

THE



LION

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New Series.

When we came back this term we found that many of the great had left. No longer does a full-back appear suddenly in the forward line, a trail of prostrate foes behind him and the broad goal before. No longer does the centre-forward dribble the ball into some remote corner of the field before returning goalwards.

Congratulations are due to those who succeeded in passing their Public examinations last summer, especially F. O. Dyer, who thoroughly deserved his distinction of passing the London Inter. The entrants for the Oxford Senior emerged from their ordeal with credits, and once again, although the percentage of passes over the whole country was only 66 per cent., all our entries were successful.

With thoughts of Christmas and unharrassed by examinations we can face the end of term with considerable fortitude. To all our readers we offer our best wishes, and may their wise purchase of "The Lion" bring them good fortune in the coming year.

CHRONICLES OF THE TERM.

After a summer of dreadful weather we had the surprising experience of an almost rainless period extending up to half-term. Every Wednesday and Saturday till then, games for the whole School were possible. One is tempted to copy the people who write to the newspapers, and to ask the world in general: "Is this a record?"

Early in the term we were invited by a small theatrical company, who performed "Julius Caesar," with, of course, judicious cuts. The company was very small, but they put up a very good performance by means of each in his time playing many parts. There was some disappointment when it was found that the assassination scene was omitted. Evidently peace-propaganda has not succeeded in eradicating the lust for gore. Mark Antony enlisted the services of

the audience as crowd in the oration scene, and the crowd certainly enjoyed shouting, without any undue curiosity as to the reason for shouting, thereby revealing themselves as a very typical crowd.

The School has received from Miss Matthews (of Westbury House) a handsome silver cup of Burmese workmanship, on a carved stand. It has been decided to use it as a Junior Cup each term, by awarding it to the House whose Junior teams score most points in the House Matches for that term. The gift was in memory of the Colonel Matthews, who was always greatly interested in the School, and is a welcome addition to the challenge cups we possess.

J. S.

SPEECH DAY.

Speech Day was fixed this year for July 28th, and we were fortunate in having the Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, Admiral Sir A. K. Waistell, to distribute the prizes.

A novelty in the programme was a piano-forte solo by P. Stevenson, who acquitted himself with considerable credit.

Admiral Waistell, in the course of his address, urged the prize-winners not to slack off, or they would find that there were plenty of their competitors who would take the opportunity of turning the tables on those who had come out above them this time. To the non-prize-winners this time he pointed out that we all had ups and downs, and if they showed grit and determination, they would achieve success in the future and become a credit to themselves and the School.

The musical part of the programme was above the average, and was much appreciated. A solo, "In Derry Vale," by B. Buckley, was very successful, and for the first time one of the Folk song, "Raggle Taggle Gipsies," sung by the School Choir, was conducted by a boy, V. Collins, who acquitted himself well.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

London Intermediate B.A.: F. O. Dyer.
 London Matriculation: O. J. Austin, H. E. Brooks, J. H. Glover, P. Targett, E. J. Tatford.
 Oxford Senior Local:—

3rd Class Honours: H. E. Brooks,
 P. Targett.

Pass: O. J. Austin, R. G. Child, H. J. Fletcher, H. G. Gibson (Distinction in English), J. H. Glover, O. J. H. Hoskins, W. J. Kilford, R. A. Lewry, D. Lynch, L. S. Pettifer, W. J. Prior, L. F. Rolls, A. W. H. Reader, D. E. C. Roberts, E. Russell, P. A. Ilvester, E. J. Tatford, T. J. Williams.

VALETE.

The end of the Summer term always brings with it the loss of many members of the School, who join the ever-growing band of "Old Boys." Among those to whom we say "Au Revoir" but not "Good-bye" are: F. V. Dyer, V. J. Barnes, H. McNeil and R. A. Lowry, who have all gone to Southampton University College; W. Murray, Winchester Training College; R. L. Fielder, R. W. Pickwood, H. J. Fletcher, L. S. Pettifer, A. E. Coles, M. W. Rush, P. F. Gregory, G. W. Gregory, G. W. White, J. H. Weatherburn, H. Aps, H. L. Willis, and W. J. Kilford.

SALVETE.

The new entries this term, to whom it falls to prove themselves worthy successors of those who have gone before, are: D. F. Abbott, K. Akers, C. W. Barber, *N. Boyes, W. H. Cook, A. R. Daines, A. J. David, H. Dumper, L. J. Godwin, E. Moody, R. Moon, S. C. Phillips, H. L. Privett, E. Still, D. C. Woodsford, T. W. Bulpitt, *J. Watson, L. Searle, F. Walters, G. Hawkins, W. Alderton, G. Henderson, G. Challis, D. Mortimer, *R. Ford, P. McDonald, M. A. Skinner, I. Halkerston, *H. Hodges, D. Sanders, *E. Dore, E. P. Smith, D. Crabtree, R. Stent, H. Russell, G. Durant, A. Collier, D. Card Buley, D. Shervell, *P. Hynes, A. F. Skinner. (Those marked * have already had brothers in the School.)

LA VISITE AN "THEATRE CLASSIQUE UNIVERSITAIRE."

Au début ce trimestre, nous apprîmes que des acteurs français allaient jouer, à Southampton, "Mademoiselle de la Seiglière," comédie en quatre actes, en prose, de Jules Sandeau, que nous venions de lire à l'école. Cette troupe s'appelle le "Théâtre Classique Universitaire." C'est une organisation officielle, formée par la collaboration de l'Université de Paris, les "Beaux Arts" et le "Conservatoire." Les acteurs appartiennent à des théâtres parisiens, on alors sont des étudiants distingués du "Conservatoire." Leur directeur, M. Toudouze, fit un petit discours avant le lever du rideau.

Dix-neuf garçons (dont deux manquèrent l'autobus, à cause d'un malentendu) allèrent à Southampton, accompagnés de M. Larguier et de Miss Bouchier. L'autobus arriva très en retard, mais le chauffeur le conduisit comme Jésus et arriva à Southampton quelques minutes avant le début de la pièce qui commença, heureusement, une demi-heure en retard.

La scène se passe en mil huit cent dix-huit, au château de la Seiglière, dans le Poitou. Au commencement, on ne pouvait pas facilement entendre ce que disait le Marquis, représenté par M. Darblay. (M. Larguier était convaincu qu'il n'avait pas de dents!) Tout le monde fut épris de la belle et jeune Hélène, rôle très bien joué par Mlle Clarence; mais chacun pensait que le meilleur acteur de tous était M. Berger, qui représentait Destournelles, l'avocat sage et astucieux. La scène amoureuse entre Bernard et Hélène plut à tout le monde.

La pièce se termina vers onze heures, les entr'actes étant assez longs. Il fallut omettre les "Fables" de la Fontaine, faute de temps. Nous avons tous été désappointés de ne pas voir nos vieux "copains" Barnes, Lewry, Dyer et McNeil, mais nous sommes heureux de découvrir qu'ils sont si occupés par leurs études.

Tout le monde s'amusa beaucoup, et nous avons résolu d'aller voir la prochaine représentation quand elle aura lieu.

R. C. B.

CRICKET.

One of the most interesting and exciting matches of the cricket term was played too late for any mention of it to be made in the summer "Lion." This game was against an XI. brought by Mr. Ross, which included four other members of the Ross family. The School batted first and scored 178 for 4 wickets, when the innings was

declared closed. Smith batted extremely well and played the highest innings of the season in scoring 83 not out. Mr. Ross' XI., in a very close finish, passed the School's total with one wicket in hand, and with only one over to be played, J. Hilton having scored 110, a fine free-scoring innings, in which powerful driving was the chief feature.

FOOTBALL RETROSPECT.

From the point of view of the number of matches won, this season has been the least successful for many years. This was to be expected, as only two of the previous year's XI. remained, and only one of these a full colour, who, formerly a goal-keeper, moved up to centre-half. So it was necessary to build up an entirely new team, with no useful nucleus to build around. It is seldom that there is such a wholesale departure from one season to the next. Consequently it was clear from the beginning that we could not hope for any great things in the way of a record. But it must be said to the credit of the XI. that they have never really become discouraged when playing against bigger and stronger opponents, and this has been one of the most pleasing features of the season. The side has played with considerably more enthusiasm and has been more of a team than many more successful School elevens. With this keenness and team-spirit it was not surprising that considerable improvement was made during the season. A little more weight and experience in certain positions would have made a great difference to the number of victories.

The two heavy defeats at the beginning of the season, against Taunton's and St. John's, were partly due to lack of experience in goal-keeping. We could not have hoped to win these games, but they were not quite so one-sided as the scores would indicate; and later matches showed that Tew has improved considerably as a goal-keeper.

