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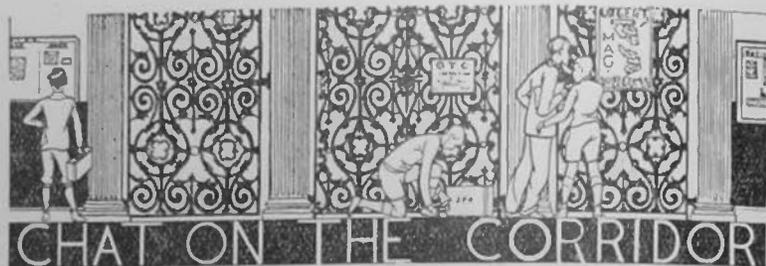
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Editorial.

IT is customary for the Editor on this page to bewail the difficulties of his task ; to decry the sublime indifference of University correspondents, the sloth of secretaries, the general apathy of all who ought to write articles. Such, however, is not our intention.

We must confess that we find joy in wresting his notes from the last recalcitrant House-captain. There is pleasure to be gained from a postal siege of that unknown enemy, Mr. Knoxuchlave, for his towers, too, must fall at length. But an Editor's duties do not end when the Magazine has been put to bed ; there follows the day of publication.

This year there has been a sudden drop in the number of copies distributed. This present issue is the smallest ever recorded. Since a school magazine is of little interest to strangers, it can only exist if it is fully supported by the School. The remedy for the present situation is simple ; if everyone who reads these words joins the Sports and Arts Club immediately the Magazine's circulation will once more be normal, and all wrinkles will disappear from the Editor's brow.



WE hope that the Headmaster has now fully recovered from the indisposition which kept him from School at the beginning of the Spring Term.

The influenza epidemic in the early days of February interfered greatly with all forms of School activities. Meetings were poorly attended, and many matches had to be scratched through the impossibility of forming teams. Fortunately the peak period did not last long, and, after half-term, conditions were normal.

P. U. Rumjahn, in addition to playing for the Lancashire A Hockey team against Yorkshire, represented England at table tennis against Ireland. This is the first time, surely, that the School has possessed an international. We congratulate him.

On Thursday, February 25th, the School was again privileged to hear the Rev. C. W. Kerr. His subject on this occasion was "Iraq," and every single member of his audience was thoroughly interested and entertained by the lecturer. In particular, the coloured slides were extremely effective.

Congratulations to G. Hughes on winning a Meyricke Exhibition for Classics to Jesus College, Oxford.

At the end of last term the Headmaster had a visit from Mr. L. Hall, who left the School in 1880. He had brought with him some booklets and MSS. which he has kindly presented to the School.

There are reprints of some interesting addresses delivered in the School in the last century. Professor Huxley, LL.D., F.R.S., spoke "On Science and Art in Relation to Education."

and the Rev. W. W. Skeat, Litt.D., lectured "On the Study of the English Language and of English Literature."

Members of the Literary and Debating Society will be interested to learn of the debates of their forerunner, the "Mental Improvement Society," which met at the Liverpool Mechanics' Institution. On the 3rd of November, 1848, the subject before the House was "Are the Miseries of Ireland more attributable to race than to mis-government." The subject on 7th February, 1845, was "Ought there to be any restriction upon the publication of opinion," a subject which appears even more topical to-day than when it was first debated. It is a most interesting and valuable collection, and we thank Mr. Hall for his generous gift.

We must also thank Mrs. Lawrence Holt who presented the School with twenty tickets for a Concert held on March 24th, at which appeared Carl Flesch (violin) and Wera Zedtvitz (pianoforte). A party of Senior boys were thus enabled to hear a first-class performance by two prominent artists.

We commiserate with the Mistresses, who have lost their common room. For a whole term work has been in progress on the room, for the most part unseen, but unfortunately, far from unheard. *Tantae molis erat.*

Those who visit Greenbank and Mersey Road will miss the cheery grin of "Peter," for he has left us. In his place as groundsman comes George Wass's son.

Old Boys' Section.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

WE offer hearty congratulations to D. P. Thomas (1932) on being awarded the Archibald Dawney Scholarship of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Two Old Boys gained 2nd Class Honours in Oxford Honour Moderations—P. Curtis (Balliol) and E. G. Little (Keble).

We have received a letter from B. Cherrick (1931) who has been awarded a Graduate Research Scholarship at Manchester University, where he gained 1st Class Honours in the School of Semitic Studies in 1936.

In February of this year the Rev. F. C. M. Musgrave-Brown, M.A., an Old Boy of the School, was instituted Vicar of St. Bede's (Hartington Road), Toxteth, by the Bishop of Warrington.

J. Laver has succeeded to the charge of the Department of Painting as well as the Department of Engraving and Design in the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

B. Heathcote has been appointed Member of a Committee set up by the Board of Trade to enquire into the conditions of service of Marine Engineers.

Readers will be interested to learn that Eric Tunnington (1928) has been selected to tour New Zealand and Australia with the F.A. Amateur XI. He has previously been capped for England against Scotland in the season 1934/5.

Captain James Clayton Barr, C.B., R.N.R., who died recently at his home in Wallasey, was an Old Boy. He had captained many famous vessels, including the *Mauretania*, and had served with distinction in the Boer and Great War.

* * *

"The Poisoned Kiss."

(Reprint from the *Daily Post*.)

NOTHING quite so gay and amusing has been done in the way of amateur opera in Liverpool for many years as the Liverpool Institute's (Choral and Orchestral Society) performance of Dr. Vaughan Williams' opera "The Poisoned Kiss," at the David Lewis Theatre, which was repeated last night. This opera has been published and it has had at least two previous performances, in Cambridge and London. But perhaps only an expert eye could deduce from the printed text how well it is calculated to come off on the stage. Miss Evelyn Sharp's libretto (and it is its great merit) is not meant to be read. It is meant to be spoken, in its "extravaganza" context, and as such it succeeded beyond all question. I have rarely heard a comic opera since Gilbert and Sullivan in which there were so many laughs. Accepting a well-understood convention, Miss Sharp and her collaborator, Dr. Vaughan Williams, have achieved a stage-work of the most laughable absurdity. A distinguished writer and a composer of eminence have, between them, created a work which, in short, "goes down." I insist on this point, because so many English operas are theoretically amusing, but

this one, contrary to all precedents, actually gets away. The laughter was frequent and that pays a tribute not less to the performance than to the work itself.

So far as the music goes, it is Vaughan Williams certainly in a somewhat unbuttoned mood. But he has rarely appeared so loveable, or his homespun so charming and gracious. He has accepted a convention and one cannot blame him for that. But his personality shines through this, perhaps rather trivial, music—the lovely tunes, the delightful scoring, which we could only guess at from the vocal score. It is a summing-up of English comic opera, as it appeals to a great composer of our day—derivative in some respects, possibly, and also and at the same time, an original and practical creation. Its most important merit is that it succeeds so well on the stage.

The production, by Mr. L. G. Young, who conducted and appears to have handled the whole business, both on the stage and musical sides, was (it is not too much to say) brilliant. The first act is dramatically rather gauche and the exposition long-winded. But once we had got into the stride of the second act, the opera went with a swing, and the work obviously succeeded. The management of the second scene, particularly towards the end, was admirably done as a matter of ensemble. The trio of "hob-goblins" were always amusingly fantastic, and the same may be said of the burlesque "mediums," whose union with their rivals was so absurdly consummated at the end. In the principal parts, Kathleen Folland and W. J. Hart did the low-comedy stuff very well. It was a major achievement that the characters were kept so well in key throughout, and both of these principals did that. E. W. Hicks as the magician, Dipsacus, R. Heather as the Prince, and Aura Chapman as the magician's daughter, gave us a great deal of burlesque fun. And there was an outstanding performance in every way in the Empress Persicaria of Dorothy Knowles.

An opera must be judged on its singing, to a large extent, and the singing, though it left something to be desired, in detail, was very fair and healthy. Not perhaps brilliant voices in the solo work, but the ensembles were very well done—the finales especially so. And the orchestra did itself credit. It gave us a glimpse of a charming score, and the production as a whole gave us a view of a delightful opera, which ought to enter the repertoire. The stage-designs, especially in the second and third acts, were excellent.

A.K.H.

"THE POISONED KISS"

An Opera, by R. Vaughan Williams.

MR. A. K. HOLLAND'S criticism of Mr. Young's production, printed on another page is no less eloquent than it is just. To attempt to add to it might seem, if not an impertinence, at least an idle superfluity. And yet there is an excuse for penning these notes. It was a School production, and it is therefore only proper that the School should express its thanks to those who have increased its reputation as a home of the Arts. For the high standard of our dramatic productions we have always been noted, but many people have wondered whether we were capable of high achievement musically. Mr. Young's production is an answer to such queries.

The main interest in an opera as in a play centres upon the hero and heroine, and Mrs. Aura Chapman (Tormentilla) and Mr. R. Heather (Amaryllus) fully came up to expectations. The unconcerned manner of Mrs. Chapman in handling a "werry wicious" snake will long be remembered by all who saw her. The performances of the protagonists, Mr. Hicks (Dipsacus) and Miss Dorothy Knowles (Persicaria) were perhaps the best of the evening. Both have had much experience of drama, and are perfectly at home on the stage. Their elocution (even in their songs) was perfect, and every word came across clearly.

Love is a passion which afflicts high and low alike, and if Amaryllus and Tormentilla fall in love, why then, it is only natural that the same sickness should afflict their attendants. If Mrs. Chapman and Mr. Heather taught us how a romantic love-affair should be conducted up stairs, Mrs. Folland (Angelica) and Mr. Hart (Gallanthus) no less surely initiated us in the mysteries of passion in the kitchen—or, perhaps, here one should say, in the snakery.

In the minor parts, the contrast between the rollicking Rabelaisian Hob, Gob, and Lob (Messrs. J. Williams-Barlow, J. B. Shaw and J. H. J. Bowen) and the bored and precious mediums (Misses Rene Roberts, Edna Jenkinson and Margaret Moore) was most excellently brought out. Mr. A. R. Cordon was an ideal attendant, and Mr. T. L. Thomas was the perfect physician.

Of the merits of the choruses it is needless to speak. They sang as if they thoroughly enjoyed it and meant what they sang. Moreover, their excellence did not stop short at the vocal part of their performance, but their deportment on a crowded stage left little to be desired.

The orchestra, conducted by Mr. L. G. Young, and led by Mr. G. D. Price rose to the occasion and gave an admirable performance.

Of the scenery, designed by Mr. W. R. Rawlinson, it is difficult to speak in terms which might not be interpreted as insincere. Aided by scenery so excellently designed it would be hard for any cast not to give even more than its best. It may interest some to know that the costumes (also designed by Mr. Rawlinson) were more or less exact replicas of mediaeval designs. Before sketching his own designs, Mr. Rawlinson spent much time consulting the volumes on Witchcraft and Daemonology contained in the Picton Reference Library. To all those who assisted in the making of the costumes, our best thanks are due.

Much of the success of a production depends upon those behind the scenes, and we owe our gratitude to Mr. B. M. R. Folland (Stage Manager), Mr. A. Tyler (Asst. Stage Manager), Mr. G. Creed (Resident Stage Manager), Mr. W. J. Hart (Box Office Manager) and Mr. L. A. Naylor (Publicity Manager).

If I were to be asked why I thought the Opera itself was good, I should reply because of its thoroughly English spirit. The music (in which there were echos of Purcell, the "Beggar's Opera," Sullivan, and even Musical Comedy) was admirably suited to Miss Evelyn Sharpe's clever little libretto, and was boisterous without ever suggesting either plagiarism or mere commonplace. In sum, it recognized the necessity for fooling and the importance of being frivolous.

If, further, I were to be asked why I thought that the cast made such a success of it, I should unhesitatingly answer because it *was* a cast and not a group of isolated performers whose only point of unity was that they were acting in the same opera. No one tried to stand out above the rest, and never did one wish, like the Citizen's wife, to get up and demand that one's favourite should be brought on the stage, even at the most inappropriate moments. It was not possible to be bored or to pray silently that the others would hurry up and "get it over" that one particular character might re-enter. To this reply I would add that the performance was not merely academically correct, but that the whole of the cast most admirably caught the spirit of the thing, and was able to give a well-nigh perfect interpretation of this delightful and romantic extravaganza.

In conclusion, may Mr. Young long be with us to repeat this success which was certainly no less his than the School's.

G. H. THARME.

House Notes.

ALFRED HOLT.—There is not a great deal on which to comment this term. The House did well in the Steeplechase, although one of our Prefects was unfortunate enough to run off the course while leading the field. The Juniors did very well indeed. I hope that in the next few years they will show their ability among the Seniors. The Chess trophy was won by our chess team in a close match against Danson House.

J. A. HARGREAVES.

Cochran.—Though the response to my appeal to play more games has not, perhaps, been as enthusiastic as one had hoped for, I am at least spared unfavourable comparisons of Juniors with Seniors or *vice versa*. I can truthfully say that the activities of the House have been shared equally by both sections alike. Whereas the Juniors may claim to have excelled in regular keenness throughout the term, the Senior are to be congratulated on the way in which they rose to the occasions in the Football Competition and the Steeplechase at the end. I still feel, however, that the House has not yet woken up to the splendid opportunities of which it might avail itself. The Summer Term brings with it cricket, swimming, fives and the sports—some can do all, all can do some—but I would prefer all to do some.

Apart from whatever benefit and enjoyment you derive from these out-of-school games, experience convinces me that in School the existence of the House is all to the good—and for this reason: we get to know each other. The task of guiding a House the Prefects find trying enough at times, but the resultant acquaintance with members of the House is ample recompense. Even the odd ten minutes every Wednesday morning goes a long way towards friendliness and understanding. By now I have diagnosed Cochran and you will all be pleased to hear that it has a good heart.

In conclusion, I am very sorry to say that we have lost a good Prefect and a good fellow with the departure of W. H. Beastall, and on behalf of us all I wish him the very best of luck in his new sphere.

N. E. MARTIN.

Danson.—Although there is now no House Competition to give a numerical estimate of the success of Danson, during the past term, as compared with the other Houses, there is no doubt that the House has figured quite prominently in the sporting activities. The Junior football team is to be congratulated on win-

ning the Whitehouse Cup by defeating Alfred Holt in the Inter-terminal final by 6 goals to 2. The Seniors did not produce their best form in the Horsfall Cup final, and had to be content with the position of "runners-up"—Philip Holt winning by the only goal of the match. In the Chess Competition, Danson again had to be content with second place, but if the chess captain had not been absent from School there would probably have been a different result. In the other big event of the term, the Steeplechase, the Junior team obtained third place, but it is perhaps just as well for the Seniors that it was not possible to give team placings for the Senior race.

The term has again shown that the whole House is not pulling its weight. Little fault can be found with the Juniors, who have shown themselves to be both enthusiastic and quite capable. On the other hand a large part of the Senior House is definitely lazy and these people seem to think that because they have reached the Sixths or the Removes, it is below their dignity to enter for such events as the Boxing Competition and the Steeplechase. In the Boxing Competition there were no entrants from Danson Senior House, and in the Steeplechase it was only possible to enter eight runners instead of eleven—a brilliant example to the younger members of the House.

Next term there is cricket, fives, swimming and the Sports, and it is hoped that the WHOLE House will take part in at least three of these activities.

H. W. GARTON.

Hughes.—Last term the House showed more of the team spirit which was the sole cause of its success in past years. The result was that we won the Boxing Competition. The Juniors found the heavy going in the Steeplechase more suited to their burlier opponents, while the Seniors, with other House teams, were disqualified. We did, however, provide the second man home. The Chess team reached the final, only to be defeated when seemingly in a winning position, by Danson. The Summer term offers many opportunities for the whole House. I hope that everybody will enter for more than one event in the Sports, and that most will play cricket and fives, and swim regularly.

T. HAWTHORN.

Owen.—So far this year Owen House has only done fairly well in the various School games—football, chess, boxing, etc. During the Summer term the chief events are the Sports, cricket and swimming. I hope that every member of the House will

do his utmost to put Owen top in each of these important activities. We have the talent if only the effort can be made.

J. CORLETT.

Philip Holt.—Some of the more energetic members of the House may have, when out walking on a hot summer's afternoon, passed a pig-stye and seen some great old boar with the mud of winter still on his flanks, lying at his ease and rejoicing in the genial heat of the sun. Tired and hot they may, in irritation at the sight of contented laziness, have picked up a stick and attempted to anger the beast by flaking the mud from off his hide. To their surprise, however, the animal, so far from being annoyed at the process, may have actually grunted for more. Similarly last term it was my unpleasant task to indulge in a little sarcasm at the present sluggishness of the House. Apparently instead of toning you up it has had the effect of stubbornly what may be called your moral constipation. It may be said of the House, that what it could lose, it did lose. In spite of what was said last term the performance of the House in obtaining "Wednesdays" continues to be brilliant and unrivalled. Nor has the sportsmanship of certain members of the Junior Football team (the names of whom decency—alas—prevents my revealing) appeared to improve to any noticeable extent. That the House has been unsuccessful is disappointing, but does not really matter much; what matters is the disgusting indifference of its members. Better to have played and lost, than never to have played at all. It is pleasant to be able to conclude by turning from these gloomy thoughts and congratulating McBurney on his success in the Senior Steeplechase. If not the School's best runner, he certainly deserved to win because he was the first to use his intelligence. G. H. THARME.

Tate.—This year there has been no House Competition as we used to know it. To you, no doubt, here was ample reason why you should not try to win anything. Accordingly, instead of running, you walked, and more than once actually sat down to rest. As a result, where the other Houses have covered two laps, we have progressed about two hundred yards.

This term we must run like the wind to make up our lost ground. We shall need wings on our feet and we have three pairs to choose from: Cricket, Swimming, and Sports. If you can wear them all, do so. The main thing is that everyone should run his hardest, and finish the last straight with a sprint!

I. R. STEWART.

Literary and Debating Society.

A MEETING of the Society was held in the Boardroom on Tuesday, 14th December, 1936, Mr. Hicks being in the chair. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read, and it was agreed that only 35 members had been present, so the report of the votes cast on the motion was altered to conform with this total. Following this a few minor points were settled to everyone's satisfaction, but then in injured tones, that well-known figure, A. Carr, complained of the description given of him. He was 5 feet 4 ins. in his socks—and yet he was called small! Some alteration was needed. There was no lack of suggestions; the adjectives unobtrusive, *petit*, and bonny being successively suggested, the latter by vice-president A. E. Bender, one of the Old Boys, to whom audible sanction was given wholeheartedly. None of these epithets, however, found favour with the Society, which, for once, supported the Minutes, which were then signed. The Committee members absent were W. F. Collett, G. H. Tharme, G. Hughes, E. S. Kelly.

