SUMMER

1939


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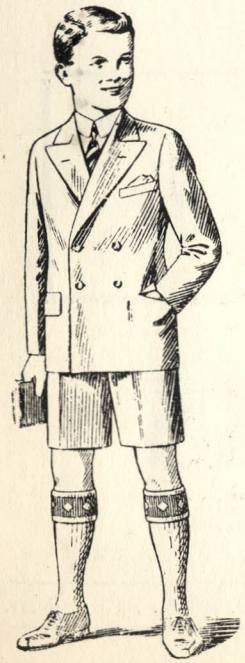
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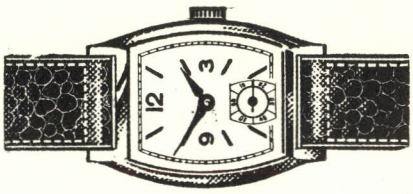
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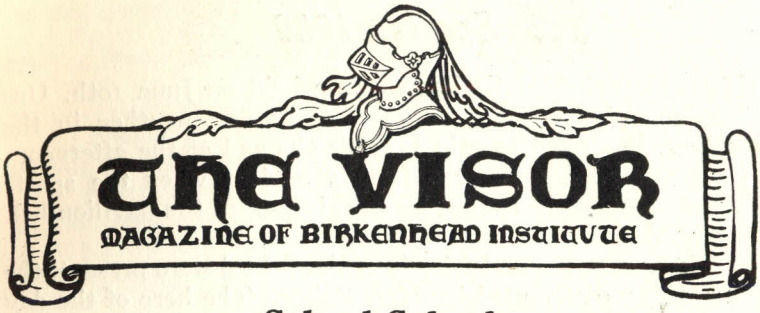
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School Calendar

SUMMER TERM ENDS ..... Tuesday, July 25th.
AUTUMN TERM BEGINS ..... Wednesday, September 13th.
HALF-TERM ..... Saturday, November 4th—Wednesday, November 8th.
AUTUMN TERM ENDS ..... Thursday, December 21st.

Editorial

THE Jubilee issue of the Visor of which a thousand copies were printed, met with general approval and was speedily sold out. Much well-deserved praise has been given to Mr. Harris's history of the School, which is continued in this number, and which will be concluded in our December magazine. The committee hoped to have included one or two articles by eminent persons who have been connected with the School, but their hopes have not been realised. The additions and emendations to the lists of the Old Boys, are, therefore, the only other special feature.

Salvete

IVj.

TATE :—Cracknell, D. S.

I.

TATE :—Cracknell, G. L.

Valete

UPPER VIb.

STITT :—

Ryan, P. A. *Sc. Certificate*, 1938, *1st XV*, 1938-9.

Milne, W. D. *Prefect, House Captain, 1st XV.* 1937-9, *Colours, Vice-Captain Rugby Football Committee, Committee of Scientific Society, Sc. Certificate* 1938.

WESTMINSTER :—

Grice, H. C. *Prefect, House Representative, Assistant Secretary of Visor, Westminster Scholarship, Sch. Certificate* 1938.

Powell, W. J. D. *Sc. Certificate* 1938.

VIb.

ATKIN :—

Davies, W. G.

REMOVE L.

Hughes, C. A.

Sports, 1939

THE Annual Athletic Sports were held on June 10th. Unfortunately, despite the promise of fine weather in the morning, it started to rain towards the end of the afternoon. There occured a departure from precedent when the sports were ceremoniously opened by the ringing of the pavilion bell mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

Many parents, and friends of the School were present, the prizes being distributed by Mrs. Baker. The hero of the day was L. F. Clarke who gained 15 points; and congratulations must be extended also to A. Rice and G. A. Dickman, with 12 and 6 points respectively.

Cross Country, Senior:—(1) Powell, W. D.; (2) Williams, G. (3) Smith, J. N. 36 mins. 20 secs.

Cross Country, Junior:—(1) Sudworth, J. F.; (2) Roberts, M. H.; (3) Roberts, J. H. 28 mins. 5 secs.

Long Jump, Open:—(1) Clarke, L. F.; (2) Docherty, R. W.; (3) Owen, W. J. 17-ft. 3-ins.

Long Jump, Under 14:—(1) Rice, A.; (2) Roberts, J. E.; (3) Gilliland, O. 13-ft. 10½-ins.

High Jump, Open:—(1) Pearson, J. F.; (2) Huntriss, S.B.; (3) Darlington, O. 5-ft. 1-in.

High Jump, Under 14:—(1) Mandy, A. J.; (2) Maddocks, W. M.; (3) Baker, D. 4-ft. 1-in.

Cricket Ball, Open:—(1) Clarke, L. F.; (2) Bradshaw, A. J.; (3) Shimmen, R. E. 99-yds. 2-ft. 7-ins.

Cricket Ball, Under 14:—(1) Rice, A.; (2) Binyon, R.; (3) Nugent, J .R. 59-yds. 0-ft. 8-ins.

Drop Kick, Open:—(1) Cresswell, F.; (2) Moffat, D. M.; (3) Clarke, L. F. 49-yds. 0-ft. 2-ins.

Drop Kick, Under 14:—(1) Rice,A.; (2) Ware,B.; (3) Gilliland, D. 36 yds. 2-ft. 7-ins.

100 Yds., Under 13:—(1) Gilliland, D.; (2) Nelson, G.; (3) Mandy, A. J. 13 2/5 secs.

100 Yds., Under 14:—(1) Rice, A.; (2) Roberts, J. E.; (3) Gregson. 12 3/5 secs.

100 Yds., Under 15:—(1) Barlett, J. T.; (2) Haughton, J. D.; (3) Hartley, R. W. 12 secs.

100 Yds., Open:—(1) Perry, F. R.; (2) Clarke, L. T.; (3) Pearson, J. F. 11 secs.

80 Yds., Junior School, Over 10:—(1) McRobbie, K.; (2) Hodson, J. O.; (3) Smith, D. M., Wallis.

80 Yds., Junior School, Under 10:—(1) Dickman, G. A.; (2) Huntriss, J. B.; (3) Adams, U. P.

220 Yds., Under 13 (Handicap):—(1) Pringe, E. W.; (2) Gilliland, D.; (3) Hassal, K. W. 31 1/5 secs.

220 Yds., Under 15 (Handicap):—(1) Mandy, A. J.; (2) Shepherd, L. A.; (3) Baker, D. 28 1/5 secs.

220 Yds., Over 15:—(1) Proudman, H. G.; (2) Huntriss, S.B.; (3) Beckett, J. G. 26 1/5 secs.

220 Yds., Open:—(1) Clarke, L. F.; (2) Perry, F. R.; (3) Pearson, J. F. 25 4/5 secs.

220 Yds., Junior School Handicap:—(1) Dickman, G. A.; (2) Dickman, G. M.; (3) Dickson, G. S. 31 secs.

440 Yds., Open:—(1) Clarke, L. F.; (2) Smith, J. N.; (3) Pearson, J. F. 61 secs.

440 Yds., Handicap:—(1) Bibby, D. W.; (2) Beckett, J. G.; (3) Sudworth, J. B.

Mile, Open:—(1) Williams, G.; (2) Smith, G. S.; (3) Vincent, K. I. C. 5 mins. 24-secs.

80 Yds. Sack, Over 14:—(1) Bray, F.; (2) Dickie, W.; (3) Muir, L. N.

80 Yds., Under 14:—(1) Gilliland, D.; (2) Baines; (3) Treesider.

60 Yds., Sack, Junior School:—(1) Huntriss, J. B.; (2) Willsher, J. V.; (3) Perry.

120 Yds., Hurdles, Under 13:—(1) Mandy, A. J.; (2) MacLachton, A. J.; (3) Ware, B. 22 1/5 secs.

120 Yds., Under 15:—(1) Haughton, J. D.; (2) Roberts, M. H.; (3) Foxcroft, G. E. 19 3/5 secs.

120 Yds., Hurdles, Open:—(1) Huntriss, S. B.; (2) Whitelaw, R.; (3) Vincent, K. I. C. 19 secs.

Relay, Open:—(1) Proudmans'; (2) Roberts'.

