

THE VISOR



A HISTORY OF BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

1889 to 1949.

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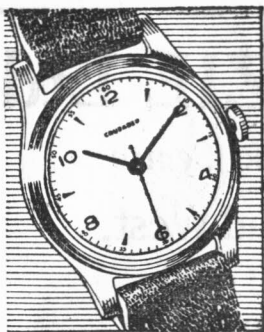
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THE HISTORY OF
BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

1889 to 1949.



DIAMOND JUBILEE NUMBER

OF THE

VISOR



BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE
SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

JUNE, 1949.



Editorial

SIXTY years have now elapsed since the first pupils of Birkenhead Institute climbed Whetstone Lane to begin the history which is recorded in this Diamond Jubilee Number of the *Visor*. We offer this volume to our readers with particular pleasure, as an account of the School's progress and achievements since its foundation in 1889. In a modern town like Birkenhead, the decades in which the School has been in existence have seen great changes and notable developments. In the reading of the Institute's earliest terms, there will be recalled to the reader a quieter age when much of the present borough was still pleasantly rural, and when School games could be played where streets have long since covered the fields. The names of many public-spirited citizens of the late Victorian period, to whose foresight the Institute owes its existence, are here commemorated. As the story unfolds, the impact of great national events on our domestic history is examined; the evolution of the School up to and beyond Balfour's Education Act in the early years of this century, for instance; and some conjecture over the results of Butler's Act is attempted in our final chapter. The reader will ponder over our Rolls of Honour which reveal the heroism of the two generations of pupils to whom the Nation's call came in 1914 and 1939. But he will also be enabled, in our pages, to get a glimpse of the ordinary life of the School throughout these sixty years, to hear of its first Headmaster, its first inspection, its first Athletic Sports; in fact, of the weaving of the entire fabric which

we know so well, and, perhaps, without the corrective of this tale of the pioneers and their early struggles, take too much for granted. We have endeavoured to illustrate this volume with photographs which span our entire existence, and show the many aspects of our corporate life. We have also made some attempt to assess our contribution to the life of the community in which we have been set, in a record of the later careers of Old Boys. The *Visor* Committee believe that this account of Birkenhead Institute from 1889 to 1949 will be valued by all former and present pupils, and indeed by all those who over three score years have cherished the reputation of what still remains the oldest school in the Borough founded to give the best academic education to the ordinary citizen and his sons.

Finally, we are too conscious of omissions in this history to claim that it is a complete record. Some of our earliest documents have disappeared, some of our later achievements, particularly in the field of Old Boys' appointments, have been difficult to trace. For any errors which the careful reader may detect, we crave indulgence. But we would urge all former members of the School to keep us informed of their progress. From such intelligence alone can our history be faithfully compiled in the future, and that incentive given to the present generation which will renew the spirit of our founders and benefactors. Our pleasure is in the backward glance, but the future claims our duty.

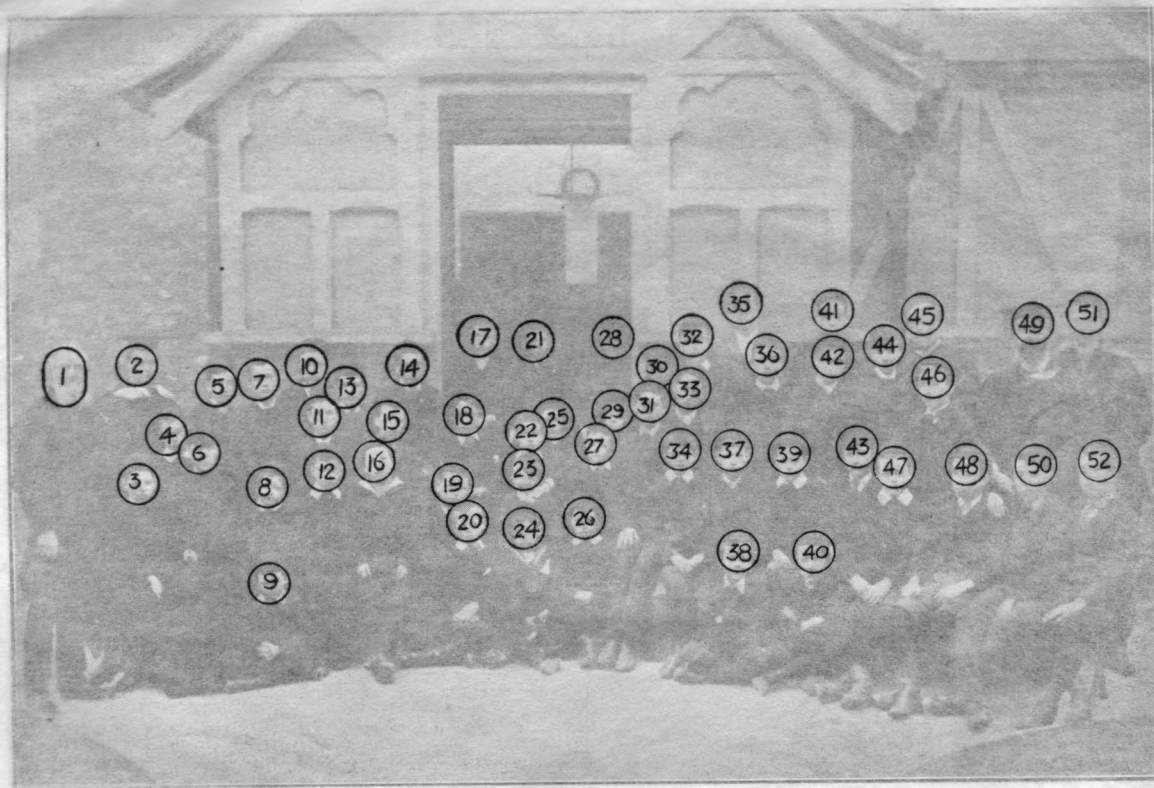
1889

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.

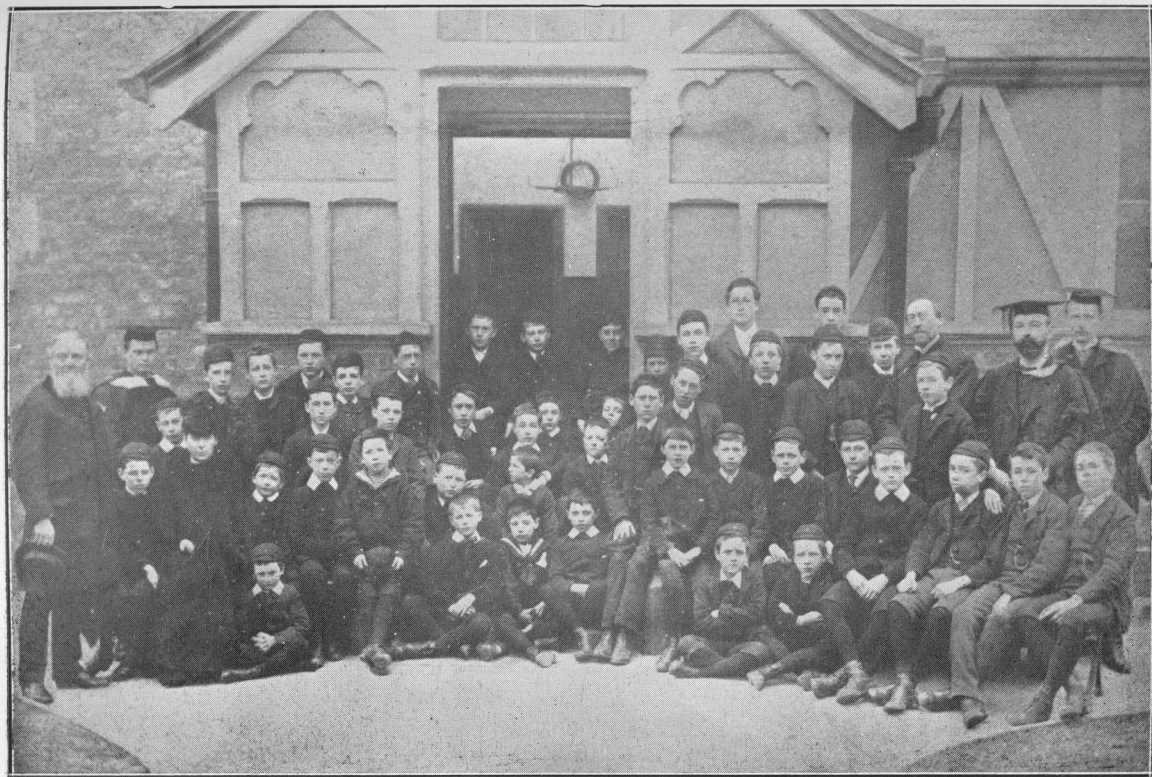
On the extreme left is the late Mr. George Atkin, founder of the School, and Chairman of the Governors until his death. The staff included Mr. Connacher (Head Master), Mr. Calder (Secretary), Mr. Crofts, Mr. Thompson, and Miss Farrell (Preparatory Department).

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. | |



THE SCHOOL, 1889.



THE SCHOOL, 1889.



G. ATKIN, Esq.

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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 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 Hall. 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. A. Solly, Esq., J.P.

CHAIRMAN 1908-1941.

LIKE his predecessors, the third Chairman of the Governors had a distinguished record of public service. Alderman Godfrey Alan Solly, J.P., was a member of the Birkenhead Council from 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 of 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 was not confined to the Institute, and he was 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. 1765-1857.

His interest in the Institute was always notable, and unless he was present no School function was considered complete. His generosity was well-known :—he presented the Old Boys' Memorial Tablet, besides subscribing liberally to the pavilion and sports ground fund. Also Mr. Solly permanently endowed the Solly History Prize, and gave the School the photograph of himself which hangs in the hall.

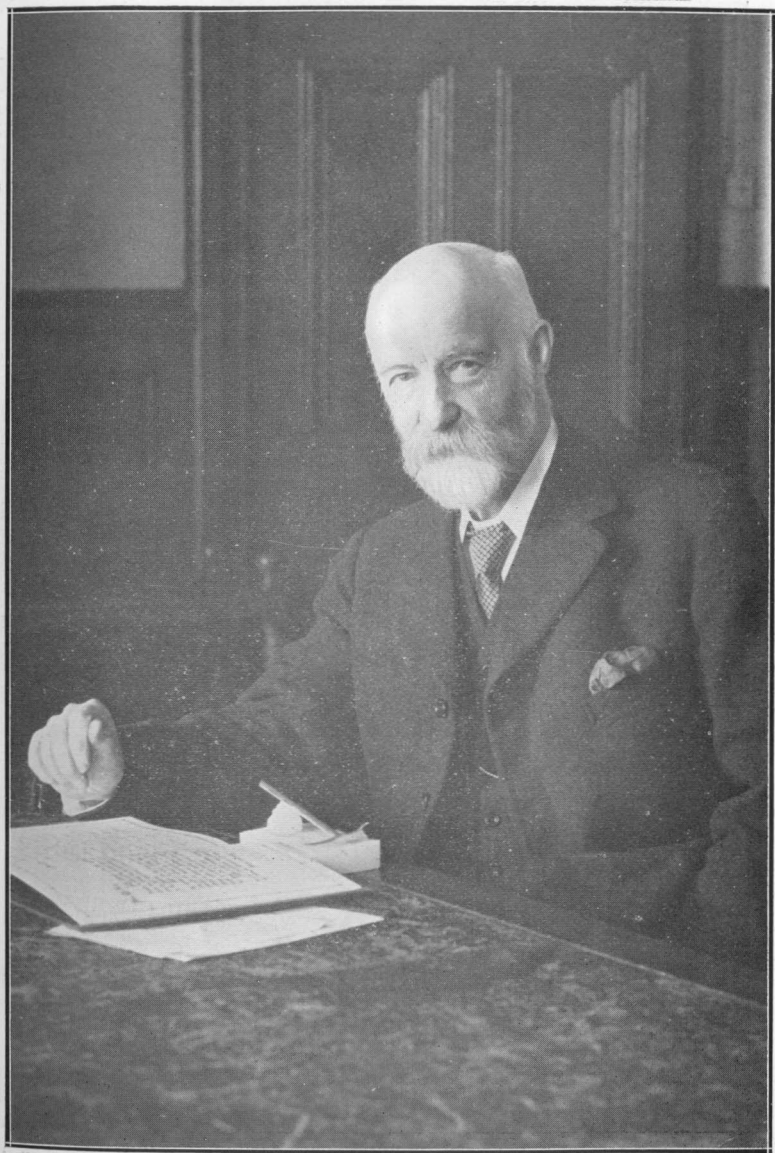
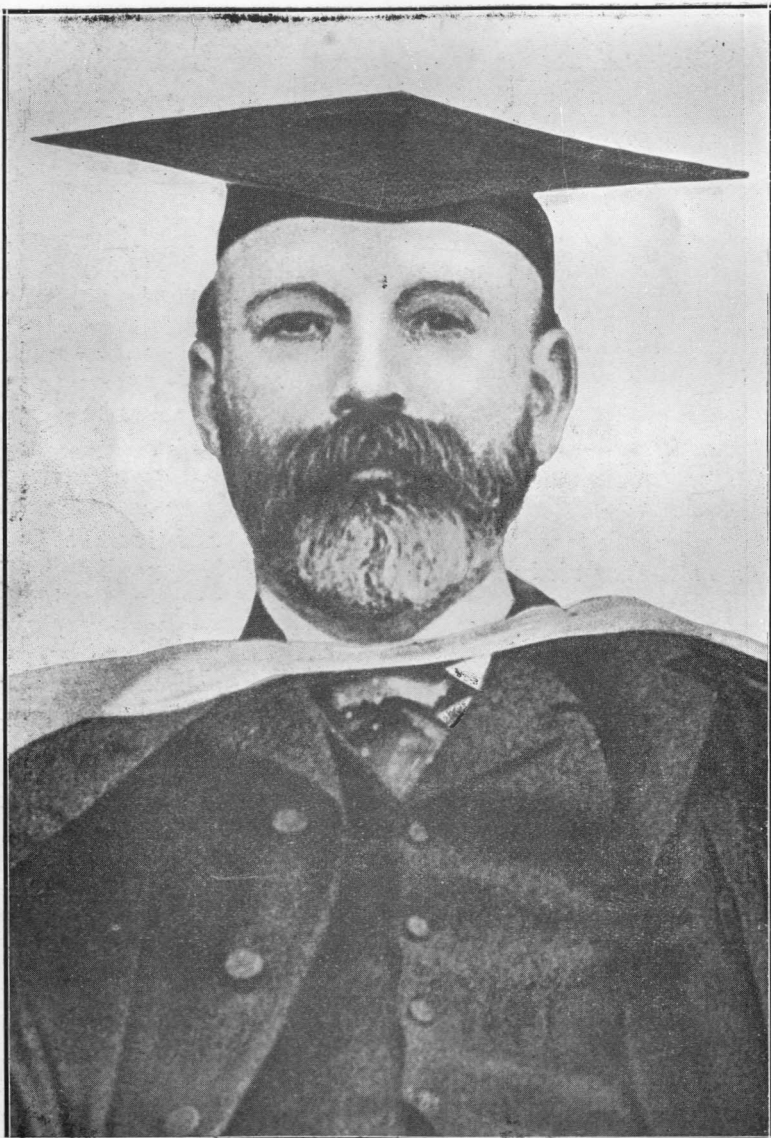


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G. A. SOLLY, Esq.



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W. S. CONNACHER, Esq.

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

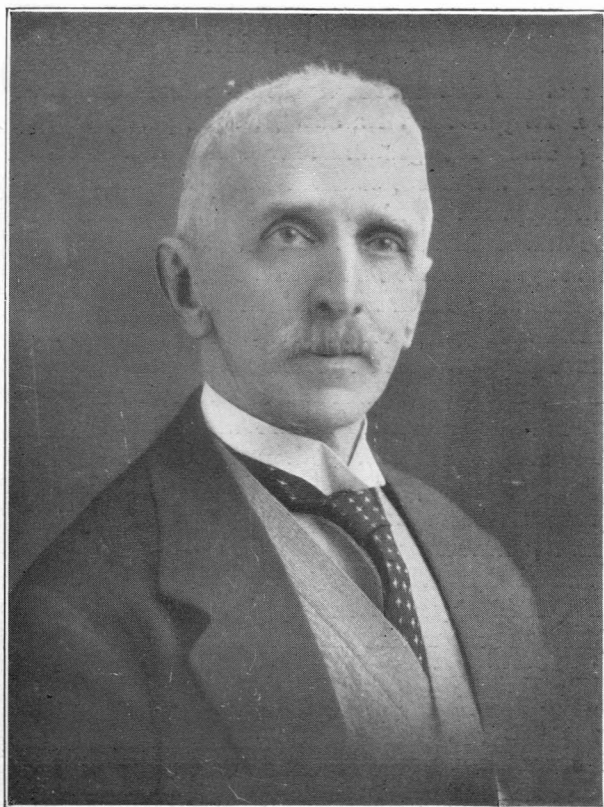
H.M. 1889—1903.

THE first headmaster of the Institute was the late W. C. 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."