A vote of censure was then moved by S. Samuels, but was quashed; in the course of the discussion on it, however, the Secretaries learnt that they were only human. The Chairman then read the resignation of W. F. Collett from the Committee, and R. C. Nairn was elected to fill the vacancy by direct vote. The Society then turned to Public Business, which was *Impromptu Debate*.

R. J. Carline was first called upon to propose that "Motor cars must go." Despite 150 road deaths a week, he said, motors go careering. They must go. If they don't go they are wasted expense. They must therefore, go! Yet, many who have them, don't want them anyway so they must go. R. J. Hammer, opposing, said that for reasons of safety they must not go; doctors, however, need speedy transport, so they must not go. Appropriately enough the opinion of the Society was equally divided, and 15 votes were cast for and against. The Chairman then gave his casting vote against the motion.

He next called on E. Storey to propose that "We are fast turning the world into a bear garden." An eloquent silence followed. Cries of hear, hear, were momentarily raised, but the Chairman quelled them with a "Silence, please, we want to be able to hear the speaker." After a stirring peroration, "I heartily propose this motion," the speaker sat down. J. Corlett, opposing, said that he was overwhelmed by the oratory of the proposer; at that moment he could think of nothing to say; the motion was accordingly carried almost unanimously.

S. Samuels rose to propose that "General Strabismus is too prevalent." He was not going to give the game away to his opponent; but he would say that it was an awful affliction and far too prevalent. D. Ellwand was not going to waste the Society's time with explanations. It was obvious what the motion meant. Yet the number of times he had heard of general strabismus were so few that for him it did not exist; it could not therefore be too prevalent. Such philosophical reasoning defeated the motion.

H. Kushner, on finding that he had to propose that "Beer is best" cleverly remembered that last year, when he was less experienced, it had been decided that there should be no more than 125. Now, presumably feeling more experienced he pleaded that there is some good in beer. Mr. Moore, however, chilled the members' spines with "horrible" tales of innards ruined by this acid concoction and won his case.

A. Grabman explained that "Tales would not be tales without an end," and delighted the Society with the appealing tale of a monkey

with a tail, without an end; it would, he said, "bash" its brains out on the ground. R. Brearley defined in scientific manner the type of tails—tails that are told and tails that hang on the back. His own particular tale was of a tale that had no end. The motion was carried.

The next motion to be debated was that "The time has now come for the formation of a Darts Club." E. C. Colville valiantly proposed it, dwelling on the moral depravity of modern youth, but he was unable to carry the motion in the face of the opposition of Mr. E. Hall. Towering high above members' heads, the opposer, in a voice charged with emotion, asked how Mr. Baldwin could smoke his pipe while playing darts. In this age of grace, we must progress; our distant ancestors, equipped with tails at one end or another or at both, played darts; darts for us would not be progress.

H. Hargreaves vainly strove to prove that "There is something fishy about this place"; at least the Chairman gathered that his arguments were for the motion. N. E. Martin, opposing, was more sure of his ground—he had been in this place for six years (sniff), (sniff). Here "Bisto" was interjected by a back bencher. The place was not fishy contended the speaker—it was far worse, it was "batty." The motion was lost.

G. B. Shaw riskily embarked upon the project of persuading the Society that "It is better to be a bigger fool than one looks, than to look a bigger fool than one is." His reasoning was involved, and when he rounded off his speech, the Chairman remarked that he hoped everyone had followed his arguments. The opposer added his view that he had seldom heard a more self-satisfied speech. For his own part, i.e., that of Mr. T. W. Slade, he considered that the vacuous expression gets away with the goods every time. Once more the motion was lost.

J. N. Bywell had to persuade the Society that "The charge of the Light Brigade was excessive," which he did, by showing the amount of energy of the soldiers—it was obvious, he said, that they were highly charged. T. Hawthorn took upon himself the distasteful duty of speaking in the manner of His Majesty's Government and *Daily Express* leaders, yet managed to prove to the satisfaction of the Society that the Light Brigade's charge had done its bit in building traditions of Empire.

C. Leak, blinking benignly, praised "The value of old school socks" to the detriment of old school ties—socks would not be seen, he averred, but could not win his case, for members were considerably impressed by the arguments of economy put forward by W. H. Beastall. While school socks wear out, he explained in a fine "across the counter" manner, school ties didn't.

R. I. Taylor, with the fervour of conviction, explained that "If only the value of pie were $2\frac{1}{2}$, all would be well." After touching upon the question of pies at meals he fell into reverie, broken only by unintelligible mutterings. He then thankfully proposed that too high a value is set on pie. R. C. Nairn, opposing, plunged even deeper into the troubled sea of mathematics, but found firmer ground upon the shore. "You can't," he said, "set too high a value on sand pies," and defeated the motion.

G. Macquire gravely announced that "Kilts are cooler than puttees." Therefore on route marches they would be more comfortable. Therefore proposed that the O.T.C. should wear kilts. This time the Society were not influenced by motives of economy put forward by H. Hoddes, and the motion was won.

Mr. A. E. Bender appropriately enough had to propose that "Mine's a Minor." He showed a great deal of inside knowledge of cigarettes, corrupting the younger members of the Society by explaining the value

and performance of Minors under varying conditions. U. Baruch was not dismayed by the experience of the proposer, and calmly announced that his was a Major. (It is understood that a Prefect here interrupted with "Oh, so you smoke, eh?"). Struck by his candour, the Society voted for his cause.

R. F. Mathison wondered why and said so when the next motion was read out, but the Chairman set his feet once more on the right path with "May I ask if you are proposing?" Even with such direction the speaker was unable to cope with the situation, and it was left to E. M. Feigate to deal with the motion that "Ipswich witches which itch should be swished with switches." Though he pointed out that itching was a harmless pastime he did not convince the Society.

S. E. Keidan said that in a long and prosperous career he had heard many stories on the borderline, but now he was really shocked. Mae West had changed her name to Little Audrey. He urged the Society to lock her up. A. Carr advocated the policy of laughing to grow fat, and believed that little Audrey had every right to laugh. The Society therefore decreed that little Audrey should laugh.

D. Halewood sensed a hidden motive in Uncle's wish to buy a wireless for Auntie—he believed that Uncle himself wanted it; he thought that Uncle should buy a set for his own peace of mind if Auntie was talkative. J. W. McBurney did not advise a Ferranti; from advertisements it would seem that Murphy and H.M.V. were best. After a short pause the speaker went into committee with his neighbour to discuss the matter. Two brains proved better than one, and the motion was lost.

E. W. Mills told an interested audience that he had "Only one mother in all his life." Other friends deserted you in a crisis, but mother didn't. She would do your Maths. homework. J. Corlett was afraid that he disagreed. Mothers can't do homework and so fathers were one's best friend.

J. N. Bywell was called upon to propose the last motion of the evening, but could find little to say for it. N. E. Martin, in opposing, let the Society know that he had "done" sculpture, and asked members if they had ever heard of Laocoon. What was the use of thawing that. Break 'em up. Thawing cuts no ice. Petrified by such pronouncements the Society humbly voted that "The Parthenon frieze should not be thawed," and the Chairman closed the meeting.

A meeting of the Society was held in the Boardroom on Tuesday, January 19th, 1937, Mr. Hicks being in the chair. When the Minutes of the previous meeting had been read, members' attention was turned to the report of the debate in which tales figures so prominently. A certain tale had been about a monkey with a tail without an end, not of a monkey without a tail. After the necessary correction had been made the Society decided, despite the opposition of the Secretarial Board, that "it would be better for the result of the motion to be set down for the edification of future generations."

S. Samuels then took up the cudgels, as he so well expressed it, and with all the force he could muster he laid about him, aiming his blows of course at the Secretarial Board. It had, he said, overstepped all bounds of common decency in describing a member of the Society as blinking benignly. For his own part he believed that indignantly raising his eyebrows was a more apt phrase. "Beaming amiably," too, was suggested, but when the Society learnt that the Mr. Pickwick himself had blinked benignly, it rejected both amendment and motion. After further strictures upon the Minutes by S. Samuels, the motion "that the Minutes now be signed" was passed.

Determined to use up every second of the time allotted to Private Business, S. Samuels strained every nerve to rouse the members from their calm passivity, but was unsuccessful, though it could not be said of him that "A babbled of green fields," his topic being the absence of any announcement of the meeting by word of mouth.

The Society then proceeded to public business, the motion before them being that "Orthodoxy is a hindrance to progress." G. Hughes, proposing, considered first whether there was any progress. Deciding that there was he gave his view of the early days of the world. "In the beginning was Chaos," he announced. Progress is not automatic, it is, as it were, up an inclined plane. Nor is it steady, but is gained by sudden forward jumps. It rested, in fact, upon a small body of people. Between the bursts of progress there are moments of consolidation, or stagnation, which led to the conservation of orthodoxy. Orthodoxy tends to stereotype men's ideas, and the original thinker on whom progress depended was branded as a heretic. The speaker brought forward many examples to support his case, ranging from Galileo to T. S. Eliot and modern poetry. The forces of orthodoxy he contended did all they could to stem progress, though it was inevitable.

N. E. Martin, the opposer, said that it was necessary to take account of the spirit of the age, that "Undefined essence which one talks about." Orthodoxy has a bad name in this age of extremists—allowance must be made for that. He then plunged headlong into philosophic reasoning, much in the manner of Socratic dialogue were it deprived of the needless interjections of Socrates' opponent. That orthodoxy rises from heterodoxy was the main threat of the myth. For the benefit of the weaker brethren he then thought out a pictorial diagram of his argument. He painted a Utopian mine in which were successive strata of coal, silver and gold. The fool plunges straight to the gold; the wise man works out all layers in turn. It is the same with progress, and the working of the layers is orthodoxy, though of course orthodoxy is liable to peter out. It is, moreover, orthodoxy which helps people most. G. B. Shaw, indeed, said that heterodoxy aspires to orthodoxy. Thought alone does not make progress—the thinkers have to educate the people (the non-thinkers) in order to make progress. Orthodoxy is the process of mass education. Alternate thinking and stomaching is absolutely necessary for progress—if a puppy has everything it wants to eat its "belly blows out and bursts"! Finally orthodoxy is a trust: it stops us from being carried away.

S. E. Keidan, who seconded the proposer, did not believe that progress went by leaps: it is, on the other hand, steady and continuous. The man who stands still, therefore, is relatively moving backwards. There can be no passive state of progress; relatively the orthodox and conservative is reaction. He then turned along the paths of science, and quoted examples of the orthodox scientists obstructing the theorists. Orthodoxy, indeed, is merely narrow mindedness.

S. Samuels, opposing, put his faith in the O.E.D. and quoted that work's definition of orthodoxy, which is "Rectitude of sentiments." Convention, he said, adopted what seemed good, and thus was progress made. Everything must be done slowly, he said, progressives were condemned with true conservative spirit as mad fanatics and crazy people. Initiative is foolhardiness, and here the speaker airily condemned Surrealism, T. S. Eliot, the cult of nudism, and Sunday cinemas. Orthodoxy wisely disregarded these wild cults. Finally, he turned to the glories of the British Empire built on the basis of orthodoxy, and sat down.

On the motion being thrown open for debate, J. N. Bywell urged the Society to abstain from voting. All four preceding speakers, he said,

had shown narrow-mindedness. A combination of their ideas would be nearer the truth. D. Halewood talked about futuristic science, and interested the Society with suggestions for a trip to Mars. He then intimated his desire to oppose the motion. D. Ellwand followed and expressed his view that progress affects orthodoxy and heterodoxy and was not affected by them. In this way he proved to his own satisfaction that orthodoxy did not hinder progress, and another member was added to the ranks of the opposition.

R. J. Hammer took as his text "they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint." Inventors were the eagles, the romantics were those who run, while the believers in orthodoxy were those who walked. They too reached their goal in the end. Orthodoxy brought progress no less than the inventors.

A. Grabman said that in orthodoxy there was an amount of idealism. Despite 3,000 years of oppression the Jews were still making progress—by the orthodoxy of national feeling. This united them in a common effort; the one stimulus to progress was orthodoxy.

R. J. Carline next pictured the descent of a lorry without brakes down a steep hill. The brake, which prevented progress from over-reaching itself was orthodoxy.

The battlefield was the next scene of the struggle between the supporters and opposers of orthodoxy. H. Hargreaves contended that of two generals the unorthodox would defeat the orthodox. He therefore supported the motion.

E. C. Colville hotly contested the last speaker's point. In the game of chess the unorthodox was bad. Similarly from a military point of view over-cleverness was useless—double or triple bluff doesn't work. Consolidation was not reaction; it was the most important movement in an advance.

E. Storey showed how Rome had been forced to orthodoxy. In orthodoxy there was no human touch, and it led to stagnation. But for orthodoxy in Germany, Hitler would not have gained power. In England the struggle was between orthodoxy and individuality. To-day we needed not the orthodoxy of the greybeards, but the fire of the individualist.

A. Carr believed that orthodoxy was the basis for further progress. It set the new standards and brought all people into line in preparation for the advance. He wished heartily to oppose the motion.

H. Hoddes pugnaciously asked of the Chairman which he would prefer to read, Shakespeare or Mr. Baldwin. After touching upon Wordsworth's poems and the atomic theory, he decided to support the motion. E. M. Felgate asked whence sprang orthodoxy; answered "from experience," murmured therefore "is best," voiced his opposition to the motion and sat down.

The Chairman then called upon N. E. Martin to make his final speech. He, too, sounded the Chairman's literary views, giving him the choice between Milton and speeches of Stafford Cripps. Using the analogy of Bach's preludes and fugues he showed that there was a time lag between thinking and doing. Orthodoxy no less than heterodoxy was essential to progress.

G. Hughes, winding up the debate, explained again that progress depended upon the few of unorthodox ideals to whom the orthodox objected. On the whole we are conservative; they will not support new ideas—orthodoxy is truly a brake on progress.

The vote was then taken, and the motion was lost by 9 votes to 13, two members abstained from voting. The Chairman then closed the meeting.

A meeting of the Society was held in the Boardroom on Tuesday, 9th February, with Mr. Hicks in the chair. After the Minutes of the previous meeting had been read, N. E. Martin rose to propose an amendment. The speaker after having composed so many Latin proses enjoyed the English boldness of metaphor, but he felt that future generations who might pore over the Minutes of the Society would, having thereby ascertained the relationships between S. Samuels and the Secretaries, perhaps believe that he had literally taken up the cudgels against the secretarial board. He therefore proposed that the vigour of the metaphor should be toned down by the addition of the phrase "so to speak." S. Samuels then came forth. He did not like the phrase "took up," and so supported the motion. One of the secretaries having by a learned disquisition and much gymnastic display in the art of using a rapier and the trade of using a cudgel, proved his point and the motion was lost.

Objection was next taken to the phrase in the report of N. E. Martin's final speech, "the plays of Sir Stafford Cripps," but as the member admitted to having used it, both the original motion and subsequent amendments were defeated. S. Samuels arose to make a speech—for him—unique in tone. It was a confession of ignorance and he desired to know the meaning of the phrase "a 'babbled o' green fields." Not satisfied by the erudite explanation given by the Chairman, he proposed that it should be deleted. But so brilliant was N. E. Martin's defence of the wit of the secretarial board that this motion, too, took the path to the cemetery.

S. Samuels once again sought by a scintillating display of erudition to confute the Secretaries. He protested that in quoting the *Oxford English Dictionary's* definition of the word orthodoxy he had used the word "sentiment" not "sentiments." He proposed, therefore, that the "s" should be deleted. S. E. Keidan, in opposing the motion, said that he preferred to trust the Secretaries before either the *O.E.D.* or the honourable member. But the Society preferred to hearken to the Ciceronian diatribe against the negligence of the Secretaries delivered by C. Leak, and the amendment was passed.

The next attack was delivered by E. C. Colville. He aggressively protested that the weak pacifism of the puny Secretaries had rendered them unfit adequately to report his speech. He had not said that "cleverness" was detrimental to a general. The Secretaries learnedly defended themselves by appealing to the connotation of the Greek word for cleverness, to a parallel instance in English literature, and to a well-known and much-beloved phrase of the Senior Classics Master. In vain, and the amendment that "over-cleverness" be substituted was carried. No further critics of the Secretarial labours being forthcoming the House proceeded to Public Business, the Chairman calling upon G. H. Tharme to propose the motion that "The time has now come for Great Britain to give up her Empire."

With the solemnity of a minor prophet, the proposer declared that before approaching any motion concerned with Empire it was necessary firstly to consider what sort of world you would desire to live in, and secondly to appreciate the present world situation. In his view the best world was a world in which less attention was paid to guzzling and filling your belly and more to Art and the pursuits of the mind. The only Powers which at present had any time to devote to the humanities were those countries with no Empire. When one considered the world to-day it was impossible not to feel that the nations were rushing towards another war; and war would mean the end of Western civilization. Empires, the speaker continued, were gained by fraud and injustice.

They meant the impositions of an alien creed and culture upon foreign peoples. Obviously we could not leave natives now to themselves, but it was morally wicked for any one country to possess territories to the extent of the British Empire. The larger colonies, the proposer stated, were self-governing and could, if they wished, leave the British Commonwealth of Nations at any moment they might choose. But we could surrender the Crown Colonies. The question was to whom? Obviously nations such as Germany should have a share, because they needed lands for the surplus population. And Dictators could force people to colonize. But to give up lands to any one country was both immoral and dangerous. Therefore, these Colonies should be given up to some International body such as the League of Nations.

Reverting to his original point, the speaker concluded by remarking that only if Great Britain gave up her Empire and disarmed could she expect to survive as the disseminator of Western Culture, which (in his opinion) still has much to offer the world.

S. Samuels was then called upon to oppose the motion. In a severely practical tone he declared that it was useless being an idealist. Many central European nations had no colonies—but were going on nicely. There was no such thing as the British Empire and what lands we did possess were not exploited. The end justifies the means; and he urged the Society to compare the peaceful and well-ordered condition of the British Empire with the "messy" state of affairs in South America. After seeking to refute several of the arguments of the proposer he declared that the Empire gains economically. He then pictured the Empire as a happy family of nations. If we gave up our Empire there would be no one to take our place. Only the Crown Colonies could be given up. This we could not do because we ruled them for the benefit of the inhabitants. We could not leave the natives to "stew in their own juice" (*sic*). Growing derisive he begged the Society to imagine the Empire ruled by an international Committee of Argentineans, Dutchmen and *Hoc genus omne*. Germany might be without colonies—but she was a bad colonizer, and between 1909-1913 only 76 Germans had emigrated. Her colonies had not been suited to Europeans, nor did they contain raw materials. The only argument was prestige. There was no question of morality and we should, as he elegantly put it, forget "Bolshevist Rot." This is a free country and the Empire was united by bonds of loyalty symbolized in the Throne. Happily lyrical, he quoted French, Vergil and Lord Cecil and denounced the surrender of the Empire as a cowardly way of retreat. He concluded in a strain of Wordsworthian communism—we must make the Empire a place "fit for every man and beast to live in."

