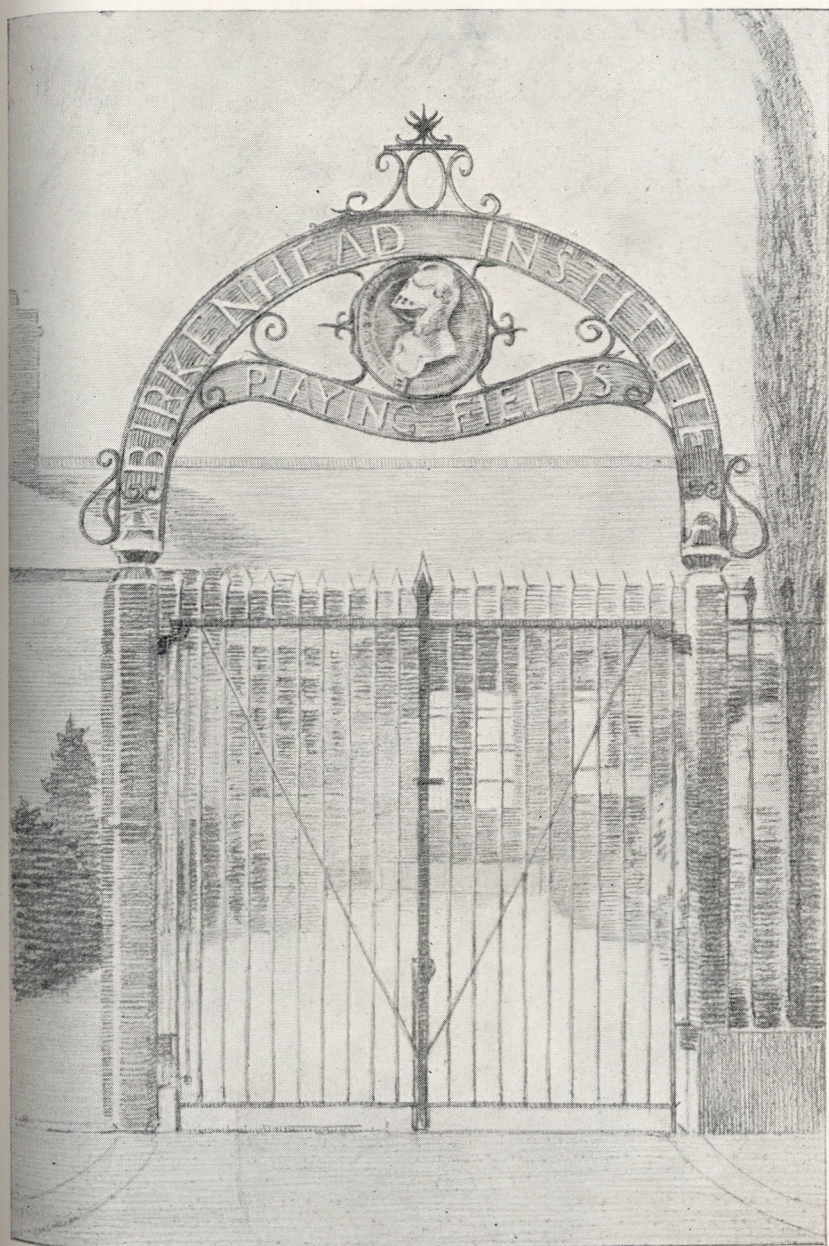
1918.

William Fitton. M.M., Lt. R.A.F.	A. O. Owens, Lt. 15th R.W.F.
T. Langley Williams,	J. Harper, 2/Lt. 3rd Cheshire R.
2/Lt. 5th K.L.R.	C. R. Fraser, 2/Lt. 4th K.L.R.
T. H. Broad, Lt. 137th Canadian I.	Charles A. Lewis, Lt. R.N.D. A.I.S.
Alexander Watson, Canadian I.	L. C. Storey, 2/Lt. R.A.F.
J. C. Meredith, Lt. R.F.A.	Cedric Marshall, Wireless Operator.
Albert Dodd, Lt. R.A.F.	George H. Foster, 2/Lt. R.E.
W. C. Poole, 172nd Rocky Mt. Rgrs.	Brayton Scott, 10th Chesh. R.
Albert Simmons,	Keyser Atkin, Capt. R.A.M.C.
Shropshire L.I. and M.G.C.	G. H. Wilson, 1/4th East York. R.
Wilfrid T. Owen, M.C.,	
Lt. 2nd Manchester R.	

1919.

Ray Wilcox, Capt., 3rd L.F.

To the honoured memory of Old Boys of this School
who died for their country in the Great War of
1914-1919.



GATEWAY OF PLAYING FIELD, ERECTED 1933.

Lists of Old Boys.

THE *Visor* committee realise that these lists are neither complete nor accurate, but they represent the extent of the School's information about the professions and vocations of past pupils. The committee will gladly insert in the July issue of the *Visor* a list of corrections, if their attention is drawn to any mistakes and omissions.

ACCOUNTANCY.

Appleton, W. J.	Leyland, B. J.	Simpson, A. B.	Bridge, H. A.
Jones, N. W.	Barreman, K.	Williams, H.	Brereton, W. J.
Burnet, R. D.	Hayward, P.	Black, L. D.	Tomlinson, D. R.
Snelson, R. W.	Anderson, J. E.	Wheat, K.	Leed, W. L.
Dennis, J. P.	Philips, A. M.	Winter, H. E.	McGill, J. P.
Robinson, E. W.	Boggie, G.	Duff, A. S.	Niblock, A.
Hadfield, D. J.	Ambler, E.	Kay, G.	Thomas, R. D.
Allan, J. F.	Currie, C. R.	Jones, M. T. L.	Boston, W. E.
Jackson, R. A.	Griffiths, H.	Williams, S. K.	Mason, J. C.
Hodgson, J. D.	Bennett, W. A.	May, B. R.	Laver, H. N.
Lees, J. R.	Benson, B. W.	Hanmer, B. M.	
Caruth, A.	Smith, G. W.	Hanmer, T. L.	

ARCHITECTURE.

Telford, T. A.	Thomson, T. M.	Melville, I. S.	Morris, W. G.
Ward, G. L.	Gibson, J.	Halliday, B. S.	Cooper, C. W.
Patterson, A. S.	Wilson, H. E.	Bunting, S.	Hudson, S. H.
Farnes, I. M. G.	Dubois, R. J.	Hayward, L. G.	
Jones, A. H.	Jones, S. W.	Renner, N. A.	
Yardley, K. H.	Collister, J.	Heaps, W. H.	

BANKING AND INSURANCE.

Furniss, J. M.	McLeod, N. C.	Wharton, P. B.	Ainsworth, M.
Tait, J. A.	Rice, K. G.	Elder, A. D.	Eoyd, Ald. A.
Parry, E.	Shaw, G. W.	Douglas, A. G.	Clews, P. A.
Curtiss, S. M.	Kelly, H. L.	Jones, O. E.	Campbell, C.
Wild, A.	Minns, M. A.	Mann, E. L.	Campbell, S.
Dykes, J. R.	Kirkland, F.	Miner, H. G.	Fox, H. S.
Smith, N.	Lilley, R. E.	Hughes, W. M.	Fleming, J. R.
Hutchinson, C. S.	Wilmot, H. A.	Kelly, J. B.	Grice, H. W.
Parry, E. R.	Davies, R. H.	White, A. R.	Heath, R.
Hughes, G. T.	Davies, W.	Henderson, A.	Johnston, H.
Pegg, E. P.	Bamford, A.	Telford, K. H.	Jones, H. G.
Rowley, W.	Hayes, W. J.	Coughtrie, J. A.	Lees, W. A.
Pickup, A.	Davies, S.	Allan, C. W.	Lees, R.
Evans, J. B.	Christian, W. D.	Powell, K. L.	Lee, B.
Hewitt, H. F.	Burrell, P.	Grice, —	Marsden, T.
Hill, A. D.	Johnson, H. T.	Boggie, D.	Montgomery, —
Wolfe, R.	Colenso, G. R.	Young, J. H. P.	Platt, J.
Waterhouse, K.	Coughtrie, C. K.	Evans, J. W.	Price, T.
Delf, R. M.	Evans, G. L.	Evans, P.	Robinson, W. M.
Purbrick, S. J.	Johnson, R. G.	Davies, W.	Ravenshaw, J.
Spencer, R. W.	Yates, I. V.	Lees, H. J.	Gracey, C. D.
Thompson, P.	Rawsthorne, M.	Jones, P. H.	Stephens, H. E.
Wilson, W. G.	Casey, W. L.	Bloor, H.	Sidebottom, S.

Cushing, C. N.	Hill, R. L. M.	Flinn, H.	Spicer, L.
Shepherd, A. E.	John, D. F.	Flinn, J.	Watts, J.
Coglan, W. S.	Williams, J. A.	Vaughan, G.	Manning, J. W.
Miller, H. A.	Ball, P.	Gough, C. A. E.	Manning, J. C.
Cassé, J.	Weir, A. R. M.	Scarratt, N.	Furniss, T. M.
Dougall, K.	Williams, A. C.	Allison, O.	Garrett, W. S.
Hewitt, J.	Clinton, W. J.	Lowry, D. W.	Archer, R. S.
Niblock, A.	Hanman, C. T.	Barker, D. R.	Roberts, W. P.
Robson, R. B.	Davies, G.	Henry, O.	Dashley, W.
Evans, A. B.	Wevill, B. E.	Humphreys, G. L.	West, S.
Welfare, H. W.	Carter, W. E.	Mayo, J. R.	Henderson, W. D.
Nicholson, W. B.	Peters, T.	Campbell, F. J.	S. Guthrie, G. E.
Evans, R. E.	Ross, E.	Jones, I. G. R.	Nixon, R.
Husselbury, E. W.	Abrahams, —	Powl, G. E.	Clare, C. W.
Southern, J. C.	Spencer, H. W.	Turner, A. D.	Robinson, D.
Robinson, —	Parrish, A. W.	Taylor, W. R.	

CIVIL SERVICE.

Blythe, W.	Pritchard, J.	Cumming, D. A.	Pierce, A. R.
Jordan, J. E.	Coughtrie, W. D.	Price, G. E.	Edelsten, John.
Reid, R. W.	Cullen, J.	Bell, C. V.	Robinson, R. S.
Theaker, L.	Marsh, W. H.	Bray, W. C.	Taylor, A. J.
Maxwell, —	Clarke, G. H.	Stott, J. G.	Williams, W. S.
Carter, T. C.	Pealin, J. A.	Edelsten, Jeffery.	

COMMERCE.

Maddocks, A. W.	Boyle, W. L.	Quaile, J. A.	Snell, D. L.
Cooper, A. S.	Beacall, P. J.	Roberts, N.	Theobald, A. G.
Bargett, S.	Robinson, G.	Dickman, C.	Turner, J. E.
Hammond, E. L.	Rowlands, R. G.	Barnett, T. W.	Ceha, M. C. A.
Easley, N. G.	Leatham, R.	Edwards, H.	Moxley, E.
Kyffin, F.	Wilson, W. J.	Smith, R.	Coglan, A. H.
Mackenzie, I. F.	Ludlow, D. F.	Dent, —	Coglan, G. K.
Theaker, F. E.	Crossthwaite, W.	Hallam, —	de Croos, M.A.K.
Reeves, E. D.	Layfield, S. W.	Barker, H. B.	Kay, R. W.
Lewis, E.	Baker, —	May, W. D.	Robey, R. D.
Pennington, J. H.	Clarke, W. A.	Parry, —	Capes, A. J.
Byron, E.	Jones, H. F.	Davies, L. M.	Jones, P. O.
Atherton, W. S.	Pinch, S. L.	Hughes, G. E.	King, W. J. M.
Lewis, G. F.	Taylor, A. J.	Lusty, K. C.	Wood, W. F.
Webster, J. M.	Wadlow, G. A.	Edwards, J. R.	James, A. K.
Ashton, G. T.	Boswell, J.	Collinson, G. S.	Jones, L. W.
Hall, F. C.	Allsopp, L. R.	Jones, J. O.	Rogers, W. G.
Leathan, W. H.	Wilson, W. J.	Todd, C. G.	Taylor, T. P. O.
Oliver, H. V.	Jackson, T. J.	Trigg, F. J.	Austin, H.
Perkin, H. J.	Parker, S.	Darlington, A. C.	Wilde, R.
Stephenson, H. G.	Litherland, E. E.	Cathcart, A.	Davis, H. L.
Sotherton, W. M.	Smith, C. G.	Davies, J.	Husselbury, W. D.
Houghton, R. A.	Chisholm, J. W.	Hughes, G. E.	Martin, F. C.
Reade, W. R.	Lamb, J. E.	Peckham, D.	Speed, A. J.
Threlfall, W. J.	Blair, D.	Perry, W.	Bridges, J. S.
Ablett, R. A.	Watkins, H. J.	Hughes, S.	Ceha, R. H.
Povall, J. L.	Bibby, E. G.	Marsh, F.	Lowson, R. C.
Elliott, T. A.	Hardie, J. P.	Martin, J. G.	Shandley, J.
Stelfox, L. G.	Lacey, D.	Rowson, E. A.	Carr, K. W. R.
Arthur, J.	Wallace, A. R.	Davies, S.	Gibson, J. B.
Davies, F. R. C.	Pierce, J. F.	Rowlands, H.	Jones, W. E.
Davidson, R. G.	Brown, H. L.	Entwistle, Y.	Lidgate, R.