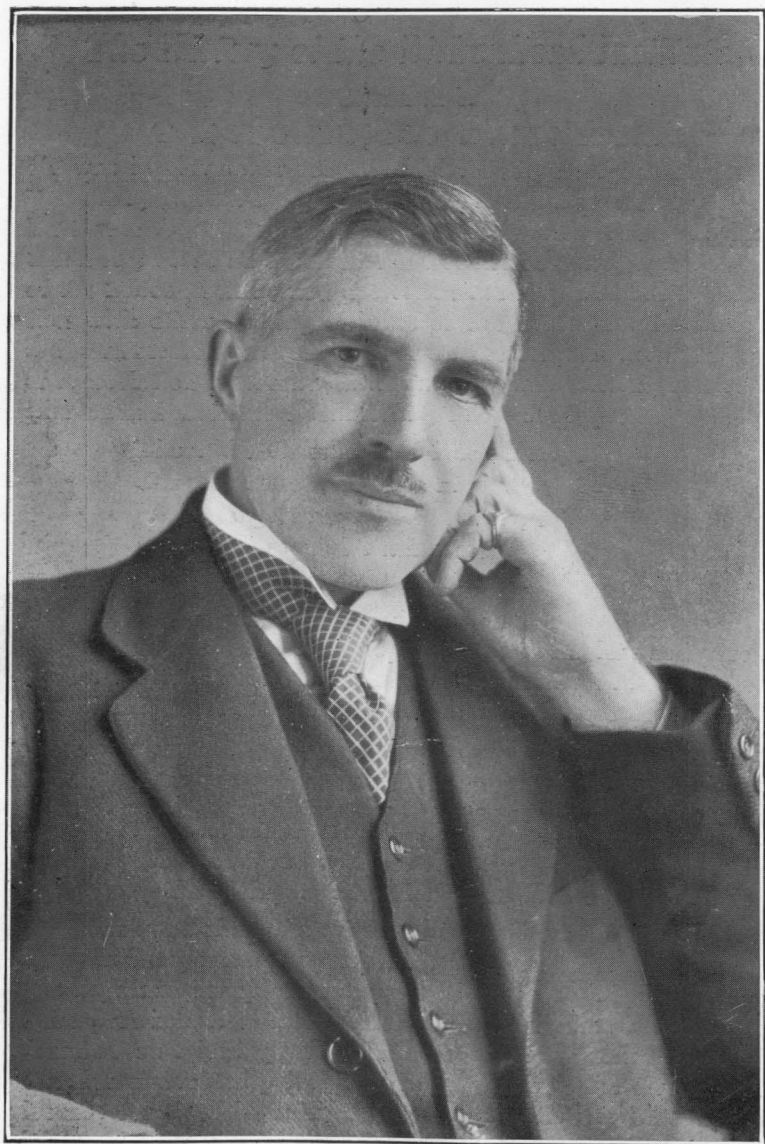
J. A. Smallpage, Esq., B.A.

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.



J. A. SMALLPAGE, Esq.



E. WYNNE HUGHES, Esq. Photo by Lafayette.

E. Wynne Hughes, Esq., 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 twentieth 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 College, 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.

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.

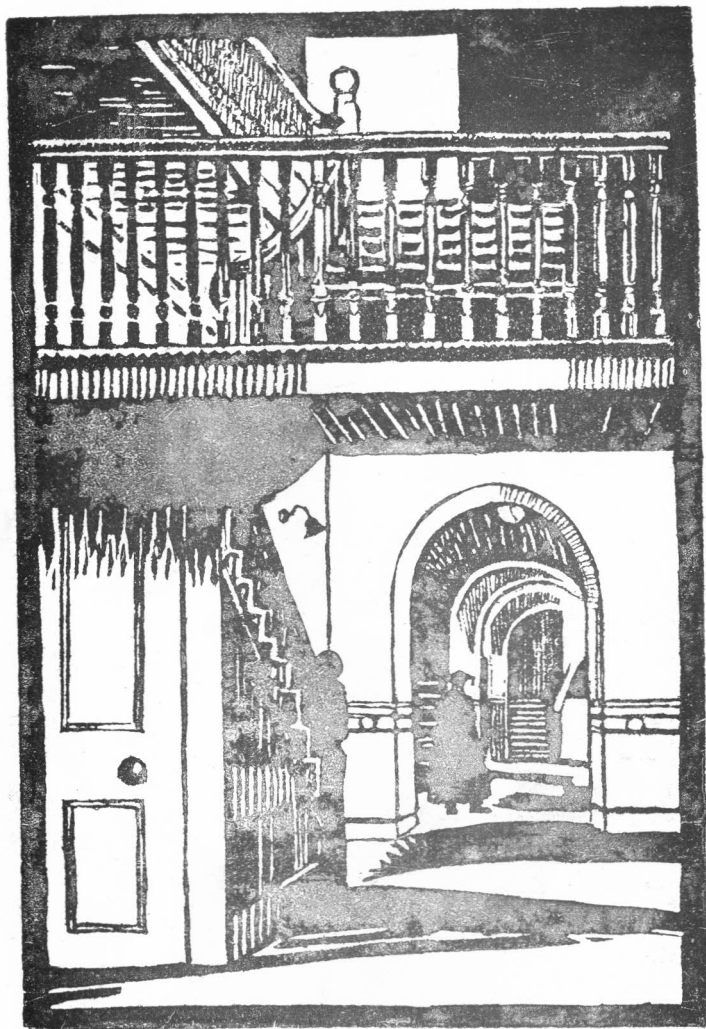
The object of the Company is set forth in clear and precise terms. It was to establish a Public High School in Birkenhead to provide a first-class Mercantile and Collegiate education for boys, on terms "not exceeding those charged at the best public schools in Liverpool," and the management was to be 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



THE SCHOOL.



THE MAIN CORRIDOR,

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 200. 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 Claughton Road. A call of £2 per share payable on May 1st was announced, and arrangements for the laying of the foundationstone 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 apart 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:—

Mathematics 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, Shorthand, 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 BLANCHE W. ATKIN presented a bouquet to the Duchess.

Opening Prayer by Rev. F. MILLWARD, Vicar of St. Catherine's,
Tranmere.

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. GOSTENHOFER, Esq.)

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

Vote of Thanks to the Chairman:

Proposed by Rev. WM. HUTTON.

Seconded by PETER OWEN, Esq.

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 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:—

IVA.

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

IVB.

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, Murchie; 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 term 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*. [Has not survived the war.—ED.] 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 S. Catherine'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. 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.

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 in the entrance hall.

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.

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. 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 55. 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 manoeuvres. 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 manoeuvres. 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 success-

ion 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.

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 Kings' 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. [Mr. Grant is now Registrar of Birmingham University: Mr. Roberts died in 1946.—E.D.]

In May Mr. and Mrs. Geo. 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.

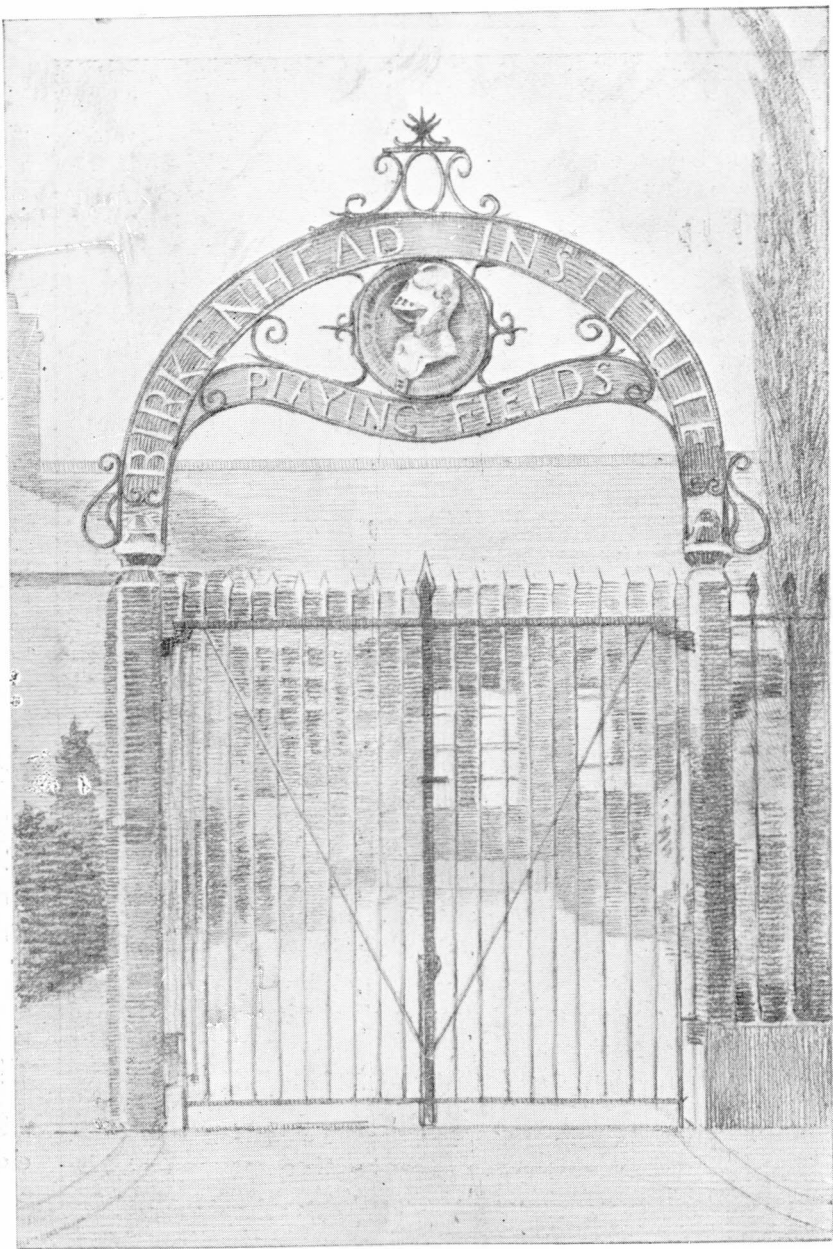
It was at this critical period of the school's history that Mr. George Atkin passed away. He attended his last meeting as chairman in Decemer 1906, but he died in the following February, and so was spared the sorrow that it would have caused him to see the school of which he had been so proud pass into 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 5 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 £2,362. 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.

SENIOR SHIELD WINNERS, 1908-9.



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



GATEWAY PLAYING FIELD, Erected 1933.

CHAPTER IV.

THE PRE-WAR PERIOD.

The history of the School from 1908 to 1927 must of necessity be briefly told. Whatever records may have been kept of its activities, the writer has unfortunately to confess that only a scanty portion is now available to him. Much that is written here will be culled from memory, and that at times is apt to prove a fickle jade. It will be convenient therefore to divide this period into three distinct sections:—

- (a) From 1908 to the outbreak of War;
- (b) 1914-1919—The War Period;
- (c) From 1919 to 1927, when the first issue of the *Visor* appeared.

1908-1914.

The changes necessitated by the adoption of the School by the Birkenhead Education Committee did not materialise until 1909. Mr. Galloway's premises in Clifton Road had not been included in the sale of the Whetstone Lane buildings, and the Junior School was accordingly moved to Mr. Smallpage's house, where it stayed until April, 1912.

The School was soon to be increased by the scholarship boys to the number of some 40 boys per year, and an extension to the premises was inevitable. Meanwhile, the School became a pupil teacher centre, and the Sixth form suddenly doubled itself in numbers, weight, and importance. The football team welcomed the new blood, and in March, 1909, the School won the coveted Senior Shield presented by the Everton F.C. for competition among the Secondary Schools of Liverpool and District. The final match against Liverpool Collegiate at Goodison Park will be remembered for the wonderful runs of H. C. Mann on the left wing, the great display of Tom McNaught at centre-half, and the great defence of F. N. Pyke at right-half. The School were never again successful in winning the shield, although the final was reached on more than one occasion.

The Staff in September, 1908, consisted of Messrs. Galloway (second Master), Bennett, Wood, Watts, Hilton, Harris, Fisher (who came from the Higher Elementary School to take

History, English and Latin with the Pupil Teachers), McPhie (Chemistry), Clague, Lewis (Woodwork), and Pratt (French), with Miss Farrell in charge of the Kindergarten. Mr. McPhie's place was taken in September, 1909, by Mr. G. W. Hamilton who stayed until the outbreak of the war, when he joined the R.A.M.C. He left in 1919 to take up the post of Maths. master at Ormskirk Grammar School. Mr. Pratt stayed for one year only, being succeeded by Mr. S. F. Bray.

Of the boys who were in the Sixth in 1909, space permits mention of a few only. D. P. Hale was awarded the Tate Scholarship in 1910 and proceeded to Keble College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1913. R. Matthews went to study Medicine at Liverpool University, and took his M.B. in 1915. J. E. Jones, T. Griffiths, H. Bradshaw, J. E. Cairns, A. C. Evanson, N. S. Mercer, S. P. Gilderdale, A. S. Paton, A. H. Read (who won the Stitt Scholarship, 1910), all proceeded to Liverpool University, while O. Nield went to Keble College, Oxford, and afterwards took Holy Orders. W. Bailey entered Queen's College, Cambridge, where he graduated with honours in Natural Science, and in 1915 became an assistant master at St. Bees. E. R. Woodward went to Canada, where he graduated B.Sc. in 1922 at McGill University.

In January, 1911, the School saw the arrival of Mr. G. Dowse (known familiarly as Gerry) to take up the post of Senior English master. A man of brilliant scholastic attainment, he had graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, with first class honours in English and French. A strict disciplinarian, he soon made his presence felt in the Schol, and threw himself wholeheartedly into all its activities. A great lover of music he was particularly attracted to the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan, many of which he could play from memory, and many Old Boys will remember the occasions when he entertained them in this way. He left in July, 1919, to take up the post of Senior English Master at Liverpool Collegiate School, and later became headmaster of Cowley School, St. Helens.

The tender for the building of the new wing was accepted by the Corporation in 1911, but the building did not begin until April, 1912. The Junior School once more had to move into other quarters, No. 1, Holly Bank Road being fitted out for

its reception. The Headmaster's house was now demolished, and the School playground and garden were taken over by the masons for shaping the stones for the new building. It was July, 1913, before the new wing was ready for occupation, and the Junior School moved there accordingly in that month. The new premises consisted of an entrance hall, headmaster's study, three classrooms, gymnasium, woodwork shop, dressing room (later to be turned into a classroom and known as the "Cubby Hole"), cloak room, and boys' lavatory—all on the ground floor, while above were the art room, two class rooms, a staff room, the latter, alas! proving all too small to accommodate all the Staff at once, and a library which became the "sanctum sanctorum" of the Upper Sixth. In the basement was a dining room and kitchen facing Holly Bank Road, as well as certain fearsome subterranean chambers where the Janitor attended to boilers and deposited old desks, scrap iron, inkwells, and any other materials no longer needed by the School. Some day perhaps these caverns will yield up their fearful secrets.

No special ceremony marked the opening of the new wing, but the School nevertheless could not help but feel that it had reached another landmark in its history. The Gymnasium was a source of much delight, for the Swedish apparatus was novel, and Mr. Clague's evolutions were a source of wonderment to the boys. Among other discoveries was a lift which ascended from the basement to the top floor. What was its purpose has never been discovered, but it certainly worked, as the writer can testify. After its first breakdown it was never repaired, and is now a deserted shaft, the bottom of which is used as a receptacle for mops and brooms.

In December, 1912, Mr. Bray departed after a stay of nearly three years. The writer remembered him as an early pioneer of motor-cycling, and he was the first member of the Staff to attempt the new means of transport. A memorable trip to Lincoln undertaken after only two weeks' practice on an Alldays' Matchless combination ended ignominiously in a hedge at the Clatterbridge turn, after several tramcars had been avoided in Borough Road only by inches. A keen footballer he played often for the Old Boys. He was succeeded by

Mr. Geo. Grant, whose career has been briefly given in an earlier chapter. As a master he was very popular with the boys, and took an active part in the School games. His prowess at both soccer and cricket will be remembered, and the high spot in his career was reached when as a master he won the Old Boys' Race at the Swimming Gala in 1913.

The Stitt scholarship was carried off in 1912 by P. N. Williams, who proceeded to Liverpool University where he graduated B.Sc. in 1915. Joining the R.E.'s in that year, he was attached to the Chemical Corps and spent his time during the war in making noxious gases.

Mr. R. S. Hilton left early in 1913. His career with the Chester Golf Club was cut short by the war, and after teaching for a few years in Hoylake he died in 1920. He was succeeded by Mr. C. W. Elliot, who took charge of Form I. Mr. Fisher also left in this year to become headmaster of Thornton Grammar School, Bradford, a position he still holds. His successor was Mr. R. J. Griffith, who took charge of the Modern Languages department, and soon identified himself with all the School's activities. As a footballer, he was particularly interested in the Old Boys' F.C., and was largely instrumental in founding it. After serving in the war he came back to the School in 1919, and remained until December, 1924, when he took up his present appointment as headmaster of Rock Ferry High School.

In this year C. J. Griffiths gained a Birkenhead Council Exhibition and an open scholarship for engineering to Liverpool University. His studies, like those of many others, were however, interrupted by the war. He became lieutenant of the Royal Flying Corps in 1915, survived the war, and finally took the degree of M.Eng. in 1922.

It was at this juncture that the House system was introduced, a feature of the School life which has since coloured all its activities. The Houses were named after the School's great benefactors, Atkin, Stitt, Tate, Westminster, and in 1914 the respective Housemasters and captains were:—

House :	Housemaster :	Captain :
Atkin.	Mr. Tipper.	W. J. Allison.
Stitt.	Mr. Saunders.	R. M. Galloway.
Tate.	Mr. Harris.	W. Penrice.
Westminster.	Mr. Williams.	R. Seward.