J. W. Saunders was then called upon to second the proposition. In contradistinction to the platform-manner of the opposer, the speaker adopted the style of the Lecture room. Beaming upon the opposer as a fond Don might upon a pet pupil, he began by admitting that he allowed the validity of the majority of the opposer's arguments. If we decided to give up the Empire, there were three ways by which such a policy might be accomplished. We might give it up to other Powers, or we might surrender it to an international form of control, or we might deliver it over to the peoples themselves. He agreed with the proposer that no one would want to give it up to another Power, and the League of Nations was not strong enough to maintain a really efficient system of mandates. Therefore we would have to surrender the British Empire to the peoples of that Empire. This had been the policy of all good Prime Ministers and statesmen. He quoted as examples the reforms of Lord Durham in Canada, and the reforms of Mr. Baldwin in India.

The time, he felt, had arrived when we ought to give up all territory to its original inhabitants. If the Society voted for the motion it would have the privilege of showing its approval of Mr. Baldwin.

E. Storey, who seconded the opposition, was in a quietly witty mood. He flattered the proposer by likening him to Hamlet. Like the tragic hero the proposer was young and idealistic. Looking upon the world and seeing how apparently illogical much of our political dealing is, he felt that there was no good in life. What he did not realize was that "democracy is a steady progress." Having brought his Hamlet on the stage he then threw a few eggs at him. The mandate system was unsatisfactory, because the League of Nations was not strong enough to enforce it thoroughly. "But," said the speaker, "all this is negative criticism and I propose to take this omelette—I mean Hamlet—off the stage." Only in the Empire was there freedom of person, freedom of mind and freedom of enterprise. The leaders of thought were tolerated. Give the colonies to others and this democracy would be destroyed. Only there was no free-government; but there was no true democracy in England. Between the countries of the Empire there was free intercourse, and lowered tariffs—which was an aid to Peace. Growing theological he applied the parable of the sower to modern problems and concluded by exhorting the Society to support this experiment in civilization.

The motion was then thrown open to debate. The first speaker was J. N. Bywell. He told a story of Sir Philip Sidney and applied the moral to the distribution of colonies. Procrastination, he felt, was the thief of time, and the time to give up the colonies was now.

R. C. Nairn disagreed with the proposer's statement that the Colonies were ruled for the benefit of the inhabitants, but only in the British Empire could people get a square deal; as he and Lord Cecil were in agreement on this point he opposed the motion. After the gruff tones of the previous speaker, it was refreshing to hear the treble of D. Ellwand. We must ask ourselves, he said, two questions: (1) Was it desirable to give up the Empire; (2) If so, "to whom." He would suggest that it was desirable. Colonies were an excellent place in which to "park the surplus population," and should be given up to the "have-not" nations. Before the intrusion of England, India had been happy and would be again if we left.

S. E. Keidan next held the public ear. His was a speech full of fiery communism. Imperialism was bad because it led to great class differences. In darkest Africa the black races were exploited. The countries were ruined by capitalist greed. A white man was paid five times as much as a black man, which was flagrant injustice. The League was run by Italy, and you therefore cannot have mandates. All Empire was wrong but it might as well be the British Empire. Satisfied with his exposition he sat down.

Groans, psahaws and other eruptions of disgust at the suggestions of those speaking for the motion had been heard all the evening emanating from E. C. Colville. He now judged the time ripe for actual attack. He selected as the first objective for bombardment the suggestion of the proposer that only non-Imperial powers really cared for the things of the mind, and quoted Athens as an example of a power imperialistic and yet full of culture. He then directed the artillery of his oratorical forces against the argument that Dictators could force people to colonize and asked the Society whether "Kaizer Bill or little boy Adolf" were the greater Dictator. Finally he put down a heavy barrage against the unselfishness of the proposer. He wondered whether he would share out his scholarship amongst the Have-not members of the Society.

He did not explain how this was to be done, but, feeling satisfied that his terrific bombardment had been successful, he retired from the field of operations. That the philosophy of "Right is Might" was shallow, was the view of E. M. Felgate. But as the British Empire "stood for something" in the eyes of the colonials we had no right to surrender it. Wearing a smile of superiority, R. J. Carline demanded whether the proposer might not in his desire to appear unprejudiced have become biased against Great Britain. Great Britain, he declared, held the balance between Communism and Fascism, and he therefore opposed the motion.

N. E. Martin then shot up. In his first sentence he used the word "time." This seemed to have a peculiar effect upon that part of his brain which controls his organs of speech—for he spoke at great pace. The great problem was that of time. He supported the idealism of the proposer, but he considered that the present was not the time to put his theories into practice. In support of his contention he quoted a pronouncement of Sir Arthur Salter.

H. Hoddes, in prophetic accent, declared that he was a supporter of the much abused League of Nations. The Colonies were not prosperous and the natives received but "tuppence" a day. You could not for "tuppence" buy a cigar and who, he asked, rhetorically, could be prosperous without a cigar? Apparently, like Charles Lamb, he loved treading upon the delicate way between decency and indecency and yet keeping to the path of virtue; in this respect his handling of certain stories concerning pining white maidens and lusty negroes was most masterly. Having displayed hitherto unsuspected powers as a raconteur he resumed a seditious posture.

C. Leak averred that the colonials were not badly treated and we could not tell the Colonies to "get out." Rather we were a brotherhood of nations and it was our duty to support this experiment in civilization.

S. Samuels was then called upon to make his concluding remarks for the opposition. He reiterated his point about Economic concessions being possible in the Empire, and declared that Great Britain was more fit to govern than Japan. The natives, he declared, did not need money and therefore their wages were adequate. The stories of white men flogging negroes were false and malicious fabrications. He then likened the Empire to a menagerie or zoo, the wild beasts of which, it was our duty to tame. To "just get hold" (*sic*) of the Empire and then give it up was a piece of folly. The Empire was saving the world from an even worse state of affairs and was a force for peace. Natural patriotism and pride and commonsense should make all members vote for the opposition.

G. H. Tharme jumped to his feet to conclude for the proposition. He had been waiting for the proposer to use the word "pride." The Early Fathers had called "pride" a deadly sin. Now, alas, only Methodists and queer people like himself believed in sin. After repeating in summary his previous arguments, he declared that the only sure way to peace was for Great Britain to disarm and give up her Empire. Armaments and Empire meant war. He admitted that his suggestions entailed tremendous risks, but he would ask the Society whether it preferred to take risks on behalf of a good cause or a bad cause. On being put to the vote the motion was lost by 18 votes to 13.

Minutes of a meeting of the Society held in the Boardroom on February 23rd, with Mr. Hicks in the chair. No sooner had the Minutes of the previous meeting been read than S. E. Keidan leapt to his feet to protest that his speech had not been an exposition of dialectic material-

ism and he proposed that the phrase should be deleted. In spite of learned argument by the secretarial board on the justice of the phrase, the motion was carried. S. Samuels then plaintively pleaded that he had not split an infinitive, and proposed that "to just get hold of the Empire" be altered to "just to get hold of the Empire." However, when the Secretaries pointed out that he had actually cloven two, one of which he had corrected, the motion was lost. E. C. Colville then rose to point out that the correct phrase was to "put down" a barrage; no soldier talked of delivering a barrage. He therefore proposed that the correct phrase should be substituted. He was apparently astounded when one of the Secretaries in seconding the motion thanked him for materially improving the style of the Minutes. E. S. Kelly then arose to plead for the deletion of "and" in the phrase "in vain; and the motion was passed." After a learned explanation from the chair and after none other than S. Samuels had spoken in support of the Secretaries, the motion was defeated. S. Samuels then arose in his mightiness to request the deletion of the expression "Wordsworthian communism" which occurred in the report of his speech. He was not, he passionately proclaimed, in any sense a communist. In this he was supported (on scarcely flattering grounds) by S. E. Keidan. After a defence of the words by one of the Secretaries, S. E. Keidan withdrew his support and the motion fell to the ground. E. Storey next proposed that for "sedentary posture" we should read "seditious posture" in the report of H. Hoddes speech. This motion was carried. C. Leak complained that the term "Ciceronian diatribe" was ambiguous, because non-classical scholars who only knew the word in its original connotation would think that it meant "a wasting of time." One of the Secretaries however pointed out that the proposer's scholarship was at fault. Only those who actually knew Greek would realize that the word could mean "a wasting of time," for the word was now commonly used in its secondary sense. The Society preferred to hearken to the sound scholarship of the Secretaries rather than to the lamentations of Leak, and the motion was defeated. The Minutes were then signed and the House proceeded to Public Business.

The Chairman called upon E. S. Kelly to propose the motion that
 "One crowded hour of glorious life
 Is worth an age without a name."

The span of life, the speaker declared, might be measured either by time or by the events of life themselves. The most important events of life were crowded into that crowded hour, and then only will all the good qualities within a man be fully developed. It was not necessary of course to assume that the poet meant a literal hour. It merely meant a short period of intensive activity. Keats had only lived for 26 years and yet his work was equal in importance to that of many ages. The butterfly's exotic beauty was short-lived and yet there were the long chrysalis and caterpillar stages before the butterfly came forth. The speaker then privileged the Society with an anecdote about a musician who had dreamed of writing one perfect work. One day he went into a concert hall and heard that perfect work played. But it had been written by one of his pupils. He went home, prepared to die. He also quoted the meeting of Stanley and Livingstone as being a crowded hour of glorious life. Evidently believing with Cicero that you can persuade anyone that a statement is true by repeating it twice or thrice, he concluded by repeating, with slight alterations of phrase, his previous arguments and quoting from Browning's *Rabbi Ben Ezra*, and then he once more sat down.

J. Corlett rose sturdily to his feet to oppose the motion. The majority of us, he averred, were not privileged to enjoy the one crowded hour and we must live our quiet lives. He then preached the philosophy of the good life. It was our duty to make the world a better place to live in and help improve the conditions of life for all. The lower classes, he declared, were content to lead quiet lives in clean homes. Stoically he philosophized that one crowded hour in the limelight was useless; we would have to come back to the common life and daily round and it was hard after a period of excitement to get back to normal. Miners were the most useful members of the community. Their hours were crowded out—not with glorious life. An officer commanding troops in a war might have a crowded hour of life but only at the expense of the lives of thousands. Nor did they do the world any good. In the long run it is not the talked-of people who do the world most good. Napoleon, Caesar, yes, and the great and glorious Nelson had enjoyed their crowded hour but the world could have done without them. He then exposed his soul before the assembled Society and confessed certain deep cogitations upon life in which he had indulged during a cycle ride in the half-term. After reiterating several of his previous arguments he resumed his chair.

E. Storey, in seconding the proposition, proudly declared that he intended to put the motion in the right perspective. A crowded hour of glorious life was not sixty minutes of elbow raising at the local tavern. Most time was dull and the crowded hour only came in certain ages, which blossom forth at certain periods like a peculiar but unspecified flower. Only in these ages can the ordinary man live his life to the full. In Athens, Aristophanes brought politicians on the stage. But he asked the Society to imagine anyone representing Mr. Baldwin on the stage as a speculator, or Mr. Duff Cooper as a braggart. Or could it imagine Mr. Baldwin hobnobbing with the local lads on a Sunday evening. We in this age were only building up vitality for the crowded hour. It was better to live to "have your fling" in Athens. He concluded by quoting in strains of deep emotion from Addison's *Cato*.

S. E. Keidan arose to second the opposition. The philosophy expressed in the poem was one of eat, drink and be merry. This was not the philosophy of progress. It was better to have a good time now than go down in history. He then quoted the life of the Queen bee. The Queen bee, he said, had one "glorious fling on her nuptial flight"—and then spent three years laying eggs. With more humour than accuracy he asked the Chairman how he would enjoy laying eggs for three years. The really full life could only be crammed with effort into a whole life. Recollecting that he was a Communist, the speaker concluded by disparaging Kipling and praising Shakespeare.

The motion was then thrown open to debate. E. M. Felgate was the first to catch the Chairman's eye. He believed that a steady life was to be preferred, and, rustic wise, declared that the farmers mattered more than some meteoric upstart. J. N. Bywell then intrigued the Society by describing two methods of eating chocolate. The Society evidently concurred that it was better to eat in surreptitious nibbles over third period. He thought that one should have plenty of time to chew the cud of sweet remembrance and grew lyrical over the thought of old gentlemen sprawling about the park enjoying life and thinking it over. In France, he concluded, people called Napoleon a sort of sausage.

R. C. Nairn then assumed an upright posture. In the tones of a righteous, indignant schoolmaster he declared that few had understood the meaning of the motion. After explaining what it meant (at least to his own satisfaction), apparently in complete ignorance of the amatory

methods of the seconder of the proposition, he remarked cynically that perhaps *he* has been jilted and therefore wanted his fling in Athens. He would conclude with, as he himself admitted, his usual example from biology. Most insects had their crowded hour, which was usually not important. The butterfly gets little enjoyment, whereas the caterpillar gets plenty to eat.

S. Samuels then arose. It was his considered opinion that only the seconder of the opposition had thoroughly understood the motion. For the masses a crowded hour was bad, because it led to a reaction, whilst for the individual a steady and happy life was best. Happy was the country which had no history. The first two centuries of the Roman Empire was an age without a name and yet that era had brought to many the blessings of civilization. Once again he displayed his knowledge of the Gallic tongue and stated that Mirabeau could not be compared to the nameless workers who had made the world safe for democracy.

E. C. Colville then sprang to his feet with military alertness and commanded the attention of the Society. It was the crowded hour which had decided every issue. The fate of the Roman Empire had been decided in one crowded hour of life. The crowded hour of glorious life had always decided everything. You could get these "wretched" coal-miners at any time. They were not important. He concluded by asking the Society (quite rhetorically) whether it would prefer to gaze upon the short-lived poppy or the long-lived dandelion. C. Leak appealed to the argument from History. It was in the crowded hour that progress was made and Greece was more important than the Roman Empire. The nation without history has never exerted power. Even China had been forced to adopt Western ideas.

J. W. Saunders arose with a paternal smile and declared that we were preparing for the glorious hour. Anticipation, however, was more enjoyable than result. Time was the ultimate judge, he said, and compared the Parthenon and a butterfly, the mellowness of old age with its reflections to the childish and unconscious genius of Keats. Rubbing his hands with glee of true scholarship, he announced that he had twenty definitions of the word "glorious," but the only good one was brilliant and splendid. The brilliant and splendid things were the work of an age not of a moment.

D. Ellwand then piped up. True happiness could not be found in one hour. If the musician referred to by the proposer had lived longer he would have been happy in his memories. A man was not put on earth for one task and a player who scored a goal did not stop there but tried to score another one for the good of his side. A. Carr felt that a crowded hour was bad for the community, because of the reaction, whilst the individual often enjoyed his crowded hour at the expense of his fellow men. This was selfish and he implored the Society to consider whether it wished to be selfish or not. G. H. Tharme thereupon disengaged himself from his seat and in his usual languorous manner endeavoured to "debunk" both Napoleon and Professor W. M. Lindsay. It was, in his opinion, the unknown lecturer at the Military academy who had made Napoleon and divers forgotten sons who had made Lindsay. *Sub specie aeternitatis* the crowded hour is usually valueless since it is usually destructive. Moreover, the poem was an expression of sheer hedonism. After quoting a story in which a cultured Jap had compared the value of Japanese art and Japanese big guns, and also a well-known translation from the Anthology, he once more attached the fitting portion of his anatomy to his chair.

H. Hargreaves, wearing his usual pleasant grin, next held the floor. It was surely better to spend a short time on doing something great and then "fade away," leaving others to carry on your work, than to spend a long and dull life. It was better, he concluded, to start a task than only pursue a dreary routine.

The time for Public Debate having elapsed the Chairman called upon J. Corlett to wind up for the opposition. The speaker contented himself with emphasizing several of his previous statements and concluded by remarking that in the past all great problems had been arbitrated by warfare. Had there been no crowded hours, there would have been no problems to solve. E. S. Kelly, for the proposition, also was pleased to dot the "i's" and cross the "t's" of his previous arguments and ended by declaring that the age might be a way of living, but that flashes of genius only came in the crowded hours. The motion, on being put to the vote, was lost by 7 votes to 17. The meeting then adjourned.

The Minutes of a meeting of the Society held in the Boardroom at 7 p.m., on Friday, 5th March, with Mr. Hicks in the chair.

As soon as the Minutes of the previous meeting had been read, S. Samuels got up to demand why the usual introductory formula had not been employed in writing the Minutes, and asked for its restitution. His motion was carried. S. E. Keidan thereupon arose to denounce that he was not a frog, and to propose that the word "arose" should be substituted for "leapt up" in the account of his previous speech in public business. The Society acquiesced. E. M. Felgate came forward to demand that in the report of his speech, the account should be pre-faced by his name plus his own initials. S. Samuels seized the occasion to issue another instalment of his Psalm of Reproach against the Secretaries. The motion was carried. N. E. Martin elegantly arose to complain against the vulgarity of the phrase "he affixed the fitting portion of his anatomy to the fitting part of the chair" with which the report of G. H. Tharme's speech in public business ended, and on the "grounds of prudery" proposed that for "fitting portion" the word "behind" should be substituted. After much anatomical discourse and some wit the Society came to the conclusion that the "fitting portion" of Tharme's anatomy was better than the "behind" of the proposer. C. Leak jumped up angrily to ask why for the sake of "a miserable and wretched piece of alliteration" his initial had been omitted in the report of a speech of his in Private Business. The Society preferred euphony to dignity and his proposal that his "initial be inserted" was rejected. The Minutes were then signed after several speakers had heatedly blamed the temerity of the Secretaries in altering the wording of the motion on the notice read out that morning, the Society proceeded to discuss whether it would prefer a Mock Prize-giving, a Mock Banquet, or a Mock Trial, and finally decided that Mock Food was preferable to either Mock Prizes or Mock Penal Servitude. Private Business being now at an end the Chairman called upon R. J. Hammer to propose the motion that "Modern Advertising is to be deplored."