The outstanding members of the side have been Frost, Smith, Gibson, and Gilbert. Frost has been a keen and successful captain, and although last year earning his colours as a goal-keeper, has performed the more onerous task of a centre-half with considerable success. Smith has been the mainstay of the attack throughout the season. His skill and untiring energy have done much to relieve the pressure on the halves, and at the same time enable him to make some fine openings for his forwards. Gibson and Gilbert have had much work to do in the defence, and they have improved very considerably during

the season. Both have played with consistent energy and keenness.

The forwards have been moderately successful. Lack of weight and height has been a great handicap, but there have been many good combined movements, and no selfishness on the part of individual players. Jones and Wilton should develop into a good left wing, and Watson has pace and cleverness beyond the average.

The results of the matches against Taunton's School and St. John's College speak for themselves. In these games our opponents were taller, heavier and more experienced, and we were distinctly outplayed. The game against Portsmouth Secondary School was a very even one, and we were beaten by a goal, scored from a corner kick in the last minute. The Portsmouth Grammar School match was perhaps the most disappointing of the season. The Grammar School side was not a good one, but after missing easy chances in the early part of the game, the School, with one or two exceptions, seemed for once to lose heart, and Portsmouth won a poor game by a larger margin than should have been the case. In the return match on the Portsmouth ground, however, the School gave one of the best displays of the season, and a well-earned win, 6—2, atoned for its earlier defeat. Against Midhurst we had a full share of the play, but weakness at centre-forward probably lost us the match. A weak Old Boys' XI. was beaten fairly easily, but credit must be given to the School, who played one of their best games. The home match with Gosport resulted in a victory that might well have been by a larger margin. Hilsa, in the first match of the season, were decisively beaten.

The Second XI. have had a more successful season. Dixon has played well in goal, and Hoskins and Prior have been sound and energetic at full-back. The latter especially has improved very considerably during the term. Brooks ii. has been a consistent centre-half, while Rideout, Henley and Nicholas have all played well in the forward line.

In Junior games there is no lack of promising young players, who only need to grow to provide us with good material for 1st XI.'s of the future. Indeed, there appears to be a greater number of good young players than we have had for many years, and the general keenness and ability displayed in these games augur well for the future of School football. Of these players the following may be mentioned:—Presstey, Walters, Watson ii., Watson iii., Mansbridge, Saunders i., Hill, Tatlam, Rushforth ii., Powell ii., Smart, Croucher, Ford i., and Nicholas ii.

The House Competition was again won by Westbury. Before the last round was played

only half a point separated Westbury and Blackbrook, but Westbury won all three of their matches, and were thus fairly easy winners. The same House also became first holders of a cup presented by Miss Matthews for the House obtaining most points in 2nd and 3rd XI. matches.

1st XI. CHARACTERS.

- A. G. FROST (centre-half).—Has been an enthusiastic and energetic captain. Plays a hard if not polished game; tackles and kicks well. Is perhaps rather stronger in defence than attack.
- P. P. SMITH (inside-right).—Has good ball control, and a good sense of the game. Uses his head well, and makes good passes to his wing. With a more powerful shot would be a first-class forward.
- H. G. GIBSON (left-back).—Has improved very considerably during the season. Is extremely good with his head, and is quick in recovery. A dependable back, he has thoroughly earned his colours.
- E. J. GILBERT (right-back).—Is very fast and works very hard. Uses his weight well, and although erratic in kicking, has made great improvement.
- H. W. WATSON (outside-right).—Fast, with good ball control, and is an excellent shot. Has had quite a good season, but would do still better if he learnt to go much harder.
- A. JONES (outside-left).—Centres and shoots quite well, but is lacking in pace. With more thrust he should be very useful next season.
- P. S. MOORE (left-half).—Rather small and inexperienced, but a player of great promise. Tackles well, but kicks rather wildly under pressure.
- L. V. WILTON (inside-left).—Dashing and hard working. Dribbles quite well and is a good shot, but should pass more quickly and more accurately.
- A. S. HOBBS (right-half).—Kicks the ball well and works hard. Should develop into a useful player.
- R. TEW (goal).—Although lacking in confidence and experience at the start of the season, he has since improved. Must learn to gather the ball more cleanly. Kicks quite a good length.
- R. G. CHILD and G. WEAVIL.—Have both played at centre-forward. Child shoots well, but is lacking in pace and is small for the position, whilst Weavil, although energetic and fast, is erratic in front of goal.

1st XV. MATCHES.

School v. Hilsea College 1st.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 7th. Result: Win, 11—0. Goal scorers: Smith (4), Weavil (2), Jones (2), Frost (1), Watson (1), Nicholas (1).

School v. Portsmouth Secondary 1st.

At home, Saturday, Oct. 10th. Result: Lost, 5—6. Goal scorers: Watson (2), Smith (1), Weavil (1), Jones (1).

School v. St. John's College 1st.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 14th. Result: Lost, 2—10. Goal scorers: Weavil (1), Jones (1).

School v. Taunton's 1st.

At home, Saturday, Oct. 17th. Result: Lost, 3—9. Goal scorers: Weavil (2), Watson.

School v. Portsmouth Grammar 1st.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 21st. Result: Lost, 0—4.

School v. Midhurst Grammar 1st.

At home, Saturday, Oct. 24th. Result: Lost, 2—3. Goal scorers: Weavil (1), Jones (1).

School v. Gosport Secondary 1st.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 28th. Result: Won, 5—2. Goal scorers: Wilton (3), Weavil (2).

School v. Hilsea College 1st.

Away, Wednesday, Nov. 4th. Result: Drawn, 3—3. Goal scorers: Weavil (2), Smith (1).

School v. Old Boys.

At home, Saturday, Nov. 14th. Result: Won, 6—3. Goal scorers: Child (3), Smith (2), Wilton (1).

School v. Portsmouth United Banks.

At home, Saturday, Nov. 21st. Result: Drawn, 2—2. Goal scorers: Child (1), Wilton (1).

School v. St. John's College 1st.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 2nd. Result: Lost, 2—8. Goal scorers: Watson (1), Smith (1).

School v. Portsmouth Grammar 1st.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 9th. Result:

School v. Gosport Secondary 1st.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 16th. Result:

2nd XI. MATCHES.

School v. Hilsea College 2nd.

Away, Wednesday, Oct. 7th. Result: Won, 16—0. Goal scorers: Wilton (6), Child (5), Henley (2), Rushforth (2), Rideout (1).

School v. Portsmouth Secondary 2nd.

At home, Saturday, Oct. 10th. Result: Won, 5—2. Goal scorers: Wilton (2), Child (1), Henley (1), Rushforth (1).

School v. St. John's College 2nd.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 14th. Result: Lost, 1-5. Goal scorer: Henley.

School v. Launton's School 2nd.

At home, Saturday, Oct. 17th. Result: Lost, 2-7. Goal scorers: Child (1), Wilton (1).

School v. Portsmouth Grammar 3rd.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 21st. Result: Drawn, 3-3. Goal scorers: Wilton (2), Rideout (1).

School v. Gosport Secondary 2nd.

At home, Wednesday, Oct. 28th. Result: Won, 7-3. Goal scorers: Child (3), Brooks (1), Henley (1), Rideout (1), Rushforth (1).

School v. Hilsea College 2nd.

At home, Wednesday, Nov. 4th. Result: Won, 18-0. Goal scorers: Child (10), Saunders (4), Brooks (2), Atkins (1), Henley (1).

School v. St. John's College 2nd.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 2nd. Result: Lost, 3-5. Goal scorers: Weavil (2), Nicholas (1).

School v. Portsmouth Grammar 3rd.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 9th. Result: Won, 6-2. Goal scorers: Watson (2), Child (2), Smith (1), Jones (1).

School v. Gosport Secondary 2nd.

Away, Wednesday, Dec. 16th. Result:

JUNIOR MATCHES.

- Oct. 7.—School III. v. Hilsea College III.
 Away. Won 6-0
 „ 28.—School III. v. Gosport Secondary III.
 Away. Won 4-3
 „ 28.—School IV. v. Gosport Secondary IV.
 Away. Won 10-5
 Nov. 4.—School III. v. Hilsea College III.
 Home. Won 11-0
 „ 11.—School III. v. St. John's College III.
 Away. Drawn 2-2
 „ 11.—School IV. v. St. John's College IV.
 Away. Won 5-1
 Dec. 2.—School III. v. St. John's College III.
 Home. Lost 2-8
 „ 2.—School IV. v. St. John's College IV.
 Home. Drawn 3-3
 „ 16.—School III. v. Gosport Secondary III.
 „ 16.—School IV. v. Gosport Secondary IV.

HOUSE MATCHES.**1st XI.'s.**

Westbury 2	Blackbrook 0
Westbury 2	School House 1
Westbury 7	Cams 0
Blackbrook 1	School House 0
Blackbrook 5	Cams 2
School House 6	Cams 2

2nd XI.'s.

Westbury 5	Blackbrook 2
Westbury 9	School House 0
Cams 3	Blackbrook 2
Cams 3	Westbury 2
Blackbrook 2	School House 0
School House 1	Cams 0

3rd XI.'s.