The year 1914 saw two new arrivals on the Staff—Mr. Theo. Williams, who came to teach History, and Mr. Herbert Clare, who took charge of Form IIIc, after spending some time as secretary to the headmaster. The former soon identified himself with the sporting side of the School. He had won a half-blue at Cambridge for swimming, and was a rugger player of some repute. He had a fund of anecdote as extensive as his form was burly, and his songs at the piano will be remembered by many. Joining the Welsh Regiment during the war, he became a staff captain and finished his army career with the rank of major. In September, 1919, he was appointed His Majesty's Inspector of Schools, and later became Secretary to the Port of London Authority.

The year was also to witness the School's greatest scholastic achievement so far, for Ralph Seward, who had entered in 1896 in the Preparatory, crowned a brilliant series of successes by winning an open maths. scholarship at Balliol College, Oxford—a magnificent achievement. He was destined however, not to realise the ambition for which he had striven, for a greater call claimed his loyalty. Refused admission to the O.T.C. on account of his eyesight, he enlisted in the King's Royal Rifles, rose to the rank of sergeant, and was killed in France in 1915. His great self-sacrifice will ever remain a precious memory with those who knew him, and he stands in the history of the School as a worthy example, among many others, of duty nobly done.

The story of this period would not be complete without some mention of those who achieved fame on the playing field, but unfortunately the records are scanty. The Blake Campbell Cup for games was won by Arthur Perrin, Sidney Thomas, Cecil Weir (twice), and C. Leslie Evans and the Stitt Cup, by W. H. Dodd, C. Leslie Evans, Harold Mercer, Eric Yeadon and A. Lee.

CHAPTER V.

The outbreak of the Great War in August, 1914, did not at first affect the general life of the School, but by October, Mr. Grant, Mr. Elliot, and Mr. Herbert Clare had joined the army, and their places were taken by Mr. Saunders and Mr. Bayliss. Mr. Hamilton, who was already in the Territorials, did not return in September, and his place was filled by Mr. Woodall. Miss Farrell, who had taught the Prep. since the opening of the School, had been stricken with ill health in September, 1913, and after two attempts to resume her duties, was forced to retire in September, 1914. She had spent twenty-five of the best years of her life in the service of the School, and was regarded with affection and respect by all her pupils. No speech day was considered complete without a play by the Preparatory Form, and the clearness of the enunciation of the young actors was a model which might well be copied by the boys of to-day. Her place was filled by Miss M. F. E. Bowers.

1915 saw the arrival of Mr. A. Bartlam as Art Master, Mr. Hawkins and Mr. F. Tipper as form-masters of IVb. and IVc. Mr. Theo. Williams joined the army in 1915 and was succeeded by Miss A. H. Dodge as History mistress.

In 1915 the Tate Scholarship was awarded jointly to R. M. Galloway, who proceeded to Edinburgh University, and A. M. Fulton, who went to Manchester University and afterwards to Holmes Chapel Agricultural College. Galloway also finished up his School career by winning the Senior Games Cup. The Stitt Exhibition was won by R. W. Cowie, who went to Liverpool University, and took his M.B. in 1922. In 1916 Mr. Harris and Mr. Griffith left for army service, and the man power of the Staff became seriously depleted. Miss Coxon and Miss Burn took their places, Dr. Dale also took temporary work with Form II. From now till the end of the war various changes of Staff took place; Mr. Tipper left for army service in 1917, and Mr. Silverwood took his place.

In 1917 the Junior School once more moved its quarters and found a home in the house it occupied till 1944. The growth in the numerical strength of the School had made this step necessary. A complete re-organisation took place under Miss Bowers' direction, she herself taking the Lower Prep., Miss M. Davies the Upper Prep., Miss Coxon Form I., and Miss Williams Form II. The numbers in the Junior School were now nearing the hundred mark.

In this year Henry Cohen was awarded the Stitt Exhibition together with the Birkenhead Corporation Scholarship, and proceeded to Liverpool University, where he had a brilliant career, which resulted in 1922 in his gaining his M.B. and Ch.B. with honours in Medicine and Surgery. After spending some years in Liverpool in practice as a specialist, when he further enhanced his reputation, he was appointed to the Chair of Medicine in the University of Liverpool, a position he now holds.

The Senior Cup for Games was won this year by J. C. Cotsell, and the Junior by G. Hunter.

By this time the war had lasted three years and there was little sign of its end. The work of the School was carried on, however, by the "old brigade," Messrs. Galloway, Wood, Bennett, and Watts, and by Messrs. Dowse, Bartlam, Hawkins, Woodall, and Silverwod, who were unfit for military service. The boys, too, felt the pinch, for no prizes were awarded, prize certificates being given instead, signed by the Headmaster and the Chairman and Secretary of the Governors. Some of the older boys had done their bit in 1916 and 1917 by spending their summer holidays helping the farmers, and in 1918, as a result of a Government request for secondary schoolboys to do more, a party of twenty boys under the leaderships of Mr. Dowse went into camp at Tilston Farnal, where they worked hard, sometimes ten hours a day, at potato-picking, weeding, and harvesting. The boys did their own cooking, and amused themselves in the evening by singing and bathing. For their labours they were paid fourpence an hour, and with the money thus earned the School obtained its first House Trophy, a two-handled silver cup. Mr. Smallpage himself spent some time with the boys, and the camp was in existence four months.

No mention has yet been made, except in one or two cases, of the terrible toll which the war took of the Old Boys of the School. Their names are inscribed on a brass tablet in the entrance hall, presented by Mr. Solly and unveiled in March, 1920, by Major-General Sir Reginald Barnes, K.C.B. Among the many who fell was one whose name will truly live for evermore, Wilfrid T. Owen, M.C., Lieut. 2nd Manchester Regiment, for he was one of the greatest of the English War poets. There had been nothing in his life at School to give an inkling

of his future fame. He achieved no outstanding scholastic successes, he played no games, his nature was shy and self-conscious, but the true spark of the poet burned within him, and during the four years of the war he produced the poems which have made him famous. He was killed on the 4th November, 1918, just a week before the armistice, at the early age of twenty-five, and the country lost one who would have enriched her language and the School her most celebrated son.

Little now remains to be told of the life of the School during the war period. Additions to the Staff included Miss Speller, Miss Williams, Miss Roche, Miss Nicholson, Miss Dorothy Ewing and Mr. Herbert Clare, who was known familiarly as "Beetle." Besides those previously noted, the School produced many who proceeded to Liverpool University, where they distinguished themselves in Arts, Science, Law, and Engineering. Perhaps their names will be inscribed on the School Honours Board (which we hope one day to have), so that future generations may be stimulated by their example.

CHAPTER VI.

1919-1927.

The year 1919 saw the return to civilian life of those masters who had been on active service during the war. Messrs. Griffith, Harris and Tipper came back in the spring, and Messrs. Hamilton, Clare, Grant and Williams in the summer. Mr. Elliot, who had been wounded in the Suvla Bay landing, and who won the M.C. in Palestine, went to Edinburgh University after demobilisation, and afterwards obtained an appointment with the East African Forests Department. Mr. Clare left in July, and became an organiser under the War Savings Committee, and Mr. Grant and Mr. Williams also left in that month. The careers of the two latter have been noted previously, but Mr. Grant has since become Registrar of Birmingham University. Their places were filled by Mr. J. Paris, Mr. R. Callow and Mr. J. G. Roberts. Mr. Paris has taught English in the School since his appointment, and is still with us, and for some years he was in charge of cricket. Mr. Dowse also left in July to become Senior English Master at Liverpool Collegiate School, whence he proceeded to the Headmastership of Cowley School, St. Helens. His sudden death a few years ago as he was taking his School Assembly came as a shock to his former colleagues.

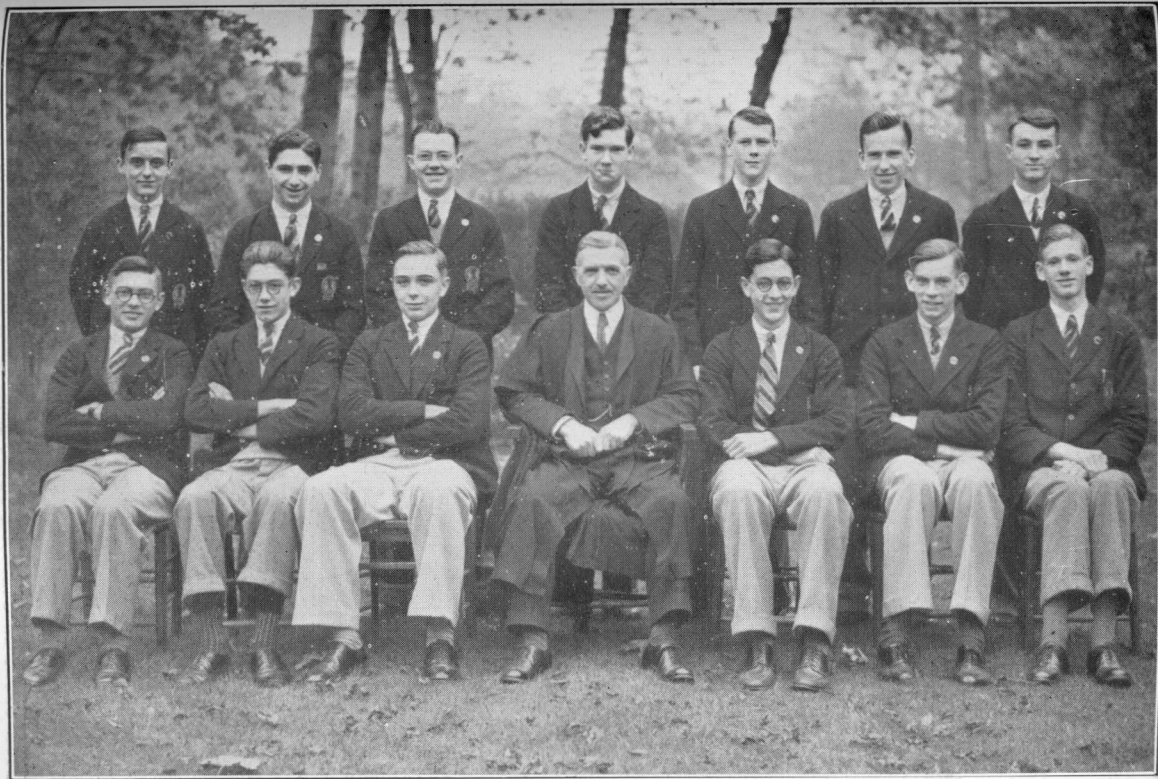


Photo by Cull.
C. V. Bell, L. Simms, T. H. Heys, J. Gallagher, H. E. Winter, W. K. Coughtrie, W. Bray.
G. A. Wetherell, R. May, C. A. Alldis, H. J. Bozier, W. Kinnear, J. G. Stott.

CRICKET 1st XI., 1935.



Photo by Cull.

Freedman, Ternent, Robinson, Kinnear, Slinn, Wheat, May (Scorer).
 Mr. Thacker, Burrell, Barker, Collinson (Capt.), Roylance, Evans F., Mr. Towers.

His place was taken by Mr. F. W. Jones, who quickly identified himself with all the School's activities, and his presentation of plays on Speech Day will long be remembered, "The Idol's Eye" being perhaps the most memorable. He controlled the destinies of Westminster House and handled School Assembly with strictness and impartiality.

In March, 1919, Mr. Saunders, who had been at the School since 1914, met with an untimely death, being killed by a fall from a train as he was on his way home for half-term. Miss Burn and Miss Coxon left in April, and were replaced in May by Miss D. E. Mawe and Miss A. Davies, the latter as Secretary to the Headmaster. Mr. Silverwood departed to the Oulton Secondary School, Liverpool. Mr. Hawkins left in July, and Mr. Callon and Mr. Roberts in December. These Staff changes were no doubt due to the general spirit of restlessness engendered by the war, and the School suffered in consequence. By dint of much hard work the Staff gradually restored the old standard of discipline, and the writer recalls the look of injured innocence on the face of a young offender when called up for punishment and his remark "But Miss ——— never took any notice of that, Sir!"

January 1920 saw the arrival on the staff of Mr. D. Kermode as Form Master of 4c, and Mr. C. Moat to teach French, while in February Mr. P. S. Paice took up the post of art-master. An appreciation of his work is given later. A few weeks previously Mr. Bartlam had had a seizure, from the effects of which he never recovered. A kindly and genial man, he was held in high esteem by both staff and boys, who were much grieved by his death. His son, E. R. Bartlam, who left the School in 1921, proceeded to Liverpool University, where he took a degree in Engineering, and the School learned with regret that he had met his death during the communal riots in India in 1947.

Mr. Kermode will always be remembered for his success in teaching Class singing, and under his leadership the School Choir soon became famous. It was a delight to both eye and ear to watch him wield the baton, and under his able direction the School won the Grosvenor Shield at Chester Musical Festival. He left in 1921 for Cowley School, amid general regret. Mr. Moat soon made an impression both physical and mental

on the boys, and there must be many "flabby rotters" who can recall the dire consequences of failure to learn their French vocabularies. An enthusiastic Chess player, he soon formed a flourishing Chess Club, which was to gain celebrity in later years.

Mr. H. Clare, who had been in charge of Chemistry since September, 1918, left in July, and his place was taken by Mr. A. O. Jones, familiarly known as "Chemmy" to distinguish him from F. W., known as "English." Under his able guidance the chemistry of the School soon reached a high standard. A man of subtle wit and pleasant personality, he quickly identified himself with all the School's activities, and for many years presided over the fortunes of Stitt House.

Miss Roche and Miss Nicholson left in July, and were succeeded by Miss Farrand and Miss Sutherland, and the School survived any further Staff changes till the end of the year. Meanwhile the School continued to live up to its name for scholastic successes, and the Tate Exhibition was awarded to R. L. Swann and the Stitt to W. A. Lord. K. Mawson and M. W. Ramsay proceeded to Liverpool University, the former to study Medicine and the latter Science. Among the footballers J. Early-Brown and Percy Evans were outstanding, the former gaining the Senior cup for Games. In Cricket J. G. Williams will be remembered as one of the best bats the School has produced, and a great innings of 76 not out against Wallasey G.S. was his best performance. He afterwards played for Oxtou for many years.

In January, 1921, Mr. F. Bloor arrived to teach Mathematics, and soon entered into the sporting activities of the School. Together with Mr. A. O. Jones, he wielded the pistol with much distinction as starter at the School sports, and was for many years in charge of Atkin House. Many of his pupils will remember the mathematical ability of his dog "Algebra," whose ability to solve a problem was always so much superior to their own. Mr. Bloor was in charge of the School Soccer for a number of years, and in 1931 succeeded Mr. Wood as Senior Maths. master.

In March, Mr. E. H. Bryant came to fill Mr. Kermode's place as Form Master of 4c. A strict disciplinarian, his classroom was always a model of silence, and his wielding of the

baton on Speech Days showed a practised technique. He was the first master of the School Scout Troop which he launched on the career which has since been so successful. His untimely death as the result of a motor accident in 1927 was much regretted; for he was popular with both staff and boys.

Mr. Tipper left in April, and was succeeded in May by Mr. J. E. Allison, under whose guidance Geography was soon to reach a high standard. A man of indefatigable energy, he has interested himself in every department of School life, and was until recently House Master of Westminster.

Changes in the Junior School Staff continued apace, and Miss Sutherland left to be succeeded by Miss M. Jones. The latter stayed only for one year, and it was a great surprise to re-discover her at Oswestry in 1939, when she acted as guardian of two of our "evacuees."

On the scholastic side the year 1921 was marked by the award of the Corporation Scholarship to J. P. Almond, while J. Howlett won the Stitt Exhibition. They were accompanied to Liverpool University by E. R. Bartlam and A. Ledsom. In Soccer the School had by now built up a team equal to any in the district, and tremendous enthusiasm manifested itself as the Shield Competition drew near. Practically everybody attended the matches, and a war cry was evolved to spur on the players, the boys of those days will remember:—

Ooh! Aah! Aye!

Now B.I.!

Play up Inny! Play up Inny

Ooh! Aah! Aye!

The final was reached in 1921-2 with the following team:

Stevenson.

G. R. Lockyer.

R. Dykes.

A. Jones.

J. W. Pickup.

A. Brown.

D. Elder. W. Almond. P. Evans. G. Ebbrell. R. Weir.

Fortune did not favour us, and we were beaten by our old rivals Liverpool Collegiate by 3 goals to 2. The Senior Cup for games was won by J. Howlett, and the Junior by G. L. Stelfox.

In 1922 there were no Staff changes, and the School certainly benefited from this happy state of affairs. The Soccer team went from success to success, and once more reached the Shield final with the following team:—

Stevenson.

C. R. Lockyer.

J. Goodier.

A. Douglas.

R. Dykes.

J. Longman.

D. Elder. R. Croft. E. Mann. L. Mills. H. R. Weir.

Once more the coveted trophy was to elude our grasp, and we were defeated 2-1 by St. Francis Xavier's at Goodison Park. This bitter pill was however somewhat sweetened by the success of the Junior XI. who won the Shield presented by the Liverpool F.C. The team was:—

F. R. C. Davies.

F. S. Jones.

J. Goodier.

F. Donaldson.

J. McBroom.

G. Longman.

R. Manning. G. Stelfox. N. Nelson. B. Miller. A. Shepherd.

The Senior Cup for games went to J. W. Pickup and the Junior to C. R. Lockyer.