The speaker began by admitting that advertising is necessary and not always bad. Its chief purpose was to "proclaim goods" and to that end Truth and Sincerity were needful. But in general, advertisements were to be deplored. Whether, for example, you were "a Daily Dipper" or not was a matter of complete unimportance (*sic*). He then discussed examples of advertisements which were (he said) not true. Dealing with the catchword "Beer is Best," he said that you could live without beer, neither were you "Twice the man on Worthington." Passing to

the advertisement fallacious, with a ruddy glow of health in his cheeks, he declared that there was no such thing as "night-starvation." A third class of advertisement was the advertisement that deceives, such as the "I can make you a Musician in Three Weeks," and "How to Increase your Height in Ten Days" types. After discussing the effect of Kruschen Salts and Silf on the curves of the human figure he deplored the methods used by those who advertise. The newspapers were full of advertisements; wherever you went there you found hoardings. Bold Street was spoilt by ugly advertisements. Some firms actually advertised by air. In the countryside you found execrable hoardings; in fact he concluded it was like putting cheese next to caviare.

S. E. Keidan arose to oppose the motion with the air of one who had a message to give. The modern advertisement produces results and is therefore good. For its success the advertisement depends upon good illustration, good wording, and good lay-out. "A word comes out of the page and hits you in the eye, whilst repetition does the trick." The great weakness of the proposer's argument was that he had discussed advertising and not modern advertising. The speaker, personally, was not interested in the small advertisement's column, he was concerned only with the large size advertisements. Many of the advertisements cited as examples by the proposer (such as the Music Teacher who taught music in three weeks) were not modern. To-day great firms were engaged in the art of the advertisement and one had only to consult *Modern Publicity* to perceive that good results were being achieved. The *O.E.D.* gave many definitions of the verb "to deplore," but only the last really suited his argument—"to give up as hopeless." Advertising was a new art, and was to be encouraged rather than to be deplored. He therefore urged the Society to vote against the motion.

A Carr, who seconded the proposition, disagreed with the assertion of the previous speaker that only certain advertisements could be justly called examples of modern advertising. People were deceived into spending money; he adjured the Society to "get away from the beastly hoardings and to concentrate on England." The vast scale upon which advertising was practised was greatly to be deplored. Hoardings were completely spoiling the countryside, for just as when God builds a Church the Devil erects a chapel hard by, so rival firms set up their rival hoardings over against one another. A Board should be set up to regulate the quantity and quality of all advertisements.

S. Samuels, in seconding the opposition, ably stated the case for commerce. Advertising is an art, he said, and a difficult one. Posters were usually neat, clever, or humorous and did less to spoil the countryside than trippers. Circulars create employment, and advertisements often keep down the prices, and stop any cornering of the market. The stock phrases were on everyone's lips and we know them by sight. He then quoted a clever "human" advertisement made use of by a manufacturer of mustard. In a manner worthy of an "all star" salesman he affirmed that we wanted "modern advertisements by modern people." With the ejaculation "Big business through publicity" he returned to his seat. The motion was then thrown open to debate.

D. Ellwand again was first to address the Society. He considered that it was hard to make out a case for modern advertising. The colour and size of most advertisements was repulsive, whilst hoardings were like patch-work quilts. Smoke-writing was slow and streamers were unpleasant. He expressed his disgust that a concert of Rimsky Korsakov's music should be interrupted by a banal voice languidly drawing "This concert is sponsored by the proprietors of Vile Beans." Adver-

tisements do not make you buy, he concluded, they only play upon fear. D. Halewood, on the contrary, felt that it was easy to make out a case for modern advertising. After discussing hoardings, cinemas, the green fields of England, and railways, he made an end by saying that advertisements were often funny and entertaining.

E. M. Felgate came forward as champion of the proposition. Most advertisements he felt were ugly and repulsive and played upon the emotion of the masses. He, personally, disliked being hit in the eye. R. C. Nairn felt that modern advertising is no worse than ancient advertising. It was better to have a concert and Vile Beans than no concert at all. There was nothing to add, he said, and all the ground had been covered. U. B. H. Baruch was the next speaker. He alleged that the proposer objected not to advertising but to the misuse of advertising. Advertisements were on a parallel with modern music; for you had not only Mr. Henry Hall but also Dr. Vaughan Williams. Moreover it was impossible to produce a newspaper for a penny unless advertisements were included.

He was followed by J. N. Bywell, who discussed patent medicines and in support of the motion quoted Shakespeare. N. E. Martin's opinion was that the only aspect of the question which mattered was the moral aspect and told the Society how his brother bought some cheap tobacco because of an advertisement. The better the firm the better the advertisement, and even if you were dissatisfied with a purchase you made because of an advertisement, well, once bitten twice shy. G. H. Tharme told a story of Dr. Ingram Byewater and then discussed publishers, blurbs and the insidiousness of political propaganda. He then discussed Dr. C. E. M. Joad's personal reaction to advertisement, and prayed God to grant us more Dr. Joad's. Devotions done he relapsed into his "pew."

E. C. Colville, looking very smart in his military uniform, ranted against what was alleged to be a poster issued by the Communist Party of Great Britain, and murmuring sweet nothings about "pink pills for pallid, puny pacifists" he sat down. E. Storey was "fed up" with Guinesses ruddy ploughman and deplored the effect of present hysteria. After quoting from the Funeral Speech of Pericles he sat down.

The time for Public Debate having elapsed, the Chairman called upon S. E. Keidan to reply for the opposition, and R. J. Hammer for the proposition. Neither speaker brought forward fresh argument but emphasized their previous statements and dealt with points in the speeches of other members. On being put to the vote the motion was carried by 13 votes to 11. The meeting then adjourned.

G. H. THARME }
T. HAWTHORN } Hon. Secs.



L. N. U. Notes.

IN a term so short as this, it is inevitable that every School Society should fight and scramble for vacant dates upon which to hold meetings. It has been possible for the Branch to meet only upon two occasions. The Annual Speech Competition was held on Friday, February 26th, when seven members delivered speeches. The standard was tolerably high, and G. H. Tharme was awarded first prize with S. Samuels a very close second. On Friday, March 6th, a Debate was held on the motion that "Pure Pacifism is the only sure remedy for our economic ills." This motion was proposed by T. Hawthorn and opposed by N. E. Martin. Only one or two speakers were forthcoming in public debate and, upon being put to the vote, the motion was lost by 6 votes to 5. Mr. Peters then discussed several of the points raised during the debate, after which the meeting adjourned. In conclusion our warmest thanks are due to Mr. Peters for the untiring interest he has taken in the affairs of the Branch.

G. H. THARME, *Hon. Sec.*

The Paris Trip, 1937.

A PARTY of twenty-five boys, together with five adults, began a trip to Paris at 7-45 on Thursday morning, March 25th. The journey to London was uneventful, and arriving at Euston the party made their way to Victoria Station by Tube. After a wait of one hour we climbed aboard the boat train and started our two and a half hours' journey to Dover, where all eagerly looked forward to crossing the Channel by the French steamer "Côte d'Azur." Following a perfect crossing

amid great excitement we disembarked at Calais. Our next experience after passing through the Customs was the final run to the French capital. From the Gare du Nord we took the Métro (Underground) to the Palais Royal, thus completing a long day's journey. In a few minutes' walk we reached the Hôtel Montpensier in the Rue de Richelieu.

I was placed with four other boys in a large bedroom, where we were eager to sample the French beds, although no one required rocking to sleep that night. Nine-thirty next morning found us ready to receive coffee and rolls, which were served in our bedrooms. They were quite a change from an English breakfast.

At the entrance to the hotel we found a streamlined motor coach waiting to take us on a tour of the sights of Paris. A few of the places we visited were the Place de la Bastille, Palais de Justice, Notre Dame, the Latin quarter, Montmartre, the Chambre des Députés, Champs Elysées, Place de la Concorde, Sacré-Coeur, etc. We lunched at a restaurant called the "Aux Noces de Jeannette." Each boy took a bottle of red wine and after the third glass everyone was seeing things not normally seen. During the evening meal everyone drank lemonade.

French meals are uncommonly like English meals but for the fact that there are two dinners. A suggestion by Mr. Wormald concerning the quality of snails was booed down as being un-English.

On Saturday 27th we visited the Arc de Triomphe, the tomb of the Unknown Warrior and the Louvre where we saw the Venus de Milo. We also went to see the sites of the International Exhibition. In the evening we visited the theatre, where we saw a very good show, as all members of the party will testify.

On Sunday the 28th we went to the Chambre des Députés (French House of Commons), and in the afternoon saw the beautiful Palace of Versailles, where for about threepence you may wander through the magnificent rooms of the palace and miles of marvellous gardens. In the gardens we encountered a party of French school girls who were singing their school song; not to be daunted we struck up "O Sodales" and after a competition lasting a few minutes were declared the winners.

On Monday 29th we visited the Ile de la Cité where the first Parisians lived, Sacré-Coeur, the highest point in Paris, and Montmartre the night club part of the city. In the evening we went to the Comédie-Française where we saw two plays.

On Tuesday 30th there was a whole day excursion to Fontainebleau, where we toured the splendid forest in which wild boar are still hunted. We then visited the Palace where

Napoleon signed his Abdication. The magnificence of the rooms has to be seen to be believed. In the evening we went to a French news-theatre where we saw four American cartoons and one French news-reel. On our last day in Paris we ascended the Eiffel Tower accompanied by two French gentlemen, who very kindly pointed out to us the best views. We then visited Napoleon's tomb in *Les Invalides*, which is surrounded by standards won in his battles. In the afternoon most of the party went shopping, but a few inquiring spirits went to *Sainte-Chapelle* and the *Conciergerie* where Marie Antoinette was imprisoned before her execution. These members had the pleasure of being in a taxi accident which happily was not serious.

On Thursday 1st we regretfully left Paris and arrived at Boulogne after a fast journey. The boat (the *Maid of Kent*) was an hour and a half late, but our trip across the Channel was pleasant. We had a fine bus journey across London and finally arrived at Lime Street at one-thirty in the morning. Throughout our visit to Paris we had lovely weather, and I wish to express thanks on behalf of the party to Mr. Wormald and Mr. Moy for an extremely enjoyable trip.

D. W. JACKSON.

* * *

En Provence.

"**B**EGIN" said the King, in "Alice" "at the beginning, go on until you come to the end, then stop"; the natural beginning is Provence itself.

It is a region of diverse features, each of which impresses itself on the memory as quite distinct from the others. Each day the sun would blaze down on a different scene; yet we cycled inside a circle roughly only fifty miles in diameter; few areas, I imagine, could boast such variety in quick succession. My vividest recollection is of the vine-fields. Vast tracts are given over to vine-growing and one may pedal for a whole day without losing sight of the familiar brown patch with its rows of sturdy black catapults, a foot or more high; field succeeds field endlessly, the division marked by no verdant "bread-and-cheese" hedge or drystone wall, but by chromatic variations on a brown theme. It is a parching sight after England's green and pleasant land, but often a note of freshness is introduced by a solitary almond or cherry tree in the middle of the field, sporting its spring blossoms of pure white.

But rarely will you scan the expanse of sun-baked soil without your eyes coming to rest on a background of hills—humpy hills with their grey skeletons ill-concealed by hardy vegetation; but though the skeleton remains the same, the skin is marvelously variegated; one hill will be tinged predominantly lemon, the next brown, a third purple. They are completely individual, these hills—virile, handsome and independent.

The olives we passed through on the only grey day of the tour, when a cool breeze and the feeling that last night's torrential downpour had by no means exhausted the clouds, reminded us forcibly of more northerly climes. I have a clear impression, too, of another time when we came upon a fine view of rows of olive trees, thyme-green, running up to a transverse line of dark, almost black, cypresses, beyond which there stood out against the blue of the sky three peaks of still another shade of green.

The cypress is a tree apart. It rears itself skywards, almost like a flame, its pointed up-thrust and its deepest shade of green imparting to it a forceful prominence, a dark austerity. The other trees are as separate from the trees of England as from neighbour cypress; they are slight and graceful with little leaves of a light green hue verging on yellow—the nearest approach to them in this country is the birch; occasionally one sees an extremely comic tree as tall and slender as a poplar, but with a mere handful of leaves at the top like a swarm of bees buzzing round its head.

And always the Rhone swirls down toward the sea, swift and turbid, down from the mountains whose snow-clad shoulders are descried through the blue haze, tranquil in their majesty.

Yet, fresh and vigorous as the country is, I did not sigh with regret as I regained the company of its inhabitants—I sighed with increased admiration; for the works of man are here still in harmony with their surroundings and fully worthy of them. The old villages, of course, are entirely appropriate—as old villages usually are; I shall not easily forget the cluster of oatmeal-coloured houses on top of the hill which overlooks their domains, with their roofs of curved red-brown tiles and the tower of the church dominating them all and its bell giving forth some of the most melodious sounds I have ever heard. But the towns, too, are equally pleasant; there is a quiet comeliness about so many of their buildings, a freshness about their avenues lined with pale-barked lime trees, and a general air of restfulness which cannot but attract and charm the visitor from

industrialism. How hard to believe that on the very morning we took our departure, a strike of gas workers cruelly disturbed the peace of Nimes! Is even Provence then not immune from the distractions of the outside world? Then there are the smaller, almost wholly ancient towns like Uzès or Tarascon, where one may lose oneself among mediaeval arcades—bartering still goes on in their shadows—or in sequestered quadrangles dotted with limes and ornamented with a central fountain whose gargoyles trail from their grinning mouths long stalactites of moss amid the splash and sparkle of the water.

Above all, like jewels on a golden crown, we remember the masterpieces of a thousand years and more of architecture which inspire emotions as varied as their periods are separate. Firstly there are the two Roman amphitheatres at Arles and Nimes: typically massive and constructive, they are perhaps more interesting now that their interiors have fallen into partial ruin, so that one can inspect the intricate system of stairways to the several tiers, at different stages of erection. The outer walls with their applied columns may even have gained in dignity from the ravages of time and the hard aspect one expects of things Roman have been smoothed and mellowed by the hand of nature. Of similar handiwork is the Pont du Gard; its three main arches support a broad roadway across the blue-green River Gard, which flows through dark-wooded hills; on top of them stand six more extending twice their length and in their turn shouldering a long row of small arches over which the aqueduct runs—now dry—but still retaining traces of the water that once ran through it, in a six-inch thick deposit on either wall.

Greek delicacy finds a place by the side of Roman grandeur: the graceful fluted columns and pilasters, the rich, yet finely executed cornice and frieze of the Maison Carrée at Nimes, the two exquisite columns—one of grey stone, one of variegated marble—which, with six drums to show where six more columns stood, are all that remain of the stage of the theatre at Arles, these leave one with fragmentary glimpses of that love of beauty, freshness and grace for which we look up to Greece.

But she is worthily challenged by the Middle Ages; by the dim nave of some Gothic church whose great piers rise to the flames kindled by the sun, as it pours through the stained glass, in the cobwebs which cling to the clerestory; by the riotous allegory of some tympanum or cloister; by the kaleidoscopic glory of a great wheel window—

"Innumerable of stains and splendid dyes
As are the tiger moth's deep-damask'd wings."

Such is Provence as we experienced it: a land of fine scenery, pleasant habitations, and noble monuments.

Macalister Society.

THE activities of the Society have far from fulfilled early prophecies. We have in fact only held one meeting, but that one was full of interest. Mr. Jeffries, of the *Liverpool Daily Post*, discussed the question "Is Shakespeare over-estimated"—I myself was unfortunately absent, but I hope the Society brought in the right verdict.

As our hopes were disappointed last term, this term should see one or two meetings to make up the number. N. E. MARTIN.



ALTHOUGH our activities during the past term were somewhat curtailed, a number of visits to the various factories were enjoyed by the members. Excursions to Messrs. Fairrie's Sugar Refineries, J. Bibby & Sons, Cammell Lairds, etc., were very instructive and much appreciated by all concerned. Cammell Lairds, in particular, proved most interesting, and if possible, a repeat visit in the near future would be greatly welcomed.

The Christmas Magazine contained an appeal to all non-members to join and take part in the activities of the Field Club, but I am sorry to record that the response was most disappointing. May I, therefore, in this issue make a special appeal to the Senior boys, who in the past have been members of the Club, and realize the innumerable advantages of its activities? This would tend (apart from the personal pleasure derived) to encourage the Junior element of the School to obtain that insight into commercial life which would undoubtedly be invaluable in the moulding of their future careers.

A. C. BRIDGE.

Photographic Section.

Is modern photography thought to be too complicated for boys nowadays, that, out of over 600 members of the School, only about 25 have taken up this hobby in the past term or so? And is the standard of the subjects discussed thought to be too high, that, of that small body of photographers, only about six have attended the meetings of the Society to hear the talks given there? Even the interest of two lantern-lectures, given during the term by Mr. Stell and Mr. Barnard, was shared by only a few of the more enthusiastic members.

In the first place, present-day photography is far from being too complicated, even the youngest members of the School could, in a few weeks, reach a very creditable standard in the developing and printing of films, especially with the aid of members of the Society, without needing to delve into the more advanced complications of this hobby.

With regard to the subjects of the talks, they are specially arranged for the benefit of beginners, to enable them to learn more quickly how to produce good results, and, incidentally, there is always something new for the more advanced photographers, too, to learn from these talks and the discussions which follow. If you have any suggestions to make for adding interest to the meetings of the Society, do come to these meetings and put forward your suggestions there. After all, the Society exists to serve its members, not *vice versa*. Remember, too, that there is in the possession of the Society a large number of *Amateur Photographer* magazines, which can be borrowed by its members. If you are at all interested in photography, do not hesitate to make use of these magazines and of the Society itself. All members of the Camera and Field Club can join the Photographic Society without needing to pay any further subscription.

A. CARR.

Big City Blues.

NIGHT hides the river. Slow, tired, ferry boats, with dull lights, move without sound on the deep, black waters. Occasionally there comes a deep-throated boom from a siren. Far down, small lights shine in the dark outline of the tired city.

Eleven o'clock. Streets half empty. Cold robot lights silenced. Neon lights wearily spell out a word with unhurried monotony. Yellow street lamps. There is nobody to look in the bright shop windows. Late trams in a hurry linger impatiently at the stops. A door opens—for a moment there is the stagnant blare of a dance band and the sound of voices—and shuts.

One o'clock. Rain gives a glisten to the street. A sports car blares softly past. The shop fronts grow dark. A policeman treads lifelessly behind. A tramways repair lorry thunders past up the street. Dark cinemas with melancholy gates. The neon light spells on.

Three o'clock. Nothing at all. No cars, no people, no voices. The stars shine and the moon rules. Nothing at all. No wind, no rain, no life. The city rests.

Five o'clock. The dark sky lightens into a watery grey. Black clouds lie in the west. Cold light bares the city. The street lamps flicker out. Cold, lifeless shops have the appearance of a Sunday afternoon. Somewhere a bird is singing in the bricks.

The first tram lurches round the corner and wanders down the street. The first people hurry by. The air is filled with noise—yet no sound comes. A bus hums efficiently past. The city wakes, and shakes itself.