Jobson, F. A.	Parry, A. S.	Snelson, A. S.	Sandlands, F. V.
Mathison, C. H.	Viggers, W. G.	Gould, H. B.	Sparling, E.
Muir, E. C. J.	Thomas, C. D.	Moss, G. H.	Ashcroft, R. H.
Russell, S. E.	Baker, R. G.	Cound, L. J.	Dean, A. T.
Smith, B. A.	Porter, K. W.	Matthews, E.	Hughes, H. G.
Wright, J. S.	Craig, M. G.	Mason, A. S.	Little, N. G.
Shepherd, J. H.	Symons, S. C.	Milbarn, J.	Maddocks, K. G.
Davies, H.	Hughes, L. J. T.	Rise, E.	Morris, J. S.
Kirby, G. H.	Marley, W. H.	Thomas, F. H.	Reddy, E.
Davies, H.	Acton, J.	McKinlay, J.	Robinson, A.
Goode, R. E.	Bird, F. N.	Reid, K.	Shipley, T. E.
Mathison, W. H.	Jackson, A.	Leeman, —	Tarbuck, D. R.
Ferguson, R.	Roscoe, W. E.	Laver, H. N.	Williams, E. G.
Ebbrell, A. L.	Welch, F. A.	McAlpine, S. V.	Smith, W. G.
Adams, E. C.	Rogers, J.	Dalziel, A.	Higgins, L.
Shaw, F. W.	Sutcliffe, R. J.	Hubbold, J. E.	Welch, S.
Cooper, J.	McKenzie, D.	Procter, M. L.	Franka, E. G.
Charlesworth, T. B.	Robinson, G. W.	Parry, B. R. W.	Ridout, G. P.
Rimmer, A. W.	Brecknell, W. A.	Stelfox, G. H.	Bolton, T. G.
Miller, B. D.	Hirst, J. E.	Wood, W. K.	Capper, T. R.
Hadley, G. F.	Anderson, E. S.	Bennett, R. M.	Jeffreys, E.
Lowsby, J. B.	Seed, W.	Gover, R. E.	Kennedy, A. D.
Aston, R.	Hailey, W. M.	Allen, W. K.	Porter, L. F.
Oldroyd, J.	Barlow, W. R. F.	Clark, R. A.	Smith, D. T.
Jackson, J. R.	Cockbain, W. L.	Freedman, H.	Tarpey, S. J.
Bridges, C.	Cross, H. L.	Quaile, A. J.	Weir, A. G.
Ware, J.	Ince, W.	Ruegg, H. T.	Brown, G.
Davies, A. G.	Jackson, T. A.	Ternent, A.	Evans, J. E.
Moss, A.	Jones, T. L.	Watkins, R. V.	Holmes, C. P.
Taylor, C. F.	Thornton, A.	Huxley, K. W.	Woodhouse, W.
Harrison, —	Stephens, J. R.	Jones, E. H.	Alderson, K.
Heath, F. M.	Andrews, L. T.	Jones, J. C.	Edge, S. E. C.
Palmer, H. W.	Campbell, J. R.	Davis, A. L.	Newton, R. W.
Weston, J. H.	Snelson, T. E.	Smart, T.	Longman, J.

DENTISTRY.

H. M. Latto, L.D.S.	A. G. Williams, L.D.S.
P. McNaught, L.D.S. (late).	O. H. Anderson, L.D.S.
G. E. M. Hallett, L.D.S.	C. F. Anderson, L.D.S.
B. H. Reid, L.D.S.	H. A. Anderson, L.D.S.

ENGINEERING.

Manzoni, H. J., City Engineer and Surveyor, Birmingham.	Cowan, A. H., M.Eng.
Bartlam, E. R., M.Eng., Principal Ceylon Technical College.	Hughes, D. A., M.Eng.
Lowry, J. E., B.Eng. (1st cl. Hons.)	Weir, G. A., B. Eng.
Ledson, A. L., B.Eng.	Gray, J. W., B.Eng. (1st cl. Hons.)
Hall, C.D. (late), B.Eng. (1st cl. Hons.), Bartlett Scholarship in Engineering, David Rew Memorial Scholarship).	Cockbain, B. H., B.Eng. (late).
Blythe, P. W., M.Eng., Ph.D.	Jenkins, D. F. L. W., B. Eng.
Lowry, L. P., B.Eng.	Verity, C. H., B.Eng.
Collins, H., M.Eng.	Wood, L. B., M.Eng., Ph.D.
Tector, F. J., B.Eng.	Sarginson, R. R., M.Eng.
Griffith, J. C., M.Eng.	Hamilton, F. L., B.Eng.
Lane, H. A.	Hunt, T.W., B.Eng.
Seed, H. D.	Bell, T.
	Bloor, H. E., Director and Secretary City of York Gas Co.
	Edelsten, K. W. Williams, A. E.

Wilson, J.	Taylor, E. A.	Chapman, D.	Male, R. H.
Dixon, C. K.	White, R. A.	Bolton, W. H.	Batho, A.
Gainer, H.	Cartwright, J. W.	Torbett, J. M.	Lewis, F. J.
Dennis, G. P.	Pringle, G. W.	Venables, —	Rowlands, J.
Smith, J. P.	Boston, W. E.	Hollerhead, —	Blackburn, G.
Jones, G. T.	Johnson, W. M.	Porter, W. F.	Altham, D. H. T.
Low, C. W.	Kennedy, D. M.	Medcalf, C. J. G.	Search, E. J.
Cooper, P.	Tweedie, A.	Cavanagh, S. R.	Rushworth, B. J.
Wess, S. H.	Slee, G. E.	Grimmett, J. C.	Booth, D. E.
Verity, C. H.	Riding, J.	Sutton, R. W.	Craill, W. D.
Pizzey, A. J.	Niblock, J.	Armstrong, N.	Hayes, W. E.
Parrott, W. A.	Hughes, A. W.	Hobbins, E.	Gurney, F. W.
Eaves, J. W.	Hughes, R.	Jones, S.	Hurst, W. S.
Smith, T. M.	Ramsden, J. O.	Buckley, G.	Dean, R. H.
Thomas, G. E.	Cutbill, P. W.	Moss, N. L.	Hughes, V. R.
Seymour, P. R.	Lilley, F. H.	Wilkins, F. P.	McLeod, A. G.
Tector, J. W.	Jones, A. M.	Young, D. H.	Thornton, J. A.
Jones, R. H.	Wright, J. H.	Lorimer, C.	Duncan, S.
Batcheldor, W.	McDonald, D.	Halliwell, A.	Bibby, P. E.
Evans, R. J.	Meakin, L.	Lea, W. R.	Thompson, L. H.
Holland, J.	Lovatt, J. B.	Evans, K.	Wilson, G.
Scott, J.	Ellis, W. K.	Simms, L.	Lacey, H. J.
Spencer, E. P.	Nicholas, J. B.	Manley, A. W.	Jones, G. L.
Roberts, J. E.	Smith, J.	Merrett, F.	
Rushton, T.	Lilley, T. H.	Moore, T. J.	

H.M. SERVICES.

Furness, H. W.	Houghton, R. W.	Chalkley, E.	Smedley, K. J.
Bellis, J. S.	Anderson, S. E.	Boyce, A. T.	Strickland, W. J.
Goodger, G.	Morris, C.	Evans, R. H. W.	Colenso, R.
Barker, K. W.	Wanstall, N.	Croxtan, T. R.	Clark, R. A.
Chalkley, K.	Fenner, W. R.	Russell, E. R.	
Holland, J. W.	Barker, J.	Fallon, J.	

HOLY ORDERS.

Rev. W. S. Brownless, Vicar of St. John's, Moulsham.	Rev. H. S. Bally, Vicar of Needham, Norfolk.
Rev. A. G. Lee, Vicar of Rawten-stall, Lancs.	

NONCONFORMIST MINISTRY.

Rev. J. I. Cripps, General Superintendent. West Midland Baptist Union.	Rev. I. R. M. Latto, Missionary in China.
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INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTS AND PHYSICISTS.

Partington, H.	Reid, E. H.	McLeod, H. G.	Mackay, K. F.
Speight, T.	Fairclough, G. H.	Blair, T. W.	Malley, D. G.
Holland, C.	Boyd, A.	Cumming, W.	Byron, F. E.
Todd, A. N.	Patron, F. E.	Jones, T. M.	Ramsay, M. W.
Wolfe, W.	Powers, W.	Shannon, G.	Kerr, R.
Lavine, J. R.	Walley, G.	Broadhurst, J. W.	Taylor, L. J.
Smith, A.	Wood, B. V.	Hewson, L.	Whiteside, W. C.
Longman, G. F.	Gridgeman, N.	Taylor, E.	Foster, C. A. M.
Sleep, W. H.	Ovens, G. V.	Dewhirst, R. E.	Jenkins, C. N.
Symons, W. P.	Green, T. H. H.	Robinson, J. N.	Roberts, R. H.
Duke, R. H.	Benson, C. W.	Williams, M. A.	Bridge, W.
Jones, T. L.	Elton, S.	Bozier, H. J.	Stanley, V. A.
Leyland, L. A.	Hughes, L.	Fannon, H.	Mackinder, R.
McKechnie, R.	Jones, H. M.	Pemberton, J.	Mansel, G. F. J.

Norris, S.	ShIPLEY, N. D. H.	Kendrick, W. H.	Halliday, J. A.
Fisher, G. R.	Miller, F. L.	Nava, H. A.	Fore, T. E.
Roberts, H. G.	Rees, W. N.	Lowson, G. C.	Shaw, T. W. A. S.
Kehoe, C.	Shaw, C. A.	Evans, J. F. R.	Cutbill, L. J.
Nichols, F. J.	Pott, F. R.	Davies, W.	Bowen, I.
Nichols, J. E.			

LAW.

Allen, S. Schofield, LL.B., Barrister-at-Law.	Almond, J. P., Solicitor.
Parry, J. Idris, M.A. (Oxon), Barrister-at-Law.	Bennett, W. A., Solicitor.
Gradwell, L., M.A., Barrister-at-Law.	Jones, O. W., Solicitor.
Pappworth, A. D., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law.	Willis, S. C., LL.B., Solicitor.
Waterhouse, K., Barrister-at-Law.	Berkson, L., LL.B., Solicitor.
Malley, G. E., LL.M., Solicitor, Deputy Town Clerk, Bootle.	Highet, R. T., Solicitor.
Wilson, J. P., Solicitor, Borough Justices' Clerk, Wallasey.	Rees, A., Solicitor.
Collinson, J.	Stockton, E., Solicitor.
Blair, J. A.	Bradley, N., Solicitor.
	Heapey, H., Solicitor.
	Dodd, S., Solicitor.
	Williams, F. C., Deputy Borough Justices' Clerk, Birkenhead.
	Jones, G. W., Solicitor.
	Crowhurst, J. K.
	Eyton-Jones, A. P.
	Simpson, P. P.
	Mortimer, K.

MEDICINE.

H. Cohen, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond), F.R.S.M., F.I.S.Ch. (Hon.); Professor of Medicine, University of Liverpool.	I. Harris, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool).
J. F. Galloway, M.D. (Liverpool), M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)	J. W. Pickup, M.D., D.P.H. (Liverpool).
J. R. Dickinson, M.B., Ch.B. (Cantab).	G. C. Tweedie, M.B., Ch.B.
H. J. Partington, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool).	H. Angelman, M.B., Ch.B.
H. L. Davies, M.B., Ch.B., M.Ch. Orth. Liverpool, F.R.C.S.	A. H. Williams, M.B., Ch.B.
M. H. Pappworth, M.D. (Liverpool).	R. H. Roberts, M.B., Ch.B.
S. Pappworth, M.Ch. Orth. (Liverpool).	N. Bradley, M.B., Ch.B.
	T. Heapy, M.B., Ch.B.
	R. M. Galloway, M.D. (Edin.), M.O.H. Bolton Co. Borough.
	T. Martley, M.B., Ch.B.
	J. H. D. Wetherell, M.B., Ch.B.

At Liverpool University:

W. W. Aslett.	H. O. M. Bryant.
R. T. Davies.	G. A. Wetherell.
M. Makin.	K. B. Thomas.

MUSIC.

Jarvis, C. E., Mus.Doc. (Manchester). Coffey, C., L.R.A.M.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION.

Cottier, T. L.	Abbott, J.	Gaulter, J.	Tweedle, F.
Mundy, R.	Furniss, R. W.	Arthur, N.	Woolman, W. J.
Mills, L. T.	Laird, W. D.	Craig, E. S.	Hardie, J. G.
Jones, F. S.	Dutton, T. S.	Hughes, D. G.	Astley, T. G.
Malley, G. E.	Thomas, R. D.	Miller, K. G.	Macklin, L. O.
Ambler, R.	Horne, A. C.	Povall, H.	Tomlinson, J.
Hughes, A.	Rigby, D.	Bell, J.	Bell, G. R.
Cowan, L.	Lockey, R. B.	Barker, C. R.	Moore, S.
Marchant, S.	Grundy, W. G.	Lunn, C. A.	Bell, K.
Swan, J. C.	Ashton, D. K.	Ward, H. L.	Waller, L. V.