In 1921 and 1922 Mr. Allison took about 70 boys to camp at Dyserth for a fortnight in August. The camp site was half an hour's walk from the shore, and commanded an extensive view seaward. It was owned by Mr. A. C. Lee, of the Birkenhead Tapestry Works, and was a permanent affair of huts with a dining room and staff, including a good cook. The time was spent rambling and playing cricket and football, while visits were made to Prestatyn by means of a quaint little mountain railway which had one engine which the boys christened the "Coffee Pot." A feature of the stay was a football match with the local team, in which Mr. Allison played full-back with Pickup. Colquhoun was in goal, and Howlett, Ebbrell and Brown performed manfully. The score of 2-0 in our favour at half-time did not please the local supporters, and a fresh referee from among their number gave two penalties against Mr. Allison to square the match. Mr. Hall took charge of the camp in 1923, and Mr. Skellon in 1924, after which the School's zest for the open air life died out.

The Stitt Exhibition was awarded in 1922 to J. W. Pickup who proceeded to Liverpool University to study Medicine. He was accompanied by J. W. Belton (Science), E. C. Sykes (Arts), and A. D. Pappworth (Law). Others who left at this time were Noel Lewis to take up accountancy, F. W. Corlett, now a noted local producer on the amateur stage, and W. C. Almond to take up teaching.

January 1923 saw the arrival on the staff of Mr. R. Hall and Miss M. Emery, the former to teach English and the latter to take charge of Form II. in place of Miss Jones. Both soon settled down to take part in all the School's activities, and ten years later Mr. Hall succeeded Mr. F. W. Jones as Senior English master, a position he still occupies. Miss Emery soon became popular with both staff and boys, and until she left in July 1929, the School benefited by her able teaching and cheerful disposition.

The steady flow of entrants to Liverpool University continued, and E. A. Moelwyn Hughes and A. J. Low (Science) and J. Hunter (Arts) proceeded there in the autumn. J. Wilson left to become an articled clerk and afterwards became magistrates' Clerk of Wallasey. Many of the football stalwarts of the past year left in July, and F. G. Minns and T. H. Richards were lost to the Cricket XI. The Senior Cup for Games went again to J. W. Pickup and the Junior to F. S. Jones.

Miss K. Hudson came in January, 1924, to take Miss Farrand's place, and Mr. Skellon in September to swell the ranks of the Science Department. Mr. R. Galloway retired in July, 1924. He had been second master since 1904, and was a man of sound learning and strict religious principles. He took a special delight in conducting School Assembly as deputy to the Headmaster, and his reading of the Scripture was a thing to be remembered. He was succeeded as second master by Mr. H. P. Wood. The School was now filled to capacity with over 500 boys on the roll, and additional staff was needed. Fewer boys than usual proceeded to the University, though R. Croft and A. W. Ellis went to Liverpool in the autumn, the latter, later on, to achieve distinction as a novelist. C. R. Lockyer and J. H. Read left to study for teaching. The former, now H.M. of Christ Church School, Cloughton, is the Teachers' Representative of the Primary

Schools on the Birkenhead Education Committee, and also Chairman of the Old Boys' Association, as well as being an active member of the Old Boys' Dramatic Society. Of others who left in this year, A. E. Richmond, a stalwart of the Chess Club, now holds a responsible position with the Birkenhead Brewery Co. The Senior cup for games went this year to J. R. Dykes and the Junior to J. W. McBroom.

Mr. R. J. Griffith left in December on his appointment as H.M. of Rock Ferry High School. He had been in charge of the Modern Languages Department since 1913, and departed with the good wishes of both School and staff for the future. His place was taken in January 1925 by Mr. T. J. James, and Mr. C. A. Smith was appointed also to teach Latin. The exigencies of the time-table now required further additions to the staff, and in September Mr. E. Sorby arrived to teach Mathematics, while in October Dr. Teesdale Griffiths took charge of Singing. Miss M. Ashcroft appeared to take charge of Form I., and stayed till 1933 when she left to be married. Mr. James and Mr. Smith both left in 1927, but Mr. Sorby is still with us. An enthusiastic grower of chrysanthemums, he is also a keen member of the common-room post prandial Crossword Club. His "dodges" for solving abstruse mathematical problems are known to many members of the Upper Sixth.

In the autumn G. Colquhoun left for Liverpool University, and afterwards became Senior French master at Wirral G.S. The Senior Cup for games went to R. Croft and the Junior to F. B. Miller.

The year 1925 was made memorable by the acquisition of seven acres of land in Ingleborough Road as a playing field. The School had played its games in many places since its pupils first kicked a ball in Willmer Road. The old Archery Ground in Birkenhead Park, Port Sunlight, Prenton (where Carlaw Road now stands), Higher Bebington (on the site of the Wiend) had all witnessed their athletic activities. The field was levelled and sown, and all that was needed was a pavilion, a want that was to be supplied by the Old Boys in the following year, for it had been decided that this would be a fitting Memorial to the Old Boys who had fallen in the war. An enthusiastic committee was formed, with Mr. F. Seward

as chairman, and the School was represented on it by Messrs. Bloor and Bryant. Of the Old Boys, Gomer Roberts, Wilmot and Ainsley were shining lights. Over £1000 was collected, but this was still insufficient to meet the cost, so the School buckled to. Collecting cards were issued to the boys, and concerts and dances held in the Gym. Miss Dodge organised a Bazaar, and the Staff presided over stalls that sold articles of all sorts and descriptions from cigarettes to blacking brushes. Raffles and Lucky Dips added to the means of acquiring funds, and the writer remembers the occasion, for he himself made a one-valve wireless set (wireless being then a novelty), and sang at intervals during the afternoon and evening, whether to attract custom or entertain the stall holders he has not yet been able to discover. It was a remarkable fact that in the raffling Mr. Lewis, the Woodwork master, won the wireless set and also a suit of clothes presented by Mr. Miller, father of one of the boys.

The Bazaar was opened in October by Col. Stott, M.P. for the Borough, and further to add to the funds Mr. A. O. Jones and Mr. Watts conducted scientific experiments in the laboratories, to see which a charge was made. By these prodigious efforts a sum of over £300 was raised, but the amount needed to complete the pavilion was still short of the required figure, although the architect, Mr. Taliesin Rees, had kindly given his services free.

Certain of the staff, therefore, decided to raise the balance by staging a concert and play in Beechcroft. The play, entitled "The Horoscope," was written and produced by Mr. Watts, and much of it was rehearsed in the Physics Lab. during the dinner break. The cast was as follows:—

Horace (a young, wealthy bachelor)	..... Mr. Harris.
Dulcie (secretly engaged to Horace, and acting as his maid)	..... Miss Emery.
Euphorbia (an æsthetic young woman)	..... Miss Ashcroft.
Euphorbia's Aunt (planning to marry her to Horace)	..... Miss Davies.
Jenkins (Butler to Horace)	..... Mr. A. O. Jones.
Mrs. Jenkins (a staunch advocate of women's rights)	..... Mr. Allison.
Professor Plonsky (Reader of Horoscopes and dispenser of potions)	..... Mr. Watts.

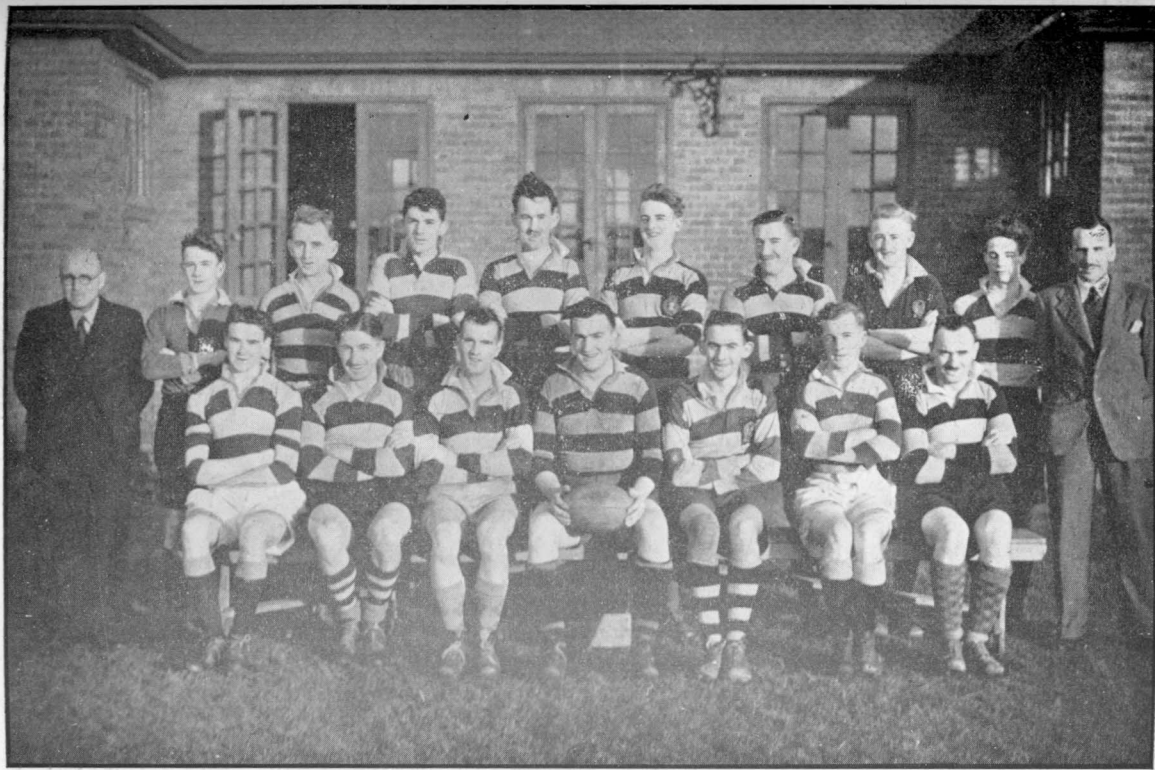
The play was preceded by a concert, and was presented at Beechcroft on November 12th and 13th. The concert programme was:—

Pianoforte Solo.....Chopin's Fantasie Impromptu in C sharp minor Mr. Teesdale Griffiths.
 The Mustard Club Merry-makers...A.W.Ellis and E. Roberts.
 Song "Melisande in the Wood" Mrs. A. O. Jones.
 Song "Sea Fever"F. W. Jones.
 Recitation "The Song of England"Miss M. Dawn.
 Banjo Solo Miss M. Owen.
 Old English Dances Miss Emery and Miss Hudson.
 Song "The Company Sergeant Major" Mr. Harris.

The Memorial Foundation Stone of the Pavilion had been laid by Mr. Solly, Chairman of the Governors, on April 17th, and the Pavilion was formally opened on November 6th by the Mayor, Mr. R. P. Fletcher, who accepted it on behalf of the Corporation. Among those present were the Mayoress, Mrs. R. P. Fletcher, Aldermen Solly and Arkle, Mr. R. T. Jones, Director of Education, and Messrs. J. H. Gomer Roberts, A. M. Hughes and F. Seward.

Mr. Seward, in asking the Mayor to accept the pavilion on behalf of the Corporation, said he felt sure that the boys who had laid down their lives would have wished the memorial to take the form of a sports pavilion and playing field.

The Mayor, in reply, said that the pavilion was a worthy memorial to those who had lost their lives. It would perpetuate the memory of the boys of the Institute who responded to the call of their country. He trusted that the boys who used the pavilion would co-operate in maintaining it as a worthy memorial to those it commemorated. They had shown in their lives and in their glorious deaths that the lessons inculcated in them of discipline, self-reliance and self-respect had not been lost when they were thrown into the vortex of a European war. Boys who would use this pavilion in future years should now and again reflect on the example of those who had sacrificed themselves that civilization might be maintained.



Mr. Jones, Podmore, Page, Ceha, E. G. Williams, Crossley, Little, Pollard, Thomas, Goughtrie.
G. A. Smith, W. Garry, R. L. M. Hill, K. W. Carr, Bell, Lambert, Rigby.

Photo by Cull.

SPEECH DAY, 1949.



C. Weir, Mr. S. Scholefield Allen, K.C., M.P., Headmaster, D. O. Jones.
Mr. J. Furness, A. A. Smith, H. M. Turner.

Photo by Cull.

The ceremony was followed by a football match between the Old Boys' F.C. and Old Holts. The Mayor kicked off and the Old Boys' Team was :—

	Stevenson.		
Gracey.		Bone.	
A. A. Jones.	McBroom.	Delf.	
Weigh.	Watson.	Miller.	Wood.
			Minns.

Shortly after these great events had been recorded, the School learnt with much sorrow that Miss Dodge, who had worked so hard for the success of the Bazaar, had been stricken down with a serious illness, from which she never recovered. Her death cast a gloom over an otherwise happy year, and her funeral was attended by the whole School amid manifestations of universal regret.

Meanwhile, the usual School successes went on. J. R. Dickinson, H. Christian and H. R. Gaughan proceeded to the University, the former to study medicine and the two latter to become teachers. Dickinson was awarded the Tate Scholarship in the following year, and after a successful university career, became a Harley Street specialist. The Senior Cup for games went to J. W. McBroom, and the Junior to J. Wilson. Mr. Harris now took up the post of Senior History Master, and Mr. A. R. Thacker was appointed to teach English and Maths. He soon took an active part in the School games, especially in Cricket.

So we come to 1927 and the end of this period of the School's history. Miss Hudson and Miss Davies left the Junior School, and Miss K. Booth and Mrs. I. Davis arrived to take Forms I. and II. Mr. F. D. Currie came in May temporarily to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Bryant's death. Mr. Skellon left in July, and was succeeded in September by Mr. D. J. Williams to teach Physics. He, too, took an active part in the School's athletic activities, and shared in the difficult task of teaching the boys the Rugger code when the School changed over from Soccer in 1934.

Of the boys who left in 1927, M. H. Pappworth and H. L. Davies went to Liverpool University to study Medicine, and R. E. Wood to study Physics. J. E. Lowry also went up. Others who left at this time were C. H. Verity, who obtained

a responsible post as electrician at Cammell Lairds, L. B. Smith who went into Insurance, and C. S. McDonald, now a Town Councillor. The Senior Cup for Games was won by H. G. Roberts, and the Junior by G. V. Ovens, the latter an outstanding Footballer and Cricketer. His century against Rock Ferry H.S. still stands as a School record.

No period in the history of a School could be complete without some reference to its Headmaster, and although advancing years tended to retard his energies to some extent, Mr. Smallpage continued to conduct affairs in his usual quiet, unobtrusive way. His love of Cricket continued to the end, and he was a frequent visitor to the field and played regularly in the Staff v. School match. Many old boys will remember the party he took to London to see the Wembley Exhibition, and the writer particularly remembers a visit with the School to see the "Mount Everest" film at the Olympia Theatre in Liverpool, when, whether by design or accident, he managed to get himself and most of the staff seated in one of the best boxes in the house.

At the end of the Christmas Term the first issue of the *Visor* appeared, and therein, from that date, the School's history has been duly recorded, term by term. To those members of the School whose names may have been omitted from this record the writer offers his humble apologies. The task of writing this history has not been easy, for records have been often scanty. It has been the aim to depict the life of the School from year to year; the future careers of its sons are chronicled elsewhere, except in some notable instances.

The School still lacks an Assembly Hall with its usual Honours Board, but perhaps this defect will be remedied when it finds its new home in Oxtou. Is it too much to hope that there will be an Old Boys' Honours Board too?

G.W.H.

CHAPTER VII.

1927—1949.

In the twenty-two years of the School's history, beginning with the publication of the first number of the *Visor* at Christmas 1927, and ending with this Diamond Jubilee issue, there are several landmarks. The first, and most important from a purely domestic point of view, was the change of Headmasters in 1929; the second, the outbreak of the world war in 1939; and the third, the passing of the Education Act of 1944, which was once more to modify the School's constitution as other acts had done two generations earlier. When this period begins in 1927, the School is still strongly linked, if not to its actual origins, at least to the outset of the present century. Mr. Smallpage had been Headmaster since 1903, and several of his staff had been appointed before the end of Queen Victoria's reign. Whetstone Lane was still a comparatively quiet thoroughfare, and no motor bus had yet invaded it. The "Mount Road Memorial Ground, Ingleborough Road," to give the school field the grandiloquent title it enjoyed in *Visor* Number one, had only recently come into use, and soccer was still the ruling code there. Several parts of the main School building, notably the gymnasium, the two laboratories, and the art room, looked very different from to-day, and there was no office. The years which were to come were momentous and indeed fateful. Their events have been faithfully recorded in the School magazine published with only one break, due to the war, since then. Its volumes have been largely used for the present sketch, and it may therefore be convenient to give some account of the *Visor's* own history here.