Seven o'clock. The first shops are opened up. The cleaners take possession. The great buildings are warmed back to life. Unloaded from the trams, people hurry, people tarry, people worry.

Eight-thirty. Traffic fills the street. Motor horns sound shrilly. Newspapers rustle. Voices chatter. People move quickly. Top windows of buildings look alive again. Locomotives hiss in the stations. Restaurants serve bacon and eggs. The clerk climbs steps. The shop-girls wait. The cinema assistants talk in the alcoves. The early shopper bustles. The newspaper man thinks of the lunch editions. The schoolmaster carries his attaché-case and a grim snile.

This is the big city. The great wheels move with rhythmic speed. The great machines surge. Workers think of lunch and anticipate the evening. Only the man who has to find news in the city thinks about it all. This is the big city the world over.

Boxing Notes.

THIS term has seen a considerable increase in the attendances on Mondays and Fridays, due to the Competition which took place on March 9th. Owing to the shortness of the term, the latter half was confined to the preliminaries, which passed off very well. The Competition was held in the Hall and about 500 spectators were present. "Ginger" Foran, the well-known boxer, had promised to box an exhibition bout, but, as he told us in a short speech, he was unable to do so because of a damaged hand. Although deprived of this entertainment, the audience were not disappointed, for the boxing displayed was of a very high standard indeed. With few exceptions the contestants were very well matched, and one could see how Mr. McEvoy, our trainer, has gradually formed a nucleus of good boxers in the School.

The bout between Price, G. S., and Hughes, K., was a thrilling affair, with much "claret" being spilt and it very correctly ended in a draw. The closest contest, however, was that between Hepburn and Softley. Hepburn reversed the decision of the previous year, although his victory was by a very narrow margin. What promised to be a close bout, that between Kirkham, C. J., and Beastall, K., ended rather unfortunately in the first round, Kirkham being unable to continue after Beastall had driven a hard right to his solar plexus. Gordon, Adams, D. J., and Kirkham, S., showed quite good skill and they should develop into worthy exponents of the art of self-defence. The following were the results:—

Gordon beat Denmark; Davies, G. W. beat Pink; Kirkham, S. beat Wilkins; Walker, W. J. beat Parker; Price, B. E. beat Leak; Kirkwood beat Peers; Preston beat Walker, A. E.; Hepburn beat Softley; Sharrock beat Adams, W. H.; Taylor, R. I. beat Hollinshead; Beastall, K. beat Kirkham, C. J.; Hughes, K. drew with Price, G. S.; Adams, D. J. drew with Drummond.

The House Competition was won by Hughes, with Alfred Holt a close second. We must thank Messrs. Willott and Pollard for their judging and Mr. Pincher for his timekeeping. Mr. McEvoy was the referee and Mr. Bowen is to be congratulated on arranging his first Competition so well.

The match against Quarry Bank, which we can now recognise as an annual fixture, took place in the Gymnasium, on March 15th. The School team was again successful, winning six of the bouts, and losing four, one contest being drawn.

Although the match lacked heavyweights, it proved to be quite exciting and up to the last two bouts the issue was in doubt. Beastall, however, having won a very close contest by means of his superior boxing, left the School in a position such that we could not lose. Kirkham, C. J., in the last bout, made the victory complete by outpointing his opponent by a wide margin. Other results were:—

School.	Quarry Bank.
Gordon	beat Percival.
Wilkins	.. Gray.
Price, B. E.	.. Holland.
Price, G. S.	.. Graham.
Beastall, K.	.. Martindale.
Kirkham, C. J.	.. Morris.
Kirkham, S.	lost to Snow.
Adams, D. J.	.. Morris.
Hepburn	.. Jones.
Walker, W. J.	.. Thompson.
Leak	drew with Woodlin.

For this match, Mr. McEvoy obtained the services of Capt. Humphries, who refereed the contests very efficiently. Mr. Reece and Mr. Lee (of Quarry) were the judges, while Mr. Pincher again was the timekeeper, and we must thank them all for the assistance they gave. Last, but not least, there is our most capable instructor, Mr. McEvoy, to whom all the credit is due. Without his admirable instruction, the Boxing would certainly not have reached such a high standard.

Full Colours have been re-awarded to C. J. Kirkham, and awarded to K. Beastall.

C. J. KIRKHAM.

It Really Happened.

(A few pages out of the diary of a civilian-alien interned in Alexandra Palace, 1915-6.)

7th August, 1915.

Being an alien-enemy, though a civilian, I was suddenly informed that my presence was required at the Police Station. The usual fate befell me. With twenty-four other aliens I was put into a lorry in charge of one (!) policeman, and was driven

for some term of internment to Alexandra Palace. Previously, we had only been in charge of one detective, but now we were surrounded by barbed wire and a regiment of soldiers with fixed bayonets. . . .

1st September, 1915.

I have now been here for some weeks, and am getting used to the daily roll-calls. To-day a humorous incident occurred. I happened to be doing a job for the lieutenant-interpreter, and my absence necessitated several siren-blowings and numerous recounts. *Mirabile dictu* several different totals were obtained.

23rd December, 1915.

To-day, the "Angel of Peace"—a prominent white statue on the top of the pediment—was altogether metamorphosed. It became black. Various investigations have not produced the culprit, but as there is no peace, why should not the statue be black?

8th January, 1916.

Visiting day. English women came to see their husbands or fiancés. Sergeant F— at the lower gate sent Corporal G—to escort one terror-stricken woman to the inner compound. Colonel W—, on seeing that the woman was terrified at the fixed bayonet, exclaimed: "You fool! Are you guarding English women?"

4th February, 1916.

To-day the noted, mult-carved door of the Theatre was discovered to be no longer in existence. Sirens buzzed, much interpretation was done, but the culprit could not be found. Moreover, where had the wood gone? At last, suspicion fell upon one of the company, but all that could be wormed out of him was the information that the wood had been converted into many articles which are now spread round the compound. The Colonel was informed that his new oak table was part of the "deceased" door!

16th July, 1916.

I am travelling to-day to the Isle of Man. The conditions here have been quite pleasant—it might have been worse—but a change is always welcome. So—good-bye to London and the Palace for—till the War finishes. . . . R.J.H.



Scout Notes.

DURING the term, indoor parades have been held fairly regularly, but, owing to bad weather, there have been few outdoor parades. Only one Field Day was held—at Dungeon Point. The chief activities were firelighting, cooking and games. Owing to bad weather the second Field Day—to Lathom Park—had to be cancelled.

Troop parades have been held on Thursday evenings and badge classes on Fridays. Mr. Barnard took a class for the Ambulance badge and the rest of the Troop did basket-work. We are very grateful to Mr. Barnard for giving us so much of his time.

Five members of the Ambulance class obtained the badge during the holidays. This number represents less than half of those who attended the classes and should have been larger, but for the apparent reluctance of scouts to take the badge tests even after learning the work. Other badges gained during the term were four Interpreters' and a Cyclist. These were gained by the same few people who obtained the Ambulance badge.

Work on the indoor tests for the 1st Class Badge has been carried on regularly, but that on outdoor tests has been delayed. It is hoped that many Scouts will pass the outdoor tests during the coming term and obtain the badge before the summer holidays. Those who have the Journey test to take should do so during the Whit week-end. Two Patrol Leaders have nearly completed the tests for the King's Scout badge, and may obtain the badge at the beginning of the term.

During the term A. L. Hughes, Patrol Leader of the Seagull Patrol, left the School and D. R. Jones was appointed in his place.

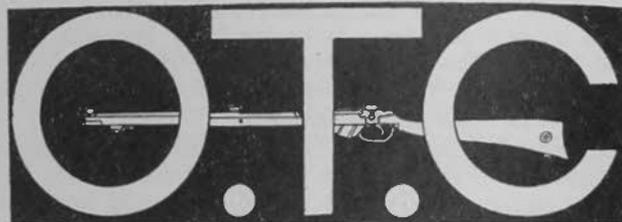
The work for the summer term will chiefly be outdoor work and swimming. It is hoped to hold several week-end camps at Lathom Park. On the week-end before Whit one Patrol from the Troop will take part in the competition for the Behn Colours. The Troop has won the last three competitions and hopes to repeat its success.

The site for the summer Camp has not yet been chosen, but for it the Troop will be without four of its older members

who are going to attend the International Scout Jamboree in Holland.

There is now room in the Troop for six new recruits to join at the beginning of the term. The summer term, with its outdoor activities is the best one in which to join.

J. CORLETT.



DURING the past term the O.T.C., as usual, pursued the even tenor of its way. Two Field Days were held, the first being at Altcar, where Capt. Ledger gave us a very interesting lecture on the new organisation of the platoon. After this lecture, the platoons, under their platoon commanders, practised the new formations that the new organisation has enforced.

The second Field Day was held at Thurstaston, and for once our customary good luck with the weather deserted us. Captain Ledger's intention was to practise the action of a fighting patrol, and although it rained for most of the day we were able to complete our programme.

We congratulate the two Junior Platoons, Nos. 3 and 4, on their high standard of drill and their excellent turn out at both mufti and uniform parades.

The extra parades at 16-10 hrs. have not been attended very regularly by the Senior Cadets. These parades have been organized to prepare the O.T.C. for the Inspection, and in future Capt. Ledger hopes that these parades will be regularly attended by everybody in the Corps.

There is still room for recruits of over 16 years of age, and I appeal to all the members of the Corps to try and enrol boys of 15 years and over for the Inspection.

Lastly, a word of thanks to Mr. Moy who has very efficiently carried out the troublesome and laborious task of fitting our many recruits with uniforms.

S. E. LEWIS, C.S.M.

The Origin of Boats.

ABOUT 150,000 years ago, during the period of time between the third and fourth ice-ages, many useful, and, to the people of that time, startling, discoveries were made. Man's brain, although definitely superior to that of any wild animal of that period, was scarcely developed at all. In fact, man was a kind of animal, with more cunning and less strength than most beasts of that age. At the time of this story, man, if indeed he could yet be called by that name, lived a very simple life, hunting animals, eating animals' flesh, making clothes from the animals' skins. Man used to sleep in fear of animals and usually suffered death at the animals' hands, or more exactly, claws.

It was at this period that the mighty-brained Tora lived. Tora was the name of the man who had, both in theory and practice, discovered, more by luck than intelligence, the art of making fires; a discovery which overawed his fellow-beings and astounded the world. Tora was thenceforth regarded as a god, who had given mankind the remarkable gift of heat and warmth. Tora accepted this praise humbly, and made use of the power boldly, but he sadly neglected the education of his son, Onia. Now Onia was a typical boy, and had the same adventurous spirit as the boys of the present day; therefore it is not surprising that, as soon as he found his father busily engaged in lecturing to his neighbours one sunny afternoon, he decided to go fishing down at the river, which flowed placidly along about a mile away.

The river had always proved a source of interest, and even awe to the man of those days, for it brought them little fish to kill and eat, as well as tremendous monsters which could kill and eat them. Several had tried to swim across the river, some had drowned, others had been attacked by the terrifying denizens of the deep. If any man wished to cross the river, he had to walk miles along its bank to a part where it was shallow enough to ford.

Onia, clutching his thick, sharp-pointed spear, soon reached the river's bank. He halted here in the shade of a mighty patus-tree (this type is now unfortunately extinct), and he scanned the lucid waters for a glimpse of a fish. He had not waited long before he saw a little silvery fish darting through the crystal-clear water. Down flashed his arm with lightning speed, and the little fish was impaled on the end of his javelin. He chuckled with delight, and was about to resume his watch when he heard a mighty roar from the under-growth behind him. He whirled

round, and stopped, almost petrified with terror, for crouching in the bushes, less than ten yards away, with its fangs bared in a fiendish grin was a sabre-toothed tiger! Onia was scared out of his wits (which were not very abundant), but with the typical courage which was to make the British famous in later days, he hurled his javelin at the tiger, and fled for the nearest tree. The true explanation for this somewhat hurried flight was not really cowardice, but inborn animosity to inactivity.

The javelin struck the tiger in the leg at the same time as Onia clambered on to the first branch of the patus tree! This branch was only some ten feet from the ground, but Onia did not stop his upward flight. The tiger made several furious attempts to reach him, but in vain! Onia seated comfortably on a thick branch which hung over the river, began to mock the tiger's efforts to reach him. He stood on the branch and began jumping up and down on it for joy. The tiger had just slunk off, furious and hungry, when crash!—the branch, which was about the size of the trunk of a small oak tree, gave way, either through the strain imposed upon it, or through the fact that it was rotten, or perhaps through both. Anyway the branch broke somehow, and with Onia clutching nervously at it, went hurtling down to the river below. It hit the surface of the water, sank about six feet before its buoyancy took the upper hand; then it came to the top and floated. Onia, clinging on with terror, gradually realized the fact that he had not drowned, but was floating on top of a log of wood about ten feet from the bank. He soon conquered his nervousness and began experimenting. He realized that by using his hands as we use paddles he could slowly propel himself along.

He was just about to clamber on to the bank when his father, having discovered his absence, made his appearance, accompanied by several other men. After chastising his son and demanding an explanation, his quick brain perceived the opportunity offered by the floating log. Fire was, for the moment at least, forgotten. Tora began experimenting on making boats. Several logs were chopped down and bound together. A raft was made! The men clambered on to it, and used their hands as propellers. A month later the river was crossed by the method. Tora, however, was just about to patent a two-seater canoe, when he was killed by a mammoth. His friends, robbed of a genius, were greatly disheartened, but time gradually witnessed the progress in the construction of boats. First the canoe with wooden paddles, then sailing-ships and lastly steam-ships and the *Queen Mary*.

J.P.I.

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Sixth Form Science Society.

AT the close of another term of interesting and useful meetings, our only regret is, that while the Science Society boasts one or two members who visit the MacAlister Society when possible, none of the Classics or Moderns dare to venture into the stronghold of science to any of the meetings, which are by no means always as technical as they sound.

The first meeting of the Society this term, held on Thursday, 28th of January, was the occasion of Mr. Jacob, from Bryant & Mays Ltd., giving a lecture on "The Commercial Manufacture of Matches." Without disclosing the secrets of his firm, Mr. Jacob was able to detail, with the assistance of lantern slides, the process of match making from the first sawings of the logs to the enclosing of the filled boxes in packing cases. He also gave a long and interesting account of the history of producing fire.

This meeting was followed up, on Wednesday, 3rd February, by a visit to the Bootle works of Bryant & Mays. Although the attendance was much below par (probably owing to the prevalence of influenza at the time) those who went round the works found much interest in the methods of cutting matches from blocks of wood and in the making and filling of various boxes.

On Thursday, 11th February, Mr. Conway lectured the Society on "The Commercial Extraction and Purification of Vegetable Oils for Edible and Soap-making purposes." Having for some time supervised all the stages in the process at one of the Liverpool Oil mills, Mr. Conway was well qualified to supply all the details of the chemistry involved, and so fascinated the Society with his accounts of the bleaching and purifying of such oils as olive oil, groundnut oil, palm oil, etc., that at length, the porter, in desperation, had to enter and request the Society to close their meeting.

Mr. G. S. Bond, B.Sc., of Thomson Bros., visited the Society on Thursday, 4th of March, to speak on "The Manufacture of Glues and Gelatines." Mr. Bond detailed the process of extracting gelatine and glue from hides and purifying it, and surprised the Society by disclosing the very low (6%) gelatine content of such "tough propositions" as "wine gums." Much interest was evinced in the inspection of about two dozen specimen plates of all grades of gelatine and glues, from the fine, clear, edible gelatines to the coarsest, darkest, carpenter's glue.

At the last meeting of the term, held on Thursday, 11th March, R. C. Nairn read a paper on "Animals of Myths and Legends," which would have been appreciated by classical and

scientist alike. With numerous references to Plato and other ancients, Nairn dealt with such animals as the Phoenix, Basilisk, Unicorn and Griffin, then, after describing such oddities as the Goose-barnacle and Vegetable Lamb, restored the Society's faith in the Loch Ness monster.

Unfortunately, owing to an oversight on the part of the Secretary, the final visit of the term had to be postponed. It is hoped, however, that it and one or two other meetings will be held during the summer term.

W. F. COLLETT.

Film Society.

THIS Society has been more active this term than last. Several members attended a talk by Dr. Knowles on "Film Censorship," and a large number of boys from the School were present at the Film Show presented in the David Lewis Theatre on March 4th. For this meeting an invitation was extended to members of the Fifth forms and upwards. One or two members attended a debate, held in the Merseyside Film Society's rooms in the Bluecoat Chambers on Thursday, March 11th. The motion that "The Film is essentially an inferior form of Art to the Stage," was proposed by G. H. Tharme, Liverpool Institute, and opposed by G. Sircus of the Holt School. Both speakers obviously admired both screen and stage. So too, did the Rev. Heming Vaughan who took the chair, and with charming tact, he refused to put the motion to the vote. Through the generosity of Mr. S. V. Brown those members of the Society who attended the Debate were enabled to be present at the display of films given at the David Lewis Theatre on Monday, March 15th.

Finally it is our pleasure, as well as duty, most heartily to thank Mr. S. V. Brown for his kindly interest in the Society, and to hope that he will long preside over our activities with that energy which he has selflessly expended in the past.

G. H. THARME, *Hon. Sec.*

The Steam-Roller.

I STEPPED or rather slipped quickly on to the pavement, just in time to escape the rather sticky end of being run down by a steam-roller, which was rattling along at the stupendous rate of 1 m.p.h. I turned round to stare at it; it appeared to leer back at me and the large wheel turning round and round seemed to be chuckling to itself over my narrow

escape. My interest was roused and, having nowhere in particular to go, I decided to follow it.

I soon overtook it and was then easily able to keep up with it. Then, as I looked at it, it gradually dawned upon me that it had no driver, the fire was out and no steam was coming out of its funnel. Suddenly I spotted a little girl playing in the street, and so apparently did the steam-roller. It swerved towards her at a terrific speed, rearing and prancing all the time like a wild mustang, until its heavy fore-roller was right above the child. As I looked spellbound at this horrible spectacle, the steam-roller seemed to shy like a stag at the sight of the hounds, and wheeling round on its hind rollers it went off down the road rumbling and grumbling.

I soon found out the reason for this action, for almost immediately the child and I were surrounded by a crowd of people armed with anything they could lay hands upon, and headed by an old bearded gentleman and a policeman.

The old gentleman turned out to be the celebrated Professor I. Smash-Apparatus, who had been experimenting of late on machines, trying to give them reasoning powers and all the faculties of animals. He had succeeded in doing this that very morning, but his lab-boy, Nobby Clark, had injected too much super serum, which communicated to the machine the emotion anger. The superfluous serum had combined with the lubricating oil and developed into a potion giving the machine the murder lust. The steam-roller had crushed the boy to death and, breaking down the door of the garage in which it was kept, had run amok. I found out later that the steam-roller had blown the top off the pressure gauge and died of exasperation.