Relay, Junior House:—(1) Tate; (2) Stitt; (3) Atkin.

Relay, Inter House:—(1) Westminster; (2) Tate; (3) Stitt. 60 secs.

Relay, Senior House:—(1) Westminster; (2) Atkin; (3) Tate. 1-min.56secs.

Three-Legged, Junior School:—(1) Dickson, G. S., Dickson, G. M.; (2) Yeates, Wallis; (3) Roberts, Ward.

Three-Legged, Senior:—(1) Huntriss, Proudman; (2) Sudworth, Currie; (3) Barnes, Anderson.

Obstacle, Under 14:—(1) Jardine, D. J.; (2) Tressider, G.; (3) Bird, J. R.

Obstacle, Over 14:—(1) Bell, J. F.; (2) Williams, J. L.; (3) Vicary, F. S.

880 Yds., Handicap:—(1) Cartwright, E. R.; (2) Liversage, W. E.; (3) Foster, H. G.

Tug-of-War, Open:—(1) Thompson's; (2) Moffatt's.

Tug-of-War, House:—(1) Westminster; (2) Atkin.

Victor Ludorum:—Clarke, L. F., 15 points.

Victor Ludorum, Junior:—Rice, A., 12 points.

Junior School Champion:—Dickman, G. S., 6 points.

House Championship:—Westminster, 80½ points; Atkin, 60 points; Tate, 59 points; Stitt, 23½ points.

Athletic Sports Records

Victores Ludorum:		*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. Keats, J. G.	1933	Tate.
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.

JUNIOR VICTORES LUDORUM.

Williams, E. G.	(Tate).	1934
Bawden, H. R.	(Stitt).	1935
Beer, E. A.	(Stitt)	1936
Huntriss, S. B.	(Atkin).	1937
Bartlett, J. T.	(Tate).	1938
Rice, A.	(Stitt).	1939

SCHOOL RECORDS IN OPEN EVENTS.

Event.	*Record.*	*Made by*:	*Year.*
100 yds.	10 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. 1/5 secs.	Smith, G. W.	1931
High Jump	5-ft. 2-ins.	Keates, J. G.	1933
Long Jump	18-ft. 6½-ins.	Croft, R.	1924
Cricket Ball	100-yds. 8½-ins.	Davies, H.	1927
Cross Country	35-mins. 32½-secs.	Collinson, G.	1933

The History of The Birkenhead Institute

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-back. The School were never again successful in winning this 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. Matthew 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 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 Unversity.

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 School, 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 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 in 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 re-

membered 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 WAR PERIOD, 1914-1919.

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. Elliott, 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, who is still with us.

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 permanent home in the house it now occupies. The growth in the numerical strength of the School had made this step necessary. A complete re-organisation took place under Miss Bowers's 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.

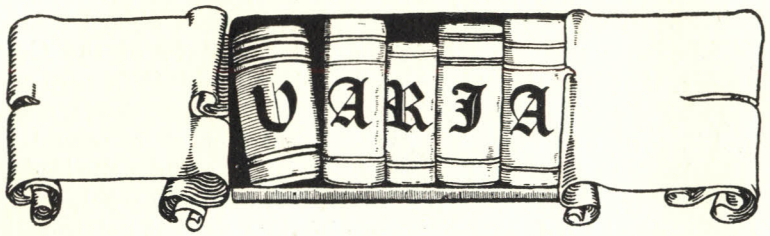
The Senior Cup for Games was won this year by J. C. Cotsell, and the Junior by G. Hunter.

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 Silverwood, 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 leadership of Mr. Dowse went into camp at Tilston Fearnal, 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. Henry 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.



AS the result of a sale of emblems on May 5th and 6th we were able to send 14s.5d. to Dr. Barnardo's Homes; while on June 19th and 20th the sale of Alexandra Roses realized 16s. 9d.

* * * * * * *

The oil painting of Mr. George Atkin, after being removed from the Library for renovation on the occasion of the School Jubilee, now hangs in the entrance hall, where it may more easily be seen. The photograph of Alderman Solly has been hung opposite.

* * * * * * *

The altering of the timetable owing to restrictions on the use of the swimming baths has provided a whole variety of bright new excuses for dodging work for the experts in that craft.

* * * * * * *

Much caustic comment was provoked among the uninformed when, after ploughing up the miserable apology for a sidewalk outside the School, the workmen retired leaving a wilderness of loose clinker. The storm of righteous indignation suddenly died down when this was discovered to be the appropriate foundation for the asphalt laid a few days later.

* * * * * * *

The bell presented last summer by Mr. and Mrs. Luton has now been mounted outside the pavilion on a bracket given by Mr. R. N. Smith, and was used for the first time at the Sports this term. We should like to record the gratitude of the School to those generous donors.

* * * * * * *

W. E. Clare (1930-35), the new Liverpool swimming captain, has been honoured by selection for the international inter-university games at Monaco, August 20th to 27th. Clare's

best distance is the quarter mile, but he surpassed himself on June 24th in the English Universities Mile Championship swum in the River Ouse at York when he won easily by a quarter of a mile. His time was 26 mins. 45 secs.

* * * * * * *

W. G. Rogers (1928-35), another Old Boy, is playing this season in the Park 1st XI.

* * * * * * *

During May Dr. Hind-Smith re-visited us for what was, unfortunately, the last time. He gave us one of his amusing talks on the history of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, and a welcome respite from work. At the conclusion of the interlude the School showed its appreciation—of both.

* * * * * * *

We say good-bye this term to Mr. Darlington and Mr. J. H. Jones, who are leaving us to take up posts elsewhere. Mr. Darlington came in January, 1934, and Mr. Jones in September, 1937. They have both been associated with School dramatics and other activities, and will be missed in spheres far removed from School routine.

* * * * * * *

Those who believe that you cannot have too much of a good thing are advised that the Editor cannot accept any further contributions beginning :—

My first is in ——— but not in ———.

* * * * * * *

The Boxing Club, the youngest of our School Societies, is one of the most active. A photograph of its members will be found on another page.

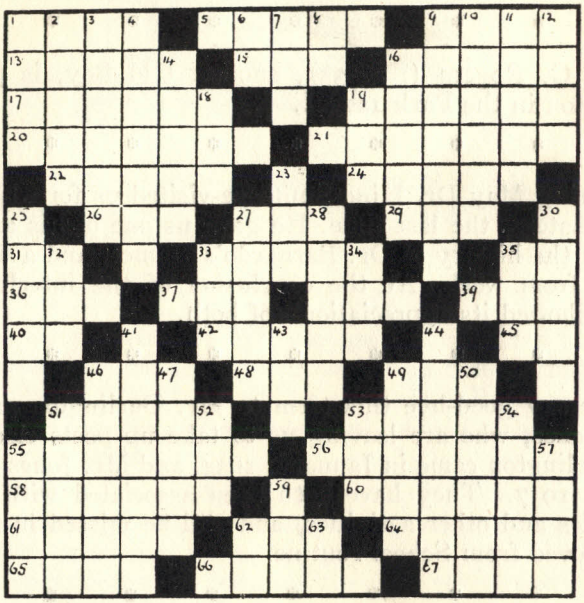
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A visitor to the School this term was Mr. J. H. Crofts, the first master to be appointed to the Institute Staff under Mr. Connacher's headship.