The original cover of Christmas 1927 was designed by Mr. Paice and was dark green in colour though bearing the familiar device in black and gold which it has to-day. But, a year later, the livery became the well-known scarlet. A magazine called 'the *Whetstonian*' published by the Junior School became incorporated with the *Visor* at Christmas 1928, and, although 'the *Whetstonian*' did in fact appear twice independently afterwards, this was practically the end of its individual existence. For the next ten years, three numbers appeared annually, at Christmas, at Easter,

and at the close of each Summer Term. School news, House and Form Notes, articles, crossword puzzle, university letters, and Old Boys' news, were the staple contents, with photographs and lino-cuts in addition. At Easter 1939 appeared the special Jubilee number, the most ambitious venture of the Magazine Committee up to that date. It was a prodigious success, and the whole edition was quickly bought up. It contained the first instalment of a history of the School (1889 to 1908) by Mr. Harris, many historic photographs (some of which are again reproduced here), and was bound in a yellow cover, as were the next two numbers. No one who was on the original editorial staff could have foreseen that the *Visor* for Christmas 1939 would have borne the sub-title 'Evacuation Number.' Yet such was the Magazine's vigour after twelve years of publication that it was able to appear despite the difficulties of that first winter of war. Two more issues, those for Easter and Summer 1940, may be said to complete the first series, as they mark a sharp division, not only in the history of the *Visor*, but in the affairs of the School itself. These two magazines are notable for their black and gold covers, again designed by Mr. Paice, and reminiscent of the ornamental gateway at Ingleborough Road. After that Summer number of 1940, war conditions made publication impossible, and there were no *Visors* for four years. The first number of the new series (Christmas 1944) was a great contrast in size with the pre-war editions, but it contrived to record everything of importance in the intervening years. In the immediate post-war years, the magazine has gone to press at Christmas and July only, but the gradual improvement in quality and quantity of paper available and the restoration of the scarlet cover has brought the *Visor* back to its former standards. This Diamond Jubilee issue is the best proof of the soundness of this recovery and a tribute to the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hall (Senior English Master), who has held this office throughout the Magazine's existence. Mr. Haime (1928 to 1941), who now holds an appointment with British Overseas Airways, acted as vice-chairman for many years.

Alderman G. A. Solly, Mayor of Birkenhead in 1928, and a freeman of the borough, was the Chairman of the Institute Governors for the greater part of this period, having succeeded

to that position in 1908 and holding it until his death in February 1941. Of his close and devoted interest in the fortunes of the School there was never any question. He came frequently to prayers and to School functions, founded the History Prize which bears his name, and took the trouble to visit the boys during the first winter of the war when they were in exile at Oswestry. He was succeeded in the Chairmanship by Councillor J. Furness, who continued until the separate board ceased to function in the summer of 1948. The name of Mr. William Jackson, who gave twenty-three years devoted service to the School as Deputy Chairman of Governors between 1925 and 1948, must also be recorded. By his marriage he was closely linked with the Institute's foundation; for Mrs. Jackson was the daughter of Mr. George Atkin.

At Easter 1929, the impending retirement of the Headmaster, Mr. J. Smallpage, was announced. In twenty-six years, he had given the School more than a merely local reputation. He was an unobtrusive administrator, but the successes of many of his pupils showed that he exercised a real influence over them. The Headmaster-elect, Mr. E. Wynne Hughes, was present at the School Speech Day and at the Athletic Sports in 1929. Taking office in the following September, he has thus completed nearly twenty years of service at Birkenhead Institute. Although the time has not yet fully arrived completely to estimate his tenure of the post, several of his achievements are part of the School's progress in the period under review. From the academic point of view, he encouraged many Instonians to proceed to universities. In 1948, thirty-three old boys were in residence at British Universities, a number which few Schools of our size could rival. He made notable improvements to the internal fabric of the building, began the extension of the library as a real centre of advanced work, systematised the prizes and trophies, and not least showed his anxiety at the outset for full use to be made of the splendid playing field. In consequence, the Athletic Sports were held at the Port Sunlight Ground for the last time in the Summer of 1930 and, beginning with the Sports of June 6th, 1931, all subsequent meetings have been at Ingleborough Road. The field has been improved from time to time by the addition of the flagstaff (October 1930), by the planting of trees (autumn 1932), and by the ornamental wrought iron archway

(1933). A large bell, given by Mr. Luton in memory of his son's years at the School, hangs from a bracket at the pavilion, presented by Mr. Robert Smith.

The first numbers of the *Visor* record several changes in the life of the School and in the composition of the Staff. Of School societies, the most notable in those years were the Rifle Club, which flourished until 1939, the Dramatic Society, which began in 1928, and the National Savings Association, still a most successful undertaking since its inception in 1924. The Harriers, Badminton Club, and Scientific Society date from 1930, but all are eclipsed in the outstanding successes of the School Chess Club which in 1930 gained first place in the Wright Challenge Shield Competition for the third time in five years. The School's widely recognised reputation in Chess playing was chiefly due to the work of Mr. Charles Moat (1920 to 1937), who returned for war-time duty in 1941-3 before his final retirement. In 1933, the British Chess Federation presented a shield to the School for annual competition. In the workaday life of the class rooms, 1930 brought a renumbering of the forms, the old 'C's' being finally abandoned. At the same time a five-period morning was introduced, and this system survived until the autumn term of 1934, when the former four-period division was restored. Changes to the fabric in the early thirties include the construction of a modern office in place of one of the cloakrooms, the provision of large windows on the western side of the art room, and a drastic alteration in the bench arrangement in the two laboratories. The floor space in the gymnasium was enlarged in November 1929 by setting back the stalls under the gallery. The chief changes on the Staff in these years concern two masters of marked individuality, Mr. H. Bennett retiring from the position of Senior Modern Language Master in July 1929 after thirty years at the School, and Mr. H. P. Wood (second master) relinquishing the Senior Mathematical post in July 1931 after thirty-two years' service. They were a remarkable and distinguished pair. No one would readily invade Mr. Bennett's corner of the Staff Room table, where indeed he was installed so early each morning that many believed him to have been there all night. As for Mr. Wood, his versatility was amazing. Mathematics, Classics, Literature, were alike handled by him with an easy and genial mastery. Other changes to be noted take us back

to 1927. In that year, as has been previously noted, Mr. Bryant (famous for his sing-songs in the gym.) was killed in a motor-cycle accident. He had been the recorder at all School sporting events, and this work was then taken over by Mr. Thacker, who has thus been the centre of intelligence and liaison at the most fevered moments for twenty-two years. No crisis has ever been big enough to disturb his miraculously imperturbable accuracy. The departure of Mr. C. Smith and Mr. Skellon created further vacancies, which were filled by Mr. Finn (1927 to 1930), Mr. H. Davies (1927 to 1941), who will long be remembered for his wonderful work with the Scouts, and Mr. D. J. Williams (1927 to 1944), who played a large part in the change-over to Rugby, succeeded Mr. Watts as Senior Physics Master and is now Principal of Lancaster Technical College. Further names to be recorded at this point are those of Mr. Knight (1928) and Mr. Deakin (1929 to 1931), when he retired owing to ill-health, his death being announced in the Summer number of the *Visor* for 1936. Mr. A. V. Lord (1930 to 1941) and Mr. W. E. Williams (1930 to present day) were the first two appointments made under the Headmastership of Mr. E. Wynne-Hughes. At the end of the Summer term in 1930, the School lost Miss Harkness. Although a former Junior School Mistress (Miss A. Davies 1919 to 1927) had also acted as clerical assistant to the Headmaster, teaching half-time from 1920 onwards, Miss Harkness was the first full-time secretary the Institute had; for in her last years at the School she was relieved of all teaching duties. Since her time, school records have grown in volume and complexity, but have been ably controlled during the reigns of her successors, Miss Cooper 1931 to 1942 and Miss Cojeen 1942 onwards. The School has been singularly fortunate in the patience, devotion to duty, and grasp of the multifarious office side of its life, shown by all three. Perhaps an account of the early thirties may well be rounded off with some typical memories; of the Swiss tour conducted by Mr. Allison in 1930, of the General Inspection of the School in June 1931, when the Inspectors requested our attendance on a Wednesday afternoon, then and for years afterwards normally a half-holiday; of the announcement in September 1930 that a new blazer and a new cap would replace the rather sombre uniform then in vogue, and finally of the announcement that "certain additions to the School build-

ings are proposed, probably a new assembly hall and a number of extra class rooms." This prophecy still awaits fulfilment.

Looking back on the years from 1931 to the coming of war in 1939, one is struck by the note of tranquillity. There were comparatively few changes on the staff, and when a pupil in Form 6s, I. S. Melville (later a distinguished student in the Liverpool School of Architecture) wrote in the Easter *Visor* of 1935 that "a stranger need have no fear in going to Dunkirk, which is well worth a visit," no one in the world then could have foreseen what significance that name was to have five years later. But none, except perhaps the members of the revived Sixth Form Literary and Debating Society (the School's oldest club) worried about Hitler in that easy-going age. There were other interests then. To crown 1933, for example, came the splendid achievement of the Old Boys' Dramatic Society in winning the Howard de Walden Trophy in the National Festival of Drama. The most notable change was the one completed in 1934 from Association to Rugby Football. For many years, the Institute had been well known for its soccer XI., and much of this success, particularly in the Senior Shield Competitions, where the Institute reached the semi-finals in 1930 and 1932, was due to Mr. Bloor's work as Secretary of the Club. But, as early as 1927, we read that "Park Rugby Club lent the second XV. ground in Park Road North for the Institute Rugby Club to use on Wednesday afternoons," and the transition had been going on quietly since then. By 1934, it was possible to field a worthy 1st XV, owing to the encouragement given by several masters. Mr. A. O. Jones and Mr. Paris contributed the knowledge acquired from the classic arenas of Cardiff and Edinburgh respectively, and field work has been coached with skill, at different times, by Messrs. D. J. Williams, D. Lewis, E. Webb, and R. Williams. The Institute 1st XV. has established an enduring local reputation, based on many fine seasons, particularly that of 1947-8, when fourteen games were won and two drawn. The team scored 520 points and had only 153 scored against them in twenty-five matches. By its success in the Schools Seven-a-side Competition in 1949, the School completes a notable hat trick, having won the Competition every year since its inauguration by Birkenhead Park R.F.C. in 1947.



START OF JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY RUN, 1933.



SCOUTS AND CUBS, 1934.

This has been largely due to a succession of excellent captains, who have led the team superbly. Among former members of the club who have achieved distinction, J. Bartlett deserves special mention, having turned out with the Combined Services Team against the Australians at Twickenham in 1946, captained the Combined Universities side, and been selected as reserve for England. In the School season of 1946-7, new jerseys were introduced for the XV., black with gold collars.

In 1934, School cricket, after many years of guidance under Mr. Harris, passed under the control of Mr. Thacker. The old-established Swimming Gala was first held at the new Byrne Avenue Baths in October 1933, but Livingstone Street Baths were by no means abandoned, as several later Galas took place there (1934 to 1937). Several notable staff changes took place from 1931 onwards. Mr. A. G. Morris was appointed in that year as Senior Modern Languages Master and remained for fifteen years. In 1949, he was appointed Inspector of Schools. Mr. Wild was at the Institute from 1931 to 1938. The then Senior English Master, Mr. F. W. Jones, left in the summer of 1933 to become Headmaster of Beaumaris County School, and at the same time Mr. W. G. Lewis retired from his post as Handicrafts Master. He had reigned in the Woodwork Shop for twenty-five years (1908 to 1933) and was an undoubted "character," who gained everyone's respect. He conducted his lessons with a cherubic ferocity. The honesty of his farewell speech, in which he said that he proposed to retire while there was still sufficient life left in him to enjoy it, was as rare as it was refreshing.

In the summer of 1935, Mr. W. H. Watts, the second master, retired after thirty-four years' service. He was an outstanding personality, a well-known local astronomer, widely travelled, and an excellent raconteur. He was succeeded in the position of second master by Mr. Harris, who has therefore now held that office for fourteen years and, as the sole survivor of the Institute's Staff from the legendary days of 1906, has a record of service which would appear to defy all comers in the future. Other members of the staff who should be noted at this period are Mr. Towers (1933 to 1936) who knew of the Institute's fame through the poems of Wilfrid Owen before he applied for the post; Mr. Darlington (1934 to 1939)

who succeeded Mr. Lewis in the Woodwork shop and who together with Mr. Sorby (time keeper at all School Athletic events since 1935) designed and constructed the fine trophy cupboard in the Entrance Hall; and Mr. D. Lewis (1936 to 1946), "Tiger" to his friends, and the reviver of the School's interest in boxing which recently earned for the team (1947) the "Birkenhead News" Cup, of which we were the first holders. The last two appointments to the staff before the war were Mr. J. H. Jones (1937-1939) and Mr. L. Fox (1939 to 1946). It will be most convenient to give some account of the Staff of the Junior School later in this history, but one more retirement of a well-known figure after twenty-nine years' service must be noted in 1938. When Mr. A. P. Clague gave up his position as gymnastics master, the School lost a stalwart who could well claim an international reputation. He had acted as a judge in athletic contests in various parts of Europe and, when he finally retired to his native Isle of Man, it was difficult to realise that his burly and breezy personality would no longer be seen in the gym, or at galas. He had many interests. At one time he taught fencing in the school, and no one who attended his classes is likely to forget his knowledge of every side of physical training, even to his accompaniment at the piano of certain exercises. Mr. Clare (1938 to 1947), now Organiser of Physical Training to Wallasey Education Committee, succeeded him, although owing to prolonged war service he was unable to be present during much of that period. Various masters "took gym" in the intervening years, the most interesting appointment being that of Mr. Charles Lord for some time in 1948. Few boys who were privileged to work under so distinguished a gymnast as Mr. Lord could have realised that he was thus renewing an association with the Institute Staff as far back as 1909 to 1913. The present revival in this side of the School and the Gymnastic Club are due to Mr. R. Williams, appointed in the autumn of 1948. The thirties were good times in the Institute. We note a School trip to Belgium in 1931, Mr. A. V. Lord's Summer Camp at Borth-y-gest in the middle thirties, a Paris trip in 1937, and one to the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow in 1938. In retrospect, this period appears to have enjoyed good cheer of another sort. Russell's "den" is referred to as the School "Tuck Shop" in 1934, and in that year, "milk and straws" arrived. But

the climax came on May 11th, 1937, when the great Coronation Tea was held in the gym. One who was present remembers two masters working for dear life opening tins, Mr. Darlington's clever decorations, and the visit of Mr. Solly during tea. One certainly cannot quarrel with the *Visor's* contention that "prodigious amounts were eaten" or that "the exertions of the conjuror afterwards were enjoyed by a replete assembly." This was indeed the swan-song of the spacious thirties; for, within two years, the Headmaster was outlining to the Staff some plans called "Evacuation scheme in the event of hostilities."

On the last Saturday of August in 1939, at a period when the School is normally closed and quiet, and its inhabitants gone to the four winds, unwonted activity might have been seen at the Institute, and the telephone rang incessantly. This was the crisis period. The whole staff was present on the next day, and that curious experience of a Staff Room full of masters on a Sunday will probably never be forgotten by those who shared it. As the last week of peace went by, plans were completed for the evacuation, and all boys who intended to take part in it came to school each day. The final arrangement was for the party to leave on September 3rd, two new masters, Mr. Lake (1939 to 1947) and Mr. Cartwright (1939 to 1944), joining us for the great trek. Our departure took place a few hours after the actual declaration of war on Germany. After marching to Woodside, boys and masters boarded a special train for Oswestry, where the allotment of billets was speedily made. The School was to share the buildings of Oswestry High School, but, as these were not immediately available, the first fortnight was spent practically *al fresco* in Cae Glas and the surrounding countryside. A glorious autumn made this experience exceedingly pleasant. When we were able to use the High School, the afternoon sessions were generally held there. But other buildings had to be requisitioned to maintain a full time table, particularly the Memorial Hall adjoining the celebrated cattle market. Lessons took on a new dignity when they were held in the Oddfellows' Hall, and everyone sat in a massive carved armchair. Gradually, the outstanding difficulties were surmounted, and the School's life was so far reconstructed in exile that full examinations were possible in December. At Oswestry Thursday afternoon became the half-holiday. Although those

who took part in it will never forget the hospitality of the townspeople; the many and varied interests which sustained staff and boys alike; sunny afternoons on the bowling green; evenings of good cheer and the truly amazing amount of ordinary work got through (to which the excellent Certificate Examination results of 1940 bore witness), yet it cannot be denied that evacuation was a failure and for two principal reasons. Firstly, only half the School took part in it, and, secondly, the absence of air raids in 1939 gradually made it appear unreal and pointless. It was therefore decided to re-open the Institute on November 5th for those boys who had remained in Birkenhead. Mr. Paris was in charge, assisted by Mr. Paice and Mr. Jeffery (1935 to 1945) and by Miss Bowers and Mr. W. E. Williams who returned from Oswestry. At the same time, Rock Ferry High School was re-opened, and the following arrangements were made. There were three morning and two afternoon sessions. Third Form boys attended at 9 a.m. for one hour's instruction in several subjects, fourth formers at 10 a.m. and so on. This was necessary to conform with severe A.R.P. restrictions on the number of boys in the building, use of the first floor being absolutely prohibited. On alternate days, Rock Ferry masters came to the Institute and our own staff went to Rock Ferry, something like a complete time-table being provided in this way. But so many boys returned from the evacuation area for the Christmas holiday that it became obvious that the School would have to be completely re-opened in Birkenhead in the New Year. Thus, from January 1940, the main body of pupils reassembled at the Institute, and the Oswestry "branch" gradually died of attrition, finally disappearing in April.

The history of most schools in war time follows a regular pattern. It is obvious that drastic changes must be expected among those members of the staff who are likely to be called to the colours, and it is, unhappily, even more clear that many losses among old boys of the recent generations will be sustained. As the war effort increases in intensity, paper, fuel, and transport, are curtailed, and all these greatly affect the life of a school. Birkenhead Institute felt the impact of the second World War severely. Few people can realise that from first to last, from 1939 to 1945, some sixty changes took place on the staff, counting in the calling-up and return of some, the

BOXING CLUB, 1938-9.

