Devonport High School Magazine

No. 68 December, 1936.

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DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1936-37.

(Standing) N. GODWOOD, W. SEMMENS, R. CORY, A. EDWARDS, R. NEWCOMBE, G. BARRET, R. OSBORNE, S. ASH.
(Sitting) L. TOVELL, J. KIRK, R. HODGES. L. HOLMES, S. HURDEN, G. BRYANT, R. MILLER.

The Devonport High School Magazine.

No. 68. **DECEMBER, 1936.**

Editor: R. E. OSBORNE.
Joint Sub-Editors: M. DUNSTAN and S. P. ASH.

(All contributions for Publication should be addressed to the Editor, Devonport High School Magazine, Devonport, and written legibly, and on one side of foolscap paper only).

Editorial.

Ad summam: sapiens uno minor est Jove, dives,
liber, honoratus, pulcher, rex denique regum,
praecipue sanus, nisi cum pituita molesta est.

But the wise are beset by other troubles than influenza. Knowledge and a capacity for acquiring and utilising it undoubtedly afford some satisfaction, but how baffling is the maze into which they draw the unwary. The freedom, the contentment, and the feeling of power, which Horace attributes to the wise man, are fruits which in fact he seldom tastes. Happy is he whose philosophy is complete and water-tight. From within he can behold a struggling world and contrast it with his own security; he can be condescending and complacent.

But what of the unhappy creature whose ideals have proved to be unreal, whose beliefs have crumbled under the weight of his own criticism. He is unprotected and bewildered: following G. K. Chesterton's advice, he pursues another system of thought to its breaking-point, and then another, and another. The only result is that his knowledge becomes still wider, and he is better able to appreciate the enormity and seeming hopelessness of his task. Too late now to return to his original narrow outlook in which he was contented. He has been lured into the maze, the entrance is barred, and he must find the exit. In his wandering, he will experience desolation and despondency much more often than contentment and security. Rest is impossible: a persistent, captious, and insatiable mind drives him onwards. Companionship, too, is denied; the outside world moves on unsympathetically—"Qui s'élève, s'isole".

How wearisome and how hopeless is this interminable search for an unknown goal which is perhaps non-existent. But imagine the infinite satisfaction of reaching that goal, of reaching an eminence from where life, the world, the universe, can be beheld as a complete and continuous whole. To know the joy of toil completed, of obstacles surmounted, of victory achieved; to realise that the infinite has been enclosed, the unattainable attained; to ascend to the very skies: that is the prize which effort can procure. That is progress.

School Notes.

We are pleased to welcome Messrs. Davies, Macmillan and Truman, and sincerely hope that they will be very happy with us. Two of these, Messrs. Davies and Truman, were already known to us, and we had learned to appreciate them before they joined our staff. To Mr. Davies it may seem that he is coming home, as he was one of us before going to India.

It gives us great satisfaction to report that Mr. T. H. Cookson, late of D.H.S., has been appointed to the Grammar School, Hastings.

We are becoming so accustomed to the visits of Mr. Weekes that no term could be complete without him, but "Custom cannot stale his infinite variety", and while he is speaking and illustrating his remarks, we regard music as the most exciting thing in human life, and we all—from the brilliant first-former right down to the humblest master—feel that the subject is well within our grasp. We cordially thank him and look forward to his next visit.

We venture to prophesy that no member of the School, young or old, will ever forget this year's anniversary of Armistice Day. W. A. Clegg, Esq., was the speaker; by contrast and analogy, by word picture and illustration, he made a stirring and eloquent appeal which held the large audience spellbound. It was obvious that all listeners were so deeply moved, that they became oblivious of their surroundings, and at the close of the address a spontaneous burst of applause resounded through the hall. We regard this as a fitting tribute to a fine speech.

In our last issue we gave a lengthy list of boys, who, by examination, had won honour for themselves and the School. To this list must be added the name of Senior Prefect Holmes, who will shortly leave us to enter the Executive Branch of the Civil Service.

From time to time Old Boys return to the scene of their early triumphs. They are always welcome, but they inevitably find many changes; few, however, would have greater surprise than Mr. N. Hughes. He has been living at Salisbury, Rhodesia, for thirty years, and in a very interesting lecture to the Sixth Form he sketched the early history and development of that great African colony, which he described as a land of possibility for emigrants with a little capital. On his departure he presented to the library a fine book on Rhodesia.

By the courtesy of Messrs. Hinton Lake, of Exeter, we were visited by Mr. C. Clark, who gave an interesting talk on what might be described as "The Fun of Photography". His numerous examples and racy remarks made his address of absorbing interest.

We regret to say that we no longer use the conveniently situated St. Michael's Hall, but our physical training and singing lessons are conducted in Exmouth Hall. We are grateful for this accommodation, but in bad weather we wish it were nearer the School, and we sigh for a stage suitable for concerts and dramatic productions.

At the playing-field we now have a supply of water, and we believe that within a few months fences will be erected, and, what is far more important to us, a pavilion worthy of the School.

It is with pleasure that we congratulate Prefect Edwards upon gaining the "Award of Merit" of the Royal Life-saving Society. This award is only made after most exacting tests, which make considerable demands upon the physique, intelligence and swimming ability of the candidates. It will be remembered that last year he was awarded the bronze medallion of the same examining body.

We are also pleased to report that Anstey, Ruberry and Wilson have completed their swimming tests and have been awarded the medallions presented by the Plymouth Education Authority.

In October the Lord Mayor paid us an informal visit during school hours and spent considerable time in the various form-rooms and laboratories. We were proud to have him with us and noticed with pleasure the interest he was taking in our work. He spoke to us so affably that he soon compelled us to forget his lofty official position, and we were able to regard him as a friend whose comments revealed his wide range of interests and whose questions were a challenge to the intelligence rather than to the memory.

A BRIEF WORD OF THANKS.

References are made elsewhere to the various activities which are carried on out of School hours. These must of necessity make considerable demands on the time and energy of those masters who make themselves responsible for them. Their services, freely and willingly given as they are, are of immense importance to the boys, and the School is to be congratulated on being so well served in this respect. We should like, therefore, to express our thanks to:

Mr. Chamberlain for his work in connection with the Swimming and Orchestra.
Mr. Sparrow for organising the Scouts.
Messrs. Austin and Macmillan for the Junior Scouts.
Messrs. Lockwood and Hodgson for Chess.
Messrs. Davies and Whitfeld for the Debating Society.
Messrs. Whitfeld and Truman for the Dramatic Society.
Mr. Werry for the Scientific Society.
Mr. Hodgson for the Library.
Mr. Hutchings for the Choir.
Messrs. Mallinson and Hodgson for organising the Rugby and Association Football respectively.