Mr. Crofts, who was, until recently, headmaster of Whitchurch (Salop) Grammar School, is now living in retirement at Church Stretton.

Crossword No. 20

A PRIZE is offered for the first correct solution received by Mr. Hall.



CLUES.

ACROSS.

1.—Interrogative Pronoun.
5.—Plea of having been elsewhere.
9.—Aims feeble blow at.
13.—Out of the —— came forth meat.
15.—Mineral yielding metal.
16.—Kind, style.
17.—Stephen.
19.—Keeper of a royal park.
20.—Capable of being stretched.
21.—1939 is ours.
22.—French river.
24.—Feel pity.
26.—Code signal of extreme distress.
27.—The Supreme Being.
29.—Make mistakes.
31 & 40.—Small whirlwind.
33.—More sensible.
35 & 45.—Pronoun.
36.—Exist.
37.—Do not come to school without yours.
38.—Not valid.
39.—Pronoun.
42.—Put off.
46.—Skill.
48.—Title.
49.—Whether Latin; otherwise use.
51.—Embankment.
53.—Roman way.
55.—Herb used for seasoning.
56.—Two words (4.3). Not the right limb.
58.—Fabric made of goat's wool.
60.—Tropical giant grass.
61.—Impurities on surface of a liquid.
62.—Soft murmuring sound.
64.—Chemical compounds of basic and acid radicals.
65.—Latin hold; belief with last letter of 30 down.
66.—Undulates.
67.—Shelter.

DOWN.

1.—Point of the compass.
2.—Detests.
3.—Makes up for.
4.—Suppressed excitement.
6 & 8.—Part of outer ear.
7.—Anger.
9.—Those who disavow.
10.—Fisherman.
11.—Race.
12.—Withered.
14.—Means of control.
16.—Wall at end of ridged roof.
18.—rev. Old old.
19.—Chafe.
23.—One's male child.
25.—Prepared.
27.—Yawns.
28.—Exclude.
30.—Expanse of water.
32.—Uninteresting.
33.—Sorrowful.
34.—Narrow beam of light.
35.—Definite article.
41.—Tiresome.
43.—Cover.
44.—Two words (4, 3), Bridegroom's supporter.
46.—Weapon.
47.—Narrates.
49.—Seats.
50.—That may be utilised.
51.—Move in lively way.
52.—Expanse of salt water.
53.—Month (abbreviation).
54.—rev. Warehouse.
55.—Beyond.
57.—The greatest number.
59.—The sun.
62 & 63.—Self-possessed.

Crossword No. 19

PRIZE awarded to G. E. Foxcroft (VIa.)

SOLUTION.

ACROSS.

1.—Erse.
5.—Visor.
9.—Pete.
13.—Rotas.
15.—Tor.
16.—Mania.
17.—Roosts.
19.—Carats.
20.—Station.
21.—Debacle.
22.—Steep.
24.—Feste.
26.—Sns.
27.—Cap.
29(rev.) & 45(rev.)—Solar.
31 & 40.—Idem.
33.—Mogul.
35 & 45 (rev.)—Wear.
36.—Ran.
37.—Hum.
38.—Lad.
39.—Sad.
42.—Messy.
46.—Cab.
48.—Tie.
49.—Lend
51.—Sarah.
53.—Mines.
55.—Remoter.
56.—Devoted.
58.—Evener.
60.—Tittle.
61.—Ceres.
62.—Mat.
64.—Dells.
65 (rev.)—Tank.
66.—Repel.
67.—Desk.

DOWN.

1.—Errs.
2.—Roots.
3.—Stoats.
4.—East-End.
6.—It.
7.—Son.
8.—Or.
9.—Parasol.
10.—Enacts.
11.—Title.
12.—Ease.
14.—Sties.
16.—Mabel.
18.—Sop.
19 (rev.)—Fec.
23.—Tag.
25.—Tires.
27.—Comet.
28.—Pulse.
30.—Medal.
32.—Dam.
33.—Mum.
34.—Lay.
35.—War.
41.—Baronet.
43.—Sit.
44.—Denoted.
46.—Camera.
47.—Bates.
49.—Livid.
50.—Nettle.
51.—Seven.
52.—Her.
53.—Met.
54.—Sells.
55.—Reck.
57.—Desk.
59.—Gap.
62 & 63.—Mete.

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Correspondence

R. A. F. Station,
Kalafrana,
Malta.
June 22nd, 1939.

To the Editor of the *Visor*.

Sir,

This is the first letter that I have written to the *Visor* since I left the dear Old School, so you might pardon any literary mistakes.

The main thing is what shall one write about? Perhaps, being a Service man, I may have different views on what an article should be like, so perhaps I'd better tell you something about the most excellent Service of all, namely the Royal Air Force, of which I'm proud to be a member. From time to time I read in the *Visor* of the interest that the present day schoolboy takes in this Service.

Now my story begins:

The Air Force of to-day is becoming more efficient than ever—that statement is self-supporting. To become a member of the R.A.F. one has to be 100% medically fit, and unless this standard is maintained our men and our efforts would be useless.

The experience of joining is one never to be forgotten. I think I shall become egotistic for a time and tell you of my experiences.

I travelled from Liverpool to West Drayton,in Middlesex, which was at that time the only reception depôt in England. Having stayed there for four days, I received my first pay, which was the glorious sum of 10s. The following day I was herded with about two hundred more recruits to No. 1 R.A.F. Depot, Uxbridge, a few miles from the reception depôt, where I was fortunate to be chosen to be one of many hundreds to take part in the procession at the Coronation of King George VI., which was a memorable occasion.

My next station was Cranwell in Lincs., where I was under training as a Wireless Operator. Cranwell is a small village tucked away in the heart of this county of wide open spaces. Only on a few occasions did I travel to the town of Lincoln which is the county town. In that district also lie the towns of Newark and Nottingham, which were the right places for a good night out.

Christmas '38 saw my departure from the wilds, and once again I found myself in Middlesex, the camp this time being Northolt. I was a member of the famous 111 Fighter Squadron, which was the first squadron to be equipped with the Hawker Hurricane Fighter. This camp was one of the best I've ever been posted to. It was laid out with lawns and flower beds, which are in other camps conspicuous by their absence.

Last September to my dismay I had to leave this ideal station to be posted to No. 4 Balloon Centre, Chigwell, which is in Essex, and a stone's throw from London. Then came the crisis—I was on leave at the time; needless to say I was recalled after the first week. It was on the morn of September 28th that the Balloon crews boarded their respective motor winches and were placed at strategic positions in and around London. Our winch was sent to Dagenham where we spent four pleasant days on a football field!

Following the panic came peace, and once again I packed up my old kit bag and proceeded to No. 2 Flying Training School, Buize Norton, Oxon, which is about on the same geographical terms as Cranwell for townships. Here Oxford was our nearest town and many a pleasant night have I spent in that famed city of knowledge.

Alas and alack, it seemed as if my travels were never going to end. On February 11th I boarded H.T. *Nevassa* at Southampton, bound for my present abode—Kalafrana, Malta.

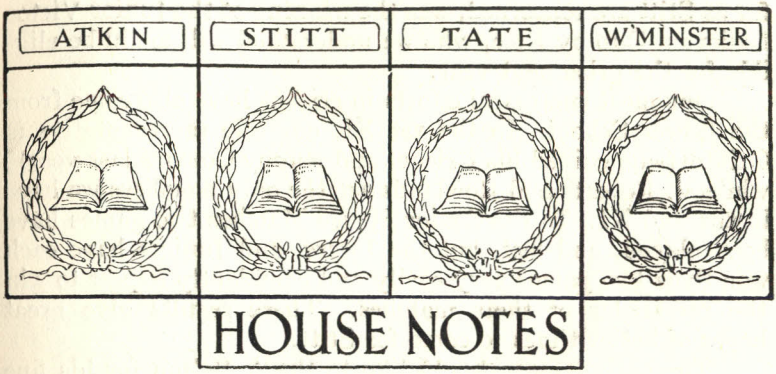
It's a great life out here. Just a small island away out in the Mediterranean, with heaps of sunshine and " more water than that." The last quotation is a Service Term, which any " old sweats " will understand.