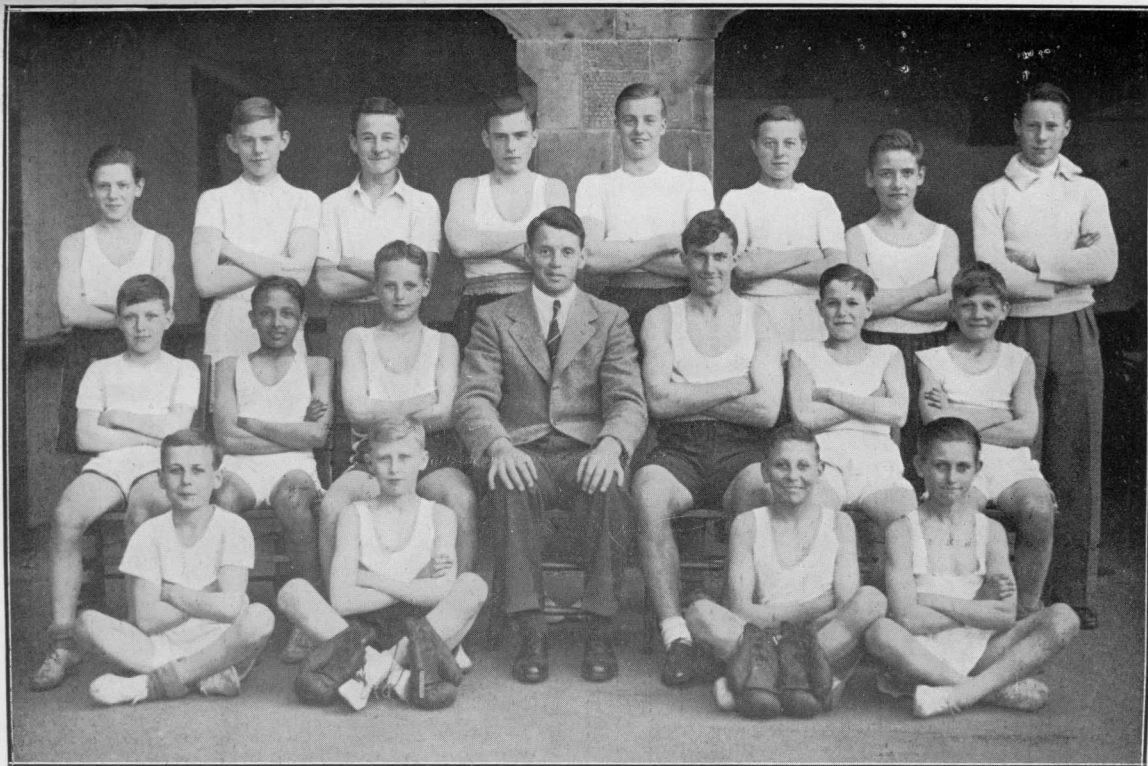


Photo by Cull.

J. Kernaghan, J. F. Bell, E. V. Beauchamp, V. H. Roberts, G.S.Fallows, A.E.Smith, A.R.Gibbons, B.A.Young.
 A. J. Mandy, F. T. Vanderwall, K. Bolton, A. D. Lewis, Esq., L. F. Clarke, J. R. Nugent, G. Nelson.
 C. K. Powell, A. J. MacLachlan. C. Boston, J. R. Bird.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY, THE TORCHBEARERS.



Mr. E. C. Townsend, P. Bolam, J. Liggett, F. Owers, Mr. L. T. Malcolm, A. Johnston, E. Barzey, J. Gray.
M. Acton, A. Powell, E. Jones, D. Burls, W. Baker.

retirement of others, and yet again the many temporary appointments made. One example from the time table is sufficient evidence of the dislocation made by war. A boy passing through the School could have a different teacher of mathematics every year, sometimes even every term. At the outset of the war, the appointment of Dr. Teasdale Griffiths, who had been in charge of school music for ten years as a visiting master, lapsed (as did all such appointments), and after that time his work was carried on first by Mr. Lake, and on his departure by Mr. Bailey from 1945 onwards. Mr. Clare was called up at the outbreak of war, and within twelve months he was followed by Mr. D. Lewis. Mr. Bloor, who was on the reserve of officers, left for service in the summer of 1940, returning five years later to resume the Senior Mathematical Mastership, having then achieved the distinction of serving practically throughout both world wars in France, Gallipoli, East Africa, and the Far East. Mr. Fox, Mr. Lake, and Mr. W. E. Williams were called up between 1940 and 1941. Other appointments to the staff during the war were those of Messrs. Bolton, Derbyshire, A. E. Darbyshire, McLeod, and Mrs. Maillard, in 1941; Miss Wilkinson in 1942; Mr. F. J. Smith in 1943; Messrs. Moore, Speight, and Townsend, in 1944. Only two of these members of the staff, Mr. Bolton and Mr. Townsend, remain in 1949.

On May 3rd, 1940, there occurred the sudden death of one of the School's most popular figures, Mr. Philip Paice, who had been Art Master for twenty years since February 1920. An urbane and immaculate figure, a witty and erudite colleague whose company was always a delight, he was an accomplished artist. He was President of the Liver Sketch Club; a member of the Royal Cambrian Academy, and an exhibitor at the Royal Academy, whose diploma he held. One of his works was purchased in 1938 for the permanent collection of the Liverpool Walker Art Gallery. Mr. Paice designed the School crest, and for many years, as its secretary, organised the Annual Athletic Sports Meeting. The measure of his loss lies in the many times his friends recall his sayings and doings; for he was "a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy." After his death, the Art Room was in charge of a succession of able teachers, including Mr. Grainger Smith (1941-3); Mr. Litherland (1943-4); Miss Rosenbloom (1944-6); Mr.

Davies (1946), and finally Miss Price, appointed in 1946, who remains to continue the distinguished work which has set so many Instonians on the road to success in art and architecture. The memory of an old boy, Malcolm D. Forshaw, who had a bright future in this field but who was killed on active service, has been perpetuated in the Forshaw Art Prize given by his mother for annual competition. At about the same time that Mr. Paice's death was announced, came the news of the passing of Mr. R. Galloway (retired 1924) at the age of 83, the breaking of the last link with the very beginnings of the Institute. A long series of changes in school janitors also began that summer with the retirement of Russell after twenty-two years' service. Two of his successors are worthy of mention here; E. Davies (1941-5) and the present janitor H. Robinson.

While it is true that the casualty lists of the second World war never attained the grivous proportions of those announced in 1916 and 1917, it would be a serious mistake to suppose that grammar schools found that a lighter toll of their members was taken in the second conflict. The figures for the Institute reveal the real truth at once. There are eighty-three names on our first Roll of Honour 1914-1918; there are eighty-nine on the Roll of Honour for the War of 1939-1945. The heavy demands made by the R.A.F. and other arms for educated officers and N.C.O.'s who could master the technicalities of new weapons inevitably meant that large recruitment and sacrifice would be demanded from the secondary school boy. If this has tended to be forgotten by some, particularly in the post-war attitude to the older secondary schools, a glance at their War Memorials might be a salutary correction. In the Institute Roll of Honour for the second world war stand the names of the brightest and best of their generation. An appeal for a worthy memorial to them was launched at Christmas 1948, and this is to be placed near the familiar tablet which records their heroic predecessors.

Of the life of the School itself during the war years, some brief account may be given. Owing to fuel and transport difficulties, the Spring Term of 1940 saw the temporary abandonment of Saturday morning school. The six day week was however restored that summer and continued until 1945, when from September the five-day week has been the rule. At

Whitsuntide 1940, the half-term holiday was cancelled owing to the National emergency declared upon the German invasion of Norway. Many old boys will remember the unpleasant sensation of doing lessons on a glorious Whit Monday. A few weeks later, the first farming camp began at Barrow Hall Farm near Tarvin. A series of these camps was held every summer up to 1947, and very useful and enjoyable work was done. Originally organised by Mr. A. V. Lord, Mr. Lake and Mr. Sorby gave great assistance after he left. Old In-tonians will not forget Mrs. Sorby's care of their well-being at Blackburn's Farm, nor of the devotion of Mr. Malcolm in running the later camps. When the summer holidays came in 1940, it was decided to keep the School open. Lectures were given in the mornings for those boys who attended, and games were held at Ingleborough Road in the afternoons, the staff taking a fortnight's holiday on a rota. At least once during the games, cover had to be taken when local batteries opened up against enemy reconnaissance planes. After the abandonment of the Oswestry scheme, the Institute ground and cellar floors were reinforced with blast walls and sand bags. In the autumn of 1940, the rule was at first followed that the whole school went to the (old) dining room and cycle shed shelters when an air raid alarm sounded. This rule was partially relaxed after the period 'alert' was introduced, the sixth forms coming downstairs and working on the ground floor. Serious air raids began in October and November 1940, and by that time the staff were working a fire watchers' duty in the building each night. During the heavy raid on Birkenhead on March 12th-13th, 1941, incendiaries fell in the gym, but were promptly dealt with by Mr. Hall, who was on duty. The School was closed for three days (March 13th to 15th) owing to a partial dislocation of normal life in the town, and several masters worked as clerks in the Billeting Office during that period. However, both boys, who had often spent whole nights in shelters; and staff, who had been on Home Guard or Wardens duties, came through this period well, and only one casualty was sustained when A. R. Gibbons was killed when a bomb fell in Conway Street. Of the manifold difficulties produced by war, the shortage of paper and books was most acutely felt. January 31st, 1945, should be remembered as the one occasion when the School was forced to close owing to

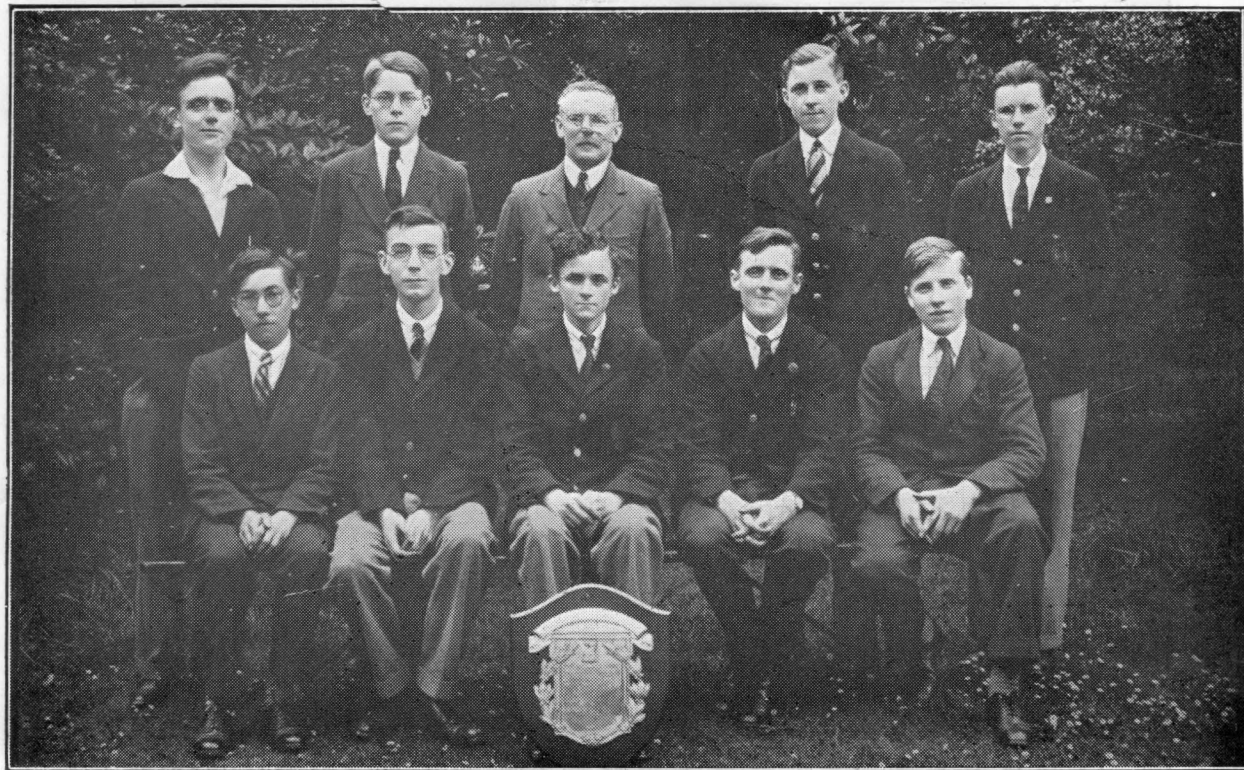
a complete lack of fuel. On the conclusion of the European part of the war, a short service was held in the gymnasium before the School broke up for a two day victory holiday, but, as the surrender of Japan came during the summer holiday, the celebration occurred later when all attended a performance of Henry V. at the Gaumont Cinema.

Old Instonians who passed through the Junior School may feel that an important aspect of our history has hitherto been neglected. But, as July 1944 saw the final closure of this department, some reference to its fifty-five years of existence may fittingly be made here. There can be no doubt that, throughout its history, it played an important part in the progress of Birkenhead Institute. Excellent work was done by the pupils there. Their garden, though small, was delightfully kept and formed a charming background for the annual play produced. These results were due to the devotion and ability of a band of mistresses. Mention should be made of Miss Ashcroft, who left in 1934, and of Miss Dyer, 1937, to whom the plays owed so much. Mrs. Davies will be remembered by her pupils for a sound grounding in mathematics. Later scholars will recall Miss Pickering and Miss Wilkinson. Two names stand out for length of service. Firstly, Miss Bowers who for twenty-eight years (1914 to 1942) was the head of the department and a firm disciplinarian; and Mrs. Curtis (better known to the passing generations as Miss Booth) who did yeoman work "over there" for nineteen years between 1927 and 1946. Under the Education Act of 1944, Junior or Preparatory departments in maintained schools were dissolved (though they were allowed to survive in direct grant schools), and this therefore brought our Junior School to its conclusion. So much has been said of the creative work of this celebrated Act of Parliament that it is often forgotten that it could be destructive too. The passing of the Junior School cannot but be deplored. The distinctive uniform of its pupils, dark blue or grey (according to season) with red facings, will be seen no more, but it will be long before the influence of the work done there will pass into oblivion. The building has been used since 1944 by the Senior School, and this has enabled Mr. Allison, the Senior Geography Master, to have a Geography Room (though this awaits appropriate equipment) at long last. It is fitting here



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL.

CHess TEAM.
WINNERS OF THE WRIGHT CHALLENGE SHIELD (1929-30).



G. W. D. Wright,
C. D. Greaves,

T. H. Green,
L. B. Wood,

Mr. Moat,
J. M. McNeill,

G. Jellicoe,
G. V. Ovens,

J. A. Halliday,
J. Pritchard.

Photo by Clarkson, Birkenhead.

to pay a tribute to the outstanding work he has done for local geography; in the official history of the Birkenhead Ferries (which may be studied in the saloons of the Woodside boats); in the reconstruction of the field map of Tranmere and of its ancient cross which now stands in Victoria Park; in his articles on local history for the *Visor*; in his work for Sir Charles Reilly's development plan of Birkenhead, and in the publication of his book on the Mersey Estuary.

In recalling the Junior School and its Cub Pack, one is reminded here of the long and successful history of Birkenhead Institute Scout Troop, which has flourished on historic ground; for only a few hundred yards away from its customary meeting-place Baden Powell, in 1908, launched the world-wide scouting movement. The troop (23rd Birkenhead) began in September 1924, and thus attains its Silver Jubilee this year. Pioneers were Miss Emery (S.M.), who started the Junior School Troop (21st Birkenhead), and the late Mr. Bryant, who founded the 23rd Birkenhead in the Senior School. He was assisted by Mr. R. Lockyer, who a year later became Scoutmaster. Among the earliest members were W. D. Coughtrie and F. E. Tomlinson, who have served throughout the troop's existence successively as Patrol leaders and King's Scouts and are still going strong as S.M. and A.S.M. respectively. The Cubs were active from the start, running a handicraft exhibition in 1928, a camp at Ross-on-Wye, and by 1930 could boast forty-eight members. Troop colours were presented in 1928 by Alderman Arkle when there were forty scouts, a number rising subsequently to fifty-five in 1935. Camping has always been a marked activity. The first week-end camp, run by Mr. Lockyer, was at Irby in 1925, while the first summer camp was at Malpas the following year. Others followed at Ross (1927-1929); Red Wharf Bay (1930); Silverdale, N. Lancs. (1931); Stainforth (1932); Weston, Hereford (1933-1934); Charmouth, Dorset (1935-1937); Newbold Pacey, Warwick (1938); Gatehouse of Fleet (1939), and at Brynbach during the war years. Many names of King's Scouts are recorded in these first sixteen years of the Troop's existence.

In inter-troop contests, the name of the 23rd can be found on most of the leading trophies of the local association. Among them are the Walter Harding Challenge Cup for athletics

and the Brewster Shield for swimming. In the larger world of Scouting, the troop was represented at the 1929 Arrowe Park World Jamboree by H. E. Wilson and J. H. D. Wetherell. Eight senior scouts went to the World Jamboree at Godollo, Hungary (1933), and some again to Holland (1937). We recall our scouts on duty when the Mersey Tunnel was opened for inspection by pedestrians and later at the formal opening by King George V. In 1932, Mr. Thacker began a Rover Scout Crew which had sixteen members. Many social functions were held throughout the period, the Scout Bazaar of December 1936 (when £120 was raised for the Hut Fund) and a series of concerts and plays standing out most vividly in the memory. During the evacuation of 1939, part of the troop was attached to the 2nd Oswestry's.