Kennedy, W. F.	Collins, —.	Phoenix, F. D.	Connell, E. A.
McDonald, —.	Allan, J. W.	Turnball, J. H.	Hosker, N. E.
Thornton, J. D. B.	Hempsall, G.	Evans, H. B.	Maxwell, K.
Galt, A.	McFarlane, A. P.	Titchmarsh, H. S.	
Williams, A.	Ashton, D. K.	Goodwin, L.	

SCHOLASTIC PROFESSION.

Barr, J. G.	Ellis, A. W., B.A.	Loxham, R. C., B.Sc.
Smallpage, E., M.A.	Calloway, C., B.Sc.	Price, H., M.A.
Gaughan, H. R., B.A.	Croft, R., B.Sc.	Heys, T. H., B.A.
Smallpage, P., M.A.	Piggott, J. W., B.Sc.	Richards, L., B.Sc.
Colquhoun, G., M.A.	Wright, G. W. D., B.Sc.	Evans, L., B.Sc.
Richardson, S. Y., B.A.	Alldis, J. H., B.A.	Farragher, L. C., B.Sc.
Farragher, H. G., B.A.	Hastings, W., B. A.	Weston, G. H., B.Sc.
Galloway, I. A., B.A.	Humphreys, A. V., B.A.	Wilson, G. G.
Ramsay, A. G., B.Sc.	Blackwood, R., B.Sc.	Cottier, W. L., M.Sc., B. Com.
Byron, F. E., Ph. D.	Clark, G., B.Sc.	
Fearon, W., B.Sc.	Broadfoot, R. F., B.A.	McIntyre, W. B. S.
Hughes, R. E., B.A.	Wood, J., B.A.	Lockyer, G. R.
Low, A. J., M.Sc.	Clarkson, L. S., M.Sc.	Jones, R. H.
Hunter, J., B.A.	Jones, H. W., B.Sc.	Shanassey, H.
Pedre, G. R., B.A.	Jellicoe, G., B.A.	Almond, W. C.
Sykes, E. C., B.A.	Walker, K. W., B.A.	Christian, H.
Roberts, E., B.A.	Coglan, L., B.A.	Pattan, I. R.
Reade, J. H., B.Sc.	Magee, D., B.A.	Faulder, H. C.
Lane, E. V.		

SHIPPING.

Archibald, D.	Cannell, L. H.	Billing, J. A.	Cocker, T.
Tayle, T. W.	Macrae, J. D.	Mantle, W. J.	Sampson, J. D.
Dillow, H. D.	Dailey, R. H.	Perry, A. S.	Rogers, H. E.
McCauld, G.	Worsley, D. A.	Wall, R. D.	Yates, A.
Inglis, J. M.	Turner, W. J.	Richardson, N. V.	Elliot, C. H.
McKechnie, W.	Gill, G. R.	Caruth, A.	Roberts, A. D.
Malley, J. P.	Hardie, H. N.	Jones, H. G.	Matthews, F. J.
Harrison, J. B.	Hutchison, J. L.	Leatham, A. K.	Montgomery, —.
Ebbrell, J. B.	Gregory, T. G.	Whitehead, F.	Owen, J. T.
Jones, G. G.	McCullagh, E. T.	Randles, G. E.	Parry, J. H.
Smart, C. A.	Telford, T. H.	Grierson, —.	Mackintosh, W. A.
Honey, R.	Burgess, C. D.	Maddocks, R. A.	Stuart Brown, C. H.
Pinch, J. J.	Fulton, A. G.	Miller, F. W.	Gallagher, L. H.
Bruce, D. S.	Preston, A. E.	Wild, J. A.	Jones, P. H.
Dodd, S.	Hawkes, —.	Chantler, D. A.	Peers, R. T.
Child, T. G.	Owen, E.	Richards, G. N.	Wood, I. L.
Beever, J. L.	Scott, R.	Morris, L. C. D.	Allen, W. J.
Hughes, A. J.	Hutchinson, J. W.	Jones, W. J.	Mason, W. J.
Bradley, A. M.	Hutchinson, J. S.	Mason, F. A.	Tressider, W. A.
Furieux, R.	Benyon, G. S.	Richards, P. T.	Beer, E. A.
MacFarlane, D. T.	Burgess, F. A.	Owen, D.	
Honey, S. P.	Jones, W. C.	Tong, H. B.	
Ashford, H. W.	Southern, F. A.	Moffat, J. S.	
Bryan, W. B. R.	Clark, R.	James, C.	

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS.

Cohen, Dr. Henry,	Professor of Medicine, Univ. of Liverpool.	Wood, R. E., M.Sc., Lecturer, Borough Road College, London.
Hughes, E. A.	Moelwyn, D.Phil., D.Sc., Lecturer Christ's College, Cambridge.	Bowen, C., M.A., Lecturer, Univ. of Glasgow.
Belton, Dr. J. W.,	Univ. of Sheffield.	Jones, G. P., Litt.D., Lecturer in History, Univ. of Sheffield.

Salvete

IIIa.

ATKIN:—Chinery, B. R.; Shepherd, L. A.

Prep.:—

STITT:—Foster, B.; Jones, G. G.; Wallis, J. L. WESTMINSTER:—
Ostler, G. R.

Valete

UPPER VIa.

STITT:—

Bawden, H. R., *Headmaster's Prefect*; 1st XI. Cricket 1937-8; *Colours* 1938; *Sub-Ed. of Visor*; *Secretary of Lit. and Deb. Society*; *Matric.* 1937; *Letters of Success* 1938; *Westminster Scholarship*; *Committee of Dramatic Society*; *Victor Ludorum* 1938.

WESTMINSTER:—

Moyes, T., *Prefect*; *Atkin Scholarship*; *Secretary League of Nations Union*; *Matric.* 1937; *Letters of Success* 1938.

UPPER VIb.

TATE:—

Hirst, E. W., *Sc. Certif.* 1938; *Sub. Ed. of Visor*.

WESTMINSTER:—

Harris, I. D., *Prefect*; *House Captain*; *S.C.* 1938; *Westminster Scholarship*; *Committee of Literary and Debating Society*.

Norton, T., *Sc. Certif.* 1938.

VIa.

TATE:—

Gullan, J. N., *Prefect*; *Capt.* 1st XV. 1938-9; *Colours* 1938; 1st XI. *Colours* 1938; *Captain of Games*; *House Captain*; *Captain Table Tennis Club*.

VIb.

ATKIN:—

Chalkley, H. R.

IVb.

ATKIN.

Keymer, H. G.

Speech Day

THE annual Speech Day and prize distribution took place in the Town Hall on Friday, March 31st, at 8 p.m. We were honoured by the presence of His Worship the Mayor (Alderman H. Deverill), who presided, and the Mayoress. The Headmaster presented his report, which contained many interesting references to the history of the School and to the achievements of some of our old boys, as they are recorded elsewhere in this issue. He was followed by the Chairman of the Governors, Alderman G. A. Solly, who in a characteristic speech explained to his hearers some of the difficulties he had to overcome in 1907 when the School was taken over by Birkenhead. The principal speaker of the evening was Dr. David, Lord Bishop

of Liverpool, who charmed his audience by the combined clarity, humour, and appositeness of his address. We should like to think that the whole School had taken to heart that portion of Dr. David's speech in which he said that when headmaster of a public school he had discovered the three most important things expected of a boy by a prospective employer:—first, ability to express oneself clearly and to write legibly; second, willingness to work hard; and, thirdly, courage to confess one's mistakes. Concluding, His Lordship referred to the troubled times in which we live, and said that the future of democracy would be decided in the schools, but that he had no fear of the issue of the fight if all were willing to make for peace the same effort and the same sacrifice as if the country were actually at war.

PROGRAMME.

1. School "Battle Song."
Words by Julia Ward Howe, Music by Martin Shaw.
 ("Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.")

ADDRESS BY THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN H. DEVERILL).

2. 3rd and 4th Forms "Come, let us all this day."
Words by Dr. Troutbeck, Music by J. S. Bach.
 School "Glad that I live am I."
Words by L. W. Reese, Music by Geoffrey Shaw.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE YEAR 1937-38 BY THE HEADMASTER.

3. School "All things are Thine."
Words by J. G. Whittier, Music by D. MacMahon.

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNORS (ALDERMAN G. A. SOLLY, J.P.)

4. 3rd and 4th Forms "The Trees in England."
Words by Walter de la Mare, Music by Charles Wood.
 "I'd like to sail to Mandalay."
Words by W. Monk, Music by U. Greville.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES AND ADDRESS

5. School "Service."
Words by J. G. Whittier, Music by Alec Rowley.

VOTE OF THANKS.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.



START OF JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY RACE, 1933.

Photo by CULL.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES.

- Boys neither late nor absent for two years**—Amass, S. J., Boyd, W. T., Malcolm, L. T., Sarginson, J. R., Smith, A. E., Tarpey, L., Williams, J.
- Boys neither late nor absent for three years**—Bryden, J. W., Brunning, R., Coathup, L. S., Darlington, O., Edge, E. N., Hughes, G., Roberts, M. H., Tressider, W. S.
- Boys neither late nor absent for four years**—Harris, I. D., Milne, W. D., Williams, E.
- Boy neither late nor absent for five years**—Forshaw, M. D.
- Boy neither late nor absent for six years**—Bragger, P.

EXAMINATION SUCCESS.

- Civil Service Examination**—Bawden, H. R., Bell, K., Edelman, J., Garry, W. N., Jones, E. G., McDonald, A. P., Robinson, R. S., Williams, W. S.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS.

- University of Liverpool—Birkenhead Borough Scholarship**—Edwards, G. R.

INTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

- Henry Tate £10**—Pearson, J. F., Roberts, I., Roberts, F. G., Roberts, R. D.
- Duke of Westminster £5**—Davies, R. H., Forshaw, M. D., Grice, H. C., Harris, I. D., Thompson, C. N., Williams, E.
- Atkin £5**—Badcock, G. G., Davies, A.

PRIZE LIST.

- Form IIIj**—1, Peers, F. G.; 2, Peever, B. H.; 3, Heaps, G.
- Form IIIb**—1, Watkins, I. M.; 2, Haughton, A. P.; 3, Skelsey, P. B.
- Form IIIa**—1, Taylor, G. P.; 2, Ball, T. C.; 3, Howlett, W. F., Tressider, G. R. A.
- Form IVj**—1, Malcolm, L. T.; 2, Amass, S. J.; 3, Scully, J. L.
- Form IVb**—1, Baker, S.; 2, Wynne, P.
- Form IVa**—1, Brecknell, K. M.; 2, Gaskell, K.; 3, Harris, R. G., Parton, P. E.
- Form Vj**—1, Ferguson, T. L.; 2, Hayward, A. B.; 3, Roberts, M. H.
- Form V Lr**—1, Hughes, F. G.; 2, Woodward, G. F.; 3, Sudworth, J. F.
- Form Rem. Lr**—1, Fallows, L. S.; 2, Roberts, V. H.; 3, Clarke, L. F.
- Form Rem. A.**—1, Foxcroft, G. E.; 2, Bryden, J. W.; 3, Proudman, H. G., Liversage, W. E.
- Form Rem. J**—1, Howell, R. H.; 2, Badcock, G. G.; 3, Seavell, A. J.
- Form VIb**—1, Kavanagh, P.; 2, Hirst, J. D.; 3, Hallam, H. R.
- Form VIa**—1, Harris, I. D.; 2, Pearson, J. F.; 3, Thompson, C. N.
- Form VIs**—1, Bell, K.; 2, Cooper, C. W.; 3, Williams, E.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

- German**—Edelman, J. **Geography**—Edwards, G. R. **French**—Roberts, R. D.
- History**—Roberts, I. **Chemistry**—Moyes, T. **Drawing (Senior)**—Williams, E. (Junior)—Bartlett, J. T.
- Solly History Prize**—Edwards, G. R. **Headmaster's Prize**—Edwards, G. R.
- The George Holt Prizes: Physics**—Sarginson, J. R. **Mathematics**—Sarginson, J. R. **Chemistry**—Forsythe, G. A.
- Connacher Memorial Prize for English**—Edwards, G. R.
- Old Boys' Prizes**—Kennedy, A. D., Grice, H. C., Hamilton, W. K., Hughes, V. R., Roberts, F. G., Thomas, G. A., Vincent, K. I. C.
- Medals for Drill and Gymnastics (Champion Four)**—Edelman, J., Frowe, E. L., Grice, H. C., Smith, G. S.
- Free Exercise Medal (Presented by Mr. Clague)**—Sparrow, L. D. M.
- Colour Caps: Cricket**—Bolton, T. G., Bawden, H. R., Griffith, C. E., Gullan, J. N.; **Football**—Clarke, L. F., Fallows, L. S., Griffith, C. E., Creswell, F. L., Smith, G. S., Smith, J. N., Young, B. A.