The chief sport here is swimming and, believe me, swimming in the Med. is worth while.

I think this time you will have heard more about my travels than life in the R.A.F., so if Mr. Editor is kind enough I will subscribe another article on this subject.

Yours, etc.,

J. CLARKE.



HOUSE NOTES

ATKIN.

THIS term the fortunes of the House have been somewhat varied. Although we are represented in the 1st XI. by Pearson, captain, G. Smith, vice-captain, and Moffat, and in the 2nd XI. by D. O. Griffith, T. S. Williams, Dale and Platt, our achievements at cricket have not been outstanding. The Seniors beat Stitt, drew with Tate, and lost to Westminster; the Inters. drew with Tate, but lost to Stitt and Wesminster; while the Juniors have won their only match, against Tate.

In the Sports we managed to attain second place to Westminster. Valuable points were obtained by Huntriss, Pearson and Mandy, and eleven others. Of the Inter. relay we had best say nothing, but in the Senior relay, although unfortunately away to a bad start, some good running brought us up into second place.

Finally we issue our termly appeal for fewer detentions from the middle school, a response to which would result in a rise from our lowly position in the mark-sheets.

K.I.C.V.

STITT.

STITT House suffered something of a setback at the end of last term when Milne (House-Captain) and Ryan, both members of the 1st XV. Rugby, left us, but in spite of this the term has not been quite so unsuccessful as was formerly expected.

In the most important event of the term, the Sports, we failed badly, but this was partly owing to a lack of entries, and this defect must be righted next year. The only bright spot, so

far as Stitt are concerned, was the winning of the Junior Victor Ludorum Cup by Rice, who we understand will again be eligible for the prize next year.

Our most successful efforts in cricket have also come from the Lower School. In the 1st XI. our sole representative is Griffith (who gained his Cricket and Rugby Colours last year), while V. Roberts and Rowlands are the only members we have in the 2nd XI. In the Senior House Matches two games have been played, and lost, but the Inters. and Juniors have each won their two games very easily and confidently expect to win the remainder of their matches. These results give great hopes of better times to come for Stitt.

To conclude, we should like to thank Bolton for his fine performance in the Intermediate and Junior House Matches as well as in the 3rd XI. F.G.R.

TATE.

THIS year Tate did not come up to their usual standard in the Annual Sports, their total being only 59 as against Westminster's 80½ points. Perry won the 100 Yards Open, and Proudman the 220 Yards Handicap, while Shimmin was third in the Cricket Ball, and J. N. Smith came in second in the 440 Yards Open. The Mile was easily won by G. Williams. We were third in the Senior Relay and second in the Inter. Relay, but we were hopelessly beaten by Westminster in the Tug.

Cricket results have been slightly better, although the scoring has not been high. We beat Westminster in both the Senior and Inter. matches, and drew with Atkin, but the Juniors let us down by losing both their matches. J.N.S.

WESTMINSTER.

THE house has been very successful this term. We won the sports by a big margin, obtaining 80½ points. Clarke scored 15 points, became the Victor Ludorum, and also broke the record for throwing the Cricket Ball. The House tug-of-war and the Senior and Intermediate House relays were also won by Westminster. The Junior relay team was unfortunately disqualified through awkwardness in handing the baton over.

Of the cricket matches, the Seniors have won two (against Stitt and Atkin), and lost one (against Tate). The Inters. have also won two (against Atkin and Stitt), and lost one

(against Tate). The Juniors have one more match to play. We are represented in the 1st XI. by Clarke, Cresswell, Smith, A. E., and Jenks, and in the 2nd XI. by Docherty (capt.), Howell, and Badcock.

The House has been 1st and 2nd in the Mark Sheets, and might have been 1st twice but for that old bugbear—detention.

A.H.J., L.F.C.

Library Notes

AS the golden summer sunshine flows in throught the murky windows of Libraria, lighting up the walls with a yellow gleam, a startling fact reveals itself. The pride of the Library has disappeared; the picture is gone. In its place hangs one of those ancient black and white relics which one is always discovering in the darkest corners of the School. The writer cannot resist the opportunity of mentioning these peculiarly imaginative and original prints, as they constitute one of the School's most unfailing sources of amusement.

To return to events, such as they are, in the Library. Amid the cackling of Big Bill may be heard the solemn tones of Donald, who grieves now that the Advanced are no longer allowed to visit the baths during the summer term. Instead, they are forced to occupy themselves, during the period normally set aside for their physical training, by throwing a Rugby ball around the gym.

The conversations between Vinegar and the Professor continue to increase in length and intensity, causing great annoyance to those members of the Science set who occasionally require some little peace and quiet. It is rumoured that drastic measures will be adopted in future in order to curb the natural garrulity of these two. A protest must also be registered against the Professor's endless stream of comments, which, on a first acquaintance, may seem to possess a certain amount of humour. As time passes, however, and the stream continues, the inexperienced cannot imagine how irritating these remarks become.

It may be as well to issue here a warning to non-Librarians who are foolhardy enough to invade the sacred precincts of Libraria in search of gym-shoes, shorts, and other apparel. In future, these trespassers will find themselves in imminent danger of being spiked.

J.F.P.

Form Notes

VIs.

THIS term has been a particularly quiet one; the shadow of School "Cert." seems to have subdued even our brightest sparks, except on Tuesday afternoons, when we have tossed aside all cares and played havoc with the cricket teams of VIa and VIb.

One, Owen, however, does not seem to be worrying over a lack of knowledge:—

The School Certif. is creeping near,
And I am prone to laze,
I don't know much I'm sad to say,
And there's only ten more days.

I'm not too good at Algebra;
Perhaps I'll just get through,
And as for French and Physics,
I think it's all just "foo!"

German is my bogey,
I don't know why it is,
But verbs, and nouns—and endings,
They simply make me fizz!

At Geometry, I'm not so bad;
I manage to draw a few lines,
And as for a subject like history,
Why learn about olden times?

Schofield praises our cricket:—

OUR CRICKET.

We beat all comers at cricket;
Their scores are sad to tell,
And at knocking up fours and sixes,
Sproat, Cresswell, and Jenks excel.

VIb. came to play us, when happy;
But went off the field looking blue;
For they only stayed in twelve minutes,
To knock up a total of *two*!

We haven't been beaten this term,
And we think it would be best,
If England would see that we're able,
To play better than they in the Test.

And finally, a poetic gem from the pen of Wolstenholme:

Bill Davies is " batty " on politics;
But the films are what " Aussie " likes,
While Griffiths accompanies Pritchard
In the study of motor-bikes.

Thompson insists that " It's going too far,"
When one knocks his book on the floor;
And Langford still pines for some Maths. books
From his idol of Maths., Mr. Bl * * r!

And Owen remains just as bashful,
And makes masters think he's a liar,
For when anyone asks him a question,
His face turns red as fire.

We do not possess the glass tubing
Through which is blown sago or lentil;
There's only one fellow who throws things around;
He sits at the back: it is Gentle.

VIa.

ALAS! In the midst of our revelry a sober fact stands out clearly—School Certificate is upon us. The result of four years' *work* will become evident; sheep and goats will be separated. But is VIa. downhearted? Emphatically, NO! Approach our form-room and you will find that, in the words of a master, " volumes of sound are emitted into the surrounding atmosphere."