H.M. (5 Sc.)

Philatelic Society.

THE membership of the Society has steadily increased during the term, but the meetings are still rather poorly attended. No papers were given during the term, but on two occasions there were displays of stamps provided by Stanley Gibbons. These seemed to interest the younger members of the Society very much. Two competitions were held during the term, but the entries were rather few and the standard not high.

The Society has now a good library and members should make more use of it. The catalogue has been much in demand and members should remember to return it more promptly in future.

During the summer term, meetings will probably be held fortnightly or according to demand.

J. CORLETT.

Chess Notes.

BY dint of great perseverance and whole-hearted co-operation, the Chess Club has at last succeeded in producing a School team capable of carrying off the Wright Challenge Shield. Moreover, it has done so with honours, winning all its matches, half of them without losing a single game. The list of the team's successes this term is given below:—

v. OULTON H.S.

1. Nairn ...	1	Griffiths ...	0	Won 7—0.
2. Leak ...	1	Newton ...	0	
3. Vickers ...	1	Bodesky ...	0	
4. Edwards ...	1	Hobson ...	0	
5. Colville ...	1	Welsh ...	0	
6. Corlett ...	1	Kovachich ...	0	
7. Lund ...	1	Ellis ...	0	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	7		0	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	

v. BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL.

1. Nairn ...	1	Pelling ...	0	Won 6—1.
2. Leak ...	1	Collie ...	0	
3. Vickers ...	1	Poole ...	0	
4. Edwards ...	0	Reynolds ...	1	
5. Colville ...	1	Copnall ...	0	
6. Corlett ...	1	Challenor ...	0	
7. Lund ...	1	Davies ...	0	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	6		1	
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v. WALLASEY G.S.

1. Nairn ...	1	Baldwin ...	0	Won 5½—1½.
2. Leak ...	1	Gidney ...	0	
3. Vickers ...	1	Hay ...	0	
4. Edwards ...	½	Knowlson ...	½	
5. Colville ...	1	Edwards ...	0	
6. Corlett ...	0	Taylor ...	1	
7. Lund ...	1	Coffee ...	0	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	5½		1½	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	

v. ROCK FERRY HIGH SCHOOL.

1. Nairn ...	1	Gibbon ...	0	Won 7—0.
2. Leak ...	1	Redwood ...	0	
3. Vickers ...	1	Boundy ...	0	
4. Edwards ...	1	Griffiths, O. K. ...	0	
5. Colville ...	1	Denbigh ...	0	
6. Corlett ...	1	Griffiths, F. ...	0	
7. Lund ...	1	Nelson ...	0	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	7		0	
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A School team also played the University, losing by 4 boards to 3, and Salisbury C.S., the result being a draw, 4—4.

Last term, 2nd team matches were few, through no fault of our own, there being a surprising lack of response from other schools, possibly occasioned by our redoubtable reputation. The one match that was played, v. Wallasey G.S., was drawn 3½—3½.

Contrary to general expectations, the House Competition was concluded without a single House being disqualified. The tournament was drawn as follows:—

SPRING TERM.

Philip Holt ...	}	Philip Holt ...	}	Hughes ...	}	Danson.
Tate ...						
Cochran ...	}	Hughes ...	}	Danson ...	}	Danson.
Hughes ...						
Danson ...	}	Danson ...	}	Danson ...	}	Danson.
Owen ...						
Alfred Holt ...		(Bye)				

The inter-terminal final was contested between Alfred Holt and Danson, the result being a win for Alfred Holt.

The two finalists from the Christmas term in the Knock-out Handicap Tournament, R. J. Edwards and W. R. Lund, plucked up enough courage to conclude their game on the last day of term. The result was a win for Lund.

Once more, the League Tournaments were rather poorly supported, especially in the 1st Division. Here H. Hargreaves was top with 3 points out of a possible 6; W. R. Lund being runner-up with 2½. In the 2nd Division, C. V. Jones led the field with 11 points out of a possible 18, and R. J. Hammer was second with 9 points.

This term, there will be various innovations introduced into the Club, primarily the buying of the magazine *Chess*. There will also be further classes, which will be aided and improved by a new demonstration board, and an attempt will be made to arrange some friendly matches.

R. C. NAIRN.

J. G. VICKERS.

The Oracle.

TOM WHITTAKER is called the Oracle, because he is always ready to give advice to anyone who is in any way perplexed. Throughout our village and many villages for miles around Tom is renowned for his comforting philosophy, and his influence is spread over all the countryside. A man who has known enough of life to enjoy the other side of sixty, he has a pleasant, humorous face with wrinkles by his eyes and mouth which made him appear continually amused. His philosophy was good-natured and tolerant, because he was a philanthropist, a believer in human nature.

Once a friend of mine was feeling intensely depressed. I recommended Tom as a matter of course.

"Many people come to me when they are depressed," said Tom after we had explained. "Do you feel tired?"

"Not quite that," said my friend. "I feel that nothing is worth while. Everything seems an utter waste of time."

Tom smiled reassuringly.

"Well, what for instance do you like?"

"Like? I like tennis, and I—"

He glanced furtively at me, but I was not listening. I was occupied with a magazine. To all intents, anyway.

"Yes?" said Tom.

My friend blushed. "I like—"

He hesitated again, then blurted out, "—Ginger Rogers films."

Tom smiled gravely, while I developed a sudden cough.

"And you feel they are a waste of time?"

"I mean," said my friend, "viewed from an ultimate viewpoint, aren't they insignificant?"

"Not at all," said Tom, "this ultimate viewpoint isn't a distant thing. If you really like tennis and —er—films, and can honestly enjoy them, there is no more to be said; they are significant for you. After all, it's your world, and you are your own judge."

Tom's advice is like this. He is always right too,—I have never known anyone leave dissatisfied. Tom gives them something steady to grip when they are bewildered, and there lies his success. Not that Tom is blind to the faults and foibles of man. He believes in human nature, but he knows its weaknesses.

A rather objectionable member of our community was Tim Wilkins, a man who knows his own worth and has no doubts that he is a splendid fellow. Wilkins is disliked because of his loud manner of speaking, his sarcastic voice and an aptitude for loud check suits. But by sheer confidence he can hold an audience

and even impress people favourably. Last Easter we were talking together, Tom, a few others and myself, when in walks Wilkins, his face smiling confidently.

"Gorgeous day, isn't it?" he called.

As the holiday traffic was crowding the village with smoke and noise, we were none so certain.

"Not with this traffic," I said.

"Nonsense! Crowds are good for trade." He sat down.

"But think of all the accidents there must be on the roads to-day!" I argued.

"More accidents, more news," he said cheerfully, "good for the newspapers."

"Pah!" I grunted.

"You don't like the newspapers?" he asked, with a scornful smile, "as I'm on the staff of one."

This was something new—but we expect surprises from Wilkins.

"Since when?" I grunted.

"Oh—some time now. I'm on the *Chronicle*!"

The *Chronicle* being one of the great national dailies, we were all astonished. Wilkins revelled in the limelight.

"I wrote a decent article for yesterday's edition," he said, taking a newspaper out of his pocket, and showing us the article with the initials T.W. at the bottom. I looked at Tom in despair, and in reply he winked.

"May I read it?" asked Tom innocently.

"Certainly," beamed Wilkins.

"Yes," said Tom, after reading it, "a splendid article! I congratulate you. By the way, it is yours?"

"Of course," said Wilkins, rather surprised, "don't you see the initials?"

Tom smiled broadly. "Sure?"

"Why—yes."

"A friend of mine told me he wrote it."

Wilkins shifted uneasily in his seat, Tom chuckled.

"He had the same initials as you—T.W. You call him the 'Oracle.'"

Wilkins snorted shamefacedly and left us.

There is no doubt that the Oracle has never yet met his match, and somehow, when one considers his good-natured smile, I don't think he ever will.



Cross-Country Running Notes.

THIS past term has, unfortunately, proved only too true the gloomy forebodings roused by its predecessor. At the beginning the 'flu epidemic interfered with both practices and matches, and we lost another member through injury. Only two runs against other teams were held, and apart from Thornley, F. A., who was always to the front, the team failed to get ahead of the opposing pack. It is to be hoped that next year those who stay on will be more fit, and better able to represent the School than this year's team.

The Steeplechase was held on Saturday, March 20th, over a new course, on which Mr. Folland and his assistants are to be congratulated, since it could really be termed a cross-country course. The Juniors ran about three miles, but as the course was heavy, they found it more difficult than the road course from Fletcher's Farm. The winner was Ferguson, W. J. H.; Williams, G. K., was second, Adams, W. H., third, Thomas, K. H., fourth.

The Seniors first ran the Junior course and then set out on a second loop. The School team in the lead failed to observe the trail and went astray, followed by half the field of runners. McBurney, J. W., was the first runner to complete the course; he was followed by Drummond, R. O., Kirkham, C. J., and Carr, A.

Full Colours have been re-awarded to Thornley, F. A., and awarded to Hawthorn, T. Half-Colours have been re-awarded to Kelly, E. S., and awarded to Thomas, A. W. C.

Finally our thanks are due to Mr. Jones and Mr. Wormald, who have given so much of their time to the team, and have always been ready with advice and encouragement.

T. HAWTHORN.

Fives Notes.

EACH term, alas, seems to mark a further decline in the popularity of fives. I have given up trying to explain to myself why this is so—I merely hope for a boom period to succeed the slump. An exceedingly inopportune absence of the captain prevented us from honouring our fixtures with Hulme Hall and St. Anselm Hall. Perhaps this term will allow us to play off our long delayed games. There will be an Inter-House Competition throughout the term which is designed to get as many as possible from each House into the courts, and I ask House fives captains to see that they turn out a full team of eight on the appointed day.

N. E. MARTIN.

Hockey.

Season 1936-37.

THE School hockey team has enjoyed a reasonably successful season; out of 10 matches played, 6 have been won, 3 lost, and 1 drawn. The match versus Chester College at Greenbank was abandoned at half-time, owing to a fierce snow-storm, with Chester College leading by 3 goals to 1. The first part of the season was very encouraging as we had a few good victories to our credit, but near the close of the season the team met with some varied results, probably owing to the fact that we could not field our strongest team. Unfortunately, the bad weather interfered with a couple of matches and also latterly to the practices, which was a disappointment to those players not in the School team.

The team was well balanced, both in attack and defence. The defence often met with strong attacking movements by our opponents who many times broke through, only to find G. S. Price in goal a very difficult person to beat. The backs and halves have been very consistent, but were a little inclined to hold the ball too long. The forwards have shown more all-round ability to score; each member of the line has contributed towards the total of goals, which is quite a change from preceding seasons.

The practices have all been well attended, but again the bad weather prevented many taking place. Towards the end of last term, we were fortunate to get some new players; it was a pity they did not start playing earlier. I look forward to many enthusiastic newcomers next season, especially from the Upper and Middle School.

We must thank Mr. G. D. Roberts for the untiring hours he has spent in umpiring and coaching us—sometimes in the stormiest of days—and also Mr. D. Willott who has kindly helped Mr. Roberts on several occasions. Our thanks are due also to Mr. Wass for the excellent ground he prepares us.

Hockey Colours for the season have been awarded to the following:—

Full Colours: Re-award—Rumjahn, P. U., Rumjahn, E. J.

Full Colours—Hughes, G., Price, G. S.

Half-colours—Ion, R. H., Faulkner, T. S., Mayhew, E., Culshaw, G. W.

P. U. RUMJAHN.

SCHOOL v. W. DERBY "B." at Clubmoor.

Lost 2—1.

School team consisted of Price, Culshaw, Ion, Hargreaves, Hughes, Billington, Jones, N. W., Stone, Faulkner, Molyneux, Mayhew.

The game at first was full of keen and lively play, both sides producing some good movements. West Derby gained a good goal after

about ten minutes. The School pressed hard but weak finishing spoilt good passing and general good play on the part of the team. West Derby obtained their second goal just before half-time. After resumption of play the School continued attacking and Faulkner scored a good goal, which was well deserved. Our opponents maintained steady pressure which caused not a few anxious moments for the School. Had not the defence played so excellently, the score might have been worse. Good finishing on the other hand would have meant victory.

SCHOOL, *v.* UNIVERSITY III, at Wyncote, 27th Feb. Won 2-1.
Team: Price; Culshaw, Ion; Stone, Hughes, Billington; Jones, Faulkner, Rumjahn, E. J., Rumjahn, P. U., Mayhew.

Heavy rain fell throughout the game, which was considerably slowed down by the mud. After some short exchanges the University forwards took advantage of the slowness of the defence and scored through Robinson. For the rest of the game all the School team played well, but by half-time we were still a goal down. After resumption, the game became more furious. Several dangerous raids were checked by the School, and at length the long awaited and much-deserved equalizing goal was scored by Faulkner. Despite further pressure on the part of our opponents, E. J. Rumjahn scored to give the School a well-earned victory by 2 goals to 1.

SCHOOL, *v.* CHESTER COLLEGE, at Greenbank. Abandoned.

Hughes, Culshaw and Billington were absent for a Choral practice, and E. J. Rumjahn and Hargreaves also were unable to play. Team: Price; Carr, Ion; Cashin, P. U. Rumjahn, Burns; Jones, Stone, Faulkner, Mayhew, Molyneux.

The game started in wintry conditions and very soon was rendered unpleasant by driving hail. Cashin was unfortunate to put through his own goal, and shortly afterwards Chester scored again; the School were finding difficulty in opposing the Chester forwards, but Faulkner scored to reduce the lead. After a mêlée in the goalmouth however, Chester again scored, and the game continued in indescribable conditions until half-time. On the suggestion of our umpire, the game was abandoned, and our depleted team saved from a probable defeat. R. H. ION.

Rugby Football.

THIS term has not been as successful as the previous one. Our progress has put us against stronger teams, whose experience has done much to give them victory. Also the team seems to have played according to the state of the weather. The drier the day the better the result. A good team should never be affected as a whole by the weather; the forwards were the main defaulters on the wet days.

Practices have been almost entirely neglected this term owing to School fixtures and House games. The Juniors show promise, but do not put their hearts into the game. They must bear in mind that they are the ones to keep Rugby well established in the School.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Halton and Mr. Chapman for refereeing and taking charge of the away teams and to Mr. Bowen for his support. I wish especially to thank Mr. Pollard for the hard work he has done for Rugby football this season. His advice and guiding remarks have been gratefully absorbed by the team to their own advantage. I should like to thank the Liverpool Rugby Football Club for allowing 1st XV members to keep in practice during the Christmas holidays. Thanks are also due to the groundsman for keeping the pitch in order.

May the Captain and teams of next season have the success they deserve.
W. H. BEASTALL.

SCHOOL, *v.* BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE "A"

Played at Birkenhead, January 23rd.

Lost 8-26 pts.

Unfortunately, owing to sickness, for the first match of the term, the School was compelled to call upon a number of reserves. The team lined out in the following manner: Owen; Beastall, K., Jones, G. P., Noden, McBurney; Wright, Pepper; Heslop, Parr, Beastall, W. H.; Jones, F., Howell; Briggs, Cordon, Hammer.

The School did not make too brisk a beginning, and soon lost ground, Birkenhead scoring twice in fairly quick succession. The team was not, however, too perturbed and fought back grimly. Jones, G. P., scored a try after a good run, and with a further try by McBurney, which Beastall, W., converted, the score was 8-9 pts. at half-time.

After the interval the team seemed to lose heart, and the lack of forward strength was, unhappily, far too apparent, for the ground was such as to invite forward play. The Birkenhead Institute took full opportunity of our weakness, and scored often through their forwards. Despite the strengthening of the forwards by the inclusion of Jones, G. P., the School could effect no further score.

SCHOOL, *v.* OULTON HIGH SCHOOL "A."

Played at Mersey Road, February 10th.

Won 10-3 pts.

Many changes were made in the team, which now consisted of: Owen; Beastall, K., Jones, G. P., Noden, McBurney; Wright, Pepper; Evans, Hammer, Howell; Jones, F., Heslop; Hartley, Beastall, W. H., Cordon.

The game started very fast, and quite early the Oulton opened the scoring with an unconverted try. The School, however, held together very well and pressed hard upon the Oulton defence. Our efforts were at last rewarded with a try by Noden, which Beastall, W. H., converted. With the ground in a heavy state, the game gradually developed into a forward tussle, in which much useful tackling was done by Hammer, Heslop and Cordon.

In the second half, the School were even stronger in their attack, but for a time all attempts were unrewarded. At last, however, Beastall, W. H., scored a try from a movement which began with Heslop, and he still further improved by a good shot. In the meantime, the Oulton made many attempts to score, but safe and steady tackling on the part of the whole team prevented them from adding to their early score.

The end of a strenuous, yet enjoyable, game was almost as fast as it was at the beginning.

SCHOOL v. KING GEORGE V SCHOOL, SOUTHPORT.

Played at Southport, February 20th.

Lost 3—30 pts.

Our team was unchanged for this match.

The game began very slowly on an exceedingly heavy ground. Strangely enough, the School opened the scoring with a try by Pepper, who, on obtaining the ball from the scrummage, made a good run to score. Our early hopes were soon doomed to unfulfilment, when once the Southport three-quarters got into action. The School's line was no match for them, although some bad misses were made by McBurney to get his man. In the scrums, too, the School were outweighed, and, although in the second half Beastall, W. H., replaced Hammer as hooker, no success was gained in that quarter. Except for individual efforts by Beastall, W. H., Hartley, and Jones, G.P., the School was up against a hopeless task, and an inevitable fate. In short, we were playing a side which was much too strong for us.

SCHOOL v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.

Played at Mersey Road, February 27th.

Abandoned.

For this match the same team was played, except that Bridge took Jones', F., place, who in turn took the place vacated by Cordon.

The game was played under wretched conditions, but this was no justification for the lack of efficiency in tackling in the School team. The Collegiate soon scored, and despite many attempts by the School to score—only one being successful—when the game was abandoned soon after half-time, the score was 16—3 pts. in favour of the Collegiate.

SCHOOL v. RUABON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Ruabon, March 17th.

Lost 3—15 pts.

The team drew up as follows: Owen; Beastall, K., Jones, G. P., Noden, Kushner; Beastall, W. H., Pepper; Howell, Hammer, Evans; Heslop, Bridge; Jones, F., Hartley, McBurney.

Owing to some unaccountable reason the School seemed to have lost every ounce of stamina, and numerous blunders were made by members of the team who had previously been wholly reliable. The result was that Ruabon scored quite freely, the score being 9—0 pts. in their favour at half-time.