Silver Cup for Games—(Senior) Clarke, L. F.; (Junior) Huntriss, S. B.
Cross Country Run—(Senior) Weir, A. R. M.; (Junior) Clarke, L. F.
Victor Ludorum—(Senior) Bawden, H. R.; (Junior) Bartlett, J. T.
Swimming Championship—Sarginson, J. R.
House Trophies—Athletics—Westminster; Swimming—Atkin; Football—Westminster; Cricket—Stitt; Coronation Cup (Champion House)—Stitt.

Presentation to Mr. Solly

ON the morning of Friday, March 24th, Alderman G. A. Solly, the Chairman of Governors, paid yet another visit to the School, on this occasion as the recipient of a framed and inscribed photograph of himself, a mark of appreciation of his thirty odd years' service as a Governor.

The presentation took place in the gym., and the Headmaster opened the proceedings by outlining the part played by Mr. Solly in the life of the School. The Headmaster mentioned many acts of generosity on Mr. Solly's part, including his contribution to the School War Memorial, and endowment of the Solly History Prize.

The Head Prefect, I. Roberts, representing the School, made a short speech, stating that every boy had contributed towards the cost of the photograph, which he then presented to Mr. Solly.

In his reply, Alderman Solly dwelt on the attachment he felt for the boys of the Institute. His official duties as Chairman of Governors had in the course of time become a pleasure. He then handed the photograph to the School, with the request that it be hung in the building. The Headmaster replied that it would be hung in his own study, until the School was furnished with a new Library.

University Letters

THE COLLEGE,
CHESTER.

8th March, 1939.

To the Editor of *The Visor*.

Sir,

Reading through your last Editorial, I am informed that "it is not hard to write a *Visor* article." Interesting, but I'm afraid it doesn't conform to my experience. Several things are necessary for the completion of such a task—time, a cultivated

mind, and—just as important in this particular—writing materials. For days, I have not been able to spare the time; when I could, I found myself without the wherewithal to write, and at the time of writing, dear Editor, I find myself with a mind as barren as the deserts of Kobi. But notice the ever present skill which has enabled me to proceed thus far without the slightest effort.

This term, the College celebrated its hundredth year of active life. On January 25th, Founder's Day, a Commemoration Service was conducted by the Principal, the Rev. Stanley Astbury, and an address was given by the Bishop of Chester. Immediately afterwards the Mayor of Chester laid the foundation stone of the new College Gymnasium which is being erected, and also opened the new Crafts Block. The visitors were then entertained to lunch and in the evening the students took a more active part in the proceedings by partaking of a sumptuous repast and afterwards repairing to the Royalty Theatre for some light entertainment. Altogether an enjoyable day in the life of the College, but unfortunately centenaries only occur once every hundred years (higher mathematics).

On February 11th, we held our annual Rag Day, during which gaily attired students raided the pockets of Chester citizens from early morning until dusk. The results of our labours were very encouraging, and I'm sure everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Having proceeded so far in my letter, I again find myself so short of material that the deserts of Kobi seem flowing with milk and honey compared with my present state of mind. But even whilst saying this I am continually adding to the length of my letter, much to the reader's displeasure and the writer's satisfaction. Note how the obvious "three words to a line" method of composition prevalent in the third form has given way to the subtle artifices of the 'educated man,' and never more question the necessity for formal education in the schools of the land.

"But enough of these toys," I must now apply myself to work of a more serious nature. I can hear the supper bell ringing now.

Yours, etc.,

W. K. HAMILTON.

ST. LUKE'S COLLEGE,
EXETER.

To the Editor of *The Visor*.

7th March, 1939.

Sir,

The tinkling of an alarm clock at 7-15 a.m. warned me once again that the busiest day of the week had dawned. At 12-45 p.m. I downed tools at the end of my fourth lecture thinking that I was now free for a couple of hours at least. Alack! I was handed a letter, which owing to its scanty address had taken three days of travel in order to reach me on my busiest day. It demanded, of course, a university letter by return. I had still three lectures to face, but was I daunted?

I should explain that the theme around which our thoughts revolve this term is WORK, and the experience gained in its study from every possible angle has been so varied and valuable, that to meet an emergency demand such as this last minute appeal from an editor, who clearly has no system and no schedule, is the merest routine.

Work takes many forms. The term began with a week of examinations, the lowest form known to science. Then, with only a day or two to recover in, came the University College Rag day, a very strenuous form, in which our share is happily limited to our annual match with University College, for an obscure reason known as *Lucae versus* the Rams. This is an old Exeter custom, and the match is played according to the rules of Rugger, Soccer, and Hockey in rotation, and in that order.

Work is also done at various meetings held regularly throughout the term—regularity is the secret—such as lectures on interesting subjects by persons other than members of the staff, mock trials, concerts, and—most laborious—a dance.

A short break for half-term, and we resumed with the Archbishop's Examination in Religious Knowledge. Thus it goes on until term ends. Wishing you all a good holiday, and some real weather for the summer term.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR T. COOK.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE,
UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

To the Editor of *The Visor*.

Sir,

I dislike writing university letters for two reasons. Firstly, in theory, one should exhibit considerable literary ability. I have no literary qualifications whatsoever. Secondly, in practice, one recognises the inadequacy of one's pen and invariably reiterates the feeblest tittle-tattle of the last half century in order to fill the conventional two sheets of paper. Now you know I refuse to be quite conventional; therefore I prefer to write on subjects near my heart: Art and Education.

You will perhaps remember two youthful artists several years ago—gentlemen of the names of Gill and Keats. They are now veritable "big shots" in the Liverpool School of Art. But can you recall offhand even one other person from the B.I. who has ever risen to any real artistic fame? It seems that in this school there is a blight upon all art. As a whole we do not take it seriously. That is not the fault of the art master. Believe me, no one can *teach* art. To teach an emotion is impossible; to train it is just within the bounds of possibility.

There is this initial disadvantage in school life; real expression of all but the basest emotions is denied to all children above five years of age; this for some curious psychological reason which we shall not here investigate. No one man can be expected to stamp out such a gigantic repression, but there is this point—twenty-five men might. Surely the object of education is to open the eyes of the child to itself, and surely no process of self-realisation is so direct and so complete as the practice of art.

You notice art is assumed to be expression, whether it be audible, visual, or tactile, fluid or plastic, monumental or mobile. This, then, is my first contention, that education is vastly encouraged by artistic expression. To some extent, therefore, art and education are synonymous; there are nevertheless differences. One is purely an emotion, the other a combination of reason and instinct. One has a purpose, and the other has not; one fits man for living, and the other is living. One is a violent stimulant and has an ultimate satisfaction; the other is not and has not. For this last reason, if for nothing

else, it seems to me that creation is more important than learning. I do not say it is more influential in the present day world, because to-day real creation is a thing almost forgotten.

Before we proceed further perhaps a definition of creative art is due. Now art is not the representational drawing of jam-jars or geraniums. One does that merely in order to acquire sufficient technical skill to express properly what one *feels*. Similarly one learns to write and paint and sculpt and play a musical instrument before one does any of these things. This process of conscious education is not fundamentally necessary—it is a time-saving expedient. It might be much better for us to learn everything ourselves; it would conceivably lead to a more intelligent culture.

Therefore, my second postulate is that technical skill is not art, and that art education is only a preliminary to art itself. I can honestly say that there is a man who instructs me now who is undoubtedly one of the greatest painters the world has ever seen—but he is no artist, and never will be.

It does not follow from this that all realistic sculpture is necessarily not art—or impressionist painting, which consciously strives for realistic effect without the use of true forms and colours. Nor do I say that all pure “abstraction” or pattern-making is art—or for that matter the much maligned surrealism. I am sceptical of them all. This, the result of education, is unfortunate for art, because it disturbs faith, which is bad for the soul but strangely healthy for the mind.

Art is sincerity; if there is no depth of feeling and conviction, then there is, I believe, no art. For my own part it has taken me twenty years to produce four works of art, one plaster cast and three tiny drawings on cheap scraps of paper. To me there is great significance in this last fact. I took no care over them; one I even did half upside down before I *became aware* I was doing something worth while. Real expression would appear to be primarily unconscious. It is not connected with craftsmanship.

This act of *becoming aware* of oneself is one of the most absorbing and stimulating affairs that can happen to any mortal. I have tried to prove it is open to everybody; it is art and education.

Thus, I conclude with an exhortation to all and sundry to take their art seriously. One gets a most terrific kick out of

expressing oneself when one is no longer ashamed to do so. Surely education can protect freedom from licence. Once you can just rid yourselves of that hideous complex of emotionless sophistication, you can have psychoanalysis as a pastime and self-education, and more, you will enjoy the stimulus of creating art for the sake of both yourself and your art.

Yours, etc.,

I. S. MELVILLE.

JESUS COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

11th March, 1939.

To the Editor of *The Visor*.

Sir,

This term I can give you little news! for if anything has happened, I have been too much of a recluse to notice it. Early in the term the rain-god showered his gifts upon us, and we even had snow, to the immense delight of the little southerners who seldom see it. But with the thaw Oxford became a second Venice among placid lagoons. The Port Meadow, where the bloods go a-riding, became a vast lake frequented by herons. Here and there goalposts protruded pathetically from football pitches. Cabbages peeped out from watery allotments, and undergraduates, put down for football matches, took mudbaths instead, and were inordinately happy.

Oxford is not one city, but many—though no longer divided against itself, since 'Town and Gown' is practically a thing of the past. The Oxford of the waterways is a dreary land, fringed with willows and workshops. Here, as in Birkenhead, there are Georgian buildings which were once bravely bourgeois, but have now bumped down the social scale. The electrical industries, printing works, brick and tile works, still line the water's edge, but now only a few coal barges float past.

Academic Oxford radiates from the centre of the town, and is a haphazard jumble of grave, gray Portland stone buildings, somewhat blurred at the edges by time, but mellow and soothing to the eye; of shops which for expensiveness vie with Savile Row or Bond Street or Princes Street—shops which supply the canary pullovers and gorgeous plumage of the

undergraduate; of parks and gardens which are the finest in England, and through which flows the Cherwell with its pussy-willows and punts and pretty girls. Even in early March the town houses have their pink almond blossom and the country its wild flowers.

Then there is Cowley—relatively new, very prosperous, the creation of a twentieth century baron, just as its older neighbour was the work of many others: kings, queens, noblemen, titled brigands. Lord Nuffield was shown round the School of Geography only this morning. (Unfortunately our new Lecture Hall is already built and paid for!) The new Bodleian Library, a gift from Lord Nuffield, has had a mushroom growth. Let us imagine a learned graybeard who has just emerged from his winter sleep in the old Bodleian. He blinks and looks for Blackwell's bookshop near the corner; instead of the old annexe a huge new yellow building confronts him. Overcome, he quietly passes out. Just now among its quiet and courtly neighbours the building looks a little blatant and parvenu. But no doubt Father Time will take a hand, and wear off the edges and the brightness.

This, then, is the environment. To-day Oxford geographers flout those Americans who would have man a mere serf, a creature of his environment. But the irony is this, that nowhere is a man more a creature of his environment than in Oxford. Even the preliminary examinations have more of tradition than of reason in them. A geographer has either to plunge himself into Constitutional History and Latin, or else to dissect rabbits and earthworms, and laboriously re-learn all the chemistry and physics he so cheerfully forgot on leaving matric. behind. And he does those exams. in funeral dress, adorned with cap and gown. Once settled down, the undergraduate finds himself held in thrall by a traditional triad: lecture, tutorial, and essay. The first is unanimously voted a waste of time, or at best, a harmless way of spending an odd hour. Stephen Leacock describes the tutorial well as a means of *smoking* a candidate into a degree. The tutor sits and smokes, and bleeds inwardly while listening to an essay which he has heard a hundred times, cribbed every time from the same books. The undergraduate, however, considers the essay a device invented to keep him away from the pictures, or off the football field.

PREFECTS, 1933-4.



J. N. Slinn,
F. N. Laver,

F. Richards,
L. Cogan,

A. Cathcart,
K. Walker,

D. Boggie,
W. D. Christian,

J. Broadhurst,
L. Evans,

Photo by CULL.
G. Weston,
T. W. Goodwin.

At night there are the societies—as many societies as rats in Hamelin town, from the flourishing Labour Club to an imperialist society which became defunct through lack of funds; and from the sober Baptists to the convivial Elizabethan Society of Jesus College. Foodships to Spain, medical supplies to China, vituperation of Chamberlain and the umbrella aegis: nothing lies beyond the scope of these societies, and nothing stops their secretaries, avid for half-crowns. And so, Mr. Editor, in my third year I find that I too, despite a hard struggle, have become a creature of this charming if somewhat archaic environment. What I am to do when I leave it is unthinkable. It will be like being uprooted, and the process of transplantation is not a pleasant one.

But this I can say—it has been great fun, and I wish I could have my time here all over again, and all over again after that. And above all I am grateful to the School which made it possible.

Yours sincerely,

D. KINNEAR.

Crossword No. 18

PRIZE awarded to G. Foxcroft, VIa.

SOLUTION.

ACROSS.