But to business. VIa. has four representatives in the 1st XI.—Clarke, Griffiths, Beckett, and Thacker, while V. Roberts, J. S. Williams, Proudman, and Fisher play for the 2nd XI.

This term we have been visited by Romance—yes, I said Romance. A certain member of the form has succumbed to the charms of a girl named E-a. But let us spare the youth's blushes and change the subject.

Foster has maintained his usual high standard of excuses for being late, his crowning achievement being that he " was stopped by a policeman."

Several members of the form have been threatened with extinction by a member of the Staff who offered to throw them out of the window.

However, in spite of these sorrows, VIa. is still cheerful—to the extent that another form seemed " stale " by comparison and needed a holiday to recuperate. Poor fellows! Let them take a lesson from that virile form, VIa.

VIb.

WE haven't been a successful form at all this year. Even Tarpey thinks so. We can however plead lack of numbers, a plea which is reinforced by the fact that we were not able, on any occasion, to muster enough players for a rugby match last season.

To add to our misfortunes, the closing of the swimming baths has robbed us of our swimming.

But enough of this tale of woe; to lighter topics.

Here is a description by A. F. Jones of the Shelsey-Walsh Hill Climb.

Among trials enthusiasts the Shelsey-Walsh Hill Climb is considered to be the most popular event of the year,the chief attractions being the curious home-built specials, and, of course, the possibility of a new record being set up.

This year's entries included Raymond Mays's old-type E.R.A., the " Bolster Special " (consisting of four single-cylinder motor-byke engines mounted on a lightened car chassis with Morgan front-suspension), an old supercharged Simca-Fiat, two supercharged Austin Seven Ulster Models, two Rileys, and a S.S. 100 Sports Two-Seater.

The event which provided plenty of excitement resulted in Raymond Mays breaking his previous record and putting up a new time of 37.43 secs. for the climb.

And finally, as a sequel to Bradshaw's Birds in Spring, we publish his most recent work:

BIRDS IN SUMMER.

When summer arrives, a great change is noticed in the bird-life of the gardens. It seems to be the time of bustle, for about now the feeding of the young is of primary importance. The thrush, for example, usually has four or five rapidly

growing fledgelings to cope with, and soon finds its way to houses where it is supplied with tit-bits. It will also clear the garden of many injurious pests and should therefore be encouraged.

Blackbirds, too, will take domestic food and often become tame enough to wait for worms to be thrown to them.

Tom-tits, which are also very numerous in the garden at this time of the year, often look rather ragged and untidy, doubtless owing to the fact that they are so busy feeding their six or seven youngsters with green-fly and the kernels of peanuts that they have little time to look after themselves.

The noisiest bird of the whole garden is the starling, who can often be seen rummaging about on the lawn, looking for leatherjackets, for it is these destructive pests which the young birds look upon as great delicacies.

Towards the end of the summer months, by which time the young are fully grown, the families seem to split up. The parent birds then go their own way and their young begin to fend for themselves.

Remove j.

UNFINISHED attempts to write poetry, limericks with no rhyme in them, libellous insinuations against masters and fellows—in short, Rem. j. Form Notes. No further comment is necesary. Read on—if you can.

This term we have done exceptionally well in cricket, being unbeaten in five matches, this being mainly due to the batting of Molyneux, our captain, a member of the 1st XI. Remove a. have proved harder to beat than Remove l.

Now for the only joke received. When asked why Aberdeen is situated where it is, R——— replied, " Because the fish live there."

The following is by Lane:

My first is in cage, but not in lair.
My second in breath, and also in air.
My third is a vowel—its head is a dot.
My fourth is in can, but not in pot.
My fifth, you will find, precedes letter ' l.'
My sixth is in sea, and also in swell.
My last is in touch, but not in such.
My whole is a game you all love so much."
(Cricket).

Ferguson entitles his blank verse contribution

" LINES AFTER WORDSWORTH."

" Five hours have past, five hours, with the length
Of five long weeks, and again I have ideas,
Rolling from my brain, dust-clad,
To sheets of borrowed foolscap. Once again
Do I rewrite those long and witty rhymes
That on a certain ' Form Notes ' page impress
Those of a poor mentality, and disgust
The editors with the style of them.
The day is come when I again compose
Verse, under this bright reading lamp, and scan
Those plots of Tennyson and Bobbie Burns.
Inspirations once again I seek—little lines
Of mixed-up verse run wild. These lines here writ,
Rot to the very last, are my attempt
To please."

Remove a.

DON'T look just now, but you see that big fellow on the third row with his hair nicely brushed ? That's Ken Gaskell, our cricket captain. He can also give tips on how to sprint.

I'm afraid we haven't room for most of the contributions received from our form—poems by Horne and Colclough; articles by Hughes, Perry, Parton, Beacall, Harris, and Baxter. Some contributors evidently wish to remain anonymous, as they had put no name on their paper. We recommend this procedure at an election, but not in sending material to the magazine.

Bibby has been to:—

DONNINGTON PARK.

One Saturday my friends and I went down to Derby to see the famous racing circuit at Donnington Park.

When we arrived, we started to walk round the track which is over three miles long and roughly like the shape of a meat-chopper lying flat on its side.

Immediately after the start is a straight of two hundred and twenty yards followed by a right-angled bend. The road, which is about twenty feet wide, continues through Holly Wood and down a winding hill to the Hairpin. It was on this

hill that oil was spilt last year, and every German car, some travelling at a hundred miles per hour, went off the road, one being forced to retire.

After the Hairpin, the road snakes up to Starkey's Bridge and through Coppice Wood, in the middle of which is a vicious right hand turn called McLean's Corner. A straight then leads to Coppice Corner which is followed by the almost straight run down Coppice Lane to Melbourne Corner. At this point the road drops down a hill, turns two right-hand corners and then climbs again.

The Auto Unions accelerated from thirty to one hundred miles an hour up this hill, which is an eighth of a mile long with a gradient of one in eight.

Last year Nuvolari won the Grand Prix at an average speed of eighty miles per hour. As we left I wondered how the drivers managed to control the cars on such a tricky circuit.

Neal has given us permission to reprint the following from his *History of Aviation*, Vol. II., Page 376:—

Colonel Lindbergh born in 1902 at Detroit, the son of a Minnesota Lawyer, entered the College of Engineering of the University of Wisconsin and there studied aviation. Having no job when he left, he bought an old army 'plane and with a friend, who was also interested in aviation, he became a stunt flyer.

In 1926 he applied for a job as a pilot with a company which had an air mail contract, and at the age of twenty-four became captain on the St. Louis—Chicago air route. It was while he was on these flights that he turned his mind to the Atlantic crossing.

He estimated that the backing necessary for such a venture would be £3,000, while he had but £400 saved. He put his scheme before eight St. Louis business men, who told him to carry on with his work and put the expenses down to them. He went to San Diego and ordered a special two-hundred horse-power plane which he christened *Spirit of St. Louis*.

On May 29th, 1929, at 7-52 a.m. he took off from the Curtiss field, New York, for Paris. At dusk on the next day he arrived at Le Bourget, where he was given a magnificent reception. He received an equally great ovation in Belgium and England, and a special warship was sent to take him back to U.S.A. in triumph.

Woodward writes about R.A.F. Medical Tests:—

The medical tests a man has to pass to become an R.A.F. pilot ensure a high standard of physical fitness. When he applies at the Medical board, he is first given a general examination in which he is weighed and measured, his blood pressure is tested, and his heart and lungs are examined. Then come the special tests for flying. First comes a test in which the man, placing his foot on a chair has to step on the chair and the floor alternately five times in fifteen seconds. Next comes a test in which the candidate has to hold his breath,with a clamp on his nose, for about 69 seconds. Then he has to stand to attention, raise one knee to form a right angle and remain in that position for 15 seconds. After this he passes on to the eye specialist who gives him a thorough eye test. Then the man's ears, nose, and throat are examined. Afterwards the candidate is tested for abnormal reactions to spinning.The most important test is to show the co-ordination between hands, eyes, and feet. An ingenious apparatus has been devised for this purpose. It consists of an aeroplane cockpit fitted with full controls. In front of him is a circular window in the centre of which is a black cross. On this window is seen a spot of light, and the candidate is required to bring the spot to the centre of the cross. If the candidate passes these tests he has qualified, physically, to become an R.A.F. pilot.