In the second half, McBurney was brought back on the wing, where he settled down. An attempt was now made by the School to arouse itself from slumber, and Beastall, W. H., scored a try from a movement begun by Hartley and some other of the forwards. All other attempts to score were fruitless, whilst Ruabon scored two tries, and were prevented from scoring many others.

Altogether it was a poor match. Only Beastall, W. H., Jones, G.P., Noden, Hartley, and Bridge deserved especial notice. The rest of the team's play was either mediocre or poor.

JUNIOR GAMES.

Two Junior matches were also arranged against Bootle Secondary School. In the first, played at Bootle, on February 3rd, lack of forward strength and fits of "socceritis" lost the team the match, Hammer being the only scorer. The score was

3—12 pts. for the School. The second match, played at Mersey Road, on March 10th, was an entirely different affair. The three-quarter line was strengthened by the inclusion of Jones, G. P., and Noden. A poor resistance was made by Bootle Secondary School, who never looked like scoring, and the score was finally 45—0 pts. in our favour—a total which does not suggest even the chances that were missed. Jones, G. P., 6; Noden 3, Kushner 2, Britten 1, Prendegrast 1, all scored tries, only three being converted.

R. J. HAMMER.

CRITIQUE.

FULL BACK.

T. H. OWEN.—A safe and reliable catch. Inclined to hold the ball too long at times.

THREE-QUARTERS.

K. BEASTALL (Right wing).—A little slow off the mark, but has taken good advantage of the few passes he has received this season.

G. P. JONES (Right centre).—A fast player who fails to keep his wingman well supplied with the ball. Good at evading a tackle.

D. NODEN (Left centre).—A consistent, bustling player, with ability to extricate himself from unpromising positions. A good tackle. Perhaps the best discovery of the season.

J. W. MCBURNEY (Left wing).—A keen player, but his inability to tackle at speed has made the left flank rather weak. Good kick.

HALF-BACKS.

R. G. WRIGHT (Fly half).—A good positional player, but rather weak when handling a wet ball. Good kick and reliable tackle.

L. O. PEPPER (Scrum half).—His earlier nervousness inclined him to rash fly kicking. Has steadily improved throughout the season but needs more experience.

FORWARDS.

G. W. HARTLEY.—A thoroughly reliable player whose good following up has earned many points for the team. Has made an excellent leader of the forwards.

R. J. HAMMER (Hooker).—A keen, hard-working forward, who has hardly had enough experience of hooking to give him a fair share of the ball.

A. C. BRIDGE.—A fast, strong forward, whose height has been made use of in the line-out. A good tackle, he is at his best when defending his own line.

W. F. HESLOP.—A strong, hefty forward who uses his weight to advantage. Is good at times, but has lapses.

A. R. CORDON.—A keen forward, always to be found near the ball. Inclined to get rid of the ball too quickly when in possession.

S. EVANS.—A very keen player who works very hard; can be relied on to fall on the ball in an emergency. Should make a better tackle.

F. R. HOWELL.—Keen, but lack of wind makes him unreliable at times. Good in defence, but should learn to kick better.

F. R. H. JONES.—A hard worker; has bad moments. Picks the ball up too much and should learn to dribble the ball.

W. H. BEASTALL (Captain).—Has proved himself not only a good player but an excellent captain. His adaptability and example have done much to make Rugby Football possible in the School, and he has been unsparing of time and pains on behalf of the game. G.F.P.

School Football.

THE past term has been quite a successful one for the First Eleven. Eight matches have been played, of which five have been won and three lost. The record for the full season reads as follows: Played 20, won, 10, drawn 6, lost 4, Goals for—76, against—43. The team has played well together, and has thoroughly enjoyed every match. The results would most probably have been even better if we had not had the cruel misfortune to lose both our regular wingmen, Pike and Jones, just before the Shield matches. As it was the team put up a good show and managed to reach the Semi-final, only to lose to the Collegiate School. As several of the team are remaining at School next year, they should lay the foundation of a very useful team.

The Second Eleven, under the captaincy of C. J. Kirkham has also enjoyed quite a successful season. Fourteen matches have been played, of which eight have been won, two drawn, and four lost, with a goal average of 48 for and 34 against.

The Third Eleven, on the other hand, has not had quite so successful a season as the other two teams, but no doubt the players have gained the necessary experience to enable them to become useful members of next year's first or second eleven.

The success of the First Eleven has largely been due to the coaching and advice of Mr. Moy. He has devoted much time to refereeing our matches, and our chief regret is that we forgot all he had taught us in the Shield match against the Collegiate School. We also thank Mr. Bradshaw for refereeing in the absence of Mr. Moy.

The Second and Third Elevens are also grateful to Messrs. Peters, Bradshaw and Pincher for their wise guidance and encouragement. As usual, the organisation of House and Form football has been efficiently carried out by Mr. Reece; and Wass and Peter have prepared excellent pitches for our use.

H. W. GARTON.

SCHOOL v. ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE.

Owing to Jones, H. L., having left, Gregory was introduced at outside right.

Garton lost the toss and the School kicked off from the Park end. Owing to some error on the part of our Secretary, our opponents had to play a man short. From the start, the School had command of the game and Hughes hit the post when he could have easily made certain. Soon afterwards, however, he opened the scoring from close in. The opposing forwards, four in number, were easily kept in check by the School defence.

Shortly after the interval, the College equalised with an acutely-angled shot which Garton failed to hold. Our opponents had secured

another man and the game became more even. However, Lewis missed an open goal from two yards out and Pike also made a bad miss. Hughes again put the School in the lead which was retained to the end.

School 2: St. Francis Xavier's 1.

The team, as a whole, played well, but Gregory and Hughes found the opposing defence too heavy for them. The defence also played well.

SCHOOL v. HOLT HIGH SCHOOL.

Played at Childwall Road, January 23rd.

Won 10—1.

There were several changes from the previous match and the School lined up as follows: Garton; Richards, Robertson; Marsh, Winstanley, Dodd; Davies, G. G., Holden, Raby, Lewis, Pike.

Garton won the toss and the Holt had to face the wind and rain. The ground was very sodden, but the School soon adapted themselves to the conditions and completely overwhelmed the Holt defence, which within ten minutes found itself three goals in arrears—Davies, Holden and Raby scoring. For a time the Holt managed to hold their own, but their forward line was kept in subjection by the School defenders. The School forward line was extremely forceful, and accurate passing led to Raby completing a well-deserved "hat-trick." There was no further score before half-time, which came with the School enjoying a comfortable lead of five clear goals.

In the second half, the Holt, with the wind at their backs, played a much stronger game and for a period kept the School on the defensive. This pressure was not maintained, however, and further goals were added by Raby (2) and Holden before the Holt obtained their consolation goal. In the last quarter of an hour, the School were constantly on the attack and Lewis added two further goals and only poor finishing robbed him of his "hat-trick." Full time finally arrived with the School victors by 10 goals to 1.

The experiment of playing Raby at centre-forward and Winstanley at centre-half was a definite success. Raby played an excellent game, the chief feature of which was his deadly heading in front of goal. Winstanley, though inclined to slice his kicking, played well in the rôle of a defensive centre-half. Both wingmen and inside forwards played a hard and thrustful game and the defence was always master of the Holt attack.

SCHOOL v. ALSOP H.S.

Played at Greenbank, January 27th.

Won 7—3.

Stewart returned to right-half, otherwise the team was as in the previous match.

Garton lost the toss and the School played down the slope, but against the wind. Within a few minutes Alsop went ahead, following a misunderstanding in the School defence. After this early reverse the School fought back strongly, but promising movements were repeatedly held up through our forwards being off-side. At last, however, Raby got clear and equalised with a strong shot. The School continued to attack, but following a break-away, Alsop restored their lead. Just before half-time, Davis put us again on level terms with a shot from close range.

The School started the second half determinedly, but for some time could make no impression on their opponents' defence. At length, Holden managed to score, but we did not lead for long as the Alsop outside-left scored yet another equaliser with a fine shot from a narrow angle. At this period the School was having by far the greater share of

the ball, but as our wing-halves were inclined to play too far up-field, the fast Alsop forwards harassed our full-backs with occasional break-aways. In the last twenty minutes, Alsop's defence broke down, and further goals were added by Raby (2), and Pike (2).

The final score, 7—3, was rather flattering to the School, who were not so superior as the result might indicate. The defence, although out-paced, played fairly well, and Winstanley was good in patches, but inclined to be erratic in his kicking. Raby infused some much-needed life into the forward-line, and the team as a whole played with more vigour than usual.

SCHOOL v. UNIVERSITY III.

Played at Greenbank, Wednesday, February 10th. Lost 3—4.

The team was unchanged except that Gardner took the place of Pike at outside-left, the latter, unfortunately, having left.

Garton won the toss and decided to kick with the slope and the wind, on a rain-sodden pitch. For the first ten minutes there was some hard mid-field play in which the School half-backs proved dominant. After fifteen minutes' play, Davies centred for Lewis to shoot first time with his left foot and easily beat the goalkeeper. Soon afterwards Raby received a pass, and after boring his way through three or four men, beat the goalie with a hard ground shot. Up to now the School had proved the better team. A foul on Garton proved the turning point in the game as regards roughness. Soon afterwards Richards had his eye cut by the Varsity centre-forward, who rather seemed to forget he was playing in a friendly football match. The Varsity got their first goal rather luckily. One of the forwards sent the ball through Richards's legs, and the ball passed on to an off-side forward, who beat Garton from four yards. The referee seemed in a haze as regards the validity of this goal but it was allowed to stand. The Varsity followed up with another quick goal by their inside-right and half-time arrived with the scores level.

On resuming, the game was of the kick and rush type and nothing really outstanding took place. The Varsity suddenly raided the School goal and obtained their third goal, after throwing the defence into confusion. The School forwards then took up the attack again and during one raid, Raby was brought down in the penalty area, but Holden failed to convert, probably owing to the heavy and greasy ball. Lewis followed this up with his second and equalising goal. A draw seemed likely, but four minutes from the end the Varsity centre-forward, though himself in an off-side position, obtained the ball which came off the legs of a School defender, and managed to scramble the ball in, despite Garton's challenge.

The School did not deserve to lose and only the weight of the students enabled them to win. Gardner, on his *debut* at outside left was starved by Lewis and thus could not produce his best. The team, in general, seemed rather leg-weary, no doubt due to the heavy ground.

JUNIOR SHIELD. Round 2.

SCHOOL v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE.

Played at Holly Lodge, February 17th.

Lost 0—5.

The Junior Shield team were beaten in the Second Round by the Collegiate School by five goals to nothing. The game was more evenly contested than the score would suggest, for it was not until half-way through the second half that the superior forwards of the Collegiate School

began to wear down the School defence. Playing against the wind in the first half and on a very soft and holding pitch, which favoured the attack rather than the defence, the School did well to prevent the lively Collegiate forwards from scoring more than one goal. The interval score was a fair reflex of the game up to that point.

For the first ten minutes of the second half, the School were having rather the better of the game, which was largely in their opponents' half, when suddenly the Collegiate forwards broke away and scored from what appeared to many to be on off-side position. At this the School appeared to lose heart and from this moment the Collegiate were always on top, and scoring three more goals, ran out well deserving winners. Their forwards always appeared the more dangerous, while those of the School lacked thrust and speed, being too slow to go for the ball and not making ground when they had possession. They were often too much bunched together and this in consequence necessitated short passing—a difficult thing to do on a sticky ground. The defence stood up to its task very well, but the comparative weakness of the forwards placed upon it a burden larger than it could reasonably be expected to bear. The goalkeeper could in no wise be blamed for any of the goals scored, and, in fact, played a fine game and brought off many good saves.

(From the "Daily Post," February 23rd, 1937.)

SENIOR SHIELD. Round 2.

SCHOOL v. HOLT HIGH SCHOOL.

Played at Childwall Road, February 24th.

Won 5—1.

Smalley was unable to play and Gardner deputised at outside-left; otherwise the team was unchanged.

Garton won the toss and Holt kicked off against the wind which amounted almost to a gale. At first the School found no advantage in the wind and it was the Holt forwards who forced the pace. Their quick movements had the School defence all at sea, and the centre-forward had extremely bad luck, Garton just managing to deflect the ball on to the crossbar. Slowly, however, the Holt attack was mastered by the School defence, which was gradually showing some semblance of positional play. Little was seen of the forwards for they were unable to use the passes from the half-backs, who made no allowance for the strong wind. After about twenty minutes' play, Lewis fastened on to a strong pass and scored from about twenty-five yards. The goalkeeper stopped the ball, but allowed it to drop behind the line. The School now began to press and throw-ins and corners were very numerous in the Holt half. The School made the mistake of playing the ball too close and progress was thus slow in the thick mud. Just before half-time, Raby having forced his way through the defence, lured the keeper from his goal and sent the ball rolling towards the goal. Before it had passed over the line, Gardner rushed in to help it over. Half-time came to find the School two up and pressing strongly.

The School now had to face the gale and for some time the game hung in the balance. The Holt pressed hard and the School were mainly on the defensive. At long last the team realised that long passing was the best policy, and one of several constructive moves, initiated by Holden, led to Gardner netting from short range. This goal really decided the match; for if the Holt had scored before this goal, the game might have gone quite differently. As it was the School went on to win a convincing victory by long, sweeping passes. Further goals were added by

Raby and Holden, but the Holt fought gallantly against their five goal deficit, and obtained their consolation goal just before the final whistle.

The team, as a whole, played well. The defence was a trifle uncertain in the first half, but against the wind their play was much better. Garton, in goal, dealt with all shots in a safe manner, whilst Robertson was outstanding towards the end. Of the forwards, the wingers were slow but the state of the ground did not allow really fast football. Raby and Lewis played a forceful game, but it was Holden who initiated a large number of the attacks.

SCHOOL v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Manchester, Saturday, February 27th. Lost 1—3.

For this game the team had a somewhat unfamiliar appearance, Stewart going centre-half and Marsh coming in at right-half. The pitch was in a terrible condition and was really not fit for play, but since it seemed a pity to waste the fares, the Institute kicked off towards the muddier of the two goals. Both goals were morasses, but one only had about four inches of mud, whereas the other had at least six inches—not to mention two pleasant little paddling pools for the centre-half's amusement.

Manchester started by exploiting their wings and were quickly a goal up. Neat work on the left ended with a ground shot which left Garton helpless. The School endeavoured to attack, but Raby disappeared into a swamp and for the rest of the game really lived up to his nickname. School continued to press and for some time fairly good football was possible on the wings. Holden went through, but shot wide from an easy angle and two minutes' later Davies did exactly the same thing from the same place. The right wing's efforts finally met with success, however, for a hard shot from Holden hit the angle of the crossbar and upright and rebounded to the feet of Raby who had only to take it over. Half-time came with the score 1—1.

In the second half, the School defended the deep end. By now the mud had turned to glue—Garton endeavoured to bounce the ball and it refused to rise an inch; when the ball came to Robertson he took three hard kicks at it and moved it a distance of inches; once the centre-forward shot and Gorton went on his knees to gather the ball, but to his surprise it stopped abruptly half-way between him and the centre-forward and he had to dive desperately to reach it with his fingers. The School halves made abortive efforts to remove the ball to the opponents' territory but it was of no avail—they simply had not the strength to move it, whereas the M.C.S. centre-half fed his forwards quite effortlessly. The M.G.S. centre-forward, too, revelled in these mud larks and another goal was notched up to Manchester. The School made desperate effort now; Dodd and Stewart both took involuntary dives into the swimming-pool; Robertson, realising the ball could not be kicked hard, decided to attack himself and indulged in two dribbles for the whole length of the field. Neither met with any success however and M.C.S. registered another goal before the final whistle went.

M.G.S. seemed more accustomed to this form of aquatic sport than the School and they won chiefly on their strength. The School halves were clever, but once the ball got jammed in the mud of their own half they simply lacked the necessary strength to move it. Marsh showed distinct signs of becoming a really useful half-back, but the others could not adapt themselves to the conditions, except Robertson, who was always very safe, and Richards, who seemed to enjoy sitting down in six inches of mud and water. The rest of the team was split into two halves; Dodd,

Stewart and Garton trying hard to pick themselves out of the gluey bog and the rest trying hard not to fall into it. Anyway—while not a test of skill, it was a very enjoyable game—at least for the spectators (the whole seven of them) and Manchester must be congratulated on their superior powers of endurance. And after all, mud is good for the complexion.

T.W.S.

SCHOOL v. WARRINGTON C.S.

Played at Greenbank, March 6th. Won 7—3.

Owing to Stewart and Robertson being unfit several changes were necessary: Winstanley dropped back to left-back; Marsh and Gardner came in as wing-halves, Dodd moving to centre-half; Lewis went outside-left and Smalley came in to partner him.

Garton lost the toss and the School kicked off downhill against a slight breeze. Play opened with the School attacking but it was Warrington who drew first blood, when, following a corner on the right, the centre-forward headed into the corner of the net. This early setback did not worry the School, who attacked persistently until Raby obtained the equaliser with a swerving shot just inside the left-hand upright. The forward line was a continual menace to the Warrington defenders, who often found themselves drawn out of position. It was therefore really no surprise when further goals were added by Lewis (with a header!), and Raby. At this point Gardner was injured and left the field in the arms of a rather large Old Boy. This caused a re-shuffling of the left wing and Warrington had the better of exchanges for a period. With the School defence out of position, the opposing right-winger scored with a shot just inside the post. For the rest of the half play was confined to mid-field, with the Warrington forwards keeping the School defence busy. Half-time arrived with the score 3—2 in the School's favour.

Gardner resumed after the interval, but had to go on the wing, Lewis falling back to left-half. Warrington reopened strongly and their vigorous forward play gave the School defence many anxious moments. They came near to scoring on several occasions, and their efforts were finally rewarded when the outside right easily beat Winstanley, cut in and drove the ball hard inside the near upright. This goal seemed to spur the School to greater things, and it was only a matter of seconds before Raby restored the lead. Warrington then tried to upset the School by vigorous methods, but gradually the School gained the upper hand and dominated play until the end. Further goals were added by Lewis and Holden (2) and the final whistle sounded with the score 7—3 in the School's favour.

The School's victory was all the more meritorious, since three-quarters of the game Gardner was a passenger on the wing. Winstanley was not at home in the strange position of left-back, but Dodd at centre-half played an excellent game, though lack of height was often a disadvantage to him when the ball was in the air. Lewis, forced to drop back to left-half was the outstanding player. Both in defence and attack he showed remarkable speed and ball control. Garton and Richards were also very sound, the former making several daring saves at the feet of the Warrington centre. The forward line, though virtually reduced to four men was always dangerous—Raby and Holden being specially outstanding.

SENIOR SHIELD—SEMI-FINAL.

SCHOOL v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE.