EN PASSANT.

We heartily congratulate:—

All those who were successful in the recent examinations:—
Oxford Higher School Certificate, London Higher School Certificate, Cambridge School Certificate, and Civil Service Examinations.

F. Anstey, G. W. Drake, and J. J. Lawlor, on obtaining State Scholarships; and G. W. Drake on winning the Dyke Exhibition.

All those who gained the Bronze Medallion for Swimming, awarded by the Royal Life Saving Society.

A. A. Edwards on being awarded the Silver Medallion of the Royal Life Saving Society.

All those Old Boys who gained successes during the year, 1935–36.

We acknowledge receipt of the following magazines: "The Gaytonian," "The Malburian".

SCHOOL OFFICERS.

Prefects—L. Holmes (Senior Prefect), R. Hodges (Second Prefect), S. Ash, G. Barret, G. Bryant, R. Cory, A. Edwards, N. Godwood, S. Hurden, J. Kirk, R. Miller, R. Newcombe, R. Osborne, W. Semmens, L. Tovell.

Sub-Prefects—S. Ash (Senior Sub-Prefect), V. Brooks, W. Button, F. Hornbrook, G. Joslin, F. Nottle, J. Ruberry. L. Adams (LVI A), C. McLeod (LVI M).

House Captains—"Drake," L. Holmes; "Gilbert," G. Bryant; "Grenville," J. Kirk; "Raleigh," S. Hurden.

PRAEFECTI VALETE.

FRANK BERNARD ANSTEY—Entered School September, 1933; Higher School Certificate, June, 1935; appointed Prefect, September, 1935; Awarded State Scholarship, September, 1936; Entered Imperial College of Science and Technology, September, 1936.

WILLIAM LOUIS HOLMES—Entered School, September, 1928; Cambridge School Certificate, 1934; Appointed Prefect, September, 1935; Captain Rugby, 1935–36; Higher School Certificate, 1936; Head Prefect and House Captain (Drake), September, 1936; Appointed to Executive Civil Service, 1936.

THE SIXTH FORM TENNIS CLUB.

Captain—R. L. Morgan.
Vice-Captain—R. Lyon.
Committee—The above, together with C. Lark.

At the beginning of the season the club was compelled to provide itself with a court at Ham. This was accomplished with "some" success and frequent rollings of the court made some form of play possible. The need for a fence was painfully obvious, and it is hoped that we shall be provided with one next year. The club's matches with the Old Boys and Corporation Grammar School were successful, the school team consisting of Morgan, Lyon, Lark, Pomery, and Cory (i). The club tournament was won by Morgan who defeated Lyon in the final.

R. J. G. HODGES.

Inter-Schools Debate.

At the kind invitation of the Corporation Grammar School, several members of our Society attended an Inter-Schools' Debate on Tuesday, November 3rd, when the following motion was debated: "This House is of the opinion that deterioration in the arts is inevitable in a mechanical age". Mr. Sandon was in the Chair, and the speakers addressed a well-filled hall. The motion was introduced by Mr. Jackson (Plymouth College), who pointed out that there had been no progress in poetry since the time of Homer, and none in drama since the time of Shakespeare. He deplored the growth of materialist philosophy as being detrimental to art, and declared that modern films reflected the regrettable lack of artistic taste in this mechanical age. Miss Bryant (Stoke Damerel), in opposing the motion, maintained that much true art was to be found in the cinema, and that developments in science and industry, far from stifling art, had now brought it within the reach of everyone. She called attention to the universal interest in the arts, and utilised the works of Epstein and of modern authors as examples of concrete achievement. The motion was ably supported by Miss Toull (Devonport Secondary), and Mr. Joslin (D.H.S.), who treated in detail the effects of mechanisation upon the individual and upon the community, the modern tendency towards mass-mindedness, and State-controlled art, as well as the widespread modern use of photography. However, Miss Land (Corporation Grammar) and Mr. Howard (Sutton Secondary) presented an equally interesting case for the Opposition. They defended modern poetry as being a true reflection of our age, and asserted that modern industrial technique has enabled music to reach a much higher plane. They interpreted history to the advantage of their argument, and even made use of a system of graphs to convince an interested audience.

Many interesting opinions were expressed from the floor of the House. Neither side lacked capable advocates, and many enlightening and stimulating ideas were expressed. Every aspect of the matter was duly examined, and innumerable original theories were propounded, some convincing, some fantastic, some humorous and optimistic, others serious and in some cases pessimistic. Russian poetry was quoted; literature, music, painting, and sculpture, were subjected to a careful scrutiny; conventional beliefs were attacked, and new ones were asserted. Altogether, twenty-four speeches were made so that the opinions of the House were well represented. After a long discussion, the motion was finally defeated by 109 votes to 26.

The Corporation Grammar School is to be congratulated upon organising a most successful debate, and we should like to express our thanks for a most enjoyable evening.

Out of School Activities.

CHESS CLUB.

During the past term the Chess Club has been very successful. The usual Friday evening meetings have been continued, but the attendances were so large that the majority of those present were unable to play through insufficient sets of chess-men. The club has between 50 and 60 members, and in order to ensure that more could play, an extra meeting has been arranged for juniors on Tuesdays. The club has been unable to obtain many matches with other schools because of the lack of interest in chess in the schools. Only one match was arranged—with Saltash County School—which the school team won by $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$. Tea was prepared for the teams by Mrs. Goodman, for which the club is very grateful. The services of Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Hodgson, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, are greatly appreciated. The club also wishes to extend its thanks to Mr. Papworth for the kindness he has shown in presenting to the club a set of chess-men and a chess-board.

R.C., *Sec.*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY—*President*, THE HEADMASTER.

The first meeting this term was addressed by Mr. Austin whom we should like to thank for his talk. For a school of this size the number interested in local history is surprisingly small, as membership is not confined to seniors, and members are not obliged to give a paper.

G. PERKINS, *Sec.*

THE LIBRARY.

The School at last possesses an efficient Library, mainly owing to the untiring efforts of Mr. Hodgson, and it is to be hoped that the Senior Forms will appreciate his efforts by making full and proper use of the books at their disposal.

The Fiction Library is not receiving the support it deserves from the Junior and Middle School, and the committee desires a much longer list of members. Will those who wish to join please bring their contributions, either a shilling or else a suitable book, preferably a classic, as soon as possible?