Since the war, great efforts have been made to restore the scouts to their old strength. They have always made a great contribution to the life of the School, and, in recognition of this, it is fitting to record our debt to Mr. H. Davies who was in charge for twelve years. Mr. Thacker and Mr. Darlington also did much work with the Group, while Miss Booth (Cubmaster), assisted by Miss Ashcroft and Mrs. Davies of the Junior School Staff, worked hard with the Cubs. Our debt to Old Boys is a heavy one. We are proud to remember the outstanding service of Mr. W. D. Coughtrie and Mr. F. E. Tomlinson. Other names inseparable from the history of Birkenhead Institute Scouts are those of J. H. D. Wetherell, D. Magee, E. J. Matthews (whose name is recorded on our second Roll of Honour), W. L. Seed, G. A. Wetherell, T. N. Peters, B. H. Peever, R. E. P. Wright, J. Clarke, and J. B. Goodwin, the last two being Assistant Scoutmasters at present. The scheme launched in 1932 for the erection of a Group Headquarters had to be shelved on the outbreak of war. The fund, now in trust, has reached £400, thanks largely to the stalwart efforts of a parents' committee which has recently been re-formed.

The last years of this short history, from 1945 to 1949, deal with matters that are still fresh and green in the memory, but some account must be given of them before they too pass into history. First, as to staff. The School lost Mr. H. Parkinson after he had held the Senior Physics post for only two

terms. Appointed in January 1945, he died after a short illness in the following September. But in that short time he had contrived to plan the modernisation of the science theatre which was carried out after his death. Another serious loss which has to be recorded is that of Mr. Edge (1945 to 1948). He proved himself not only an excellent teacher of handicrafts, but also a man with wide interests and knowledge, particularly in natural history. His death was keenly felt by both staff and pupils. After years of difficulty owing to staff changes and shortage of materials, the woodwork shop has at length embarked on a more settled period, Mr. Mitchell having been appointed to take charge of it since January 1949. In September 1945, Mr. Allan joined the staff as well as Mr. Malcolm, who is (as far as can be ascertained with assurance) the second example alone in all the School's history of an old boy teaching in the rooms where he once suffered himself. As the producer of all their recent plays, he deserves most credit for the successful post-war revival of the Old Boys' Dramatic Society. In other ways, too, the Old Boys have now restored their clubs, and they would be the first to acknowledge their debt, incurred over many years, to the sustained interest in their activities of the Senior Science Master, Mr. A. O. Jones, who is Chairman of the Old Boys' R.F.C. With the appointment of Mr. Webb to the Senior Modern Languages post in September 1946, every department of the School is once more in capable and experienced hands. War "casualties," such as the disappearance of Speech Day, Swimming Gala, and Cross Country run, have at length been reinstated, and to this extent the effects of the recent war have been largely effaced. In September 1946, Byrne Avenue Baths once more saw an Institute Gala. The Junior and Senior Cross Country runs were revived in 1948 with an excellent turn-out, and a Speech Day on the old lines was held in the Town Hall on April 7th, 1949. The staff continued to keep the Athletic Sports alive throughout the war period, though prizes could not be given then. Messrs. Gill, Richards, and Thynne joined the staff in 1946; and in 1947 two temporary secondings to the staff of teachers training under the emergency scheme were made in the persons of Messrs. Amlôt and H. Winter (old Instonian). Mr. Drinkwater was appointed in September 1947, and at the same time the School

welcomed Monsieur Joubert, the only Frenchman, we believe, who has ever been attached to the Staff. The first general inspection of the School for sixteen years took place between June 3rd and 6th, 1947. The excellent report of the Inspectors paid tribute to the way in which the Institute had preserved the true grammar school tradition, and may be regarded as a commentary upon the work of Headmaster and staff throughout the period with which this article deals. Music has been brought to the attention of the most heedless in the concerts given by a section of the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, beginning with one held in the Birkenhead Y.M.C.A. Building on October 15th, 1947, and continued in the School's visit to the Philharmonic Hall itself on June 4th, 1948, and on March 24th, 1949. Lastly, since even school-boys have to eat to live, we must record the opening of the new dining hall in the grounds of the former Junior School in January 1949. This replaced the dining room in the basement of the old building where Mr. and Mrs. Russell had formerly provided daily school dinners, and has been welcomed as a vast improvement upon the hot meals service provided by motor van in the intervening years.

It was said at the outset that the third landmark in the History of Birkenhead Institute between 1927 and 1949 was the passing of the Education Act of 1944. No one can yet foresee what ultimate effects either this or the reorganisation of the external certificate examinations from 1950 will have upon the life of the School. Up to now the overt changes have been the closing of the Junior School (as has been seen), the disappearance of the Old Board of Governors, the renumbering of forms (so that the old thirds become first forms), and a standardisation of the system under which the School is ruled to bring it into conformity with secondary schools in general. Several influences have contributed to the present decline in numbers. Under the new administration, boys from outside the borough can no longer be admitted, and this has broken the long tradition of recruitment from Wirral. Further, the annual admissions have now been reduced to numbers sufficient for two new forms instead of three. These factors, in addition to the loss of the four forms in the Junior School, account for the reduction of our roll. Despite this,

there has been a steady increase in the size of the advanced course, and the number of candidates for Higher Certificate is the largest in our history.

But we believe that the Institute has vigour, tradition, and elasticity enough to enable it to reach with its customary success—perchance in a new building and in more vernal surroundings—the Centenary Number of the *Visor* in 1989 and beyond that. Yet the work done over all the years in the Institute has been of great service to this district. Quiller-Couch, writing about a small village school in Devonshire, offered these wise words. “The secret of education is invisible. The cracked school bell and dingy class-room may mark a spiritual birth place. Such a place may make no exhibition, gain little public admiration, set up its stall in no public mart, because it is possessed of a spirit which, like the wind, blows where it lists—as it blows through many of our remotest schools.” Equally, one may well claim that, throughout its history, the Institute has pursued the honourable course of being true to the principles which animated its founders. It has always believed in solid work without spectacle, and it has contributed to the academic, mercantile, and commercial life of the district in which it is set. Above all, it has always been a happy school. A parent of a pupil who left in February 1949 said in a letter of appreciation to the Headmaster that his son had “spent many years of happy relationship with Staff and boys alike.” Those who can look back upon the years spent in the old building in Whetstone Lane with gratitude for the happy companionship it afforded pay the School the highest tribute it justly deserves, and this, at the end of sixty years of our history, is “the brightest jewel in our crown.”

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

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.
T. H. Broad, Lt. 137th Canadian I.	C. R. Fraser, 2/Lt. 4th K.L.R.
Alexander Watson, Canadian I.	Charles A. Lewis, Lt. R.N.D. A.I.S.
J. C. Meredith, Lt. R.F.A.	L. C. Storey, 2/Lt. R.A.F.
Albert Dodd, Lt. R.A.F.	Cedric Marshall, Wireless Operator.
W. C. Poole, 172nd Rocky Mt. Rgrs.	George H. Foster, 2/Lt. R.E.
Albert Simmons,	Brayton Scott, 10th Ches. R.
	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.

Roll of Honour

OLD BOYS OF THIS SCHOOL WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR OF 1939-1945.

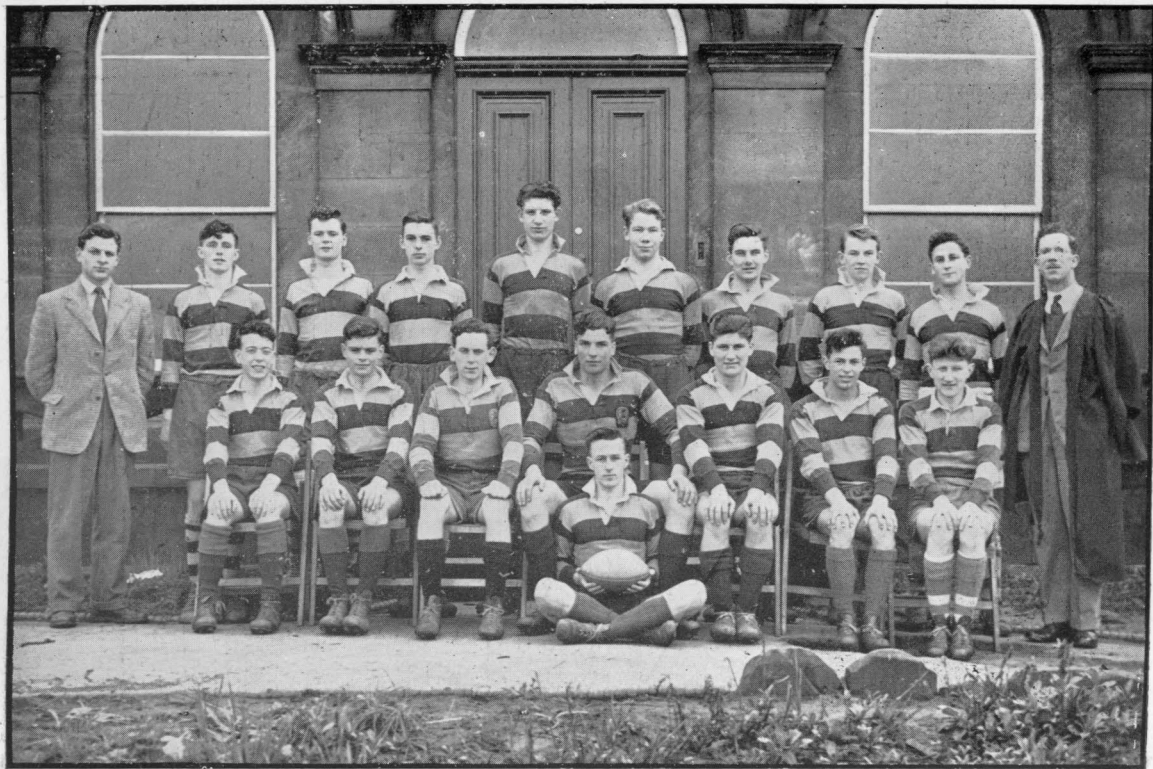
AINLEY, F. R.	HARDIE, W. R.	PRINGLE, G.
ARTHUR, N.	HARLAND, R. A.	REEKSTIN, R. R.
ASHTON, D. K.	HAYWARD, P.	REES, N. W.
AUSTIN, H.	HENSHAW, R.	ROBERTS, V. H.
BARKER, D. R.	HIRST, E. W.	ROGERS, H. E.
BARKER, J. K.	HUNT, G. A.	ROLLINS, P. E.
BARTLEY, E. L.	HUGHES, S.	ROWLANDS, C. J.
BECKETT, J. G.	IVESON, E. M.	SAMPSON, J. D.
BLACK, L.	JONES, L. W.	SARGENT, A. E. H.
BOZIER, H. J.	JONES, T. A.	SMART, T.
BRYANT, C. E. T.	JONES, W. E.	SMITH, A. E.
CASEY, W. A.	JONES, W. H.	SMITH, J.
CLARKE, L. F.	JONES, W. J.	SPROAT, G.
COATHUP, L. S.	LEEMAN, W. L.	SUTHERLAND, R. G.
COFFEY, C.	LEES, J. A.	SUTTON, R. W.
COOKE, J. K.	LEYLAND, R.	TARBUCK, R. D.
COOPER, H. L.	LIDGATE, R. A.	TAYLOR, C. F.
COOPER, J. K.	McIVOR, H. A.	TODD, C. G.
CRAIL, W. D.	McKENZIE, D. I.	TOMLINSON, J.
CUMMING, D. A.	MALLEY, D. G.	TURNER, A. D.
DEAN, K. W.	MALLEY, G. E.	WARD, H. L.
DENT, H. C.	MATTHEWS, E. J.	WILDE, R.
DONNING, G. N.	MEAKIN, L.	WILLIAMS, A. C.
EDWARDS, G. R.	MENEELY, R. R.	WILLIAMS, J. A.
FORSHAW, M. D.	MOORE, S.	WILLIAMS, J. H.
FRECKLETON, J. Mc.	MOSS, A.	WILLIAMS, T. H.
GALLAGHER, L. H.	OVENS, G. V.	WILSON, E. H.
GIBBONS, A. R.	PEGG, W. J.	WILSON, H. E.
GULLAN, J. N.	PHOENIX, F. D.	WOOD, W. K.
HARDIE, J. G.	POOLE, W. H.	

Some Distinguished Old Boys

THERE are few professions in which Old Boys of Birkenhead Institute have not gained distinction, not only on Merseyside, but also throughout the country and overseas. The following record is not intended to be in any sense a list of Old Boys' appointments such as we were able to publish in the 1939 Jubilee Number of the *Visor*. Rather has it been compiled, by selecting a hundred names, to illustrate the many and varied callings to which our members have been admitted after their education at the School. We trust that it will serve the double purpose of showing our contribution to the national life, and of encouraging present pupils to enter on the advanced course of study which leads to success in the professions.

It is fitting at the outset to draw attention to distinctions won by Old Boys in the service of their country. Both J. M. Milburn and H. Johnston became members of the Distinguished Service Order. Among awards in the Senior Service, Commander E. B. Clarke (R.N.R.) gained the Croix de Guerre, and the late Captain W. H. Poole was the first R.N.R. officer to be appointed Aide-de-Camp to H.M. the King. He served with the Cunard line for many years, becoming captain of the liner "Bosnia" in 1932. In 1940 he was promoted Commodore R.N.R. for ocean convoys and admitted to the Honourable Company of Master Mariners as a Liveryman. The late L. M. Gallagher of the Fleet Air Arm won the D.S.C., and J. K. Crowhurst the D.S.M. Army decorations include the M.C. to Lieutenant Colonel K. G. Miller, and the M.M. to (the late) Sergeant J. A. Williams. Many Old Boys saw service with the R.A.F., and the D.F.C. was won by (the late) T. Smart, R. G. Colenso, F. Donaldson, A. P. Eyton Jones, K. Alderson, F. Bone (with bar), and H. A. Gass. J. M. Freckleton gained the D.F.M. An Air Force officer whose service led to later distinction was Wing Commander C. A. Alldis, D.F.C., now an Air Attaché at the British Embassy in Moscow. The School has been linked with the Royal Military College in recent years by Cadet Officer (now Second Lieutenant R.E.) J. H. Lovatt, who entered directly from our VI. form, and by K. W. Walker, M.A., who is a lecturer on the staff there. It is natural to expect our Old Boys to be drawn to the sea as a career, coming as they do from this great port.

RUGBY 1st XV., 1948-9.



J. W. Kearney, D. Henharen, J. R. Morris, B. A. Johnston, A. Meggs, J. Holden, J. Rollins, I. Crowe,
Mr. R. Williams, J. D. Harris, J. K. Sedman, D. O. Jones, A. A. Smith, G. Hipkin, H. M. Turner, C. G. Adams,
J. W. Baker.

Photo by Cull.

[Mr. E. Webb.

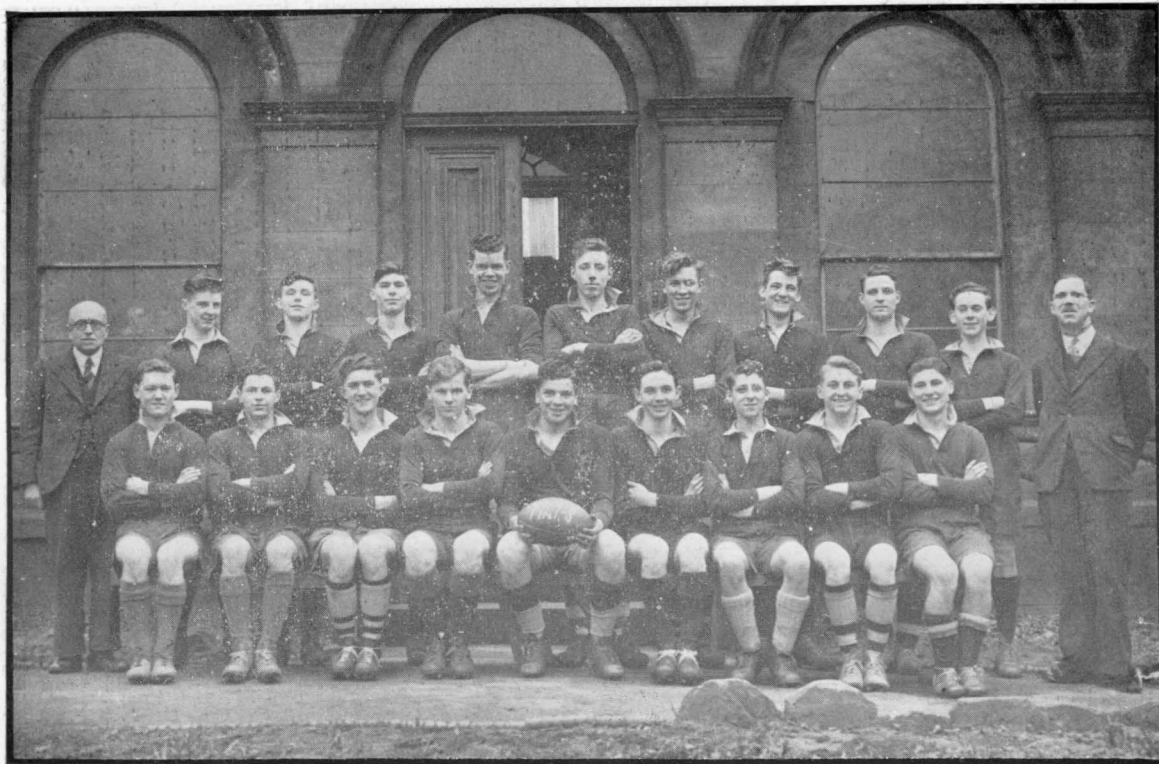


Photo by Cull.