Remove 1.

THIS term the form has been made unusually lively by the presence of Couch who, with his witticisms and "old-fashioned" writing, has caused much laughter. Remove 1. regret that Mr. Jones is leaving this term and hope that the new master, whosoever he may be, will enjoy teaching us in VIb. In the cricket field we have not fared too badly, and Evans, our star bat, and Currie, our prize bowler, compare quite favourably with those of any other form.

We now have a limerick(?) from the above-mentioned Couch. It is doubtful whether this is original, but here it is; you may judge for yourself:—

There was a young fellow named Tom,
Who decided to let off a bomb.
He ran down the road,
Tripped over a toad,
And Tom and bomb have now gone.

This concludes our form-notes for this term, and we wish everybody the best of luck in the oncoming examinations. We certainly need it!

Vj.

THE HORRORS OF AN EARLY MORNING PUNCTURE.

THIS is not a very frequent occurrence, but when it does happen it is always at the most inconvenient time. For instance when one is cutting it fine, but expecting to worm into school, one dashes out of the house and jumps on one's bike. One is likely to notice a bumpy sensation as if numerous potholes were placed there specially for one. This is not so, it is merely a puncture in the rear tyre. At this point the immediate future flashes through the mind. How will one get to school. Will one get a Wed. ? etc.

Then one jumps from one's bike and flings it down in a convenient spot, and yelling the reason for this unseemly conduct, dashes for a 'bus. After feverishly waiting, one finally manages to scramble aboard, and, as the 'bus invariably stops at every point, arrives late as usual. J. PARRY.

Anyone feeling at all dissatisfied with the *Visor's* policy should take a dose of Malcolm; he says:—

As you've paid your eightpence,
This magazine is yours
To read in hours of leisure,
When raining or indoors.
It contains a crossword puzzle
Set by Mr. Hall,
For which a prize is offered;
But, my hat, that's not all.
Form notes are also given,
Poems of every sort,
Notes on Houses, Societies,
Libraries and Sport.
There's lots of other writings
Such as "Fishing on the Firth,"
And when you've finished reading it
You've had your money's worth.

Haughton describes

TARGET PRACTICE AT SEALAND AERODROME.

When I arrived I found that there were about a dozen 'planes about to take off. They were of the small R.A.F. training type, painted yellow,so as to be easily distinguishable to other pilots and to aerodrome officials watching from the ground. Attached to the tails of these 'planes by a long piece of cord, were some toy gas balloons, one to each'plane, which were diving and ascending in the hurricane of air from the props. When the 'planes took off, I could see there was a machine-gun in the centre of the field. The 'planes roared overhead, still gaining altitude, and then, one by one, they flew over the gun, the balloons trailing behind them. The gunner burst two balloons in the first round, and the machines with the burst balloons landed. The next round, the gunner burst five more balloons, and broke two of the strings, finally bursting the rest of the balloons. The remaining machines then landed, the gunner left the gun, and I returned home.

Vb.

G. JONES describes an interesting trip up Snowdon :—

It was a lovely day when a friend and I left the little village of Borth-y-Gest, North Wales, on a 'bus bound for the foot of Snowdon.

After a long journey of about twenty-five miles, we reached our destination, and booking our seats, we boarded the train, which was without windows. We started off at a slow but sure pace, stopping now and again while the train replenished its water supply. Sometimes we would be riding along a wide stretch of ground, and then along one barely wide enough for the train, with a sheer drop on either side. Then we would see climbers, roped together, clambering like ants up the steep slope.

After getting out of the train, we climbed the last stretch to the top, and since it was a very clear day, we had an excellent view. We drank lemonade, walked back to the station, and found that the train had just left. Not wishing to wait for the next, we walked down beside the line, and reached the bottom in time for dinner.

IVa.

AS no information regarding IVa's progress this term has been submitted, no news can be printed, and so to start these notes here is Tresidder's account of:

MOVING DAY.

What a job it is, moving from one house to another! All the ornaments and crockery have to be packed into cases and if anything is broken, the culprit is usually heard to murmur, " Well, things do get broken when you're moving!"

Then there is a great struggle to get the wardrobe out of the front bedroom. How it was taken in, no one seems to know, and no one seems to know how the scratches on the banisters get there after the beds have been taken downstairs. When, however, the last consignment of furniture has been placed anywhere and everywhere in the new house everything stops for tea.

It seems to me that the back garden must have been the village dumping ground in days gone by, for it abounds with bits of broken glass, bottles, old jam jars, boots and large cobble-stones. Still, when you have set everything right and settled in properly, you're glad you took the trouble.

To continue, we have a puzzle by Heath:—

My first is in cave but not in den;
My second's in ink but not in pen;
My third is in sea but not in lake;
My fourth is in cod but not in hake;
My fifth is in grass but not in weed;
My whole is a book which you should read.

(The answer will be found at the end of the form notes).

In bringing these notes to a close we present an interesting article by Maddocks which he calls:—

A TRIP ON A TRAWLER.

Last Easter I went out for a fortnight on a 200 ton Fleetwood steam trawler, the *Richard Croft*, which carried a crew of twelve. We embarked on our voyage at ten o'clock on a Monday morning and when we were about three miles out the skipper set the compass by taking a certain point on the land and comparing it with the direction on the compass.

The first trawl was shot when we had passed Ratlin Island and by that time the big North Sea waves were pitching the trawler about. The trawl was hauled in four hours after it had been shot and, as usual, there was not a very good catch.

As we went further north the temperature dropped and the waves grew so large that sometimes they towered above the bridge. This made me sea-sick and I couldn't eat a thing for three days.

We had one or two misfortunes during the voyage, such as losing our tackle and having to wireless for more, and, on the last trawl, losing the pulley block, over which the steel hawser ran.

As we raced home with other craft, both Ireland and Scotland could be seen from the trawler at the same time. The reason for the race home was that the first trawler in gets the highest price for the catch.

Solution to puzzle is VISOR.

IVb.

TO start off our form notes this term we submit this poser by Ellis:

My first is in dial but not in clock;
My second in electric but not in shock;
My third is in town and also in city;
My fourth is in rhyme but not in ditty;
My fifth is in north but not in pole;
My sixth is in pit but not in hole;
My seventh is in iron but not in steel;
My eighth is in orange but not in peel;
My ninth is in ocean but not in sea;
My whole is well known to all IVb.

The answer will be found at the end of our form notes.

A short story by Moyes which he entitles

A SAD DISAPPOINTMENT.

One day during my holidays I decided to go fresh water fishing in a neighbouring river. As it was a sunny day, there was not much chance of any luck. I sat there for two hours wondering when the weather was going to cool down and

thinking how monotonous it was, when a splash interrupted my thoughts as my float bobbed about and went under.

There was a flash of silver as I played him. My line was still running out and was nearing the end, when it began to slow down. I soon had him under my control and was winding him in. What a beauty! I was just reaching the landing net under him and . . . . I awoke!

And finally, in case you have not already discovered it, here is the solution to Ellis's problem: DETENTION.

IVj.

WE begin our notes with a short poem(?) by Heaps:

One day, a boy played truant;
He thought he'd stay away.
Back he came on Wednesday morn,
And there he stayed—all day.

And now Rushton does his bit for National Service.