If any "Old Boys" have school books lining their shelves will they please make serious efforts to return them.

G. JOSLIN, *Librarian.*

THE CHOIR.

We started the year with a large choir of over 60. Unfortunately the enthusiasm has died down and the average number at the practices is between 30 and 40.

In October the Choir, with the help of a few other members of the School, gave a concert, on a small scale, at Exmouth Hall, on the occasion of the monthly meeting of the Parents' Association.

At present we are very busy preparing for Speech Day, when we are hoping to produce some good music.

A.H.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

This term there has been a large increase in the number of members, an omen which augurs well for the future since the nucleus of these comes from Forms III and IV. The senior members of the society are proving very capable producers. During the term they each produced a play with casts selected from the new members. Practices were held regularly on Fridays and the plays were performed before the entire society under conditions which resembled as closely as possible a real stage. Thus every boy was given an opportunity of displaying his acting ability. The experiment proved most successful, and, as a result, members were graded according to talent shown in their respective plays. There are now four graded acting sections, A, B, C, D, with a total membership of 53.

It has been decided to present three One-Act Plays at the end of the Easter Term. Unfortunately, however, owing to pressure of examinations, the senior members will be unable to participate. This has curtailed a more ambitious programme, but it is hoped that the Society will be able to present its first three-act play during the next school year. Casts for the Easter plays, mainly selected from sections B and C, are now starting serious rehearsals.

The Society takes this opportunity of welcoming Mr. Truman who has kindly consented to help with the producing. His wide experience in amateur theatricals should prove invaluable to the Society.

The Stage Hands continue to meet each week whilst the Electricians have now constructed a new switchboard which contains some very involved wiring, enabling every bank of lights to be dimmed separately. The wide scope offered to members of the Society must be noted. The Stage Designers, four in number, have an avenue for their artistic talent; there are four electricians who have an opportunity to display their scientific knowledge, while eight stage hands utilise their manual talents in arranging intricate scenery.

By the courtesy of the Tamaritans, the senior members, in return for some assistance, witnessed the recent production at the Globe. The privileged few thoroughly enjoyed this new venture.

S.J.H.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

This year an attempt has been made, under the enthusiastic leadership of Mr. Davies, to revive the Debating Society. Our meetings have been held on Tuesdays, after school, an arrangement which has proved fairly satisfactory. The first motion debated—"That this House condemns the Scout Movement"—is worthy of record if only for the indignant protest from a certain Scout that someone had poured scorn on his Camp Fire.

Other subjects before the House have been "The Menace of Science" and "The State and the Individual". The support we have received has been quite encouraging, though leaving much

room for improvement, in respect of numbers, at least. It may be confidently expected, however, that this will be remedied next term.

S.P.A.

THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The Society has been fortunate this term in being able to hold its meetings in the Geography Room. Owing to the efficient means of darkening the room the epidiascope has been used to a much greater extent and two of the lectures have been illustrated by lantern slides.

The lectures given this term include the following:

"Automatic Telephony." F. B. Anstey, VI.
"A Tour in North Wales." Mr. Werry.
"The Romance of Soap-making." L. Holmes, VI.

At the beginning of the term the Society suffered a loss in the departure of Anstey, to whom many thanks are due for his work as secretary.

Before the end of the term one more meeting will be held, at which a short film of scientific interest will be shown.

J. RUBERRY.

ORCHESTRA NOTES.

There is little of outstanding importance to record as to the orchestra this term. Rehearsals have been regular and well attended, and preparations are well in hand for three outside performances in the next few weeks. The violin classes retain their interest through the somewhat difficult early years, and it seems reasonable to claim that music-making has now ceased to be a curiosity in the school. The next step for those of us who are most interested in music is to arrange for the provision of a school piano. We bowed our heads in shame when Mr. Weekes attempted to illustrate Wagnerian themes on our historic apparatus. Our grateful thanks are due to him for his kindness in coming to talk to us. Many were more interested in "Die Gotterdammerung" when they heard that "Brunhilde said to Siegfried, 'You've been kicking about the house a lot: what about a spot of work?' "

SWIMMING NOTES.

The season ended in September was about average, but certainly not above the average. This means that there are still more than half the boys in the school totally unable to swim, and that of those who can swim, only one in ten is enthusiastic enough to brave cold water and inconvenience in order to learn to swim better. It is hoped that next summer there will be some provision made for teaching swimming to the Junior Forms in school time. Nothing less than this, or another Flood, will suffice to rouse enthusiasm for what should be considered an essential attainment in every boy.

SCOUT LOG.

Summer Camp. An extract from the report of the visiting Commissioner: "It is an excellently run camp on the Patrol system, with well arranged meals and activities. First-class Camping Standards are aimed at *and* attained". (The Troop gained the Camping Standards Certificate.)

In spite of bad weather the 45 campers spent an excellent time together in the mud! Parents visited the camp in considerable numbers on the two Parents' Days. The Troop attended the Rally at Home Park on August Monday and successfully carried out the catering arrangements for the tea provided by the Lord Mayor. Expert bottle openers and food-bag throwers were discovered—who was the Scout who said that he drank eight bottles of ginger-pop after the crowds had dispersed? A tired but happy party of Scouts arrived back at the camp site laden with spare food packages (food is always popular with us) to partake of chicken soup prepared by the Camp Guards—the two "Georges". The expedition to Mothecombe beach was voted "first-rate".

Strength. The continued demand for Scouting has resulted in the formation of a Junior Troop for members of the First Forms. Entrance into the Senior Troop will in future necessitate the gaining of the Tenderfoot Badge and the Second-class Badge during the year spent with the Junior Troop. This expansion has been made possible by the advent of Mr. Austin and Mr. Macmillan as Scouters of the Troop. Mr. Austin has the assistance of C. Smale, Desmond Reed, K. Melvin and A. Tredget, members of the Senior Troop who act as Patrol Leaders for the four Junior Patrols. We are fortunate to have the continued help of Mr. R. Denyer, Mr. R. Steed and R. Hodges as Assistant Scoutmasters.