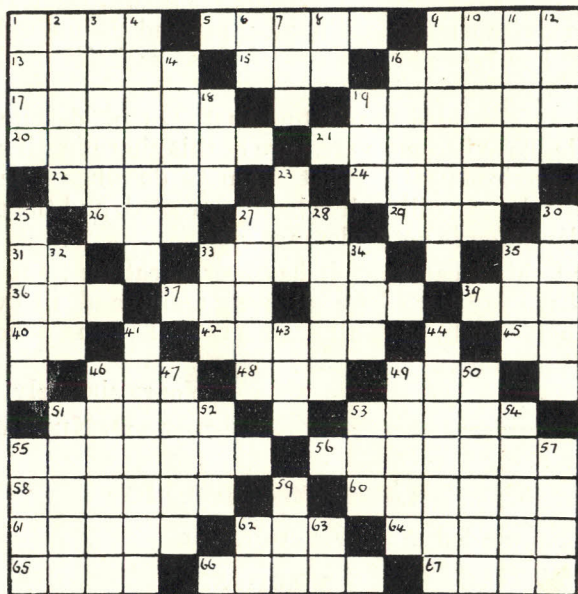
- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Tare. | 22. Sense. | 38. Ivy. | 58. Revolt. |
| 5. Shame. | 24. Rates. | 39. Fun. | 60. Dative. |
| 9. Hate. | 26(rev.) Ear. | 42. Ozone. | 61(rev.) Swede. |
| 13. Orate. | 27. Fib. | 46. Set. | 62. Mad. |
| 15. Ore. | 29. Les. | 48. Elk. | 64. Yodel. |
| 16. Solos. | 31 & 40. Hops. | 49. Mab. | 65. Weds. |
| 17. Lepers. | 33. Fugle. | 51. Salon. | 66. Label. |
| 19. Fillip. | 35 & 45. Bank. | 53. Panel. | 67. Rent. |
| 20. Lairage. | 36. Out. | 55. Bullies. | |
| 21. Fussily. | 37. Car. | 56. Politic. | |

DOWN.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Toll. | 14. Erase. | 32. —ous. | 50. Betide. |
| 2. Areas. | 16. Sisal. | 33.(rev.) Oaf. | 52. Net. |
| 3. Rapier. | 18 (with vowel of | 34. Eve. | 53. Pod. |
| 4. Eternal. | 37). Sage. | 35. Bun. | 54. Liven. |
| 6 & 8. Home. | 19. Fur. | 41. Fellows. | 55. Brew. |
| 7. Art. | 23. Dig. | 43. Old. | 57. Celt. |
| 9. Holster. | 25. Shops. | 44. Janitor. | 59. Lab. |
| 10. Allies. | 27. Furze. | 46. Salved. | 62 & 63. Made. |
| 11. Toils. | 28. Blink. | 47. Toils. | |
| 12. Espy. | 30. Lanky. | 49. Malay. | |

Crossword No. 19

A book will be awarded for the first correct solution received by Mr. Hall.







CLUES.

ACROSS.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Gaelic. | 37. Murmur continuously. |
| 5. This Magazine. | 38. Young fellow. |
| 9. Name. | 39. Sorrowful. |
| 13. Lists of persons acting in rota-
tion. | 42. In dirty or untidy state. |
| 15. Rocky hill-top. | 46. Vehicle. |
| 16. Prevailing craze. | 48. Belongs to the old school. |
| 17. Settles for sleep. | 49. Grant use of (with unchecked
letter of 44 down). |
| 19. Units of weight for precious
stones. | 51. Wife of Abraham. |
| 20. Rank of life. | 53. Explosive charges placed ready
to go off. |
| 21. Utter rout. | 55. More remote. |
| 22. Saturate. | 56. Consecrated. |
| 24. Clown in 'Twelfth Night.' | 58. Smoother. |
| 26. Male children (with vowel of 7). | 60. Iota. |
| 27. Soft outdoor headdress. | 61. Demeter. |
| 29 & 45 (rev.) Reckoned by the sun. | 63. Coarse fabric of plaited fibre. |
| 31 & 40. The same word. | 64. Little wooded hollows. |
| 33. Emperor of Delhi. | 65 (rev.) Peripatetic fort. |
| 35 & 45 (rev.) Carry on one's person. | 66. Drive back. |
| 36. Went with speed. | 67. Table with sloping top. |

DOWN.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Sins. | 32. Barrier. |
| 2. Means of growth. | 33. Silent. |
| 3. Give us ermine. | 34. Ballad. |
| 4. Part of London (two words 4, 3). | 35. Hostile relations. |
| 6. Pronoun. | 41. One of lowest hereditary order. |
| 7. Male child (see 26). | 43. Keep one's seat. |
| 8. Conjunction. | 44. Indicated. |
| 9. Sunshade. | 46. Photographing apparatus. |
| 10. Ordains. | 47. Falls off in force. |
| 11. Just claim. | 49. Discoloured as by bruise. |
| 12. Rest. | 50. Stinging plant. |
| 14. Filthy dwellings. | 51. Numeral. |
| 16. Girl's name. | 52. Possessive adjective. |
| 18. Bribe. | 53. Encountered. |
| 19 (rev.) Abbreviation, <i>made</i> . | 54. Vends. |
| 23. Loose end. | 55. Cares. |
| 25. Wearies. | 57. Same as 67. |
| 27. Heavenly body. | 59. Interval. |
| 28. Throb of feeling. | 62 & 63. Measure. |
| 30. Coinlike metal disk given as reward. | |

ATKIN	STITT	TATE	W'MINSTER
			
HOUSE NOTES			

ATKIN.

THIS term Atkin has shown signs of returning to its former measure of success.

We have registered a decided improvement in rugby. We beat Stitt and drew with Westminster, but unluckily lost to Tate. In the last two games we were extremely unfortunate not to win, and we have had only 14 points scored against us in the three matches. As far as rugby is concerned, we have fourteen members in the School XV's., excluding the Bantams.

In the Cross-Country, especially in the Senior event, an unfortunate lack of support was noticeable, and the work of the conscientious supporters of the House who did run was wasted.

Our position in the mark-sheets is still low, owing to an excessive affinity for detentions in certain members of the House.

However, the House now seems to be pulling its weight, and we hope that this will continue throughout the Summer Term. K.I.C.V.

STITT.

THIS term has not been uneventful for the fortunes of Stitt House. We have been beaten three times in the Senior rugby matches, by Atkin 6—8, Westminster 0—31, and Tate 3—24. The Atkin match was a keenly contested game, and we were rather unfortunate to lose, having only eleven men. The main fault with the Senior team is our failure to field a full XV., not our inability to play rugby well. The Bantams have done well in gaining 5 points from their matches, losing to Atkin and Tate by very narrow margins. If the Senior team had obtained their usual seven points this season, instead of two, Stitt would have been level in the championship table with Tate and Westminster, not bottom. In the 1st XV. we have Milne (captain), Griffith, Ryan, V. Roberts and Schofield (Griffith this year winning his colours). These five players are to be thanked for turning out regularly in the House matches, and for this, too, we must thank F. G. Roberts.

The Cross Country results were extremely disappointing; the high standard of past years not being kept up. Only two runners, Milne and Schofield, turned out in the Senior run, and consequently Stitt simply did not count in the final placings. We congratulate Sudworth on his winning the Junior Cross Country.

However, one gleam of light has penetrated the gloom enveloping Stitt House. I understand that we have won the Coronation Cup for 1937-38. This may serve as an encouragement and a spur to future members of the House. P.A.R.

TATE.

THIS term we lost Gullan, one of the best captains we have had.

Tate is still well represented in the School XV's. Beckett, Owen, and J.N. Smith play for the 1st XV., while G. Williams, Proudman, Fisher, Shimmin, and Barnes play for the 2nd XV.

At the time of writing five House matches have been played. The Seniors have lost two, both to Westminster. The Bantams have also lost two, one to Stitt and one to Atkin.

In the mark sheets Tate have not kept up to their usual standard, this lapse being due to the fact that several boys get far too many detentions. J.N.S.

WESTMINSTER.

THIS term has been uneventful except for house matches, in which the Seniors won their games, beating Tate 8—3, and Stitt 31—0, although the latter house fielded only ten men. A certain lack of enthusiasm has been noticed lately with regard to the Bantam team, and I would remind the boys in the Thirds and Fourths that Westminster Senior team has never lost a match since the introduction of Rugger. The upholding of this fine record will depend on the Bantams in a few years time.

As usual we have a good number of players in the School teams. Clarke, Fallows, Cresswell, Young, and Beacall are in the 1st XV., while Harris, Jenks, and Powell are in the 2nd team.

According to advance information, we lost the Coronation Cup by a hairbreadth to Stitt. The deciding factor was the mark-sheets, so let this be a lesson for next year. I.D.H.

Library Notes

IF the reader of these notes seeks enlightenment on the activities of the Upper VI. during the last term, he will surely be disappointed. Such information may be gleaned from a careful scrutiny of the efforts of the writer's predecessors. In other words, Library life pursues a strikingly normal course.

Little of note has occurred, except for a somewhat alarming increase in the "stiffness" of the atmosphere. Incidentally, the much-maligned chemmy-lab. atmosphere (despite the lingering effects of phenol isocyanide) is, comparatively speaking, as a breath of fresh air after one has endured a period in the Library. When will someone learn to keep those windows open?

Owing to unforeseen financial difficulties, the Advanced Football Pools Ltd. have abandoned their scheme, which enjoyed a brief success on its introduction last term. Some attribute this fiasco to the departure of Rex.

Mention may be made of a new form of amusement, practised by Library members. This takes place soon after noon, in the Hall of the Hanging Ropes, and involves the use of a round rubber affair, which the participants attempt to propel about the hall, using their heads.

Another innovation is a peculiar variety of chess, in which certain Librarians seem of late to find much pleasure. This pastime is played on paper boards, with chessmen of crude and original design; yet it is so popular as to cause great inconvenience to those who wish to use desk-tops for their legitimate purpose. Many a stormy scene has resulted when these chess fanatics are interrupted in the middle of an absorbing game.

J.F.P.

Form Notes

VI's.

OUR contributions for this term's *Visor* included many of the usual accounts—visits to goose-grease factories, tri-cycle rides to John-o-Groats, hints to those about to be divorced, dull lectures on light, etc., as well as many verses ideal for publication in the *Visor* but for their having already appeared in such periodicals as *The Rover*. However, Owen managed to turn out some good stuff:—

WHO?

Who "lost" the new VI's. dete-sheet?
 And who by chance shot out his feet?
 Who hid the duster and the chalk,
 And made so many masters squawk?
 Who into Beechcroft for the ball
 Climbed t'other day? (He's large and tall).
 Who threw gym-shoes across the room,
 And who tried very hard to croon?
 Who said he'd lost his new hymn-book,
 And still got off an imp.? The crook!
 Who always smokes 'bout ten a day?
 "I can take it" 's what he'll say.
 Who through the window threw "Chick's" pants,
 And introduced in school some ants?
 Well, if you think it's so-and-so,
 Your pal Sid Walker wants to know.

The following was written by Docherty for the Western Brothers, and is here reproduced by their kind permission. Note the moral, hounds!

“ Oh! Where can I find a tough guy?”
The Rugger captain cried,
“ To take the place of Williams
And make a perfect side?”
For Williams, I remember,
Had suddenly fallen ill,
And now his place at scrum-half
The captain was trying to fill.
He asked a stalwart in glasses,
But his countenance was glum.
“ I’m sorry I can’t play,” he said,
“ But I’ve got a swollen gum. . . ”
The skipper went upon his way
And many a boy he tried,
But each had a good reason,
And fourteen was the strength of the side.

Here is another poem, freely translated by Vickinskano-vitch from the Russian executioner-poet, I. Chopemoff.

Something crossed the form to-day
To interrupt our labours.
At last upon my desk it lay—
An old gym-shoe, bejabers!
And so, its journey started,
Around the room it flew;
Until the sole was parted
From the rest of the tattered shoe.
But now its flight is finished,
Out of the window it went;
Once more our row is diminished
Until some such new event.

Our work this term has prevented our attending such things as the debates in the Art Room, and several of our members have had to restrict themselves to seeing only two films per week, instead of the usual four. However, Seavell managed to find time to appear in a B.B.C. spelling bee, under the pseudonym of Will Hugh Krecktmee.

One serious-minded youth actually made the suggestion that the calm state of the form, as described above, is due to the nearness of school certificate, whatever that may be; and in order to continue in a lighter vein, we give two limericks by Wolstenholme.

There was a young man named Colquhoun
Who set out to fly to the moquohoun.

But a star, sad to say,
Came the opposite way,
And finished his trip very soquhoun.

A weedy young fellow named Smith
Had muscles no tougher than pith.

So iron he ate,
To increase his weight,
And now he is only a myth.

No myth-take about it, we are good. Our last effort, by Davies (so he says) shows this:—

T.N.T.

Lots of matches,

Big Bang,

Pants need patches.

Via.

DURING the last month we have been undergoing rather a rough period, several desks being unfortunately broken. The culminating disaster was the mishap to Mr. Harris's thermometer. Needless to say a new one has been procured. There has been a dearth of limericks (some may cheer, some may weep), and we shall print only Griffiths's description of:

A VISIT TO A BOMBING SCHOOL.

After passing along a tree-lined avenue we arrived at the buildings of the bombing school. A Canadian showed us round, and we were very delighted when he allowed us to clamber into the cockpit of a Hawker Hind bomber. He then showed us the aeroplanes used for towing drogues or targets. In the parachute dépôt he demonstrated the art of packing a parachute. Some airmen unpacking bombs explained to us how the bomb sight is used, and how the bombs are fitted into the racks.