W. H. LLOYD, J. W. KEARNEY, R. F. HARTLEY, R. E. WRIGHT, V. L. SMITH, M. SMITH, A. CARTER, G. M.
 DICKSON, D. O. JONES.
 A. RIXON, H. M. TURNER, K. B. FINCH, D. D. J. SILCOCK, A. A. SMITH (Capt.), T. H. GILL, H. N. TAYLOR,
 A. POWELL, G. A. HIPKIN.

We have had a long and honourable connection with the Mersey Pilotage service. Among present pilots we note J. L. Beever and R. K. Buckney. At least three Old Boys are at present in training for this service. Few of the famous merchantmen sailing from the Mersey will be found without officers or cadets from Birkenhead Institute.

Turning to the professions, a number of Old Boys are incumbents in the Anglican Church or ordained ministers of Nonconformist denominations. Among the former, Rev. H. S. Balby is Vicar of Needham, Norfolk; Rev. W. S. Brownless, Vicar of St. John's, Moulsham; Rev. A. G. Lee, Vicar of Rawtenstall; Rev. A. E. Lee, Vicar of St. Dominic's, Everton; and the Rev. D. G. Spencer, Vicar of Murchison, New Zealand. The Rev. J. I. Cripps is General Superintendent of the West Midland Baptist Union; the Rev. A. Cooper, minister of a Presbyterian Church in Cambridge; and Rev. I. R. M. Latto is a missionary in China. The teaching profession has attracted many Old Boys. Here we can only mention W. L. Cottier, now one of His Majesty's Inspectors of Schools; E. C. Sykes, Headmaster of Barton on Humber Grammar School; R. C. Loxham at Calday Grange Grammar School, and C. R. Lockyer, Headmaster of Christchurch Schools, Birkenhead, who is also the Teachers' representative on the Education Committee. G. Colquhoun is Modern Language Master at Wirral Grammar School.

One of the most important functions of the Institute is to prepare candidates for the universities. Outstanding successes in the School's history are the open Balliol Scholarship in Mathematics won at Oxford by (the late) R. Seward, and the open Scholarship in History at Trinity College, Cambridge, by J. Gallagher, M.A., who has brilliantly justified his early promise by his recent election to a Trinity Fellowship. At Cambridge, too, Dr. E. A. Moelwyn Hughes is a Lecturer on the Staff of Christ's College. As may be expected, Liverpool University has received many of our former members. W. W. Aslett won the Kanthack Medal there, L. Bridge the degree of Ph.D., C. D. Hall the Bartlett Scholarship in Engineering, S. Bunting the William Rathbone Medal in Naval Architecture, and J. Badcock the John Willcox Scholarship for Chemistry. Distinguished members of the staff at Sheffield University are Professor G. P. Jones, Litt.D., who occupies the chair of his-

tory, and Dr. J. W. Belton. A variety of other high academic appointments are held by G. Clarke (Assistant Registrar at University College, London), G. Grant (Registrar of Birmingham University), and G. Jellicoe (Vice-Principal of the South Lancashire Emergency Training College for Teachers), while R. E. Wood is a lecturer at Borough Road College, London, and A. Pollex at the Agricultural Training College, Winnipeg. One of the most prized distinctions in post-graduate study is the Commonwealth Fellowship which was held by (the late) E. R. Bartlam for engineering at Harvard University leading to the Principalship of Ceylon Technical College, Colombo; and also by G. Bowen at the University of California. Mr. Bowen has subsequently been a lecturer in Geography at Glasgow University, and latterly held the position of Assistant Secretary at the Board of Trade. Many Old Boys have proceeded to the Liverpool School of Architecture after taking Art as a principal subject in Higher School Certificate, but one name must be representative of them all, that of I. S. Melville who was awarded the Pilkington Travelling Studentship there.

Many holders of the LL.B. degree among former pupils indicate the long tradition of successful practice in the Law. An outstanding example is Mr. Schofield Allen, K.C., M.P., now Recorder of Blackburn. Among local practitioners we may mention Mr. A. D. Pappworth, LL.B., Barrister-at-Law, and (from many names of Solicitors) Mr. J. P. Almond of Hamilton Square. In the special field of legal appointments with municipal councils, (the late) G. E. Malley, LL.M., was Town Clerk of Enfield; J. P. Wilson, Magistrates' Clerk at Sunderland, and F. C. Williams, Deputy Borough Justices' Clerk at Birkenhead. Municipal finance is represented by the name of Mr. H. Andrews who, starting as a junior clerk in Birkenhead Borough Treasurer's Office in 1923, is now Borough Treasurer at Bromley, Kent, having in the intervening period served with the corporations of Bebington, Oldbury, and Winchester, as well as in the R.A.F. as a Flight Lieutenant. Further, the Police Force has provided many Old Instonians with promising careers, K. Maxwell being a Police Inspector and G. A. Perry an Executive Officer at New Scotland Yard.

The Institute may well claim to have produced many eminent men in the medical profession. A famous name is that of Sir Henry Cohen, M.D., F.R.C.P., Professor of Medicine at Liverpool University, and a specialist of international repute. Dr. J. R. Dickinson, F.R.C.S., is another Harley Street specialist, in gynaecology. The late Dr. R. E. Roberts, D.P.H., was a lecturer in Radiology at Liverpool University, and a radiologist at Liverpool Royal Infirmary, both appointments earning celebrity for him in this branch of medicine. Among well-known gentlemen in practice are M. H. Pappworth, M.D., F.R.C.P., S. Pappworth, F.R.C.S., and J. H. D. Wetherell, M.B. In this profession, too, Old Boys have gained appointments under local authorities. We record the names of R. M. Galloway, M.D., Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Bolton; J. W. Pickup, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health to the Council at Cheltenham, and H. O. M. Bryant, M.B. (son of a former master at the School), who recently gained the Diploma in Public Health. It would be impossible in the space at our disposal to give a complete list of all who have succeeded in the profession of dentistry, but two who may be selected as typical are W. H. Ellam, B.D.S., and H. M. Latto, L.D.S. Of recent years, veterinary surgery has attracted an increasing number of old pupils, I. M. Watkins, M.R.C.V.S., now in practice at Llandrindod Wells, being a good example in the post war years.

Nor have the Arts been neglected. In music we have a record of which any School might be proud. Dr. Caleb Jarvis, Mus.D., F.R.C.O., is one of the best-known Merseyside conductors and recitalists, whose work alike as chorus master and organist is of impeccable quality, and has earned the respect of the most exacting professional critics. The late C. Coffey, L.R.A.M., showed the highest promise as a concert pianist. His death on active service, as of so many others in this record, was a grievous loss to culture. Other musicians are R. Settle, an official accompanist at the Liverpool Playhouse, and J. G. Curtis, the well-known local organist, who is a member of the Advisory Council on Organ Reconstruction set up to repair the ravages of war on both church and concert instruments.

Authors are represented by A. W. Ellis, the novelist, who wrote "Beloved River," and by E. Smallpage, whose "Municipal Liverpool" is a standard monograph. Several local journalists belong to our roll including F. Tomlinson and H. R. Bawden. With the name of Wilfrid Owen, the Institute reaches its high water mark in the things of the spirit, and, through his work, proudly claims her contribution to modern English literature.

As well as giving much emphasis to academic work (as previous paragraphs abundantly show) the School has never forgotten that one of its chief duties is the preparation for business careers, fundamental in a great commercial centre. In banking, J. M. Furniss was formerly Chief General Manager of Martin's Bank; in Insurance, W. W. Davies is a departmental head in the Fire Assessment section of the Royal Insurance Company, E.C., H. E. Bloor is Director and Secretary of the (former) City of York Gas Company, and G. Maitland Brown was appointed Station Superintendent for East African Airways at Kampala, Uganda, in 1947. A. E. Richmond is Secretary of the Birkenhead Brewery Company, and H. N. Laver is on the staff of the Kuwan Oil Company, Persian Gulf. The many branches of the Civil Service have always appealed to the ambitious, and a few names at random will show the range of appointments which have come our way. A. Neale is on the Consular Staff at the Hague; K. Bannerman, LL.B., is a member of the National Coal Board; I. Bowen a meteorologist at the Air Ministry; J. W. Bryden an entomologist at the Ministry of Agriculture; and J. G. Stott an Inspector of H. M. Customs and Excise. Two names which must be mentioned before this record of professional attainment is concluded are those of H. J. Manzoni, Chief Engineer to the City of Birmingham (president of the Annual Conference in 1949), and C. H. Verity, Chief Electrician, Cammell Laird and Company. Finally, there is no way in which the former pupil may contribute more to the life of the community than by serving on the Borough Council. Alderman T. A. Boyd is the first Old Boy to achieve that rank, while Councillors J. W. Chisholm (now retired), C. S. McDonald and J. McGarva are all Old Instonians.



Photo by Cull.

E. Townsend, A. Mitchell, R. Thynne, N. Bailey, E. Sorby.
R. Bolton, Miss Cojeen, R. Williams, J. Allan, W. E. Williams, L. T. Malcolm, G. Drinkwater, A. Gill, Miss Price,
[P. Joubert.
A. R. Thacker, E. Webb, A. O. Jones, G. W. Harris, E. Wynne Hughes, F. Bloor, R. Hall, J. E. Allison, J. Paris.

SCHOOL TROPHIES.

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Many readers may feel that this account would be incomplete without some mention of Sport. We can only recall here some names of recent years, such as M. H. Baker, Cheshire Tennis Champion; J. T. Bartlett, Captain of Liverpool University XV.; W. E. Clare, Northern Counties' Breast Stroke Champion; J. F. Sudworth, Glasgow University XV.; B. Ware, Liverpool University XV., and Geraint Williams, the record holder for the ten miles cross-country run, University of Wales.

As we said at the outset, this summary of the achievements of certain Old Boys does not pretend to do anything more than illustrate the wide range of professions which members of this School have been enabled to enter and to adorn. The Editor would be grateful for any additional information, to bring our records up to date, which could be included in subsequent editions of the *Visor*. The attention of present pupils is particularly drawn to the successes of Old Boys which have been described in this article. Their distinctions are due, not only to ability and industry, but also in real measure to the education they received here. In congratulating all those who have gained well-deserved honour in later life, the School may well venture to believe that in these sixty years it has made a sterling contribution to the public life of this area, and feel genuine pride therein.

School Trophies

THERE are in all nineteen trophies, most of which have been presented to the School by generous benefactors, the first in point of time dating from 1891, and the most recent from 1948. The majority are valuable silver cups of excellent craftsmanship engraved with the donors' names and bearing in addition the holders' names from year to year. The complete collection may be examined in the accompanying photograph, to which the numbers in brackets refer.

[Number 17] Silver Cup. Presented by Lieutenant Colonel St. John Blake-Campbell of the 1st Royal Cheshire Engineers in 1891 for award to the senior boy who has shown the greatest achievement in both study and games.

[Number 19] Silver Cup. Presented by Samuel Stitt, Esq., J.P., in 1904, bearing the donor's crest and motto "Dum spiro, spero." This is awarded to the junior boy who has proved the best all-rounder of the year.

- [Number 14] Silver Cup, the earliest of the House Trophies. This was
1918. given by boys of the School from their earnings at Tilston-
Fearnal Farm Camp where they did war work in 1918.
The Cup is awarded annually to the Champion House in
Cricket.
- [Number 15] Silver Loving Cup. Purchased with House Funds in 1922
1922. and awarded to the Champion House in Football.
- [Number 13] Chased Silver Cup acquired in 1922. This was at one time
1922. awarded to the Victor Ludorum, but is now the Tug of
War Trophy.
- [Number 1] Oak Challenge Shield embellished with engraved silver,
1929. the School crest being the centre motif. Designed by Mr.
Paice, this shield was purchased in 1929 from House Funds,
and is won annually by the Champion House in Athletics.
- [Number 4] Silver Cup presented by the Staff in 1930 for the Senior
1930. House Relay Race.
- [Number 3] Silver Cup presented by the Headmaster, E. Wynne-
1930. Hughes, Esq., in 1930, for the Intermediate House Relay
Race.
- [Number 10] Silver Cup, presented by the Staff of the Junior School for
1930. the Junior Relay Race.
- [Number 6] Silver Loving Cup, purchased from House Funds in 1931,
1931. for the winning House in the Senior Cross Country Run.
- [Number 18] Silver Loving Cup (a smaller replica of the previous
1931. trophy) presented by Miss Harkness, formerly the School
Secretary. This is awarded to the winning House in the
Junior Cross Country Run.
- [Number 16] Silver Cup presented by Susan S. Atkin in 1932 and known
1932. as the Atkin Challenge Cup for the Victor Ludorum.
- [Number 11] Challenge Shield embellished with worked bronze reliefs
1933. presented to the School by the British Chess Federation in
1933 in recognition of the Institute Chess Team's outstand-
ing performances in the Wright Shield Competitions. This
is awarded annually to the Champion Chess Player of the
School.
- [Number 9] Silver Cup presented by the Old Boys' Association in 1934
1934. for the Junior Victor Ludorum.
- [Number 12] Silver Urn presented by Mrs. Jackson (formerly Miss
1935. Atkin) in 1935 for the Mile Championship.
- [Number 7] Silver Rose Bowl presented by Mrs. Barker in 1935. This
1935. was originally a Junior School trophy, but is now awarded
to the winner of the Junior Cross Country Run.
- [Number 8] Silver Cup purchased in 1936 from House Funds and awar-
1936. ded annually for the Champion House in Swimming.
- [Number 5] Silver Cup presented by the Corporation of Birkenhead to
1937. commemorate the Coronation of their Majesties, King
George VI. and Queen Elizabeth. Known as the Corona-
tion Cup, this trophy is awarded to the Champion House.
- [Number 2] Silver Cup presented by Robert Smith, Esq., of Clarence
1948. Road, to commemorate the overall period of 17 years (1931-
1948) during which his sons J. N. Smith and V. L. Smith
were at Birkenhead Institute Junior and Senior Schools.
This Cup has been allotted to the winner of the Senior
Cross Country run.

Athletic Sports Records

VICTORES LUDORUM.

Name.	Date.	Champion House.
PICKUP, J.	1922	Tate.
LONGMAN, J.	1923	Westminster.
MUIR, E.	1924	Tate.
MUIR, E.	1925	Atkin.
ADAMS, E. C.	1926	Westminster.
DAVIES, H.	1927	Tate.
WILSON, J.	1928	Westminster.
ANDREWS, T. J.	1929	Westminster.
ANDREWS, T. J.	1930	Westminster.
ANDREWS, T. J.	1931	Westminster.
RICE, K. J.	1932	Westminster.
{ SMITH, G. W.	1933	Tate.
{ KEATS, J. G.		
MILLIGAN, R. H.	1934	Tate.
WHEAT, K.	1935	Tate.
JONES, P. O.	1936	Westminster.
HILL, R. L. M.	1937	Tate.
BAWDEN, H. R.	1938	Westminster.
CLARKE, L. F.	1939	Westminster.
HUNTRISS, S. B.	1940	Atkin.
{ BARTLETT, J. T.	1941	Tate.
{ PROUDMAN, H. G.		
HARRIS, R. G.	1942	Stitt.
BOSTON, C.	1943	Stitt.
WARE, B. E.	1944	Tate.
POLLARD, G. M.	1945	Westminster.
{ ROBERTS, C. J.	1946	Westminster.
{ THOMAS, H. D.		
TURNER, H. M.	1947	Stitt.
TURNER, H. M.	1948	Stitt.

JUNIOR VICTORES LUDORUM.

Name.	Date.	Name.	Date.
WILLIAMS, E. G.	1934	DILLOW, D.	1941
BAWDEN, H. R.	1935	LLOYD, C. H.	
BEER, S. A.	1936	JONES, E. W.	1942
HUNTRISS, S. B.	1937	ROBERTS, C.	1943
BARTLETT, J. T.	1938	TURNER, H. M.	1944
RICE, A.	1939	DICKSON, G. M.	1945
GILLILAND, D. S.	1940	LLOYD, W. H.	1946
{ MANDY, A. T.		DAWSON, R. A.	1947
		WEIR, C. W.	1948

SCHOOL RECORDS IN OPEN EVENTS.

Event.	Record.	Made by.	Year.
100 Yds.	10 $\frac{4}{5}$ secs.	MUIR, E.	1924
220 Yds.	24 secs.	HILL, R. L. M. ...	1937
440 Yds.	57 secs.	RICE, K. J.	1932
Mile	5 mins. 0 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs.	SMITH, G. W. ...	1931
High Jump	5 ft. 2 ins.	KEATES, J. G. ...	1933
Long Jump	18 ft. $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins.	CROFT, R.	1924
Cricket Ball	100 yds. $8\frac{1}{2}$ ins.	DAVIES, H.	1927
Cross Country ...	33 mins. 13 $\frac{4}{5}$ secs.	GRANTHAM, K. ...	1948

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