Scouting. Troop Meetings continue to be well attended. A new and popular feature is the ten-minute break for 'Tuck'" sold by the Owls and Stags. Each Patrol has raised the sum of £1 towards the cost of equipping the Troop Hut at Noss Mayo with bunks and lockers. The whole job has cost £10. A camp was run at Half-Term by Patrol-Leader Barrow, the new bunks being well and truly tested. The Scouters understand that the bunks will stand a weight of nearly fifty stone without showing signs of collapse. This test was made with the bunk specially designed for a certain P/L. It is hoped to develop this site as a permanent camping ground. A considerable number of Proficiency Badges have been obtained during the Term—members of the Troop are unable to develop into "badge-hogs" owing to the many other calls which they have on their time! To be able to run a Patrol efficiently, especially for a fortnight in camp, is far better than to be able to display a dozen badges. A Patrol Competition is to be run next Term.

Next Term. March 4th, Parents' Evening.

S/M. D.H.S.

"YOU KNOW MY METHODS..."

(with apologies to Shakespeare's "Henry V").

Therefore dictators divide
The state of men with bombs and threatenings,
Setting oppression in continual motion,
To which is fixed as their aim or butt,
Their colonies: for so work those men of steel;
Men who, by a freak of nature, teach
The art of warfare to a peopled country.
They have no king, but officers of sorts;
Where some, like despots, kill at home,
Others, like tyrants, slaughter men abroad,
Others, called soldiers, armed with guns and knives
Make boot upon lands smaller than their own,
Which killings they with triumph march bring home
To the Palace of their Leader;
Who, surrounded by his army, then surveys
His new-found "Kingdom" with a modest eye . . .

"SHERLOCK" 5B.

WORLD IN DARKNESS.

Without, in the illimitable void,
Worlds hurry on, black darkness casts its pall;
While here upon this tired and tortured earth
Men strive, the threat of war hangs over all.

No corner of the earth but feels this dread,
Of murder, slaughter, death, and desolation:
While peoples wait, and politicians prate,
And violence thrives on their hesitation.

Dictators, perjur'd homicides, declaim,
And implicate whole nations in their crimes;
Violence and calumny, and lies,
Are stepping stones to fortune in these times.

Racial hatred, mutual distrust,
Are fostered, to be used for private ends.
Rapacious ghouls who foment wars, are knighted;
Upon their whim our future fate depends.

And all the while the arsenals are busy:
Sad is the prospect, which confronts us now,
Of barbarism, cruelty, and chaos,
And problems still to solve, we know not how.

No gleam of hope pierces the leaden sky;
No path to better things. Eternity,
Relentless and inexorable giant,
Alone guides Fate, and sees what is to be.

The School—*Perhaps!*

We hear much of the increasing tendency of States to render themselves self-sufficient, to be able to disregard the rest of the world—as far as supplying themselves with necessities goes, anyway —much as this may contradict the rules of progress. Might not we go a step further backwards and find this happening in our own school? Much as we are dependent on alien cows for sustaining our flagging spirits during the morning break, and on the Corporation for their kindly asistance towards emptying the dustbins, we are already showing distinct signs of developing a separate existence. Are not our scholars under strict military training with their peculiar compulsory salute for the commanding officers, disguised under the name of masters, and patriotic green and white uniforms? Is not their every movement at every possible or impossible moment spied upon by these overbearing tyrants who conduct their operations in swiftly moving armoured cars? And, above all, is not the slightest sign of suspicion, wherever it is noted, immediately communicated by these officers to the general in charge, who spends most of his time making plans with his subordinates in his fortified den at the top of the building? To confirm this suspicion, this general makes lightning raids on the form rooms at unexpected moments, and a one-sided cross examination ensues, with vows of loyalty to the regime extracted by threats of torture.

Apart from the attempts to train the boys to become loyal troops, the school itself is being made more and more independent. Much advantage has been taken of its splendid position. It is well fortified by a moat on the north and east sides, with treacherous looking bridges as the only means of communication with the outer world, while the railway ravine forms an impregnable barrier to the south-west. It is only on the western boundary and by the eastern wall guarding the upper playground that assault is in any way probable. On the east the occupants of the houses would have to be bribed by the enemy first—but I have heard that the school has "fixed" them. The west is more of a problem as the bottom gate-way forms an easy access to the lower reaches of the parade ground. However, the general has already fortified the way to the moat and the bomb-proof basement by a rubbble and brick rampart, and has built an effective shelter against attack from the St. Michael's Hall region—a shelter which hoodwinks inspectors under the name of a cycle shed. Although the corporation controls the electricity and gas, efforts are being made to manufacture both in the well equipped Science and Chemistry Laboratories, while reliance could always be placed in the school candle in time of need. We also have to rely on others for water at present, but Mr. Lamb has been put in charge of our water problem. I have heard that he has already stored large supplies under the lawn through his so-called rain gauge. The Chemistry and Science laboratories have also combined in an attempt to manufacture some really devastating high explosives, while

experiments in the manufacture of poison gas have been going on for quite a long time now. Metal for ammunition could be easily smelted by the caretaker and his assistant in the boiler room, and shaped by Mr. Williams in the woodwork room, whilst an adequate supply of fodder could emerge from the dinner room—already well equipped with lemonade crystals and staff, to feed the school for a considerable time in the advent of a siege.

Considering all, I wonder why we did not prove self-sufficient years ago.

LAZY 5L.

Sixth Form Camp.

It being the month of August, six hardy members of the Sixth decided—as foolish youths often will—to go camping. After a very informal committee meeting, it was decided to honour East Looe with our presence. Therefore, on the 29th of August, laden down with kit-bags, saucepans, and knives for skinning rabbits, we clambered aboard a lorry, and set out for the venue.

Apart from the fact that the lorry was only licensed to carry goods or livestock—within which category we were not included—and that consequently we had to hide under sacks whilst crossing on the Torpoint Ferry, we reached Looe without mishap. Meanwhile the rain had begun to fall in torrents. The tent was erected speedily, despite the help of your correspondent, and soon we were all in bed. After the first three days of rain, we ventured forth into the somewhat watery sunlight; and now the true natures of my fellow-campers became apparent. A love of colour was universal: red and green pullovers, horrible red and green and black rugby jerseys, and highly coloured stockings were favoured by all. But this was not all: eight otherwise virtuous young men suddenly evinced a violent passion to grow beards and whiskers. Needless to say, the net result would hardly have made a fur coat for a gnat, except in one case, where the whiskers were so prolific that they almost became an institution in Looe. Meanwhile, Hurden unexpectedly revealed a praiseworthy love of cooking, and to see him brooding lovingly over his currant duffs as they cooked on the fire would have brought a tear to more manly eyes than mine.