Westbury 6	Blackbrook 2
Westbury 3	Cams 1
Westbury 3	School House 3
Cams 4	Blackbrook 2
Cams 3	School House 0
Blackbrook 4	School House 0

Final Position of Houses.

Westbury	21½ pts.
Blackbrook	13 „
School House	7½ „
Cams	6 „

BLACKBROOK.

I am glad to see that the pessimistic views of certain of the seniors of Blackbrook are at last disappearing. This term, although we have not won the Soccer Cup, we put up a stronger opposition to the other Houses than we usually do.

The members of the House 1st XI. are to be congratulated on their meritorious play. Here special mention must be made of Pressley, who, though lacking in weight and size, played very well in all three matches. Tapson, who played in the last two matches, also proved his worth.

The Second and Third XI.'s pulled their weight, too, and although they only obtained three out of a possible nine points, they tried hard, and that is essential if one wants his House to win.

Wilton, Hobbs and Hoskins i. have all played for the School 1st XI., whilst Dixon, Cross and Rushforth i. have played regularly for the School 2nd XI. Besides this, we have been well represented in the School Junior XI.'s.

Of the new boys, Mortimer, Smith iii., Still, Phillips, Woodsford and Durrant show considerable promise, and should improve greatly before the next football season.

We must take this opportunity to congratulate Targett, Ralls and Hoskins i. on passing the School Certificate Examination last term.

Next term there will be the Steeplechase, and we should do well in both Senior and Junior events. The majority of last year's Hockey team are still at School, and we shall have a good chance of winning the Cup. At present we still have the Tarbat Cup, but how much pleasanter it would be to have a Sports Cup, or even two,

to show that we are as good on the field as in school!

However, just because we take second place this term, it is not a time to feel depressed. The House is beginning to hold its own, and with reasonable luck we shall be more successful next term.

A. G. F.

(The House regrets the loss of McNeil, who left us unexpectedly at the end of last term, and who set an exacting standard of spirited leadership, and we congratulate Frost on being the first member of the House to lead the School Football team.—H.R.T.)

CAMS.

Last year, most of the work was done by the few seniors we had, namely, Lewry, Barnes and Wareham, and consequently this term we have felt their absence greatly. However, it is not a bit of good being down-hearted, and we only hope that others will come forward and take their places.

In the recent School Certificate Examination, we were represented by Gibson, Lynch and Roberts, each of whom, we are pleased to say, obtained passes. It was unfortunate that Gibson, who got distinction in English, did not gain his matriculation.

The new boys who have come into Cams this term seem a very promising lot, and several of them have already proved very useful. Amongst these are Watson iii. and Walters, both of whom, though at present rather small, showed their ability to play football.

In the House matches, our first team failed to win a match, not that we expected to do very much, as our team was on the light side. Gibson, who plays regularly for the School XI., was the mainstay of our defence, and Weavil worked untiringly throughout the games, while Watson iii., Walters and Saunders also put up good performances.

The 2nd and 3rd XI.'s, much to our surprise, each won two matches, and had the second team won their match against School House, we should have carried off the new Westbury Cup. In these games, Searle, Dore and Parker were the most prominent players.

We must congratulate Gibson on obtaining his 1st XI. colours, and, with Reader, on being appointed Monitors.

Next term there are the Hockey and Steeplechase Cups to compete for. The Steeplechase gives an opportunity to every individual to do something for his House, and we expect everyone to begin training early.

R. L. W.

SCHOOL HOUSE.

This term School House did better than was anticipated in the Football Cup. Our 1st XI., although they only won one match, when they defeated Cams 6—2, played well in the other two games, and in each case lost only by one goal.

The 2nd XI. and the 3rd XI. were not too successful, but the former team is to be complimented on its fine victory over Cams. The 3rd XI. distinguished itself by drawing 3—3 with Westbury. In the junior teams, Austin, Swinstead, Bent, Draper, Smith ii., Bromley ii., Hodges i. and ii., and Grafham played very well.

Smith i. and Tew were regular members of the School 1st XI., while Williams and Nicholas i. have also played.

Congratulations to Smith i. on being made Head of the School, and on receiving his 1st XI. colours.

In the Oxford Locals we had a fair portion of the successes. Williams, Pettifer and Austin were successful, and the last-named obtained exemption from the Matriculation.

We congratulate Williams, Austin and Dill on being appointed Options.

Next term we hope to do better in the Hockey Cup, and to retain the Junior Steeplechase Cup, and to add further trophies to our shelf.

R. G. G.

WESTBURY.

Although the competition in the House matches this term has been unusually keen, there has seldom, in my memory, been such a display of clean football and sportsmanship. Despite the fact that we succeeded in retaining the Cup, as well as in winning the new Junior trophy (much to our surprise!), we had to fight hard, and the issue was in doubt until the end of the last game. Blackbrook gave us many anxious moments, and the last game, on which the fate of the Cup rested, was fought keenly, energetically and sportingly, if not skilfully, by both teams. We were fortunate in having four members of the First Eleven in our team, but every man played excellently, and we were well supported by the Second and Third XI.'s. Incidentally, we are deeply grateful to School House, who by beating Cams' apparently invincible Second XI., won for us the "Westbury Cup." Let us see if it is possible to make it the "Westbury" Cup in fact as well as in name.

We must all admire Gibson, who has not spared himself in his attempt to pull Cams out of the rut in which we ourselves were a few years ago, and we hope that his efforts will soon be attended with success.

In the past it has been the custom to hand bouquets, through the notes, to those who have especially distinguished themselves. I, however, wish to congratulate the House as a whole: whilst certain individuals must inevitably be more proficient than others, it is team-work which counts, and we want every boy, especially the younger members, to pull his weight.

Congratulations, therefore, to those who succeeded in passing the Oxford: to those who have been appointed Monitors and Options: and, in short, to all those who have "done their bit," even if it was only to turn up and encourage us. Our shelf is now filled with trophies, all the more valuable because they were won by hard work and self-sacrifice. Let us fight hard to keep them; or, if we are fairly beaten, lose sportingly, and go on trying.

E. J. G.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.

Raymond Curwood sat alone in his study. He was tall and broad-shouldered, with his family's inheritance of good looks. A sportsman to the finger tips, one would have said, and yet, on the playing fields of Greyminster, he was conspicuous only by his absence. The doctor's decree had gone forth, and Curwood was doomed to a life of idle slackness, removed from all strenuous exertion.

It was the first day of the autumn term, and Raymond had returned to Greyminster to find himself captain of King's, the most riotous and unruly house in the whole school. At that instant a snatch of ribald song drifted down the passage, but Curwood, knowing that he would not be expected to take up his official outy on the first day of term, ignored it.

His frown deepened, however, for none knew better than he that the turbulent spirits of King's needed a captain who could outrun them, out-box them, and outplay them in every branch of sport. Curwood realised that he could do none of these things, and that, consequently, it was going to be difficult to take command of his unruly subordinates.

Presently he came out of the brown study into which he had fallen, and, drawing a sheet of paper towards him, began to jot down a sort of balance sheet. On one side he set down the chief characteristics of his greatest opponents in the coming struggle for control; on the other he wrote his own assets.

On his opponents' side appeared the names of Malcolm, Fordyce, Dorrell, McCrae and Ellis, five of the school's best athletes. Malcolm was the finest centre half-back who had ever donned

the Greyminster colours; Fordyce, the school's opening batsman; Dorrell, a lumbering, heavy-handed giant, who had twice won the boxing championship; McCrae, holder of the swimming record; and Ellis, the crack sprinter with a cupboard full of his trophies. These were the school idols against whom Curwood was to pit his apparently puny strength.

The house captain smiled as he gazed at the list, and then, on the assets side of his balance sheet, wrote the one word "Brains." He chuckled as he studied his work, and then grew serious. He knew that his brains were far superior to the combined might of the great quintette, and he knew, likewise, that brains must finally emerge victoriously. "But," he thought, "in what way can I utilise them?"

His roving glance fell upon a bookshelf which was lined with neatly bound books, each of which was inscribed, "King's Fortnightly." For King's boasted a journal which dated back to time immemorial, not the usual term magazine, but a regular fortnightly budget of news, under the supreme control of the house captain.

Curwood's eyes brightened at the sight. None knew better than he the danger of making the paper a weapon which was to carry him through the inevitable struggle. Did he but overstep the mark and give his opponents one loophole, and he was for ever defeated. The press must be his last resort; to-morrow he would summon a house meeting and try personal persuasion.

He was wise, however, in refusing to pin his faith to persuasion, for the meeting was frankly hostile. Ellis, veritably made of quicksilver, sat on the table, grinning and joking, while the remainder made sarcastic remarks or refused to answer at all. In fact, they took Curwood's gesture as a sign of weakness, and acted accordingly. His prestige was already at zero.