SCOUTS AND CUBS, 1934.

At the aerodrome there was a Bristol Blenheim which had crashed when landing, and a small 'monospar' which the men called 'the flying lawn-mower.' Tired but happy, and our heads full of facts and figures we should never remember, we started back for home.

Vib.

WE have no wealth of literature to offer you this term, but in view of the deep depression centred over next July, which is moving all too quickly towards us, we may perhaps be excused.

Here then is our sole effort from the well-informed pen of our Heswall naturalist, Bradshaw:—

The coming of spring is always heralded by the activities of the birds.

One of the first to nest is the rook who, in company with his mate, with whom he seems to pair off for life, can be seen building his nest in early March.

Lapwings (or peewits) are also early nesting birds, and one often sees three or four pairs to a field. Their nests however are difficult to find, for if the birds see you, they lead you away from the nests, which are only hollows in the ground containing eggs which match the soil.

Moorhens, too, are early nesting birds, and their nest is hard to find for a different reason. It is usually in a marsh or under thick overhanging bushes at the edge of a pond, and is therefore often inaccessible. When found, however, it contains from five to eight stone-coloured eggs with dark speckles on them. The moorhen is an unusual bird, for it lays two clutches of eggs with a time-interval between them so that when the second brood hatch out, the first are old enough to help to feed them.

A large clump of bushes or a small isolated wood often hides a magpie's nest, which is usually built of parts stolen from other nests, and which contains five eggs which resemble large blackbirds' eggs.

Nests built in gardens are usually those of thrushes and blackbirds, and differ only in the fact that the thrush's nest is mud-lined while the blackbird's is hair-lined.

House-sparrows, which are about the earliest nest-builders of the small birds, build in the most unusual places; in chimney pots, or under eaves of houses, or in fact anywhere they can find.

Hedge-sparrows and robins also build nests near the towns, and as a result they become very tame and cheeky. Owing to the fact that the eggs of the former are a bright sky-blue they are often stolen, but the robin's eggs are more difficult to find.

Finally, mention must be made of a bird which is often heard in the garden but rarely seen. It is the wren, a small brown bird with a characteristic tail cocked up at a sharp angle from its body. It eats caterpillars and green-fly, and can therefore be very useful in a greenhouse.

Remove j.

THIS term's contributions are rather sordid in character, being mostly composed of tragedies, either in limericks or articles.

Ferguson is responsible for these lines on the detention room:

In the room of a thousand remorses
Sits a lad, covered with blots.
On his paper he sadly draws horses,
But officially he's doing tots.

Hewitt writes about Dodd:

My pal is Dodd, a bashful chap,
Who strums upon a uke;
And every time his chord is wrong,
He blames it on the book!

We conclude with a thought-provoking article on exams. by M. H. Roberts:

EXAMINATIONS.

Trudging home through the rain, I think of all the work that is before me. To-morrow the History exam. takes place, and I have left all my revision until to-night, as I thought I should forget dates if I learned them days before. That means about sixty years to revise.

It is now six o'clock, and I settle down to my work. A knock sounds at the door. It is my friend asking if I can go to the cinema. Should I?—or should I not? There's that good film on, which I should like to see. No—yes—no. "I'm sorry, but I've got revision to do." So off he goes to two hours of enjoyment, and back I go to at least three hours of hard labour.

Snug in bed I think about what I've learnt. "Which comes first—Austerlitz or Jena? Jena isn't it? But Austerlitz comes near Tilsit—or is it Pressburg—Oh! I don't know."

Next morning we are all frantically looking up various things. "When was Lunéville?" "What happened at Fontainebleau?" "Oh! bother! Who is Danton? What are the Berlin Decrees? Why didn't I look up the causes of the July Revolution?" These are my words when I gaze, with despair in my heart, at the paper of questions.

Two days later the cry goes up "The history list is up!" Then follows a rush to the notice-board. Seeing my marks—43—I ponder . . . "Was it any use revising—or was it?"

Remove A.

WHEN the last examinations were over, although the term was not yet over, we had a few weeks of comparative leisure during which Parton and Horne could continue their study of fighting planes. Several of our chaps are of warlike turn of mind—Parry with his researches on the Maginot line, and Woodward and Gaskell with their knowledge of battle-ships. Neal, however, is turning historian, and is engaged on a history of aviation in several volumes.

Vicary would have written an article for our form notes, but modesty prevents him; he says he was afraid that the rest of the contributions would seem poor in comparison.

Bibby almost involved us in another international crisis; we cannot print the poem from his pen lest we should offend a foreign dictator. We must ask Bibby to take it off with Askey

Little's hobby is keeping budgerigars and homing pigeons, while Perry has some good advice to give about the start and finish of a sprint race. Barr has been swotting up the history of Rugby football.

Neal tells us about the first crossing of the Channel by air:—

In 1909 an English newspaper offered a prize of £1,000 to the first man to cross the Channel by air. Louis Blériot, who had recently spent thirty thousand pounds on experimental machines, determined to win the prize. Before he could assemble his 'plane, however, Hubert Latham, an Englishman, took off from the French coast. After covering seven

miles his engine failed, and he was forced into the sea. Luckily he was rescued by a French torpedo boat.

At four a.m. on July 25th, Blériot, under terrifying circumstances, took off from France, and succeeded in winning the prize. He was a sick man with a painful abscess on his foot, the result of a petrol explosion; also, his 'plane did not carry a single instrument. Blériot has the honour of first taking two passengers into the air.

Brecknell, who went to Yorkshire for his holidays—he had to walk because his motor-cycle engine broke down—writes about Whitby Abbey.

The old Abbey ruin on the East Cliff is the third church to be built on the same site. King Edwin built a small church in 630, but the first monastery was founded by St. Hilda about 656, and the present Abbey was erected about 1222.

After the dissolution of all monasteries by Henry VIII., the Abbey was plundered, and even the lead from the roof was taken and sold. Then the building was left, and anyone requiring building stone simply took it from the abbey. Farmers would shelter their cows where once the old monks used to live. As a result, in 1763 the south transept fell, part of the west end in 1794, and the lantern tower in 1830. In 1920 the owner of the Abbey gave the ruin to H.M. Office of Works to be preserved as an Ancient Monument. During the renovations many traces of the site of St. Hilda's Monastery were found. Norman remains were also discovered. During the war Whitby Abbey suffered damage from shell-fire from German cruisers, and a badly aimed shell, intended for the town, blew away the south door. At the top of the 199 steps which lead to the abbey stands a cross erected in memory of Cædmon, the father of English verse. The reason for the odd number of steps is that, had there been one more to make the two hundred, a heavy tax would have been imposed upon the church.

Now read what Ken. Gaskell has to say:—

Birkenhead will be honoured on May 3rd by the presence of the Princess Royal, who will launch the battleship, *Prince of Wales*, at Cammell Laird's shipyard. The vessel is the second biggest ship to be launched at Birkenhead, having a tonnage of 35,000, and will cost between seven and eight million pounds. Her main armaments are her guns, which do not

exceed 14-in. She will have incorporated in her design the results of recent experiments carried out by the Admiralty, with the object of discovering the best means of protection against shell-fire and aircraft bombs. The ship is likely to have a far higher speed than that which is associated with battleships in the British Navy. It is interesting to note that the battleship *Rodney*, launched in Birkenhead in 1925, has a displacement of 35,000 tons, and cost £7,000,000. *Rodney* was also launched by the Princess Royal.

Baxter, Beacall and Huntriss submit the following account of logging at *Brynbach*:

During the half-term holidays, we paid a visit, together with eleven other Scouts, to the Scout Camp at Brynbach, about six miles from Denbigh. After driving along a very bumpy lane we came to the gates, made of steel chains, weighted so that they could be lifted or lowered with ease. Their working was planned by Lord Baden Powell during his visit to the camp a year or two ago.

As we were to help with the logging, we stayed at the Convalescent Hut and did not have to bring any gear. The hut was one of the finest we had ever seen. The main room had a fire-place, while there were two bedrooms with four bunks, and two smaller ones with two bunks. There were drawers where we could put our kit.

After dinner on the first day we boarded the camp lorry and flew along the narrow lanes to where a huge tree, which had been blown down by the wind, was lying. We got to work with axes and cross-cut saws, so that on our third visit to the spot we were able to finish cutting up the branches, leaving the main trunk to be blown to pieces by dynamite. During the evening a camp officer, who had lived in Kenya, related a few of his experiences, and showed us some models made by the natives. The next day we went off after breakfast to cut wood again, and it was late when we started on the forty-three mile journey back to Birkenhead.

And now for Parry:

THE MAGINOT LINE.

The Maginot Line is a chain of subterranean fortifications along the Franco-German frontier. It extends to a length of six hundred miles, and is thirty miles in breadth. The forts along this mighty barrier are over three hundred feet deep

and are connected by long underground passages. The air is kept at a high pressure as a protective measure against gas. This high pressure produces an exhilarating effect upon the men in these forts. The normal number of men stationed there in peace time is one hundred thousand. Electric trains are to be seen running along the main underground galleries. The guns on the Maginot Line are operated from control rooms a great depth under the ground. The soldiers manning the line live one hundred feet down. Steel rails embedded in concrete are used as a protection against tanks. There is enough food, water, and equipment in the Maginot Line to withstand a siege for twelve months.

Rem. 1.

AT the beginning of this term, one of our number, Woodward by name, was promoted to Remove A, while to keep our total at 17, Couch was brought into our form. Since then Cartwright has had to look to his laurels as far as his reputation as form comedian is concerned, while between them they have created some amusing incidents.

With regard to sport, I think that it can be said we have held our own if not had a slight superiority over the other Remove forms. That is all the news for this term, and now Sudworth will tell you about the

GRAVEYARD WATCH.

Have you ever thought while you sat by the fire on a cold, dark and stormy evening in winter what it would be like to be out on the merciless ocean at such a time? If you have, you must remember it is the officers of a ship who must be pitied—especially the Second Officer. Imagine being called by the quarter-master just on mid-night when you are asleep in a cosy bunk in a nice warm cabin. He usually gives a second call just to make sure the first has been effective, and you have to trudge wearily to the bridge. Here you are given a rousing welcome by the Third Officer which you usually find more disagreeable than agreeable. It is not a pleasant experience to come into contact with someone who has just finished his extremely monotonous work, and you have to continue it. The Third gives you particulars of the speed, course, etc., and leaves you to your lonesome vigil. You are left to pace the bridge and keep your eye on the compass and automatic steering-gear. It is a strange thrill to know that you are one of the few awake on this floating city, and to know that through those

dark hours the safety of the ship depends on you. At about 2-0 a.m. you get a cup of tea which breaks the monotony for a while. Time seems to pass very slowly, and it is with tremendous relief that you hand over to the Chief Officer at 3-45 a.m. This watch the Second Officer has just completed is known as the "Grave-yard" watch, and shows that an officer's job at sea is not all honey.

Vj.

NOTHING spectacular has occurred this short term. Malcolm, as usual, is top of the marksheets and exams., while Brooks, Hale, Osborn, and Scully battle keenly for the next places. Four of our number received prizes on Speech Day, namely Malcolm, Amass, Baker, and Bartlett. The remainder of us lifted up our voices and sang.

Owing to the "nervousness" of our Fourth form opponents there has been little Rugger, but better luck in the cricket season!

Now comes a limerick from the pen of Armitage:

There was a young fellow named Wynne,
Who sat on a large drawing-pin.

He uttered a howl,
And said with a scowl

"My trousers must be very thin."

Finally, here is a poetical, yet topical, tit-bit from Dorrity:

Tranmere Rovers are a team,
A team of great renown;
Of matches they've won only six,
So now they're going down.

VI.

WE seem to have been too busy this term to write anything particularly inspired, there having been a surfeit of limericks—mainly on Rudge, favourite last rhymes being: budge, fudge and sludge.

Our aeronautical expert, Young, has compiled his:

HISTORY OF FLIGHT.

One of the first men to fly an aeroplane was the elder of the Wright brothers. He flew in a machine built by his brother and himself in 1903.

After this, aviation increased rapidly, and people took an interest in it when Blériot, the French aviator, flew the English channel; and experiments with sea planes proved successful. Year after year passed, and better machines were built. Then came the war, and aeroplanes began to be used for fighting; it was during the war that bombers were first used.

After the war, records were made and broken, when Lindberg flew the Atlantic, and Wiley Post flew round the world in just over seven days. So aviation improved, until now a German fighter is alleged to do just on 400 m.p.h. This is almost equalled by our "Supermarine Spitfire." How often when we see these modern machines speeding through the skies, do we think of that small band of pioneers who made flight possible?

IVa.

WE begin these notes with two short poetical "extracts" from Skelsey and Buckney respectively.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

We sit and write and write—and write,
But we don't get many marks!
We sit and swot nearly all the night,
And have no time for larks.
Arithmetic's rotten, Geometry's worse!
Physics—delightful? Ah! no, the reverse.

And:—

Oh Boy! The exams. are over,
And schoolboys are in clover,
But lo! 'tis not yet end of term;
We must face masters, strict and stern,
Till holidays are come once more,
Until we are free, and school is o'er.