The other people who camped in our field regarded us with kindly contempt as a harmless collection of half-wits: they failed to appreciate the surrealist significance of our midday ceremony, when the figgy duff was heralded to dinner with ear-splitting blasts on a trumpet which our bearded "Professor" had seen fit to bring. (Our musical tastes were also catered for by a gramophone and a ukulele.)

But time draws on: the lamp is burning low, as all the best authors say. Our adventures were too many to be enumerated. I will mention only a few: who was followed by a suspicious policeman along the High Street because he looked like a longshoreman

on nefarious business? And what attraction led H—— and K——k to do so much shopping in the International Store? *Cherchez la femme!* And who was the *very* dignified member who solemnly sang the Funeral Song when returning to the camp from the Fair at midnight? Alas! I may not tell.

And so the time drew on until, a fortnight later, grown corpulent through abundance of food and laziness, the party remounted their lorry and set out for home. We left Looe with the reflection that we had made our presence felt: and the whole party voted—as the local paper says after the Sunday School Treat—that a good time had been had by all.

J.K.

CIGARETTE.

Between his brown stained fingertips,
a fag end.
Blue,
silver in the smoky light,
his bitter incense,
smoke,
trickles deliberate;
hot,
tickling dry in his burning throat,
dry as the desert.
With the match-sticks
in his saucer,
ash,
barren as dust,
thirsty as.
Dirty
on the chrysanthemums,
cigarette cinders,
bitter ash-poison.
Love.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The following gifts of books are gratefully acknowledged :—

Life of Frederick the Great ..	The Headmaster.
The South Africans (S. G. Mullins) ..	N. Hughes.
Modern Egypt, 2 vols. (Lord Cromer)	J. P. Dixon.
Galsworthy's Plays	J. K. Dixon.

An additional bookcase has been purchased, so there is now shelf room for many more books; gifts then are very welcome, and the idea of presenting a book to the library is again recommended to boys about to leave. One new book per month is obtained for each of the two sections of the library, but for the library to be more useful to the school a much greater supply of new material is needed.

BIKE FEVER—*with apologies to Masefield.*

I must go on the highway again,
On the asphalt-covered road;
And all I ask is my old bike
With my cape around me "throwed".
With the wheel's kick and the bell's ring and the mudguards creaking,
And a bent fork and cracked frame and the tyres all leaking.

I must go on the highway again,
To the vagrant road-hog's life;
To the wreck's way and the crock's way,
Where the road's with danger rife,
With the flicked stones and the blown dust and the sun's rays baking,
And my worn brakes and jambed crank and my legs all aching

I must go on the highway again,
For the smell of the sizzling tar
Is a fine smell and a strong smell
That greets me from afar;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a grinning fellow rover,
And a bottle of embrocation when the long ride's over!

So This Is Education!

In the year 2000 A.D., a Commission, presided over by the World Dictator, was set up to investigate social life during the first half of the twentieth century. One meeting was devoted to Education in the early twentieth century, of which little was known, as all the old records had been destroyed in the war of 1980. One of the members, however, had in his possession some old letters, which had belonged to his grandfather, and it was thought that these might shed some light on the matter.

The Dictator opened the meeting by calling on Mr.—— to read extracts from his grandfather's letters.

Mr. ——, a studious-looking young man, explained that he would read an account of life at a place called Devonport High School.

" What does ' school ' mean ? " asked the Dictator.

" I really can't say," replied Mr. —— " but I should imagine, from this description, that it was some kind of amusement-hall or public exhibition. My grandfather mentions that a large number of entertainers were to be found there. About a score of them were professionals, he says."

" It appears," continued Mr. —— that for members of the school, attendance was compulsory. There were two sessions—morning and afternoon."

" But how soul-destroying," interpolated the Dictator.

" In the morning, before entering school, the majority of the boys assembled in the grounds for bare-knuckle fighting and other old-fashioned pastimes. Amongst them wandered a flock of youths—called ' prefects '—endeavouring to maintain some semblance of order, but failing miserably. They had to rely solely on will-power and facial expression."

" How horrible," said the Dictator.

" At 8.37 a bell would ring, summoning them to the day's activities. This would cause an immediate stampede to the only entrance, during which, my grandfather fears, not a few were maimed for life. A great thinker, on viewing this spectacle one morning, was so impressed that he enunciated a doctrine which has since become famous—The survival of the fittest. Grandpa goes on to say that inside conditions were little better. The rushing torrent of boys forced its way through a dim tunnel, up a narrow flight of stairs and into a cold, ugly corridor, where it was broken up into a number of minor torrents, which dispersed to different rooms.

" These rooms were specially built, so that they were either too hot or too cold. This was, Grandpa believes, to make the boys hardy. These rooms were also constructed in such a way that little or no sunlight could enter, a dim twilight being considered most suitable for the games that were played there.

" Grandpa says that the boys next went to Assembly."

" Oh, and what is that ?" asked the Dictator.

" Well, sir, Grandpa's a bit vague, but I gather that Assembly was a game like Sardines and was played by the Master Entertainer. The idea was to see how many youths could be packed into a very small room. If a youth was sick the M.E. lost, but if no one was sick he won."

" I see," said the Dictator, " and what did they do then ? "

" They went to their rooms for ' lessons '. Grandpa's meaning isn't quite clear, but I think this was a sort of entertainment organised by the Entertainers. About thirty boys sat in queer things called desks, that squeaked and wobbled and grunted and collapsed. At first the young ones were content to sit and shout abuse at their neighbours; then they stood and threw things at each other. Soon there was a noise at the door and, according to Grandpa, immediate silence. Now the game began. A black-shrouded figure strode in, scowled at the class and turned to the blackboard."

" What's a blackboard ? " asked one of the members.

" Well, it was used generally as a dart-board or a target, but

occasionally, Grandpa says, caricatures of the Entertainers were drawn on it."

Mr. —— continued. " The rules of the game were that as soon as the Entertainer's back was turned, they all had to shout as much as possible. If, however, the Entertainer caught a boy making a noise, he could strike him on the head with his clenched fist or any other convenient object or else send him to the Master Entertainer, to be struck with a rod."

" And who was the Master Entertainer " ? asked the Dictator.

" Grandpa says that he was a very great man, who sat all alone in a room ; at his side was the rod with which he struck all those who were disqualified from the game."

" Oh, I see," said the dictator, " but what did they *teach* the boys who went to this delightful place ? "

" Grandpa never discovered." C.W.E.

TO ROBIN HOOD.