The following fortnight saw Curwood's position grow feebler and feebler, and then came the "Fortnightly." It was greeted, at the outset, in the usual languid manner, but then the serial was discovered. It was a good serial, so good in fact, that demand exceeded supply, and extra copies had to be printed.

The story was about a ship's crew wrecked on a desert island. From the very beginning it was evident that trouble was brewing, and that a section of the castaways were ripe for mutiny and were anxious to force their rule upon their quieter companions. Then it gradually dawned upon a few intellectuals that the whole story was a satire, and a subdued titter arose from the literary circle of Greyminster. The titter grew into a roar as the secret was exposed, and soon the whole school recognised the great, hefty man

of brawn and muscle, who thought that he should rule the island, but who, in reality, was only fit to cut wood and draw water, as Dorrell. The sarcastic villain was Fordyce, and the noisy, useless little fellow was the quicksilver Ellis. Although the portrayed people were scarcely less than gods, the school laughed, and the pedestals of the gods shook in the gale of laughter.

Dorrell stormed at Curwood, and received the hearty condemnation of his comrades in return for his pains, and they decided, at last, to allow the ridicule to die a natural death. The next instalment gave rise to still greater mirth, however, and the great men were glad enough to take advantage of a half-holiday and get out of the school. As they walked, they made up a plan of campaign, the burden of which was a resolve to put "paid" to Curwood's account by stopping the publication of the paper. "That," said Dorrell, "is the only thing to do. By Jove! Look here, you chaps; it's that little Bolshie from the old mill. He ought to be kicked out of England, and I'll tell him so. Hi, you!" "Stop that," said a voice behind, and Curwood laid his hand on Dorrell's shoulder. "You'd better apologise, Dorrell," he said, "or I'll report you." Dorrell glared at him savagely, hesitated, growled an apology, and turned away, leaving Curwood to receive the profuse thanks of the little foreigner. Curwood turned and walked back, in the gathering dusk, to the school, where he immediately got busy setting up the type for the "Fortnightly."

As he worked he failed to hear the door open noiselessly, and the first inkling of visitors was the sudden thrust of a sack over his head and shoulders. He heard the sound of tearing and splashing, and suddenly a shout from the window, followed by the sound of running feet. He wrenched off the sack, and was confronted by a scene of havoc; printer's ink had been poured over everything, his manuscript was torn, and the type hurled far and wide. Then his astonished gaze fell upon the "little Bolshie." Immediately the little man deluged him with a flood of words. He had heard the conspiracy, and had followed the conspirators while they put their plan into action. He had them now in the palm of his hand, the result of waiting until they were in the midst of their work before he acted. Curwood thanked him, but at the same time explained to him that the loss of his type meant that he could not publish his paper. The little foreigner, with a laugh, explained his idea, and the captain immediately saw in it the end of his feud with the rioters. Then, still talking volubly, the foreigner led Curwood into the night, to the old mill.

Next morning the conspirators received a

summons to appear in their captain's study, and, arrived there, they stood gaping at the two piles of the "Fortnightly" lying on the table.

"Good morning," said Curwood. "I would like you to observe these papers carefully. They are printed by a photographic process. One copy contains, as you see, an excellent flashlight photograph of a certain gang of holligans attacking a printer, whilst the other contains no photograph, no account of the attack, and no further instalment of a certain famous serial. The snapshot, I may say, was taken by a foreign friend of mine, who has the reputation of being one of the world's greatest photographers. Unless you agree to fall into line and apologise, the first issue will be distributed. If you do so, that issue will be destroyed and the matter forgotten. We shall make King's cock house again this year. I'm waiting for your answer." Silence followed, and then Dorrell ejaculated admiringly, "By Jove! You've got us, Curwood! We're done. Well, here goes." And as they shook hands all round, Curwood, with a grin, spoke his thoughts aloud. "The power of the press," he said.

H. G. (VI.).

MEDITATIONS ON INK.

Ink has been, is, and probably always will be, despised as something which one associates with untidiness. Yet what great things have been accomplished with this dirty fluid?

"Which rulers shedding, empires proud did sink,

And conquests, gained by blood, were lost by ink."

Yet why should one despise such a precious liquid? Ink is the unwilling slave of circumstance; the qualities of ink are what we make them. The damage is done during a person's school-days.

During a boy's first term at school, ink is his one delight and consolation during working hours. The more ink he is able to squander, with equal abandon, on himself, others, papers, books, floors, and sometimes walls, the better it pleases him. But as boys grow older, ink is a plaything no longer to them, but an object which they scoff and scorn; yet did these scoffers but know the history of the murky liquid they despise, "their jeers would cease, their scorn be turned to shame." If they but momentarily considered the hard, tedious task of the caretaker, so carefully manufacturing this precious fluid in those dim recesses below the school, they might set a higher value on their school ink.

If one probes into the jealously-guarded formula of the preparation of this school ink, for "light must be shed upon such dark mysterious business," many interesting secrets might be revealed.

Who knows but what this liquid is not manufactured from the ashes of all the waste-paper of the school, slaked with water? This might well be so, judging by the general colour, density, and precipitates of school-brewed ink. If that were so, then it is quite possible that the very drop which gleams so palely on a school-boy's pen may have had a previous existence, more varied than his own. Perchance that self-same drop found a way to some hard heart, gained high marks for maths., or recorded some apt remark or noble thought,—who knows?

• Perhaps if scholars thought a little more of the history of their school ink, the profusion of privately-owned ink-pots, that spring up in the midst of the senior forms when a new term begins, would diminish in number. As yet, however, the senior people of a school still prefer their own "blue-black" ink to this loathsome "home-made stuff," despite the perils to which their bottles are exposed from masters' gowns and the elbows of unruly neighbours.

However, perhaps, in due course, the scoffing tongues will become silent, the contemptuous smiles will vanish, and the long-enduring school ink will be suffered to remain "though pale, yet peaceful, in its dusky pot."

A. G. F. (vi.).

VEGETABLE DEFENCES.

All plants are constantly menaced by enemies, who attack them from every side. Plants accessible to grazing animals, and those wild ones which live on green food, are threatened every minute with extinction, or, at least, mutilation. Thus there is plainly need for the plants to have some sort of protection, and, although they cannot take up, to any great extent, the offensive, the weapons with which they provide themselves are very formidable, and although in most cases very necessary, often pain animals to an unnecessary extent.

One of the commonest modes of armamentation is the adoption of spines or prickles to protect the more tender parts of the plant. The commonest examples of this are the Holly and the Furze. As is well known, the holly leaf is covered with sharp prickles, making it very difficult to handle. When, however, the bush grows into a tree, the higher branches have no need of protection, and the leaves shed their spikes and assume a smooth surface. In the case of the

furze, the whole leaf has been changed to a spike, the bush has become a mere network of branches protected by long thorns, which also serve to protect the tender young shoots. An example of the protection of the seed by means of thorns is found in the Sweet Chestnut.

The species of plants which are, of course, most famous for their protection, are the Cacti. Living, as they do, in rainless deserts, they are particularly liable to attack by thirsty animals, which try to obtain the moisture contained in the juicy interior of the thick stems. The simplest mode of defence are long spikes on which the animal merely pricks itself. Some of the plants, however, have devices which are unnecessarily cruel. Some cacti have small spines on the end of which there are small barbs, almost invisible to the naked eye. The result is that when an animal pokes its nose into the plant, the small barbs are carried away with it and serious wounds are caused before the animal rids itself of the spikes. An even more cruel device is that adopted by the "Wait-a-bit" cactus. In this case the plant arms itself with plain spikes, and others with curved, pointed ends like fish-hooks. When the unfortunate animal interferes with this plant, it pricks its nose on the spikes and tries to draw its head back. It finds, however, that it cannot do this owing to the hooks, which have fastened on to it. It is thus left in a terrible predicament, for if it pushes forward to get off the hooks it hurts itself on the spikes, and if it tries to get off these, it tears itself still more on the hooks.

Another of Nature's popular means of protection is acid, which can be ejected into the system of the victim. The common Stinging Nettle is a minor example of this. Seen under the microscope, the leaf of the common nettle is fringed with small hairs, at the end of which is a bulb containing the poison. These hairs penetrate the skin, and the bulb is broken, the poison flowing out into the blood stream. In India there is a relation of the common nettle, the sting of which will cause an illness lasting over a week, the victim being in dreadful agony the whole time.

P. T. (vi.)

HORATIAN ODE ON THE RETURN OF THE SCHOLAR FROM THE TIN ROOM.

The youth, who forward would appear,
Must now forsake his playtime dear;

He must be finishing
Prep. from last evening.

'Tis time to ope those prep. books cust,
And wield the pen, with hopeful trust,
That p'raps HE, after all,
May take such dreadful scrawl.

Snatches and scrapes his frightful pen
To keep him from two hours' deten.,
Which now looms dark and drear
On the horizon near.