We now pass on to a defamatory and highly libellous limerick by one Pimblett:—

There was a young fellow named Rice,
In shoes he took size seven "twice."
He was so big and tall,
He made everyone look small,
And could frighten them away like mice.

1ST XI., 1936.



Photo by CULL.

W. J. Clinton (Scorer), D. John, R. Lowson, R. Kay, G. Powl, A. R. Thacker, Esq.,
J. G. Hardie, K. Mortimer, J. F. R. Evans, R. A. King, W. Kinnear (Capt.), C. J. Montgomery, P. H. Jones.

Incidentally, we hear that Rice has been supplied with a large desk, in which he can now sleep in comfort !

Having exhausted the subject of examinations, in which, by the way, we did quite well, with the exception of a few who belong to the very select "under-twenty club," we will conclude with Heath on the subject of :—

POSTAGE STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

The first postage stamps were issued in 1840, in the reign of Queen Victoria. Sir Rowland Hill was the man who initiated the Penny Post in 1840, when there were only two values of postage stamps. These were the classic "Penny Black" and "Twopenny Blue," both of which were imperforate. The latter, to-day, is worth about £20 unused and £1 used. Until about 1854, stamps used to be cut off the sheets with scissors ; the sheets were not perforated as they are nowadays.

It was a Belgian schoolmaster who started the hobby of stamp collecting. He used to make his pupils stick stamps in their geography books, and since then it has become a very fine hobby, and, with some advanced specialists, a life-time study.

It is said that King George V. possessed a collection worth more than £100,000.

English collectors usually prefer to collect stamps of the British Empire, and some also prefer to have loose-leaf albums, because they can then arrange the stamps by countries in any order they please.

(This has just been recognised as an English homework.
—Ed.)

IVb.

HAVING ourselves become ardent supporters of the Birkenhead Junior 'Tiddlers' Association (B.J.T.A.), we extend a hearty welcome to any others who desire membership (application should be made to the president, S. Evans, Esq.), and we offer a few hints which will be found useful in the coming season :—

According to our experts the tiddling season ought to be good.

Jam-jars are to be large and of little price.

The fashion this year will be pink worms, black ones being out of date, and the best ponds will be down the Flat Lanes.

While still on the subject of aquatic pastimes, we will conclude with a poetic rendering of a well-known story, entitled

CANUTE THE CUTE.

The scene was in King Canute's court :
 The date ? I do not know.
 The courtiers were out to prove
 Who was the biggest "blow."
 "Old Canute's face would stop a clock,
 Said one, "or sour the wine."
 Another went one better, said
 "'Twould still the foaming brine."
 So they took the subway to the sea,
 Old Canute took his throne,
 And sat before the wavy sea
 Until the tide came on.
 He waited till the sad sea waves
 Were lapping at his feet,
 Then in his very loudest voice
 He bellowed out, "Retreat!"
 But as the sea still washed his feet,
 The King said, "There, I knew it!
 Me stop the sea ! You boys were wrong,
 Old Canute cannot do it."

(We hope the above is not supposed to be original. We would give the author's name, if we knew it.—Ed.)

IVj.

To open these notes we have an enlightening article by Salter on

THE EVOLUTION OF THE RAILWAY.

Throughout the centuries, men have sought for a method of transport which was both economical and cheap. Stage coaches were an early means of transport, but were not of much use in winter, for the roads of that period became impassable at that season. Then someone had the happy idea of building an 'iron way.' The first trucks were pulled by horses. Then came the real start of the history of the railways—the invention of steam power. At first the trucks were pulled by cables attached to a stationary engine, but this of course limited the distance the train could travel, and the cable

often broke, leaving the train stranded. The next step was the making of the locomotive, which was most successfully accomplished by George Stephenson. His engine, the *Rocket*, ran on the Stockton and Darlington railroad for several years. Now the locomotive has almost reached perfection through the invention of several minor details such as the injector, the water-tube boiler, and the vacuum brake. This is amply shown by the performance of the *Coronation Scot* which touched 114 m.p.h. on a trial run.

We conclude with an account of Hall's experiences in the
CHEDDAR GORGE.

One morning we started out from Bristol to go to the Cheddar Gorge. When we arrived in the Mendip hills, it began to get foggy and to rain. As we got into the gorge the fog cleared, and the rain stopped. In the gorge were a few houses, shops, a café, and some caves. First of all a guide took us round the caves, which were floodlit to show the various colours. In one part there was a great crevice where hundreds of feet below a stream flowed, and in some places the caves were flooded. The guide told us that sometimes it was possible to go through in a boat. When we came out of the caves, we were shown to a little house in which were skulls, knives, and other things, which had been discovered in the caves. We then walked down the road, bought some round Cheddar cheese, and went to the café for some refreshments. The café was very peculiar, for the roof was made of glass and was full of water in which hundreds of little gold-fish could be seen swimming about.

After going on to Glastonbury, where we saw the ruins of the "Abbot's Kitchen," we came to Wells where we visited the Cathedral and saw several curious things. We then rode back to Bristol, tired out after a wonderful day.

IIIa.

SOLVE the following by Lane :

My first is in you but not in me,
My next is in flower and also in tree,
My third is in ass but not in horse,
My fourth is in river and also in course.
My whole you will find is a period of time.
Before it elapses you'll all guess this rhyme.

Finally Cooper points out some of the

INDUSTRIES OF BIRKENHEAD.

In the last fifty years Birkenhead has increased very rapidly in both size and prosperity. Its industries are widely varied.

The most important is shipbuilding. There is a large shipbuilding yard on the Mersey, where about five thousand men are employed. With the shipbuilding industry go many associate industries such as boiler-making, plumbing, and painting.

The soap works at Port Sunlight are very extensive and among the most important in the world. Among their products are included some of the best-known soaps like Life-buoy, Sunlight, and Lux.

The flour mills are around the docks. Here the wheat is ground, and the flour is stored in silos until it is sold to the bakers.

There are many other industries of which I shall mention only two:—the manufacture of leather and of glue.

IIIb.

THE TUCK-SHOP.

Where do we dash when break begins ?

Where do we all forget our sins

By eating tea-cakes out of tins ?

The tuck-shop.

Where do we guzzle and gorge bars of choc. ?

Where are the biscuits as hard as a rock ?

Where do we often get many a shock ?

The tuck-shop.

Where do the fellows all cog their work ?

Where do some other lads often shirk ?

Where do the rest most often lurk ?

The tuck-shop.

The above is supposed to be by Hirst. Next we have a treatise by Elston entitled

HULL.

Hull is a large fishing port where the smacks come in from the fishing-grounds in the North Sea.

1ST XV., 1936-7.



Photo by CULL.

A. D. Lewis, Esq., A. J. Taylor, L. Hill, T. G. Astley, W. E. Clare, G. R. Bell, G. R. Edwards, R. Weir, D. J. Williams, Esq.,
J. Edelsten, E. G. Williams, R. C. Lowson, I. G. R. Jones (Capt.), K. Carr, L. Black, A. C. Williams,
L. S. Fallows. L. F. Clarke.

Down by the river, railways run alongside the docks and through the streets to make a connection with the main line. The station is a busy place where trains come in from, and leave for, all parts of England. Outside the station is a long line of the buses plying between the town and the villages on its outskirts. On one road there are six level-crossings which sometimes cause traffic jams.

Places of interest include the gardens, which are very pretty in the summer and contain a sixty-foot high statue.

IIIj.

PERHAPS the form has been too busy with exams. lately to worry about *Visor* contributions. Anyhow, three-quarters of it has satisfied itself with copying out a few crude jokes from such weeklies as the *Wizard*. Lamb, however, was ingenious enough to use an uncollected impot—a very original idea.

Pringle seems to know something about hedgehogs.

Hedgehogs are very interesting creatures, even if we can scarcely regard them as pets. To find a young hedgehog during the summer, go out just as darkness is approaching, and look under a hedge or a large holly-bush, and you may, if you keep quiet, detect a movement among the dead leaves. If you find one of them, spread your handkerchief on the ground, roll the hedgehog in the middle, and carry him by holding the four corners.

In a walled garden where he cannot escape, a hedgehog is useful because he will eat up pests. In the autumn he is almost certain to bury himself beneath a bush and sleep away the winter. Country people say hedgehogs are useful for clearing a kitchen of beetles and cockroaches. As food for such pets you need only provide bread and milk, made as follows:—put the bread in a large cup and pour boiling water over it. Pour away the water and turn the bread into a saucer, pouring milk over it.

Hoggins advertises a "Youth Hostel" holiday.

Last year I went on a walking holiday in Wales, staying at Youth Hostels at night. It is great fun at Youth Hostels, where you sleep in bunks; sometimes there are three on top of one another. I enjoyed climbing into the top one and trying to make my bed.

Everyone has to help with the house-work. Some wash up, some peel potatoes, others chop wood or sweep the floors. In one Hostel all the water had to be pumped up, and we all had to take our turn at it. Attached to another was a chapel, while one had once been a church itself.

II.

AMERY tells of his visit to Oulton Hall near Little Budworth.

Recently I spent an afternoon on the Oulton Park estate, where I saw the remains of Oulton Hall, which was burnt to the ground a few years ago. I was just able to distinguish several floors of the rooms, and the cellars, covered with débris, could be seen from the ground floor. In the fire a fireman and several house servants were burned to death. The present Sir Philip Egerton, instead of re-building the Hall, had the stables turned into a large house, in which his family at present lives.

The Hall is situated in the midst of a beautiful park, containing a lake. Never before had I seen so many wild animals and birds as I saw on that afternoon.

Here is a account by Garrett of his visit to a lighthouse in Bardsey Island, N. Wales.

Bardsey Island is in the open sea, three miles from land. The boatmen will take you across only when the wind is favourable, for a storm might arise, and this coast is very dangerous.

The keeper showed us round the lighthouse which guides the ships approaching Liverpool Bay. After ascending innumerable iron stairs, we reached the lantern-room, where there was a tiny oil lamp, filled with oil from a small ladle, shaped like a frying-pan. It held only about a saucer-full of oil, but this was enough to send a light about twenty miles out to sea, with the assistance of a great number of reflectors, prisms, and lenses, arranged on a carriage moved by clockwork.



THE MAIN CORRIDOR.

From a Lino-cut.

Boxing

THIS year we have had two contests against other schools, the first against Quarry Bank High School, and the second against Liverpool Institute.

In our first contest we won seven, lost three, and four were drawn. The winners were Hughes, Nugent, Kernaghan, Powell, Boston, Baird, and Roberts, V. Those who drew were Mandy; Bell, who received an accidental low punch; and Beauchamp, who had a very hard fight indeed. The losers were opposed by excellent boxers, but gave a very good account of themselves.

Our second match this term was against the strong team of Liverpool Institute who have a reputation for their boxing. But we gave a very creditable display, and although we lost the match by 9 fights to 4, we all felt satisfied with our showing. Kernaghan, Boston, Mandy, and Clarke won their fights, while others were only narrowly beaten. If the verdict in two cases had been reversed, the score of 7—6 would have given a better idea of the closeness of the contests. At the same time we have no idea of questioning the decisions given; we only wish to stress the undoubted fact that the defeat was not overwhelming.

L. CLARKE (Capt.)

V. ROBERTS (Vice-Capt.)

Cross Country Run

THE annual Cross Country Run took place on the afternoon of March 23rd, starting and finishing, as usual, at the playing field.

In the Senior event there were twenty-four entries. The first man home was W. D. Powell, whose time of 36 minutes 20 seconds was extremely good considering the strong head wind and heavy going. A few seconds behind Powell came G. Williams. Other placings were:—3, J. H. Smith; 4, W.D. Barnes; 5, R.H.Davies; 6, Schofield. House positions were:—1, Atkin, 51; 2, Westminster, 66; 3, Atkin, 74; Stitt failed to qualify.

For the Junior event there were one hundred and fourteen entries. Sudworth won with the time of 28 minutes 5 seconds. Other positions were:—2, M. H. Roberts; 3, J. H. Roberts; 4, J. Jones; 5, Bird; 6, Bragger. House placings were:—1, Westminster, 409; 2, Tate, 438; 3, Atkin, 439; 4, Stitt, 580.

Dramatic Society

ON March 28th and 29th the Society presented Shaw's *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* at Beechcroft with the following cast :

CHARACTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR APPEARANCE.

Rankin (a missionary)	R. K. WILLIAMS.
Drinkwater	J. F. BELL.
Hassan	L. M. MUIR.
Lady Cicely Waynflete	M. D. FORSHAW.
Sir Howard Hallam	K. I. C. VINCENT.
Muley	D. G. PARRY.
Marzo	P. A. RYAN.
Captain Brassbound	I. D. HARRIS.
Redbrook	L. D. M. SPARROW.
Sailors	D. G. PARRY, C. J. ROWLANDS.
Johnson	H. G. PROUDMAN.
Osman	G. ANDERSON.
Sidi el Assif	G. S. SMITH.
The Cadi	L. TARPEY.
Arab follower	S. B. HUNTRISS.
Bluejacket	E. GRIFFITH.
Captain Kearney	B. A. YOUNG.
Arabs and Sailors	E. SHIMMIN, D. DORRITY, S. THACKER.