To Robin Hood a toast we'll brew
Who ruled the woods with bows of yew
And quarterstaves of oak!
What spells are wov'n about that name
Of stirring tales that won the fame
Of Lincoln greened cloak!
Enigmatic outlaw, who, carefree as the deer,
Cried throughout the greenwood fervently and clear,
"God save merrie England and our King!"

His creed was simple to the core—
To spoil the rich, to aid the poor,
And help the humble folk—
His comrades, men who'd come to groan
Where seeds of discontent were sown
Beneath the Norman yoke;
Just like mighty David, who in Adullam's cave
Gathered round his standard men both strong and brave,
Proving there his worth to be their King!

Full seven score men were at his call,
Loyal men both one and all
To answer to his blast!
No danger them could ever daunt
No care had they for sheriff's taunt,
Their lot with Robin cast!
Let's prolong his bugle's note, with him loud and free
Crying in his spirit, now in loyalty,
"God save merrie England and our King!"

DELTA 5A.

The Ancient Greeks — An A1 Nation.

From the birth of civilisation, games, athletic sports and dances have celebrated the glories of gods and of heroes. Running, boxing, wrestling and many features of modern physical education have been handed down to us from time immemorial. Games, especially ball games, were popular amongst the ancient Egyptians, and many drawings illustrating them are to be found on their tombs. The Greeks attached great importance to the education of the body. Not only had they an intense appreciation of beauty, but to be "in good condition" was the first duty of every citizen. "It was", said Plato, "a duty to oneself and to the State to live in the open air and accustom oneself to manly toils and sweat." There were two main and strongly contrasting types of physical education.

The earlier type was practised in Sparta. It was designed to produce a warrior citizen, a man of physical perfection, courage, and selfless obedience to the laws of the State. Its keynote was discipline, and its aim to train and harden boys for military service. In Sparta vigorous gymnastic training began at seven years of age, and by twenty the youth was a trained soldier. The main activities used in the training were wrestling, boxing, running, swimming, jumping and throwing the javelin and discus, together with military drill. In spite of the emphasis placed on gymnastic training, the Spartans had no gymnasia, and no professional trainers. All their training took place in the open air and their gyms. were fields. This system of physical education lacked symmetry and balance, and whilst it served its purpose—the production of the far-famed Spartan hoplite immortalised since Thermopylæ—this end was achieved only at the expense of individual liberty of life and thought, and by the sacrifice of home and family life.

The other and broader type of physical education was the Athenian, which ultimately became the dominant one throughout Greece and her colonies. The Athenians had high and noble ideals, and their provision for the youth of Athens was, therefore, a judicious blending of physical training with literary and artistic culture. For the first six years it was wholly in the hands of the parents. The chief concern was the development of a good physique and a hardy constitution. The Athenian child played games common to every nation and every age. On reaching his seventh year the boy began a more serious education, but the girl remained in the home. The usual school subjects were gymnastic and music—the latter term including grammar and literature in addition to music in our sense of the word. The gymnastic training was given in the palæstra (private schools, of which the name was derived from the Greek word for wrestling). The young boy did not do heavy or violent exercises, and no one was required to perform activities which were beyond his strength or ability. As the boy grew older, jumping, throwing the discus and javelin, wrestling and boxing were gradually introduced. All exercises were performed naked; the palæstra

had no roof and it was considered healthy to expose the body to the open air. A white skin was regarded as a sign of effeminacy. Oil was continually rubbed in, both before and after exercise. Choral dancing was a regular part of the Greek system, while swimming and rowing were also favourite activities. In the good old days, says Aristophanes in "The Wasps," the main object was to be a good oar, and rowing blisters were a sign of patriotism. At eighteen years of age the youth began an intensive military training which lasted for two years. During this period his gym. training was continued in a State-maintained gymnasium. Athens had three of these, the names of two—the Academy and the Lyceum—so famous that they are still household words. They were free and open to all citizens, the only expense being to provide an oil bottle and scraper. By the end of the fifth century B.C. every important Greek town had at least one gym. Many of them became famous as centres of social and intellectual life.

National games at Olympia are known to have been held as early as 776 B.C. Held every four years, they soon became the chief of those great national festivals which show the important place which the Greeks accorded to physical education. No nation has ever attained so high a degree of physical fitness as the Greeks did at the beginning of the fifth century B.C. After that, professionalism crept in and there came a decline. After the Roman Conquest, their own ideals gave way to those of their conquerors, and once more physical training became the preparation for the life of a soldier.

A. R. MACMILLAN.

House Reports.

DRAKE HOUSE.

For the first time in four or five years, Drake House Juniors are strong enough to preserve their, at present, unbeaten record both in Rugger and Soccer. They have backed up extremely well and have played hard and scientifically.

The Seniors, unfortunately, have fared worse, and despite the fact that the teams include five of the 1st XV and three of the 1st XI, one match has been won and three lost, of the four played.

However, apart from these setbacks, if the Seniors work hard, there is every chance of winning the remaining matches and eventually winning the St. Levan's Shield and the Lampard Cup, and at the worst, we can look forward to a better year than we have had for some time.

Finally, the House Concerts are approaching rapidly and we shall have an opportunity of showing that Drake has, at least, talent in some directions.

L. HOLMES.

GILBERT HOUSE.

The end of the last school year was a sad one for Gilbert, in that many of its stalwarts, such as Lyon, Healy, Waycott and Dyer-Smith, left and the house was left without those on whom it had depended to a large extent; this setback has, however, been gradually overcome, and, although Gilbert is not rich in individual talent, the way in which the whole house has backed up has made up for this.

The Seniors are to be congratulated on their victory over a strong Drake XV, whilst the Juniors, who beat Raleigh at soccer, were unfortunate in losing to the same House by a narrow margin.

The House Concerts come at the end of this term, and we hope that Gilbert's efforts to provide entertainment will be successful and that next term Gilbert will meet with more success than it has this term.

G. BRYANT.

GRENVILLE HOUSE.

The football season has begun with moderate success for Grenville. The Seniors have done very well, capturing six of a possible eight points. They have easily defeated Raleigh and Drake at Soccer, and at Rugger have beaten Drake and lost to Raleigh by one point. In a Soccer team which should remain unbeaten, all have played well; Harris and McLeod have been particularly outstanding in defence. We were unfortunate in losing two of our Rugby stalwarts in Pike and Ridley; but in a Rugby team composed chiefly of Soccer players, Godfrey, Grindrod and Simmonds have performed so well that we have so far given a good account of ourselves.