Deten. ! It is enough to fright
And terrify this lazy mite,
And keep him working on
Till both the bells are gone.

Into the class-room now he goes,
The prep. unto his master shows;
O brethren, rather swot,
Than share his shameful lot!

H. T. S. (V.B.)

MY STILTS.

I suddenly had a craze for stilts. I have no idea what made me think I wanted them, but I was determined to make them. Father, at the time, had some seven-foot poles that he was going to use for supporting the rose trees, but two of these did not go into the ground, although a good deal of persuasion was needed.

Now that I had my poles, I had to provide foot-rests for them. These I made from an inch-thick plank that was also father's, bracket-shaped so that they would be light and less likely to break. The blocks I screwed to the two poles by means of some four-inch screws. I then rounded off the handles of the stilts, and they were complete.

To see whether the stilts were safe, father jumped on them and "saluted the guard"; this he did by hopping on one stilt and putting the other over his shoulder. I then attempted to walk, starting against a wall. After practising for some time I was very pleased to be able to walk about sixty yards, only falling three times. The evening after this it rained very heavily, and I was delighted, in the morning, to see a tremendous pond in the playground. Immediately I got out my stilts and started to walk about in the water, much to the amusement of several small boys; but I was not quite sure-footed enough, and I tripped, falling face foremost into the deepest part, much more to the amusement of the small boys. After this escapade I had the greatest difficulty in preventing my stilts from being chopped up and burnt.

B. C. B. (REM.)

A SCENE IN THE COUNTRY.

After walking down a narrow path, we came to a little lock gate. On both sides of the path was a forest, and in this clearing was a fairly small pond. The sun reflected on the surface made the water sparkle. On the pond was a swan and four cygnets. The swan was pure white, and its eyes shone in the sunlight.

An old stone bridge led over the narrowest part of the lake. The surface was occasionally broken by the head of a fish. As we walked across the bridge there was three or four screams, and some swans flew out of the reeds nearby and soared upwards for a minute, and then dashed down to their nests to see no harm had come to their brothers and sisters.

On the other side was an old mill, which looked as though it was infested by rats and mice. The water which was running out of the lock-gate, for it leaked very badly, was pushing half an old water-wheel round on its axis. It creaked and groaned, for it was rusty and looked to be near breaking point. A rickety old railway line, on which was the ruins of a railway truck, ran from the mill's gates into the woods, and stopped at a pit in which was about ten feet of water. It was all muddy and had a thick green scum on the top, on which a frog was doing a jig. When it saw us it gave a croak and vanished.

When on our return journey we saw a green head poke over the pit, we thought it was the frog waiting for us to disappear over the hill top.

THE P.D.A.

It is with pleasure that the P.D.A. have decided to avail themselves of the invitation of the Editor of "The Lion" to make known the chief aims and objects of the Association. The task of selecting the most interesting and instructive information, which has fallen to me in my capacity as Literary Adviser, is made extremely difficult by the abundance of material and the shortness of space which we can reasonably expect in this Magazine. It must be clearly understood, therefore, that this essay covers but a small proportion of the activities of the P.D.A., but the Member at this School will be pleased to answer all reasonable questions.

In the first place, the P.D.A. is not a joke, and those who welcomed this article as a humorous contribution will be disappointed. The Association was formed at this School in 1928, and has since spread its activities over a considerable district. The name is of minor importance, since

it has little to do with our aims, and is retained solely on account of its historical and sentimental value.

The P.D.A. is founded on the well known axiom, "Unity Is Strength": it provides a common ground on which to debate matters of general interest; it provides friendship for those who are lonely: and, above all, it offers sympathy, help and advice to those in need. This latter purpose can only be effected if each Member will do his best to cultivate a really extensive knowledge of any useful branch of Art, Science, Learning or Philosophy which appeals to him. The four founders have, in forming a Council to control the interests of the Association, undertaken, with the help of other pioneer Members, the difficult task of supplying advice on general questions of any nature. Reference will be made to the various libraries to which Members have access, and, if necessary, to the recognised experts on various subjects. Members will be consulted with regard to any questions dealing with the subjects in which they are interested.

Membership is open to all, on the condition that all Members must be physically, mentally and morally fit, and are reasonably conversant with at least one such subject as Art, in its various forms, astronomy, chemistry, machinery, electricity, or any other branch of Science, Athletics or other physical pursuits. Application must be made in accordance with the regulations set out in the recently drawn up code of rules. This code consists at present of twenty-one articles, which may soon be increased by the addition of several minor regulations. Prospective Members are invited to read these articles, which give a clear outline of our aims and ideals. All communications should be made in writing, and we are asking the Editor to forward them to the Council.

The re-organisation of the P.D.A., which is nearing completion, promises to be a success. It has necessitated, however, the temporary disbandment of the Association, but it is probable that activities will be resumed by the New Year, with, we hope, increased membership.

The P.D.A., therefore, aims at cleanliness in deed, word and thought, and above all, friendship and mutual help. We extend a cordial invitation to all those who are qualified and interested.

THE OLD PRICEAN.

NOTE.

THE OLD PRICEANS' ASSOCIATION is a body formed to enable all Old Boys to keep in touch with the School and with each other.

All boys are urged to join immediately on leaving School, in order to preserve unbroken their association with the School.

Members receive "The Lion" on publication, and are entitled to play in Past v. Present matches, and to take part in the various functions organised by the Association.

The annual subscription is 3s. 6d., overseas members 2s. 6d., or the present benefits are secured for life by a subscription of two guineas.

Old Pricean Ties are authorised, and are obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, or from Messrs. Dunn, West Street, Fareham; price 3s. 6d. each.

The Hon. Secretary is G. Chignell, 21, Lochbie, Crouch Hill, London, N.4, who will be very pleased to hear from all prospective members.

Old Boys living in London area are invited to join the London Section. Details from the Hon. Secretary, D. R. Masterman, 87a, Talgarth Road, Barons Court, S.W. 14.

SECRETARIAL NOTES.

It is to be hoped that by the time these notes are in print, some signs of the industrial revival, which should be consequent on the remarkable vote of confidence given by the nation to the National Government, may have begun to appear, though it is to be feared that a difficult winter lies ahead of everybody. From all sides one hears the same tale of depressed industry and general shortage of assets through reductions and/or increased taxation, and our members have by no means escaped scot-free; but the basic confidence in our ability to pull through is unimpaired, and there can be no doubt that brighter times are in store. In the meantime, we all grin and bear all our troubles, and can do no more than wish all our readers a care-free and jolly Christmas, and renewed prosperity next year.

* * * *

A curious paradox, perhaps not altogether to be dissociated from the industrial situation, has arisen with regard to Past v. Present matches. The more the Association grows (and the members now number one hundred and seventy-four) the more difficult it appears to be to put teams into the field against the School. For some time now we have not been able to field a full 2nd XI., while our first has just suffered its second successive defeat, failing badly, as recorded elsewhere, before a not over-strong School XI. As it may be that the system in vogue is partly to blame, a sub-committee of five members has been appointed to select the teams in advance, it being felt that a definite invitation

to selected individuals may produce a more encouraging result than leaving it to the aforesaid individuals to notify us of their desire to play. It should be made clear that these invitations are for the present only sent for the 1st XI.; other teams, as before, will be made up from those who notify the Match Secretary that they would like to turn out, as the very last thing in our minds is to discourage anyone who is able and willing to help us.

* * * *

The apparent inability of some members to notify us of any change of address was well illustrated the other day by two letters, which arrived by the same post; one, a Magazine returned from the Dead Letter Office, with a note that the recipient was not known at the address given; and the other, a somewhat querulous letter from that same member, written from another address, grumbling that he thought his subscription included the School Magazine.

Let us hope that the moral of this story may not be lost on other offenders.

* * * *

On November 11th this year, a wreath was placed on the School War Memorial on behalf of this Association. This inaugurated a custom which we hope to perpetuate in memory of those whose names are thereon engraved.

* * * *

The continued success of the London Society of Old Priceans, now in its sixth year, leads one to ask why other Local Sections have not so far succeeded in finding a foothold? London people, while never attempting anything very elaborate (in these hard times expenses must obviously be kept down) have yet succeeded in meeting regularly, monthly each winter since the Section was formed, and these meetings have been the means of keeping together a very fraternal and cheerful band whom fate has decreed should live in the Metropolis. Our lists of members show that from the numerical point of view Local Sections could profitably be formed in Fareham, Southampton, Portsmouth, and possibly somewhere in the Meon Valley, and we think that the time and trouble of any enterprising person who could make a start in these areas would be amply repaid by the pleasurable opportunities he would afford to others of meeting at regular intervals to talk over old times.