Played at West Derby, March 10th. Lost 0—2.

Team: Garton; Richards, Robertson; Stewart, Winstanley, Dodd; Davies, Holden, Raby, Lewis, Smalley.

Garton lost the toss and the School kicked off against the slight slope. Conditions were good and the ground, which was liberally strewn with sand, did not cut up half as much as might have been expected. From the kick-off the School attacked on the right and forced a corner; this was cleared and the Collegiate left-wing retaliated and for some time play was in the Institute half. From a second corner came disaster. The ball went to the Collegiate centre and the School defence allowed him sufficient time to shoot; as it was, Garton had the shot covered, but it was deflected by Richards' leg into the other corner of the goal. After this unfortunate reverse the School steadied itself a little; Lewis went through by himself but his shot was just over the bar. Unfortunately, our defence was still shaky and the Collegiate wingers always looked dangerous when they gained possession.

Stewart intercepted a loose pass and started a movement which finished in Holden testing the goalkeeper with a chest high shot straight at him. Dodd gathered the ball when it was returned to our half and going down in a beautiful dribble, beat four men, but shot instead of centring—and shot too high. The half-time whistle went with the score 1—0 for the Collegiate.

On resuming, Collegiate attacked steadily and brought off some beautiful movements only to find every effort foiled by Garton who was playing magnificently. Richards was allowing the left winger too much rope and twice, the latter, with a clear goal in front of him, shot wide. Winstanley was holding the centre-forward well and Dodd tried valiantly to start attacks but met with little response from his forwards.

Once Raby was put through by Holden, but the Collegiate defence was too quick and Raby could only force a corner, and the goalkeeper saved Holden's shot. He was soon put through again, however, and out-paced the full-back; the goalkeeper came out to narrow the shooting angle and Raby's shot just hit the bottom of the upright—a piece of bad luck at a critical moment. Collegiate attacked again and in trying to clear, Stewart collided with Garton, hurt his hip and had to retire for some moments. A quick ground pass to the Collegiate outside-left left him with a clear path to goal; Richards had no time to regain position and Garton had no chance of saving a stinging shot. 2—0 and a quarter of an hour to go. Stewart resumed, but was only a passenger and he went to outside-right, Davies falling back to right-half. The School now attacked steadily. Holden was unlucky to be fouled when in a good position and even more unfortunate when a few minutes later the left-back clearly handled in the penalty area. Play, however, was allowed to continue. Once again Lewis blazed over the bar from fifteen yards out; Dodd worked like ten men feeding his forwards and we were entertained by the sight of Robertson indulging in a solo effort which brought him from left-back to inside-right. In fact the last ten minutes was all Institute—but the final touch was just lacking and the whistle went with the score 2—0 in favour of the Collegiate.

Several causes contributed to the failure; the inside forwards were apt to hold the ball too long; Raby has never been so completely eclipsed before, and though the centre-half never left his side, at the same time, Raby did not make much effort to avoid him, when a more roaming policy might have brought success. In addition, the covering of the full-backs was not all that could be desired, Robertson not kicking as surely as usual. However, the main trouble was that we were a yard slower on the ball than the Collegiate. Garton played the best game he has played for the School—and that is indeed high praise. He never made a single mistake and it must have disheartened the Collegiate to

see apparently unsavable shots turned aside at the last moment. Apart from Garton, Dodd was the Institute's best player; his tackling was good and his passing was excellent, but the forwards wasted much of his good work. Richards and Robertson improved after a shaky start, while Winstanley proved an efficient stopper. Smalley, too, tried hard, but the forward line lacked that punch and sting which has made it so dangerous this term. To sum up, it was a good, clean, fast game and though the School were unlucky in one or two cases, it must be admitted that the Collegiate deserved their win. And it is said on good authority that the Collegiate forwards are still wondering whether there was only one goalkeeper in the Institute net.

T.W.S.

CRITIQUE.

- H. W. GARTON.—He has been a keen and reliable captain and we shall miss his services next season. His goalkeeping has been very sound and, with added experience, he should go far. He deals confidently with high and low shots and places his clearances advantageously. His excellent displays have been in no small way responsible for this season's good record.
- A. ROBERTSON. He has made rapid progress this season and has become a good full-back. He is fast, tackles well and kicks hard from any angle. He will be one of the mainstays of our defence next season.
- S. E. LEWIS (Inside-left).—A fast and hard working inside forward, who has done excellent work both in attack and defence. He dribbles cleverly and realises the value of opening out the game with long passes. Possesses a hard but rather lofty shot, but his heading, though improved, is not yet first class.
- K. S. DODD (Left-half).—Perhaps the most consistent player of the year. He possesses excellent ball control and his skilful dribbling has saved the defence on many occasions, whilst his perfect passes have initiated many scoring moves.
- G. HOLDEN (Inside-right).—A player with natural football ability, who is capable of drawing a defence out of position before making his pass. Though he makes many openings for others, he, nevertheless, has a strong shot which has brought him many goals.
- N. PIKE (Outside-left).—A much improved winger, who has overcome his hesitancy to cut in and shoot. A perfect understanding with his partner has brought both many goals. Unfortunately he left after half-term and was greatly missed in the Shield matches.
- G. R. RABY (Centre-forward).—Starting the season at centre-half, but later being moved to centre-forward, he has played excellently in both positions. He holds his line together well, and shoots and heads with accuracy. More speed off the mark would be an advantage.
- I. R. STEWART (Right-half).—This season he has developed into a sound wing-half who plays equally well both in attacking and defending. Possesses good ball control and a useful turn of speed, whilst his heading is good.
- W. RICHARDS (Right-back).—A hard kicking and hard tackling full-back, who unfortunately has very little idea of positional play. If he can overcome this, he should develop into a really good back. Heading first rate.

- J. R. WINSTANLEY (Centre-half).—A capable, defensive centre-half who tackles strongly and heads well. At present he has a tendency to slice his kicking.
- G. G. DAVIES (Outside-right).—Has adapted himself well to a strange position. He centres well, but is rather slow when he should cut in and shoot.
- K. HUGHES.—A small, but clever centre-forward who finds it hard to beat a bigger centre-half. Shoots and heads quite well, but is far too slow.
- S. GARDNER.—Has played both at left-half and outside-left, but seems more suited for the former position. Tackles well and tries to put his passes to the best use. Rather inclined to over-dribble.

* * *

Full Colours have been re-awarded to S. E. Lewis and H. W. Garton, and awarded to K. S. Dodd, G. Holden, N. Pike, G. R. Raby, A. Robertson, I. R. Stewart.

Half Colours have been re-awarded to C. J. Kirkham and awarded to W. Richards, J. R. Winstanley, G. G. Davies, K. Hughes, S. Gardner and N. T. Marsh.

* * *

2nd XI RESULTS.

v. S.F.X.	...	...	...	...	Won	...	4-2
v. Liobians	...	...	...	...	Drew	...	2-2
v. 43rd Boys' Brigade	Won	...	2-1
v. Alsop High School	Won	...	2-1
v. Warrington G.S.	Lost	...	1-2

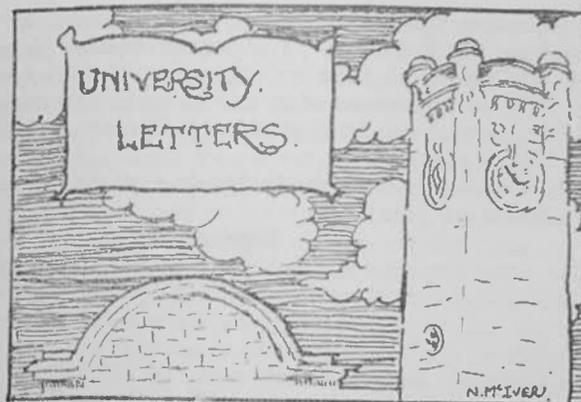
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House Football.

THE Senior Horsfall Cup was won by Philip Holt House who beat Danson in the final by 1 goal to nil.

The Junior Whitehouse Cup was won by Danson, who beat Alfred Holt by 6 goals to 2. H.W.G.

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THE AVIARY,
CLOUD CUCKOO TOWN.

To the Editor *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR SIR,

Your polite but curt demand reaches us at a time when we have forgotten last term in the joys of this. For while we have been away from Oxford, spring has passed, and earliest summer has breathed its blossoms on the trees; and it ill accords with the gentle whispering of the willows and the lazy progress of our punt to ply a hurried feverish pen, to ward off the inevitable hour. Now, sir, we are not worms that crawl on the earth, nor birds that fly in the air, but human beings with human frailties and limitations. As such, we shall endeavour, so far as time and space permit, to retail, as faithfully as memory will grant, the doings of Liobian Oxford.

There come first and foremost to our minds, the preoccupied air, and later, the doleful looks of Messrs. Curtis and Little as Honour Moderations (*Horresco referens*) drew nearer. We congratulate them on the result. We remember when Mr. Curtis was lost in thought for a week looking for the end of a pentameter. Like Archimedes, he startled his friends with an excited "I've got it"—but fortunately he was not in his bath. Mr. Ankers and Mr. Page are now concerned with different "ends" from those in which Mr. Curtis is absorbed. We might add that they are zealously studying "forms"—we don't mean that they are studying sculpture, but philosophy. Both work hard on the quiet, though denying it in public.

Our reverend friend, Mr. Bussby, finds time for many other things than work: more than this we may not say.

Our innocents Messrs. Hopwood and Leather, as befits their innocence, worked hard. The former besides playing in his soccer 1st XI, found time to strengthen his alliances and connections (as the historians say), and to make new ones; the latter assures us that his form at shove-halfpenny and darts is improving day by day.

Finally we congratulate Mr. G. Hughes on winning a Meyricke Exhibition at Jesus.

Yours sincerely,
J. I. KNOXUCLAVE.

THE UNION SOCIETY,
CAMBRIDGE.

To the Editor, *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR SIR,

We are disappointed in you. You have not trusted us. You have hastened our hand, interfered with our inevitable. Worst of all, you have deprived us of the material for an opening paragraph which we used in our last letter. Your detestable note, in fact, has arrived. Here is our reply—a poor thing, you will admit, when compared with the noble fragment of spontaneity which, bearing the distinguished signature of Mr. Knoxuchlave, decorates the previous page. Mr. Knoxuchlave, however, has at the moment a source of inspiration of a rather exceptional nature, a circumstance which may perhaps provide a semi-alternative explanation.

Well, Sir, Cambridge, if you want to know, is little different from the Cambridge we knew way back in '36. In accordance with correct procedure, however, we have had to dispense with certain of life's little joys during the Lent Term. We have dispensed, for instance, with Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Patterson has done without his daily drench, Mr. Corlett without his nightly knockback, and Mr. Wallace without his weekly whistle-wet. Mr. Peters, moreover, has been seen purposely to avoid the College cat. Mr. Owen has even done without food, being new (we believe) a follower of Dr. Hay. We are not the first to have already suggested a hay diet for Mr. Owen. The quality of Mr. Owen's lunches (we also believe) remains nevertheless unimpaired.

In certain respects, however, Cambridge has been disturbed from its customary somnolence. There was, for example, the influenza epidemic. Mr. Owen fell a victim on the first day of term—in fact, he got out of his train into a taxi and went straight

home to bed. Then there were the Lents, which produced strange symptoms of self-abnegation in Mr. McCloy; and the L.C.C. Elections, which produced even stranger symptoms, symptoms of argument, truculence, of newspaper-fury, and of excursion-ticket-mania—in Messrs. Campbell, Peters, and Scarisbrick. Talking of symptoms, we are very worried about Mr. Patterson. He eats little, talks less, and quite visibly flags at half mast. He gapes if addressed, and in his room vacantly alternates his gaze between Solution of Triangles on his writing table and certain photography on his mantelpiece. More significant still, he goes home at half term. Mr. Scarisbrick also has peculiar symptoms, but they confine themselves more rigidly to the vacation. Mr. Peters shows symptoms of another kind. He now has a gramophone, on which he plays Handel (what more appropriate?) to unappreciative visitors. But perhaps the most violent symptoms were those of Messrs. Campbell and Scarisbrick after partaking of a certain hall dinner in Downing.

We are not, on the whole, Sir, a very versatile crowd. Mr. Campbell, it is true, is the soul of versatility, his activities varying from playing the 'cello to All-in wrestling. We also have, in Mr. Peters, a budding opera singer, and Mr. Corlett, we feel sure, must be a budding something. But for the rest, we are much as we were last term. Mr. Scarisbrick is still strong and silent. Messrs. Wallace, Corlett, and Patterson still read mathematics. Even Mr. Campbell still engineers constitutional crises in the Society. And so, Sir, there you have us. Perhaps when you hear from us next term, we shall be just the same again. In the meantime, we are,

Yours sincerely,

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THE UNION,
MOUNT PLEASANT.

To the Editor, *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We realise full well the delight the correspondents of certain other universities take in this, our peculiar pastime, but to us the exposure of fellow-students requires much contemplation before the deed. We pass into a Yogi-like trance, staring fixedly before us at some old School Magazine; eventually, and you may believe us, we are that old Magazine and are regarding with disapproval a wraith who sits cross-legged staring, staring—whom we can identify as a future University letter-writer. Mind you, sir, the stage ultimately passes but we have heard of

some undergraduates who still rustle their pages, and upon gazing into the liquid depths of their eyes we can see that House Captains consider that not enough play games, that the O.T.C. needs recruits, that—ah, well, it is a sorry business and fortunately we have escaped, but it took time, and there you have the reason for the lateness of this contribution to your honoured journal.

If it had not been for our preparation we could hardly have mentioned the beard of Mr. Martinez. We sometimes catch a glimpse of it, and necessarily it is black, necessarily it is pointed, and unnecessarily horrible. Nevertheless, he is a noise and so is Mr. Bowmer, in fact they are of the big variety. He spent his Easter vac. tabulating or counting or something. You see somebody asked the students varied and numerous questions and when the replies were intelligible they were collated or filed and Mr. Bowmer was a magician-in-charge and we fear the whole thing will give birth to statistics.

To pick and choose mere names from the welter which infest the University is a difficult task. Liobians appear from hither and thither, popping up from obscure corners and then receding into nether darknesses we wot not of. Why, we actually saw Mr. Marcus the other day; he has been a genius of the underworld for several years now, and perhaps soon he will be a Doctor. Mr. Zalin, too, is in a like category and showed his face to the world for a minute only to disappear again. To speak of Mr. Denerley after that is to speak of someone almost human; he is the gay desperado; and to go further and write Mr. Campbell means that at last we have the earthly substance again. He is so much of the common clay as to be optimistic and hope that Spanish is still spoken in Spain. Mr. Waugh and Mr. Foreman concur. Another band of three is Mr. Cohen, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Cohen, but that is all we know about them. After that we can only think of the two Mr. Jones's, but as one is Mr. Pryson Jones, there is really only one left. We next pass on to Mr. McCloy and Mr. Holden who still bear the tragic torch of constancy.

We must mention Mr. Pike because he is some sort of President and therefore really distinguished and with his moustache is absolutely *ne pas ultra*, my dear sir. And lastly, Mr. Beeby, who has left us so soon. Gone out into the black vastness to earn a living. It is surprising how it takes them.

Yours,
LIOSPHINX.

Correspondence.

Room 12 (U.R.)

To the Editors,

SIRS,

Might I through the medium of your valued columns give publicity to a complaint heard so very often in certain circles of this School.

Why persistently ask, as the end of term comes round, for a list of repairs, a list which, if made, seldom reaches the authoritative party, or even if it reaches this party is ignored?

It is sheer HUMBBUG, sir, to ask for a list of repairs and then do nothing about them. Twice I have reported repairs necessary to my locker and twice I have returned at the beginning of term to find my locker still unrepaired.

Give me the means and I will mend it myself, but DON'T ask me to report it again—I will not be put off further.

Yours indignantly,

A. GRABMAN.

The Calendar.

Summer Term, 1937.

Thur., Apl. 15	TERM BEGINS. The Coronation and Half-Term Holiday is from 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11th, to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 19th.
Thur., June 10	O.T.C. Inspection.
Sat., „ 12	SPORTS FINALS.
Mon., July 5	S.C. Examinations begin.
Sat., „ 10	SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS BEGIN.
Thur., „ 15	H.S.C. Practical Examinations.
Mon., „ 19	S.C. Candidates return to School. Field Day for O.T.C. and Scouts.
Fri., „ 23	TERM ENDS.
Sat., „ 24	Troutal Camp opens.
Tues., „ 27	O.T.C. Camp begins.

Next Term begins on Wednesday, September 15th.

Cricket Fixtures, 1937.

DATE.	1st XI.	2nd XI.	3rd XI.
S. May 1	Alsop H.S. ....A	Alsop H.S. ....H	Alsop H.S. ....A
W. " 5	Holt S.S. ....A	Holt S.S. ....H	Holt S.S. ....A
S. " 8	Quarry Bk. H.S. H	Quarry Bk. H.S. A	Quarry Bk. H.S. A (under 15)
W. " 12	Sefton C.C. ....H		
S. " 15	University ....H		
W. " 19	Sefton C.C. ....A		
S. " 22	Merchant Taylors' A	Merchant Taylors' H	
W. " 26	L'pool Collegiate A	L'pool Collegiate H	
S. " 29	Birkenhead.....H	Birkenhead.....A	Birkenhead.....A
W. Jne. 2			Bluecoat .....H
S. " 5	Manchester G.S. A		Quarry Bk. H.S. A (under 13)
W. " 9	University .....A		
S. " 12			
W. " 16	Wallasey (Older- shaw H.S.) .....H	Wallasey (Older- shaw H.S.) .....A	
S. " 19	Liobians .....A		
W. " 23	Cowley .....H	Cowley .....A	
S. " 26	Cowley .....A	Cowley .....H	
W. " 30	Manchester G.S. H		Bluecoat .....A
S. Jly. 3			
W. " 7	L'pool Collegiate H	L'pool Collegiate A	
S. " 10	LiobiansH	Waterloo.....A	
W. " 14	Wallasey G.S. ...H	Wallasey G.S. ...A	Wallasey G.S. ...A

I. R. STEWART, Hon. Sec.

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Editorial Notices.

IN order to ensure an early date of publication, contributions, written on one side of large essay paper, should reach the Editors **before** the end of the holidays. The author's name should accompany all contributions (including correspondence). Copies of Form Magazines will be welcomed.

The Editors wish to acknowledge receipt of the following contemporaries, and apologize for any omissions: *The Ruym, Visor and Anchor, Wyggestonian, Quarry, Hinckleyan, Hulmeian, Widnesian, Elizabethan, Hymerian, Olavian, Oultonian*, and the Magazines of *Alsop High School, City of London School, Faraday House and Merchant Taylors' School*.

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