The Juniors have fared badly, but in their last match succeeded in capturing a point at Soccer from a strong Raleigh Junior team. There is a strong nucleus of enthusiastic Juniors, but they have not received the support from the less keen Juniors which is essential if the House is to repeat last year's achievement. Crabb has proved equally versatile at Soccer and Rugger, and is a keen and efficient Junior Captain.

The House Concerts are our next concern, and it is to be hoped that those who cannot assist at games will endeavour to make a success of this year's performance on the stage.

J. J. P. KIRK.

RALEIGH HOUSE.

With four House Matches played, Raleigh heads the table in the football competition with eleven points. The Seniors and Juniors have won both their Rugger matches; the former, however, lost to Grenville and the latter to Gilbert Juniors at Soccer. A pleasing feature of the Seniors' matches has been the greater enthusiasm shown for Rugger. The House actually played with a

full fifteen against Grenville, and won a very exciting tussle by a single point. There is, however, great antipathy among the Juniors for Rugger, though even with defeated teams they appear to be stronger at this code. The Juniors must realise that Rugger is just as important as Soccer. It is essential that these defects be remedied if the House is to recapture the Shield after a lapse of three years. Our most formidable rivals, Grenville, do not seem so strong at Football this season.

Efforts are now being directed towards the House Concert and it is confidently expected that Raleigh will be able to provide some original and amusing entertainment.

Although there was a large number of departures towards the end of last term, Raleigh has not suffered too severely in this respect. Therefore prospects of winning the House competition stand high; but this can only be accomplished with the full-hearted support of every member.

S. J. HURDEN.

THE SIXTH FORM DANCE.

The Sixth Form Dance will be held in the Mutley Assembly Rooms on January 6th. The Dance Committee extends a cordial invitation to all members of the Sixth Form, both past and present, to be there. The dance commences at 8.0 p.m. this year, and the Committee hopes that the number present will be even greater than last year.

R. J. G. HODGES.

Rugby Club.

Captain—S. J. Hurden.
Vice-Captain—L. W. Holmes.
Hon. Secretary—J. J. P. Kirk.
Rugger Master—H. Mallinson.

The 1st XV began the season with seven players remaining from last year's very successful team. Many departures from the 2nd XV made the task of building up another strong fifteen very difficult. This is clearly shown by the fact that three of last season's colts, Chesterfield, Grindrod and Squires, are now playing for the 1st XV. Early in the term the departure of Ridley, Pike (11), Sutton represented a distinct loss and it is with much regret that the Club now bids farewell to Holmes who has received his appointment in the Civil Service. A wholehearted player who invariably produces his best form in the harder matches, he will leave a gap at inside-half that will be hard to fill.

Nevertheless, despite these handicaps, the team has well maintained the high standard of rugby shown in the last two seasons.

Notable victories have been recorded against R.N.E. College and Paignton Juniors; a close struggle with Plymouth College resulted in a draw of six points each; but the team has been defeated twice by Truro School.

The full-back position has been causing much concern, and the 2nd XV does not afford an adequate supply of threequarters.

Next term the 1st XV should reveal its true form when faced by a stiffer programme of matches. Of the new backs, Cory and Grindrod have played pluckily, while of the forwards, ably led by Andrews, Chesterfield, Godfrey, Newcombe and Willis should improve with more experience. A feature of the play has been the fact that 75 per cent of the tries have come from the threes and that there is a great improvement in the handling of the outsides.

The 2nd XV, weakened by the calls of the 1st XV, has not exhibited exceptionally good form. The threequarters are not playing together well, and some of the forwards do not possess an adequate knowledge of the rules. A little more spirit and energy would be welcome. The most promising players are Dingle and Crouch of the backs, and Ash, Brooks, Joslin and Kingwell of the forwards.

The 3rd XV has as yet played only one match when they defeated Sutton 3rd.

The Colts XV have yet to win a match. Despite regular practice and training, their enthusiasm does not make up for lack of weight. The Colts must watch the 1st XV matches, and thereby gain a better understanding of the rules. They cannot hope to play rugby without a thorough knowledge of the rules. Players who should go further in the game are Crabb, Cole, Border and Lane, while Elliot, Batten and Porteous have played well in various positions.

Finally the Club wishes to tender its sincere thanks to Messrs. Austin, Mallinson, O'Connor and Webb for refereeing; to Mesdames Simmonds, Holmes and Hurden for the admirable way in which they have prepared an exacting programme of teas; to Messrs. Austin, Chamberlain and Hodges, VI, for kind loan of cars; and to Ash, VI, for regular attendance as linesman.

The following teams have been fielded—

1st XV—

Squires
Cory Crocker Hurden Grindrod
Holmes Simmonds
Newcombe Godfrey Willis
Edward Andrews
Osborne Chesterfield Kirk

Dingle and Brooks have also played.

2nd XV—

Crouch
Bryant (II) Pike Mason Searles
Bryant (I) Dingle
Brooks Salter Joslin
Cooper Evans
Mowan Ash Kingwell (Capt.)

Gordon, Rowe and Goodman (II) have also played.

3rd XV—

Goodman (II)
Sprague Harris Hodges Lyle
Collins Honey
Morgan Martin Gordon
Endacott Squibb
Rowe Palmer Evans

Colts XV, under 14—

Border or Challis
Holgate (II) Lane Batten Scott
Campbell-Davies or Hayden Crabb (Capt.)
Cole Evea Mills
Parford Fletcher or O'Flaherty
Elliot Buckingham Porteous

Crowther, Sidwell, Preston, Thompson, Weeks (I), Thomas have also played.

Records—

	Played.	*Won.*	*Drawn.*	*Lost.*	*Points For.*	*Points Against.*
1st XV	10	7	1	2	178	53
2nd XV	7	3	0	4	89	67
3rd XV	1	1	0	0	62	0
Colts XV	5	0	1	4	24	90

S.J.H.

Soccer Club.

Captain—L. Tovell.
Vice-Captain—C. A. McLeod.
Secretary—A. R. Harris.

As usual, fears for the Soccer Club have proved unfounded. The 1st XI started the season with only three of last year's team, but the new members have played so well that only two games out of a possible twelve have been lost. The places of Lark and Morgan have been admirably filled by Adams and Coyne, whilst among the new-comers in the forwards, Williams has showed considerable promise. McLeod at right back and Harris at centre half have played exceedingly well, and together with Barkell, who is undoubtedly the

inspiration of the forward line, they have contributed in no small way to the success of the team this term. The chief fault seems to lie in the willingness with which some members are prepared to allow opponents to gather the ball and have, as it were, a free kick. Splendid victories were gained over Seale Hayne College, Tavistock Grammar School and Totnes Grammar School, only to be marred by a heavy defeat in the return game with the latter. The loss of McLeod, in view of the stiff opposition next term, will be keenly felt, but it is to be hoped that the team will maintain the exceptionally high standard of soccer in this school.