* * * *

Although perhaps it is rather discouraging to those who visit the School on Past v. Present days to be immediately dunned for subscriptions, it is a regrettable fact that nearly £40 is owing to the Association in due and overdue subscriptions, and if a large proportion of that sum could

only be gathered in, our financial position would be far more creditable to us. It is unfortunately always the case that those who are really keen pay for those who are not keen, which in this imperfect world is unavoidable; we would, however, appeal to members not to let their subscriptions slip and accumulate, and to remember that he gives twice who gives quickly. So far this year we have only received 58 current subscriptions, of which 10 are from new members, and this proportion is much too low to be healthy.

* * * *

Past v. Present matches will be held on March 5th next year, and we hope that members will already make a note of the date and make every effort to put in an appearance at School. It is hoped that at the function after the matches we shall be able to put up a really good entertainment, and F. C. Polwin, 7 Knowsley Road, Cosham, Hants., is therefore appealing for any O.P.'s who are willing to help or offer suggestions to correspond with him as soon as possible.

G. CHIGNELL.

NEW MEMBERS.

- H. Aps.—The Lodge, Newbolt Avenue, Cheam, Surrey.
 V. J. Barnes.—8 Sydney Avenue, Hamble, Hants.
 F. O. Dyer.—Butlock's Heath, Netley Abbey, Hants.
 J. O. Hall.—West Street, Fareham, Hants.
 W. L. Jones.—Police Station, Fareham, Hants.
 E. Mullins.—c/o Mr. Barrett, Spring Creek Farm, Parkhill, Ontario, Canada.
 W. Murray.—18 Kensington Road, Gosport, Hants.
 R. W. Pickwood.—28 Nevern Square, London, S.W. 5.
 J. T. Redpath.—38 Highlands Road, Fareham, Hants.
 L. H. Stevenson.—13 Ambleside Gardens, Ilford, Essex.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

- G. A. Booker.—c/o Mrs. Batt, Spicer's Hill, Totton, Southampton.
 E. A. Graham.—c/o The Cottage, 4 Wimbourne Road, Bournemouth.
 J. C. Hurden.—23 Charnwood Street, Derby.
 J. M. Lee.—1st Btn. The Hampshire Regiment, Nowshera.
 C. A. Walsh.—4 Mayflower Road, Clapham Road, S.W.
 H. de M. Wellborne.—c/o Percy Jenkins, Esq., 339 Princes Avenue, Ealing.

L.S.O.P. NOTES.

The London Section continues gaily on its way; the faithful dozen really live members attend our meetings fairly regularly and pay their subs., thus supplying funds to defray postage on circulars to the other twenty-five members on our books, from whom we never hear, yet whose names we have not the moral courage to strike off. Shame on you "other twenty-five" to impose on our weakness thus! Why not resolve to attend at least one meeting in the year?

The Christmas Dinner is on December 15, but that date will have passed before "The Lion" is circulated, I fear.

We return thanks to our President and Mrs. Chignell for so kindly inviting us to hold the first meeting of the session at their flat; and we regret its not being better attended. I think we just about made a bridge four, but one of the members was so rude about bridge and card games in general that the bridge did not materialise. It is a pity all associations must seem to have at least one such undesirable black sheep among them, but in our case he has to be tolerated, else who would send out all the notices and attend to the correspondence?

On November 5th, Mrs. Harvey again allowed us to meet at 29 Park Road, Wembley, and play havoc with her garden by letting off fireworks in all directions, including one up the sleeve of J. dy M. r. . . t's coat, which fortunately did not have such dire consequences it might have had. The very best thanks of the London Section are due to Alan and Mrs. Harvey for so kindly tolerating and entertaining us, and for inviting such charming representatives of the fairer sex to witness our foolishness.

If the Magazine gets into print in time, the London Section would like to wish the "School" in its broadest sense a very happy Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

DUDLEY R. MASTERMAN,
Hon. Secretary.

NOVEMBER 14th, 1931.

Past v. Present. Lost 3—6.

Our energetic Secretary, being very immersed in business with THE BOOK, told me off to make a report of the match, but, owing to the frivolity and excitement caused by his chasing the tame comedian for a Life Sub., I am afraid that I did not pay as much attention to the game as was desirable. However, here goes!

After a punctual start, the School scored first blood, and two or three minutes later the Old Boys, by this time becoming warmed up, equalised, after good passing up the field. There-

after the game was more or less even until half-time, although thereafter the School were superior and kept the O.P.'s on the run. At least one good chance was missed before an open goal, but a lead of three goals were piled up before a change of positions were seen to be beneficial to the O.P.'s play; the end of the game saw the School being well held. Considering that the team this year was a more or less scratch affair (not nearly enough members informing Sinnott of their readiness to perform), the Old Boys put up quite a creditable show.

O.P. team: E. Ross; J. T. Redpath, R. C. H. Connolly; C. Ross, J. B. Sinnott, E. Smith; J. O. Hall, W. Jones, J. H. Chapman, J. Smith, H. McNeil.

At tea-time it became clear that our active members are increasing, for we are filling the dining hall, and every year sees an additional table laid. When all the multitude had been fed, Mrs. Bradly opened the usual sing-song with "Forty Years On," followed by a number of the old favourites from "Gaudeamus," in which everyone joined. In addition, our thanks are due to those who helped us out with individual items, including Mrs. Bradly and Mr. Johnston for "Drink to me only"; E. Ross for his excellent rendering of "Widdicombe Fair"; and to Stevenson for his pianoforte accompaniments. The proceedings came to an end with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King," after which cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Bradly and the Old Boys were called for and heartily given.

Those present during the day, in addition to the team, included: H. Aps, V. J. Barnes, A. E. Blanch, D. K. Blount, G. Chignall, F. R. Clark, F. O. Dyer, H. Dean Cooper, E. Hinxman, W. E. Hoather, D. C. Humphries, H. L. Marriott, H. E. Mercer, A. Moss, H. Mundy, R. W. Pickwood, F. C. Polwin, F. S. Smith, L. M. Stevenson, P. K. Truckle, H. J. Whitman.

F. C. S. P.

"BEHIND THE SCENES."

VI.—Starting Life as a P.C.

(W. H. DROVER, P.C. D272.)

A recruit's training at the Birmingham City Police School, Digbeth, acknowledged to be the standard Police School in England, occupies all his time. He starts every week-day at 8.30 a.m., and on three days a week (excluding Saturday—half day) he finishes at 4.30 p.m., and on those days he goes on street patrol with a uniformed constable from 6 p.m. till 10 p.m. The remaining three days he finishes at 5.30 p.m. Every evening he is given law definitions to learn, upon which questions are asked next day — at week-

ends he gets three times as many to learn. Every day for the last hour before the dinner time he has drill under the instruction of a Swedish professor, who, I suppose, is the least liked man in the school. One can be sure of being thoroughly tired after finishing, but it makes one wonderfully fit. During the first half-hour of the last week at school the recruit is kept running around a room slightly larger than the tin hut. Everything in this class is done to time; anyone caught slacking deliberately goes straight to the Inspector in charge and a report goes to the Superintendent of the man's division or his Chief Constable (twenty or thirty other Police Forces send their recruits to this school).

School work is varied by lectures from various experts, such as the Chief Inspector of the C.I.D., Finger Print experts, and the Prosecuting Solicitor. Squad drill and swimming also form part of the training. A recruit has to pass out in the following subjects before leaving school:—Police Duties, Arithmetic, English, Boxing, P.T., Squad Drill, Fire Drill, Swimming, and First Aid.

All single men in the Force "live in" at the various stations, and are governed here by Station House Rules. The object of this is to have men always on reserve. In these days of so many Labour meetings it is common to be informed the day before that "all single men are confined to quarters."

A man's first year in the Police Force is very binding. Upon leaving the Police School, after three months' training, he has to go to Night school for a further three months, for three days each week, and he has to pass out in Arithmetic, English, Geography, and Civics. After about ten months' service he has to pass his Final, consisting of Arithmetic, General Knowledge, and Police Duties (the exam. lasts for four hours).

In the school I went up with, we started off with 32, and we have 24 left. Two resigned the first month, one had to resign for failing to finish a manuscript book within a certain time, two more had to resign for failing night school, two were dismissed for loitering on night duty, and one was killed when his motor cycle collided with a pedal cycle (this man shared a room with me).

When a man comes on the streets in uniform for the first time he does anything from six weeks to three months on night duty, which gives him a chance to get used to the uniform and certainly gives him a little confidence.

Now that the driest part is over things become more interesting. To be left to your own resources in the middle of the night is different to having a few instructors behind you. On my fourth night out I found a fire in a timber yard at 3.30 a.m. It was burning strongly and re-

quired three turbines to get the fire under, and the firemen played on it till 6 a.m. Upon running to the nearest fire alarm after finding the fire I was surprised to find myself doing just what the instructor used to tell us, "Break the glass with your staff, take out the key, unlock the door, turn the handle of the 'phone, lift the receiver, and upon hearing the fireman speak, give him your information, "Fire, timber yard, Messrs. _____, _____ Road, going well." Firebells at this hour in the morning gives one a slight sensation, to say the least.