This was a most successful performance, and showed a marked advance on the standard of the previous production. The effect with which the subtleties of Shavian satire and humour were 'put across' was striking; much was lost on Tuesday's juvenile audience, but Wednesday's more than made up in appreciation and applause what they lacked in numbers. (The Society will be well advised to choose another day next year. Saturday is Birkenhead's best night).

It is difficult to criticize where all were so good. Vincent was not quite convincing as a legal big gun; his gravity tended to become heaviness. But he sustained a long and difficult part with competence. The rôle of Brassbound was a hard one for a boy to fill, and I. D. Harris did it most creditably, though he was unavoidably absent from a number of the later rehearsals. The cockney comedy of Bell's Drinkwater was admirable, if not always intelligible to north country ears. Williams as the Scots missionary, and Young as a captain in the U.S. Navy left us in no doubt as to their nationality or their meaning. Sidi el Assif (G. S. Smith) maintained an impressive dignity in face of the superior authority and vehement abuse of the Cadi (L. Tarpey), and the minor characters gave an air of realism to the play by their natural attitudes and appro-

priate by-play when others were holding the stage. But the palm for individual performance goes to Forshaw for his delightful interpretation of the part of Lady Cicely Waynflete. It is not easy for a boy to act as a woman of, say, thirty-five. But this lady's vivacity and unconventional charm, the innocent guile with which she got her own way, and her unflagging energy and 'managing' ability were portrayed by Forshaw to the life.

Mr. Lewis and those who helped him with this production are to be congratulated. Lighting and make-up were good, though the latter did not always disguise the youth of the actors. It is understood that the financial result of the venture was satisfactory though not sensational.

Scientific Society

SO far the Society has held only two meetings, but another will be held before the end of the term. The difficulty in arranging meetings has been due, not to any lack of enthusiasm on the part of the members, but to the shortness of the term, and the fact that it has been interrupted by the half-yearly examinations.

The first meeting was held on Monday, January 23rd, when the chair was taken by Milne, and a paper entitled *The Nature of Light* was read by Muir. Muir explained the Wave Theory of Huyghens and the Corpuscular Theory of Newton, and showed how far each theory fitted in with the properties of light. A vote of thanks was proposed by Badcock, and seconded by Vincent.

On Monday, February 6th, the chair was taken by E. Williams, and a lecture entitled *Wonders of the Solar System* was given by F. G. Roberts. With the assistance of Mr. D. J. Williams, who operated the epidiascope, Roberts exhibited a fine selection of lantern slides obtained from the British Astronomical Association, of which he is a member. The slides showed the various phases of the planets, and among them were some striking photographs of the moon's surface. A vote of thanks was proposed by Muir and seconded by Thompson.

On Monday, February 13th, a party from the Society attended the Faraday Lecture at the Central Hall, Liverpool. This year's lecturer was Captain B. S. Cohen, O.B.E.,

M.I.E.E., and his subject was *The Long-Distance Telephone Call—A Triumph of Engineering and Co-operation*. The lecture was well illustrated with films, lantern slides, demonstrations, and exhibits, and proved very enjoyable.

We hope to hold our last meeting for the session on Monday, March 20th, when Vincent and Thompson will lecture on *Radioactivity*.

Attendances have been good. This is probably due in part to the good publicity work of E. Williams, our Advertising Secretary.
R.D.R.

The Sixth Form Literary and Debating Society

THIS term the standard of the meetings has been high, and their range wide, but the response from the Lower Sixes has been very poor; it is hard to see what some members of these forms are interested in.

The first meeting took the form of a general knowledge bee, in which four teams competed against one another in spelling, music, literature, and . . . yes, we must admit it, cooking. The knowledge of several members in this last subject should make them feel confident of remaining bachelors for life.

In the second meeting Mr. Cathcart, an ex-Secretary of the Society, gave an extremely interesting paper on *The Economics of Advertising*. Mr. Cathcart is well-versed in the subject, having been for some time in the advertising section of Messrs. Lever Bros. He viewed the matter from many different angles, and the talk was most enlightening.

The next meeting took place on February 16th in the Physics Lab., when Mr. Watts gave a talk on his *Tour of North America and Canada* in 1938. The lab. was full, as the Thirds and Removes had been allowed to attend. As well as being an account of the main incidents of the tour, the talk was rich in personal anecdote and profusely illustrated by the many excellent illustrations Mr. Watts had gathered together.

On March 9th, in a meeting held in the Art Room, Mr. Dorrity and Mr. G. Williams proposed that *Woman's Place is in the Home*. Mr. Muir opposed on his own behalf and that of his colleague, Mr. Vincent, who was unavoidably absent.

Several members made their maiden speeches in this meeting, and showed good promise. The principal speakers then closed the debate, and Mr. Muir's ultra-modern reasoning bore more weight than the arguments of the proposers, and the motion was defeated by five votes to four.

Our last meeting for this season was to take place on Monday, March 27th, when there was to be a debate on *Co-education*.

Finally, we must express our thanks to all who have helped in the meetings, and especially to the Chairman, whose lucid summings-up have added so much to the value of the debates.

I.R.

Rugby Football

DURING the Easter term, the 1st XV. have won only two out of nine matches. This unsatisfactory record is largely due to the weakening of the three-quarters by the absence of Clarke and Pearson.

In our first match against Liverpool Collegiate we played several reserves and lost by twelve points to nil. The forwards played well in the Wirral game but our opponent's backs overwhelmed our three-quarters, and ran up a total of 24 points. In the next game, Wallasey Grammar School inflicted another heavy defeat, our backs being unable to check the Wallasey three-quarters. The match against Rock Ferry, which at one stage promised to develop into a free fight, provided our first victory. The Oldershaw game was also won, but we lost to Conway by a large margin. Conway's heavy forwards held the advantage in the line-outs, but not in the set scrums. We should have fared better if our centre three-quarters had not neglected the wings.

Owing to the state of the weather, the Park High match was cancelled. The weather was little better for the Wrexham game, which was lost 3—0 on a sea of mud. Our three-quarters had few chances and the Wrexham backs made the most of their opportunities. The next match, against Oulton, ended in a draw. Our defence played soundly, but the team as a whole showed little attacking power. A weakened 'A' team was fielded against Liverpool Institute, and we did well to lose by a narrow margin to much heavier opponents.

This season's games have been remarkable for the lack of combination amongst our three-quarters. The forwards, if not

1ST XV., 1938-9.



Photo by CULL.
D. J. Williams, Esq., J. P. Beacall, J. G. Beckett, W. D. Milne, G. S. Smith, L. S. Fallows, J. N. Smith, A. D. Lewis, Esq.,
B. A. Young, P. A. Ryan, L. F. Clarke, J. N. Gullan (Capt.), J. F. Pearson, F. L. Creswell, W. J. Owen,
C. E. Griffith, V. Roberts.

playing brilliantly, have on most occasions given a good account of themselves, but they have been let down badly by their backs who have scored practically no combined tries. This shortcoming may be remedied by assiduous practice next season. Fortunately, the records of the other teams indicate that they will provide useful recruits for the 1st XV. next year.

In conclusion, we should like to place on record our gratitude to F. G. Roberts, R. D. Roberts, and Miller for their valuable services in the canteen.

J.F.P.

		1st XV.	2nd XV.	3rd XV.	Bantams.
Jan.	18—Liverpool Collegiate	0—12	17— 3	38— 0	32— 0
Feb.	8—Wirral Grammar	0—24	0—14		0— 8
	11—Wallasey Grammar	3—24	0—64		11— 9
	22—Rock Ferry	9— 0	3— 8	6—21	0— 0
Mar.	1—Oldershaw	12— 3	3— 0		11— 3
	4—H.M.S. Conway	0—37	5—30		
	8—Park High				
	11—Grove Park	0— 3	13— 0		
	15—Oulton	6— 6		13— 3	11— 6
	St. Anselms				8— 6
	18—Liverpool Institute	8—11			
	Old Boys	3—27	11— 0		

Table Tennis.

AT the beginning of this term, the club bought a new table, which greatly improved the standard of play. The old table, with all its wiles, lies derelict and forgotten upon the platform in the gym.

The team has played two matches this term, and in both of these Woodward, D. O. Griffiths, Coates, Proudman, and Howell represented the club. The first match was on Saturday, March 4th, when we played St. Paul's Presbyterian Church away, and won by 5 sets to 0.

The second was at home against the 2nd Birkenhead Scout Troop, on Friday, March 10th, which resulted in a draw of 5 sets each.

Everybody in the club, I am sure, misses Gullan, last term's captain, who left to start work, and everyone also will wish to thank Mr. J. H. Jones for his excellent supervision.

A.W.C.



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL.

From a woodcut.

OLD BOYS' SECTION

Old Boys' A.F.C.

ONCE again we have to report another loss sustained by the Club in the removal from the district, owing to business reasons, of Mr. P. Evans, the Club chairman, who has been Captain of the 2nd XI. for several seasons. Mr. A. G. Sagar, the Hon. Treasurer, has taken over the position of Chairman.

With our fixtures almost completed, we are glad to see the improvement shown in the results of the 3rd and 4th XI's.

The first XI. have again disappointed, after a promising start, but they too have shown a slight improvement compared with last season, whilst the 2nd XI's. record is very similar to last year.

During the season, it has been very pleasing to note the enthusiasm and ability shewn by some of our younger members, who have only recently left School.

The Annual Hot-Pot was held at the Central Hotel on April 29th, and proved to be very enjoyable, bringing the Club's social activities for the season to a very successful close.

Old Boys' Successes, 1938-39

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

Hons. School of Geography, First Year Final—Kinneir, W.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

English Tripos, Part I., Class II.—Alldis, C. A.

History Preliminary Tripos, Class I.—Gallagher, J.

Diploma in Education—Walker, K. W.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Fellow Royal College of Surgeons (F.R.C.S.)—Dr. H. L. Davies.

Faculty of Arts: Degree of Litt.D.—Jones, G. P.; Degree of B.A. in General Studies, Third Year Examination—Coglan, L.; Second Year Examination—Heys, T. H.; First Year Examination—Mercer, W. I. N.

Faculty of Science: Degree of M.Sc.—Stanley, V. A.; Degree of B.Sc. with Honours, School of Chemistry—Class II., Div. I.—Goodwin, T. W.; School of Mathematics—Class II., Div. II.—Evans, L.; Ordinary Degree of B.Sc.: Final Examination (Second Year)—May, R. E.; Final Examination, Subsidiary Subjects—Bennett, R. M., Clare, W. E.

Faculty of Law: Degree of LL.M.—Malley, G. E.

Faculty of Medicine: Ordinary Degree of M.B.Ch.B.—Final Examination, Part III.—Angelman, H., Tweedie, G. C., Wetherell, J.H.D., Williams, A. H., Second Examination—Wetherell, G. A.; **School of Dental Surgery—Licence in Dental Surgery**—First Examination, Parts A and B—MacBryde, W. C.

Faculty of Engineering: Degree of M.Eng.—Sarginson, R. R.; **Degree of B.Eng. with Honours, Class I. (School of Electrical Engineering)**—Hunt, T. W.

School of Architecture: Degree of B.Arch—First Examination—Halliday, B. S.; Melville, I. S.

Faculty of Education: Diploma in Education—Broadfoot, R. F.; Clarkson, L. S. (Distinction in Theory and Practice); Magee, D., Richards, F.

Final Bar Examination—Waterhouse, K. (5th Place).

Solicitor's Final Examination—Dodd, S.

Percy Pemberton Prize (Trinity College, Cambridge)—Gallagher, J.

University Graduate Scholarship for Engineering—Hunt, T. W.

David Rew Memorial Scholarship—Hunt, T. W.

Kitchener Scholarship and Royal Studentship to Royal College of Science—Broadhurst, J. W.

Incorporated Accountants Examination (Final)—Currie, C. R.

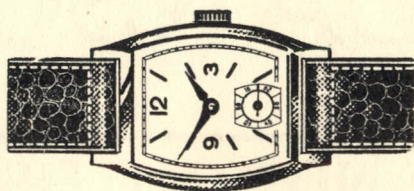
Associate of Chartered Institute of Secretaries (Final)—Laver, H. N.

Graduate of the Institute of Electrical Engineers—Brecknell, W. A.

Contributions and Subscriptions

THE *Visor* committee is always pleased to receive articles from Old Boys, but has had few submitted lately.

The annual subscription for the *Visor* is 2/-. The Treasurer will welcome any increase in the number of permanent subscribers. Please send your postal orders and ensure delivery of the School magazine for the coming year. Copies of this issue are on sale at the School at the price of 1/-.



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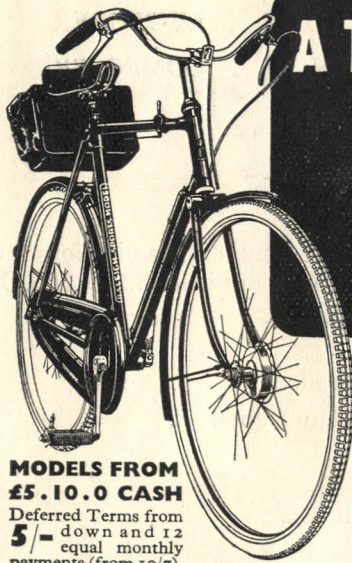


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