A.R.P.

Grandfather's very agile,
He's as clever as can be;
He's always talking about gas-masks,
Since he joined the A.R.P.

Father's building a shelter,
He knew as much about gases as me;
But he's altered quite a lot, really,
Since he joined the A.R.P.

Mother's a very good nurse;
She's always talking over tea,
Of all the first-aid she knows,
Since she joined the A.R.P.

Finally Gregson tells us how he went

EXPLORING THE CAVES.

When on holiday in Wales last year my cousin and I went exploring some old caves. As we entered the caves, we could see that it was very dark inside. The first glimpses we had were of the great rock walls, and the vaulted roof which was dripping with moisture. We could see daylight coming

from the back of the cave, which was about twenty yards long. Proceeding to the back we looked up at a high mound of soil like a wall which rose about forty feet. This was the only other exit from the cave. Between the top of the mound and the arched roof, there was a space of about six feet. My cousin went up first; but, as he had only tufts of grass to hold on to, he was slow in getting to the top. When he reached it, I tried to climb up another way. When half-way up, I could find no more hand-holds, and as the mound was rather steep, I did not like the idea of falling to the stony floor of the cave. I was obliged to jump for a tuft of grass higher up than I could reach. Luckily I caught it, and it held. Eventually I reached the top, but I shall never forget hanging in mid-air for a few minutes that seemed like an hour.

IIIa.

MR. KEITH was lost in the country. Walking down a LANE he met a SHEPHERD who told him he was nearing BOSTON. Just then a BENTLEY passed him, and so he asked for a lift. The car passed a marsh with a notice " BeWARE " near St. PETER'S monastery, where a BELL was ringing. As they went by a YOUNG monk was seen.

Mr. KEITH got out of the car at WILLIAMS' Inn, and had a glass of YATES. Then he noticed a big HALL, and, going in, he saw portraits of JAMES I. and McCABE the cricketer. After calling at COOPER'S for his lunch, he then caught the train back home.

After that introduction to the form by Gilliland we can tell of our cricket results: We have been able to play only two matches so far. We beat IIIj., but in the match with IIIb. time intervened with IIIb's last two men in, and so the game was drawn. Beckett and Nugent, the captain and vice-captain respectively, have taken most of the wickets.

The following incident is worthy of record:

Having heard of Mr. X's experiences with a cannon and gun-powder, McCabe went home and made a cannon. Next day, after showing Mr. X the cannon, he made some gun-powder, put it in the cannon, and lit it. Unfortunately for him, however, the cannon did not fire in the usual way, but shot up into the air and came down in pieces.

Finally Ware describes a visit to Portsmouth Dockyard during Navy Week:

NAVY WEEK AT PORTSMOUTH DOCKYARD.

The main dockyard gate was gaily decorated with flags and bunting. A little way inside the gate was H.M.S. *Victory*, Lord Nelson's flag-ship. We boarded her and were shown the cot in which Nelson slept, the spot where he was shot, and the dimly-lit room which served as a hospital.

Next we saw the ancient ceremony of crossing the line which took place in a dock. Two of Father Neptune's men began by lathering the man who had not crossed the equator before, while Neptune looked on. One of them then shaved the man with a huge wooden razor. Neptune then ordered him to be thrown overboard into the water, which some sailors did with great gusto.

We then saw a display by some cadets, and the gunnery school. The cadets did some physical exercises, and the gunnery school showed the speed with which a gun can be loaded, and also fired so that it sounded like one continuous explosion.

Afterwards we boarded a torpedo boat and saw some torpedoes being fired and a demonstration of the Davis escape apparatus, on which hundreds of men depend for their safety.

Finally we went over H.M.S. *Nelson*, and had tea in the mess; after which we left for home.

IIIb.

LITTLE Jack Horner
Sat in a corner,
Eating a big fruit pie,
He put in his thumb,
But, instead of a plum,
The juice squirted into his eye.

The above effort is due to McDonnell. Next we have a description by Scott:

LOGGERHEADS.

In front of us we see Moel Fammau with its "pimple" on the top. This "pimple" is really a ruined memorial of considerable size. At the foot of the mountain a river rushes past, hurling itself against the bank with a roar. There are many fish in this rushing torrent and they can be seen leaping into the air.

By the side of the river are the remains of an old fair and boating pool, and a little further down there is a band-stand. Facilities are provided for sports, such as golf and tennis, and for refreshments.

On one side is a private wood above which, on the mountain slopes are many beautiful, multi-coloured flowers. The peaceful silence is unbroken except for the occasional sound of blasting from a quarry near by.

Finally we have a poem by Byrne entitled

OUR FORM.

In our form we do our best,
But, all the same, we dread a test.
We moan and stumble over French,
And Physics we had best not mention.
When Algebra comes around
All our hearts do take a bound.

IIIj.

THE outstanding event of the term has been the mysterious disappearance of that apparently eternal part of the school furniture—the detention sheet. General opinion seems to be that it has been secreted in St. Paul's church, but none of the form sleuths have been able or willing to investigate further.

IIIj. are keen on cricket, but unfortunately have won only one match. Hoggins, however, is still an enthusiastic rambler and has written a description of a day on the moors, when the party had difficulties in a bog and were forced to cross a bridge which had been broken in the middle.

Otherwise the form has little inspiration for contribution; but Edwards has some impressions of

ANGLESEY.

Last year I spent a holiday at Beaumaris in Anglesey. Our first walk was to Black Point lighthouse, where hundreds of rabbits could be seen among the old quarries. On the other side of a small strait was Puffin Island. Next day we visited Beaumaris Castle with its huge thick walls, and explored the passages inside. Underground were ancient dungeons, some half full of water. When we left the castle, we

saw the *St. Tudno* steaming past in the bay. Before we went home we went once more to Black Point, and I nearly got lost in a great field of bracken, part of what was once a deer park, where the bracken was so tall that it reached up to my head.

II.

AS usual Form II. has supplied us with a sheaf of articles all beginning: " One day in the holidays I paid a visit to . . . " When the Editor sees this sentence he can be sure that the article has appeared in a different guise, in some earlier issue of the School Magazine. However, the two most likely descriptions have been selected and appear below.

Firstly, an anonymous writer describes

A DAY SPENT FERRETING.

I went to a farm at Sandiway with my father and brother. The ferrets were muzzled, so that when they were down the burrows they could not kill the rabbits. We approached the burrows stealthily, so as not to disturb the rabbits; two ferrets were sent down and in a few minutes two rabbits bolted out and were shot. One of the ferrets failed to reappear, and so the farmer, guessing that it had cornered a rabbit, sent a large ferret, known as a liner, down on a lead. When the other ferret was found, the farmer dug down, following the line of the string, and he found both ferrets with three cornered rabbits. A very interesting day was completed, and we returned with seven rabbits.

And now Wevill tells of his visit to the *Ark Royal.*

One day in November we went to Cammell Laird's to see the *Ark Royal.* Once on board we went to the torpedo-room and were told that a torpedo costs about nine hundred pounds. From here we went to the hangars, the fo'c'sle, and the store-room. After visiting these rooms down below, we went up on deck and examined one of the ship's sixteen 4.5 inch guns. Her name plate records the fact that the first *Ark Royal* fought against the Armada, and that the second was at the Dardanelles.

Form II have played two or three form cricket games against the thirds but, unfortunately, in each game the thirds have proved themselves better cricketers.

Cricket

1st XI.