One can certainly say that a Policeman's life is interesting, but I am not agitating for more recruits, especially under the new conditions.

CRETE.

People think that aviation is a modern achievement, but they forget that flying was first attempted in Crete, thousands of years ago. King Minos had a pet bull, the Minotaur, for which he commissioned D'Aedalus and his son Icarus to build a maze, the "Labyrinth." This D'Aedalus did so well that he could not find his own way out, so he made a pair of wings and stuck them on his son's back with wax. Icarus flew out of the maze all right, but he found flying so pleasant, that he foolishly rose higher and higher, till the heat of the sun melted the wax, the wings came unstuck, and he fell into the sea and was drowned.

Meanwhile, the Minotaur lived in the maze, and year by year seven Athenian Youths and Maidens were given to him for dinner, until Theseus came along. With him, Ariadne, the King's daughter fell in love, so she gave him a ball of twine to fasten to the entrance of the maze, and a sword to kill the monster. This he did after a severe struggle, and found his way out by following the twine. Theseus sailed away with Ariadne, but left her behind at Laxos when she was asleep ashore, and went and married another girl. But that is another story!

We smile at these old Greek stories, but the strange thing is that most of the above is now known to be founded on fact. About thirty years ago, an Englishman, named Evans, now Sir Arthur Evans, started digging up a mould at Gnosso, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Candia and about 80 miles from Khania. There he found, covered by the accumulated soil of centuries, the ruins of King Minos' Palace; a vast building, with winding corridors and subterranean passages, which might well have given rise to the old story of the Labyrinth. There are wall paintings of religious bull sports, in which girls as well as boys took part, and actual figures of a monster with a

bull's head and man's body have also been found on seals discovered here and elsewhere in Crete.

R. HILL.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, "THE LION."

Dear Sir,—As a regular visitor to the good old School on each Old Boys' Day, to which I always keenly look forward, it certainly seems a great pity that we cannot muster larger gatherings.

School days for most individuals form one of the happiest times of life, and it seems hard to believe that so few take a real and lasting interest in their School, or delight occasionally in re-visiting old associations and renewing old friendships.

There are, I know, many who would like to come, but cannot; but there are also many who can come but will not bother, and if these people would only set aside three half days in the year, about which they will receive ample warning, I can assure them that they will be welcomed whole-heartedly and will thoroughly enjoy themselves.

I would remind them that the subscription is only 3s. 6d. per annum, which is not much to ask, even in these hard times.

I will conclude by expressing the hope that the efforts of the Executive will be rewarded by a bumper gathering at the next meeting.

Yours faithfully,

H. E. DEAN COOPER.

OLD BOYS' NEWS.

A number of interesting letters have been received this term by us from members of the Association, by far the greater part of these coming from members overseas. We acknowledge these with thanks, and hope they will be an example for those who live nearer home.

* * * *

E. SMITH has been home for six months' unpaid leave, and took his Mate's Examination in London in September last.

H. SWAFFIELD has been home for two months' leave this summer, and sailed again for Jamaica on September 22nd.

R. HILL, now on H.M.S. "Resource," attached to the Mediterranean Fleet, has sent most interesting letters describing his services abroad. He says:—

"I was very disappointed on not being able to attend the Old Boys' Reunion; on that day my services were required on board at Portsmouth, and it was impossible to get away, so

I had regretfully to miss the opportunity of meeting many Old Boys.

"The address at the top of this letter may help to explain my delay in writing to you; I was suddenly granted two days' foreign service leave, and eventually left England on July 22nd to join this ship. The 'Resource' is the latest and most efficient Repair Ship we have, and she is attached to the Mediterranean Fleet; we have some most wonderful machinery in this ship, and can easily and efficiently carry out repairs and replacements of worn machinery for any ships on this Station.

"We are at present at Athens, this being the first place we have visited since leaving Malta for our cruise, and we have taken advantage of our stay here to visit the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and have seen Mars Hill.

"In direct contrast to the weather you have been having in England, the summer conditions in Malta have been almost unbearable; at one period the temperatures were 145 degrees in the sun and 104 degrees in the shade, the sea temperature being 82 degrees. You can easily imagine that to remain in the sun for any length of time under these conditions was highly dangerous, and a good breeze would have been a blessing!"

And in a further letter:—

"At present I do not know when I shall be returning to England; the usual time we stay out here is 2½ years, but there is a possibility of the ship returning to Portsmouth at the latter end of next year, and whilst the hope is father to the thought, I sincerely hope we shall see England again in 1932.

"Since I last wrote to you we have cruised round the Greek Islands, and have been to Thasos, Mudros, Grandes Bay, Milo, and at present we are at Suda Bay, which is on the island of Crete. At these places there are only a few houses and innumerable rocks and mountains. Milo was interesting by reason of Venus de Milo having been found there."

L. F. HEWETSON sent a long letter to D. R. Masterman from Rio de Janeiro during the summer. He seems to be very fit, and is looking forward to seeing England and the School again in 1935.

J. M. LEE, whose time as Adjutant in the 1st Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment expired on 11th November, is now at Nowshera, and will be having a first shot at the Staff College examination in February. He is then due to sail for England for long leave in March, reaching home the 10th April, when he will doubtless be available for the Past v. Present cricket match, and we hope will prove a thorn in the side of the School.

- R. W. CARR-HILL has been sent by his firm to Bilbao for a year.
- G. A. BOOKER is now in "digs" at Totton, where he is Assistant Chemist to the South-Western Tar Distilleries, and is studying new Benzol and acid plants.
- S. S. SMITH, having served for the required time as Chief Officer on a Coastal Steamer in Portugal, East Africa, came home for a month's leave, and sailed again for Africa on October 14th. He is due back in London before Christmas.
- H. APS has become apprenticed to a baker and confectioner in Croydon, where he is learning that trade.
- V. G. BARNES and R. L. LEWRY are at University College, Southampton, taking the Arts Course prior to their Education Diploma.
- P. K. TRUCKLE, who is a junior in the County Council service at the County Lands office, Winchester, passed the Intermediate examination of the Chartered Surveyors last March, and is studying for the Final.
- E. MULLINS is now in Canada, and quite ready for letters: c/o Mrs. Barrett, Spring Creek Farm, Parkhill, Ontario.
- J. E. FRANKLIN has passed in Pure Mathematics as his subsidiary subject to Chemistry in the final B.Sc. examination of London University, and having some spare time during the summer vac. took on a temporary supply post at a school at West Wellow, having three forms to look after at once—a fairly large order for a first attempt at school work.
- A. J. BARK has passed the Intermediate B.Sc. examination of London University.
- E. G. WHITE was "stood down" owing to slack times by the B.T.C. Co. at Rugby, and very soon got a post with Metropolitan Vickers. However, after a fortnight there the B.T.H. offered him a good post in charge of the electrical part of the "Talkies" in the North of England equipped by the firm, which entails a district reaching from Newcastle to Darlington.
- F. E. NUGENT, after a spell of temporary and very strenuous work with the Royal Blue Motor Coaches at Bournemouth, has a post as Engineer in charge at the Boscombe Hospital, a much more satisfactory billet from every point of view.
- C. HEIFNAN has obtained a post at Harrods Stores, but the promised details have not come to hand.
- D. IVEY was married at Alton Parish Church on November 8th.
- A. G. COLE, who left us to join Portsmouth Secondary School when his family moved to Portsmouth, became a Prefect, and passed the School Certificate exam., and has now a post with the Pearl Assurance Company.
- B. R. SCOTT has been promoted to the rank of Captain in the Indian Army. He is expecting leave in March.
- P. GREGORY is now working through an apprenticeship to a boat building firm in Bursledon.
- L. C. FIELDER has obtained a post at the Cold East Colony, which is near his home, in the large grounds formerly belonging to Mr. Montifore.
- H. M. LEWIS has obtained a clerkship in the House of Lords, Legal Department, and is now living at Wimbledon.
- H. McNEIL is at University College, Southampton, and intends to specialise in P.T., with the idea of becoming a specially qualified Instructor.
- V. COLLINS, who left some time ago, has been indulging in the rather risky proceeding of dirt track racing in the Southampton team. In the course of it he broke a leg and four or five ribs, but seems to find it worth the candle, as the precuniary results are substantial, especially if in a winning team.

Members' Names and Addresses.

MARCH, 1932.

(L indicates Life Member.)