SO far, the 1st XI. have not had a very successful season. Eight games have been played, and out of these two have been won, and one drawn. The highest total has been 134 for 5, against St. Edward's College, G. Smith (45) and Cresswell (26) being top scorers. In only two other matches has the team reached one hundred runs. Against Bootle's 120 for 5, we scored 104, Clarke knocking 51, the highest score of the season, and G. Smith scoring 30. The other century resulted in a win over Neston IV., in which match Cresswell was top scorer with 34, G. Smith scoring 23. The first to reach his hundred was Clarke, who is now second to G. Smith who has scored 119; Creswell is third, with 92. Sproat heads the bowling averages, having taken the most wickets, although he has played in only five matches. His figures are 19 for 65.

RESULTS.

Date.		*Opponents.*		*For.*	*Agst.*
May 3	v.	Bootle	L.	104	120—5
May 13	v.	Oulton	L.	25	72
May 20	v.	Holt	L.	43	96
May 24	v.	St. Edward's Col.	W.	134—5	22
June 3	v.	St. Mary's	L.	75	93
June 7	v.	Park High School	L.	49	87
June 14	v.	Caldy	D.	56—5	Aband.
June 17	v.	Neston IV.	W.	130—9	75

2nd XI.

The 2nds. have won three matches out of five. Docherty has taken 18 wickets at a cost of 61 runs. Howell (57 not out), Rowlands (31), and V. Roberts (21), have made the biggest scores.

RESULTS.

Date.		*Opponents.*		*For.*	*Agst.*
May 3	v.	Bootle	L.	33	88
May 13	v.	Oulton	W.	88	33
June 3	v.	St. Mary's	L.	26	35—4
June 7	v.	Park High School	W.	55	53
July 5	v.	Alsop High School	W.	55—7	49

3rd XI.

The 3rds. have so far won three matches out of four.

1st XI., 1939.



Photo by CULL.

Standing: W. F. Wolstenholme, D. M. Moffat, J. G. Beckett, G. Sproat, C. E. Griffith, S. D. Thacker, A. R. Thacker, Esq.
Sitting: A. E. Smith. J. F. Pearson (Capt.), F. L. Cresswell, G. S. Smith, L. F. Clarke, E. Molyneux.

RESULTS.

Date.	*Opponents.*	*For.*	*Agst.*
May 13	v. Oulton ..... W.	27—7	25
	(Bolton 3 for 1; Woodward 6 for 10).		
May 20	v. Holt High School ..... L.	12	66
May 31	v. Wirral Gram. Sch. ... W.	58	40
	(Bolton 2 for 12; Brooks 14).		
June 3	v. St. Mary's Col. ..... W.	104	45
	(Bolton 7 for 27; Bolton 40; Pugh 18).		

Scout Notes

DURING the Easter holidays six of the Senior Scouts cycled to Ross-on-Wye and camped at *The Lawns*. Although the weather was not too good, all the members of the party thoroughly enjoyed re-visiting their favourite camp site.

As is usual during this term, Scout activities have been mainly of the open-air variety. Week-end camps have been regularly attended. The week-end spent in the grounds of the Leasowe Hospital was a very happy one. We are always impressed by the cheerfulness, despite tremendous handicaps, of the boys in the Leasowe Hospital troop. The 'camp-fire' was a great success.

At half-term thirty Scouts went to Brynbach. Ideal weather helped to make the long week-end under canvas very enjoyable. A Norwegian Scout accompanied the boys, and we hope was favourably impressed by the ability of Birkenhead boys to look after themselves in camp.

The standard of swimming in the troop has not been so high this term as is usual—Beacall was the only successful entrant in the inter-troop swimming gala. He won the 50 yards back-stroke.

Mr. Coughtrie and Mr. Tomlinson have just completed Part 2 (Practical) of the Wood Badge course. The former went to Gilwell, while Mr. Tomlinson took advantage of a special course at Overchurch.

The Senior Scouts have recently begun a course of study for the National Service Badge. Mr. Paris kindly consented to deliver the lectures on A.R.P. It is hoped that all the Seniors will take this course.

A camp has been arranged for the first fortnight of the summer holidays in Kirkcudbright. To all who attend and to all Brother Scouts we wish *Good Camping*.

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Faculty of Medicine, Degree of Ch.M.—H. L. Davies.

Ordinary Degree of M.B. and Ch.B., Final Examination, Part II, Forensic Medicine and Toxicology—R. T. Davies.

School of Dental Surgery, Licence in Dental Surgery, Second Examination, Part A, Passed in Anatomy—W. Macbryde.

Faculty of Law, Ordinary Degree of LL.B., Intermediate Examination, Nominations and Awards—G. R. Edwards.

Ravenhead Travelling Scholarship—I. S. Melville; **Kanthack Medal**—W. W. Aslett.

Faculty of Arts, Degree of B.A. in General Studies—T. H. Heys.

Faculty of Science, Ordinary Degree of B.Sc., Final Examination, Class II.—R. M. Bennett, R. E. May; **Part I.**, G. A. Forsythe.

Faculty of Engineering, Final Examination, Part I.—F. H. Lilley; **Intermediate Examination**—J. C. Grimmett; **Ordinary Degree of B.Arch., 2nd Examination**—I. S. Melville.

Diploma in Education—L. Coglan, L. Evans (Distinction in Practical Work), G. H. Weston.

Borough Technical Scholarship tenable at Liverpool University:—S. Bunting.

Lists of Old Boys

THE Visor committee thank the correspondents who have contributed the names in the following supplementary lists of Old Boys.

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Blackwood, B.Sc.

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Smart, T.
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Martlew, T., M.B., Ch.B.

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Willis, T. B.
McGarva, Coun. J.
Evans, G. L.

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Fore, C. F.

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Perry, G. A., Junior Executive Officer, Civil Staff, New Scotland Yard.

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Harris, Capt. G.V.
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Guthrie, C. E.
James, E.
Grierson, K.

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Chester College:
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Exeter College:
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Liverpool University:
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Bennett, M.
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Lees, P.
Clare, W. E.
Forsythe, G. A.
Slinn, J. N.
MacBryde, W.
Edwards, G. R.

Old Boys' A.F.C.

AN enjoyable hot-pot supper was held at the new Central Hotel, on Saturday, April 29th. The Headmaster presided, and a first-class entertainment rounded off a well-attended function. During the evening a presentation was made to the treasurer, Mr. A. G. Sagar, on the occasion of his marriage.

Members of the club will be glad to hear that J.J. Gilligan has made a good recovery and has now been back at his work for some weeks.

Old Instonians R.F.C.

ALTHOUGH Rugby Football is a patently out-of-season topic at the moment, apparently magazine Editors are above such discrimination, and a few lines on the Old Boys' Club must needs grace the pages of the *Visor*.

An excellent playing season was enjoyed by the Club in 1938-39. Twenty 1st XV. and twenty-three 2nd XV. matches were won, several of them being very meritorious performances. For the first time the Old Instonians were invited to enter a team in the Seven-a-side Competition at Birkenhead Park at the end of the season, and were perhaps a little unfortunate in being defeated in the first round by the heavier and more experienced Port Sunlight team.

The Annual General Meeting was held in May. There were a few changes among Officers and Committee, and it was very pleasing to note new members, particularly J. A. Williams, J. Gullan, and E. G. Williams, taking a hand in the administrative affairs of the Club. P. Burrell was elected Captain of the 1st XV., and C. K. Coughtrie again to the honour in the 2nd XV. May last season's successes be continued for both of them.

The Club extends a hearty welcome to any School footballers who are leaving at the end of this term. With three regular teams, and a greatly strengthened fixture list (including Old Birkonians II., Hoylake I., Rhyl, and Southport II.), there is every opportunity for the keen members to get on in the game. E.T.

WE hoped to print in this issue a list of Old Boys who have joined the Territorial Army. We have been given about fifty names, but as these cannot be more than a fraction of those enrolled, it has been decided to postpone publication of the list until next term. Will all Old Boys who have joined, or know others who have done so, please send their names, with initials, years at School, and the unit to which they are attached?

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