- N. J. Adams Ellesmere, Canley Lane, Coventry.
H. W. Andrews (L) ... c/o C. W. Chitty, Esq., 59 Castle Avenue, Dover.
H. Aps The Lodge, Newbolt Avenue, Cheam, Surrey.
L. Archell Chase Road, Swanmore, Hants. (forward).
H. Atkins Barclay's Bank, Fareham, Hants.
R. G. Baker 24 Hartlands Road, Fareham, Hants.
W. C. Baker 27 Keston Road, London, S.E. 15.
A. J. Bark 20 Colenso Road, Fareham, Hants.
V. J. Barnes 8 Sydney Avenue, Hamble, Hants.
D. J. Bennett School House, Fontley, Fareham, Hants.
H. J. Biddle 20 The Broadway, Bexley Heath, Kent.
L. F. Biden 139 Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, E.C. 4.
A. E. Blanch (L) 7 Redcombe Terrace, Tipnor Road, Portsmouth.
D. K. Blount Station House, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.
H. B. Bone (L) 25 King's Road, Fareham, Hants.
G. A. Booker c/o Mrs. Batt, Spicer's Hill, Totton, Southampton.
L. M. Boxwell Beaconsfield Road, Tring, Herts. (forward).
J. Bridger Red House, Strowd, Petersfield, Hants.
J. Browning 26 Roland Gardens, S.W. 7.
R. F. Buckley 35 Southampton Road, Fareham, Hants. (forward).
R. W. Buckley 35 Southampton Road, Foreham, Hants.
H. R. Bucknall Lodge Hill House, Rochester, Kent.
E. W. Bucknall Lodge Hill House, Rochester, Kent.
W. G. Budden Police Station, Bournemouth.
F. J. Butland 30 Nightingale Road, Portsmouth.
F. Butters 2nd Infantry Brigade Headquarters, Aldershot.
E. A. Carr Hill (L) ... c/o Mrs. Elliott, 56 White Street, Partick, Glasgow.
R. W. Carr Hill 48 Longton Grove, Sydenham, S.E. 26.
L. Chamberlain 2 Wickham Road, Fareham, Hants.
W. E. Chamberlain 103 Ruskin Avenue, Manor Park, E. 12.
J. H. Chapman Barclay's Bank, Fareham, Hants.
G. Chignell 21 Lochbie, Crouch Hill, N. 4.
E. W. Christmas 14 Glebe Courts, Highfield, Southampton. (forward).
F. J. Christmas 14 Glebe Court, Highfield, Southampton.
F. R. Clark (L) Hurstbourne Priors, Whitechurch, Hants.
R. T. Clark Barclay's Bank, Osborn Road, Southsea.
M. R. Coghlan (L) Manamati Estate, Kanjorapatti, Travancore, S. India.
A. G. Coles Aldersnapp Farm, Steep, Petersfield.
F. H. Collihole Titchfield, Hants.
W. E. Collihole Titchfield, Hants. (forward).
R. C. H. Connolly 39 Stoneham Lane, Southampton.
E. W. Connor (L) Valhalla, Priory Road, St. Denys, Southampton.
A. J. B. Cooper 10 Thornton Road, East Sheen, S.W. 14.
V. G. Cox Alwardstock, Gosport, Hants.
W. E. Crocker 52 Knowsley Road, Cosham, Hants.
W. G. Cummins South Western Tar Distilleries, Cattedown, Plymouth.
C. H. Cussell 110 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.
S. G. F. Davenport 12 Alswitha Terrace, King Alfred Place, Winchester.
H. E. Dean Cooper (L) 51 Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke.
D. P. Dodridge c/o Imperial and International Communication Ltd.,
Electra House, E.C. (forward).
W. H. Drover, Junr. ... Police Office, Washwood Heath Road, Birmingham.
H. B. Duffett High Street, Fareham Hants.

- C. H. A. Dunn ... West Street, Fareham, Hants.
 F. O. Dyer ... Butlock's Heath, Netley Abbey, Hants.
 L. G. Easton ... 5 Westmount Road, Eltham, S.E. 9 (forward).
 H. B. Edwards ... Elmsleigh, Church Road, Warsash, Hants.
 G. Ellam ... 6 Rue Jean Binet, Colombes, Seine, Paris.
 H. E. Evans ... P.O. Box 231, Cape Town, S. Africa.
 N. Eyles ... 35 Paxton Road, Fareham, Hants.
 W. C. A. Eyles (L) ... Brookside, Castle Street, Carisbrooke, I.o.W.
 R. L. Fielder ... "Lucerne," Abshot Road, Titchfield Common, Hants.
 E. W. Flint ... 50 Garrick Close, Walton-on-Thames.
 R. Forsyth ... Lock's Road, Park Gate, Southampton.
 J. E. Franklin ... "Wellesley," Titchfield Common, Fareham, Hants.
 N. Frost ... Barnards Castle School, Co. Durham.
 T. Frost (L) ... 14 Drummond Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.
 R. Fry ... Mingaledon Radio, Rangoon, Burma.
 M. W. Gardner ... 11 Japan Crescent, Crouch Hill, N. 4.
 E. G. Giddins ... Steep Elementary School, Hants.
 L. S. Goodall ... Cemetery Lodge, Fareham, Hants.
 E. A. Graham ... The Cottage, 4 Wimborne Road, Bournemouth.
 W. Greenham (L) ... Bedenham, Fareham, Hants.
 D. E. Gregory ... H.M.S. "Sussex," c/o G.P.O.
 C. H. Gribble ... 22 Church Street, Basingstoke.
 E. A. Grove ... 11 Belsize Avenue, Hampstead, N.W. 3.
 J. O. Hall ... West Street, Fareham, Hants.
 C. J. Halscy ... 5 Bushey Park Road, Teddington, Middlesex.
 A. J. Harvey ... 29 Park Road, Wembley, Middlesex.
 A. D. Hayward ... 58 Richmond Road, Ilford, Essex.
 J. C. Heath ... 142 High Street South, East Ham, E. 6.
 G. W. Heather ... H.M.T.S. "Neuralia," c/o Escombe McGrath and Co.,
 18 Canute Road, Southampton (forward).
 W. J. Henry ... 48 Warrington Crescent, W. 9.
 L. F. Hewetson ... Bank of London & South America, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
 R. L. Higgins ... Droxford, Hants. (forward).
 G. R. Hill ... 250 Locksway Road, Milton, Portsmouth (forward).
 E. Hinxman ... West Street, Fareham, Hants.
 J. Hoad ... "Malvern," Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham, Hants.
 W. E. S. Hoather ... 1 Eltham Road, Lee Green, S.E. 12 (forward).
 S. G. Horner ... "North Dene," Swanmore, Hants.
 D. C. T. Humphries ... 132, Tulse Hill, S.W. 2.
 G. M. L. Hunt ... 31 Colville Gardens, W. 11.
 H. C. Hunt ... East Street, Fareham, Hants.
 J. C. Hurden ... "Ravensholme," 23 Charnwood Street, Derby.
 A. W. Ivens ... 46 Avonmore Road, W. 14.
 W. L. Jones ... Police Station, Fareham, Hants.
 E. M. Kenway ... 2 Staff Quarters, Power Station, Canadahar, Tidworth,
 Hants.
 H. Lardeaux ... 56 Alexandra Road, N.W.
 F. J. K. Laurie ... BM/FBFT., W.C.I.
 J. M. Lee ... Capt., 1st Hants. Regiment, Nowshera, India.
 R. A. Lewry ... High Street, Botley, Hants.
 E. Llewellyn (L) ... South Western Tar Distilleries, Cattedown, Plymouth.
 E. J. Lovridge ... Greenlea, 147 Brockhurst Road, Gosport, Hants.
 H. L. Marriott ... 87a Talgarth Road, Baron's Court, W. 14.
 D. R. Masterman ... 87a Talgarth Road, Baron's Court, W. 14.
 L. Mathews (L) ... Briarwood, Fareham, Hants.
 C. S. McMullen ... "Gorge Dell," Brighton Road, Newhaven, Sussex (forward)
 H. N. McNeil ... Swanmore, Hants.
 W. C. McNeil ... Swanmore, Hants.
 A. V. Mercer (L) ... 12 Thorp Street, Peel Green, Patricroft, Manchester.
 H. E. Mercer (L) ... Summersleigh, Penrhyn Avenue, Cosham, Hants.

P. K. Truckle St. Swithin's Grove Road, Fareham, Hants.
 W. F. Tunks 49 Woodstock Road, Gosport, Hants.
 R. Turner 21 Shaftesbury Road, Gosport, Hants.
 F. G. Wagstaffe Hartlands Road, Fareham, Hants.
 C. A. Walsh 4 Mayflower Road, Clapham Road, S.W.
 W. Watson Jervis Court Farm, Swanmore, Hants.
 H. de M. Wellborne c/o Western Telegraph Co., Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
 J. Wheatley Hillside, Station Road, Netley, Hants.
 E. Wheeler 62 High Street, Southampton.
 E. G. White Retreat House Newbold Road, Rugby.
 H. J. Whiteman Free Street, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.
 G. T. Willcocks (L) Well Place, Penshurst, Kent.
 G. W. Winsor Clovelly, King's Road, Fareham, Hants.
 N. Wareham 2 Osborn Road, Fareham, Hants.