The 2nd XI, ably captained by Miller, has also been very successful. Two games have been lost, but in each case the opposition was very severe. It is difficult to individualise, but Smith, Pepper and Thompson among the forwards, and Webb, Semmens and Duffin in the defence, deserve mention for consistently good play. The team has the right spirit, and should do well next term.

The Junior XI seems to be a very promising combination, but as usual has suffered from lack of matches. A win over the 4th Plymouth Scouts was a fine achievement and seems to augur well for the future of the soccer club. Tunnell has proved an efficient captain and such players as Allen, Thomas and Singlehurst show that there is no lack of talent in the Lower School.

The club wishes to thank Messrs. Hodgson, Truman, Austin, McMillan, Heather, Armor and Chamberlain for giving up their time to referee, and Mesdames Simmonds, Nottle and Tovell for preparing the teas. Thanks are also due to the Scouts for rendering assistance whenever needed, and to those who have given up their time to referee Form games.

Record—

	Played.	*Won.*	*Drawn.*	*Lost.*	*Goals For*	*Goals Against.*
1st XI	12	10	0	2	59	17
2nd XI	11	8	1	2	60	20
Junior XI	6	5	0	1	30	11

1st XI—

Adams
McLeod Coyne
Trenerry Harris Cox
Joint Williams Cory Barkell Bray

Webb has also played.

2nd XI—

Nicholas
Miller (Capt.) Webb
Semmens Duffin Essery
Luff Smith Pepper Thompson De Gruchy

Squibb, Organ, Gunn, Wigmore and Quickenden have also played.

Junior XI—

Lane

Greenway Allen

Thomas (W. K.) Tunnell (Capt.) Vanner

Singlehurst Jackson Peacock Endacott Read

Simmonds (ii), Harvey, Porteous and Beer have also played.

L. TOVELL.

OXFORD LETTER.

There are three D.H.S.-ians in residence, Noad (Jesus), Drake (Exeter) and Lawlor (Magdalen). The first of the trio has disappeared into the wilds of Headington, and has been somewhat undeservedly christened "Toad in the Hole" by his irreverent compatriots. Drake and Lawlor spend a good deal of their time together. Drake has developed quite unforeseen tendencies: he was seen in Lawlor's rooms reciting *Æsop* with soulful accents. He has been known to practise Ju-Jitsu with the other denizens of his rooms—the College Ghost, known familiarly as "Walter"—and was seen (let it be whispered) smoking large and expensive Russians at a Scientific tea-party. All of which is doubtless sad but inevitable. Lawlor, on the other hand, has been living a quiet, respectable life, only forsaking his Anglo-Saxon studies to assist in a psychic manifestation on Hallow-e'en in Magdalen Grove, and to commemorate the unfortunate misadventures of one Guy Fawkes for whom he feels the greatest attachment. Relief from these arduous pursuits is found in the infinite solaces of the Chinese opera and Cuban rumbas, which, interspersed with the call of the Muezzin make Staircase 4

. . . full of noises:

Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.

(At least, that may not be the official view, but you understand the lit'ry man.)

There is, incidentally, a solemn ritual attached to the friendship of the old D.H.Sians. On various afternoons of the week (between the hours of four and five) an observer might see a mysterious figure, heavily shrouded, climbing three flights of stairs in Exeter. Arriving at a certain door, he enters: a figure rises to meet him: no word is spoken; a drawer is opened; five or six gleaming phials are displayed, filled with liquids of varying colours: quietly, but purposefully, the dark-clad figure goes to the window—opens it—there is a tinkle of broken glass: an intense pause—then a voice, cool—*blasé*—"Almonds, I think?" And the ceremony is over, save for the resulting argument "Almonds *v.* Peardrops" which is settled by the Scout's casting vote of "Peppermints". Thus Drake's failures in the matter of sealing specimen tubes are disposed of. Moral—Visitors to Exeter, Staircase 4, should provide their own respiratory apparatus.

It is only fitting that, in conclusion, we should make mention

of the rite that binds the hearts of those sundered from home. Nowhere in the ancient University is the brewing of tea so religiously conducted. The Exeter teapot supplies five cups on one infusion: the Magdalen, a round dozen. And, far from home the exiles meet around the cup that cheers.

There is much, much more that we could tell. Boar's Hill, on a certain Sunday morning, and a recumbent figure at the roadside—Magdalen at 2 a.m. one Sunday morning, littered with broken glass, bow ties, and one shirt front—a chase through Queen's and New College lane, two bowler-hatted men in pursuit of a flying figure—the Mystery of the Missing Lamp, or the Laying of Walter—the suspension of Nelson's body from three flights of stairs—Drake's impersonation of Harpo Marx, including his misdirection of a cinema audience, and his production, in a fit of generosity, of a small biscuit-tin of cigarettes to regale his friends during the performance—but we will plead the excuse of an overtaxed scribe who protested: "there are also many other things . . . the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written."

OXONIENSES.

THE LONDON LETTER.

We are pleased to be able to report that, at the present time, there are five Old D.H.S.-ians pursuing the paths of study (and glory?) at London University.

Simmonds carries on his mathematical and scientific researches at University College, and is busily engaged in preparing for terminals. On the rugby field he has again demonstrated his versatility, and plays regularly at scrum-half for the University College 1st XV. Scouters will be pleased to hear that he is at present trying to form a Rover Crew.

Anstey, graced with a State Scholarship, betook himself to the academic shades of South Kensington, where he is now an engineering student at Imperial Institute. His old time fervour for scientific topics has no whit abated, and he still discourses with the same readiness on the most abstruse problems, whether you meet him on the bus or in the tube.

The other three are at Westminster Training College, whence Rowe and Luxton make daily excursions to University College, whilst Prowse, now in his last year, is preparing for Teacher's Cert. and Diploma. The former two play soccer, whilst Prowse wields a hockey stick for the College 1st XI. which, as he readily points out, last year won the 'Varsity Tournament. Rowe, in the throes of preparation for Finals, finds time to serve on the Union Executive, whilst Luxton has been elected to the Magazine Committee.

To all intending University Students we would point out the wide range of the curriculum offered by the London University, not to speak of the manifold attractions of the metropolis.

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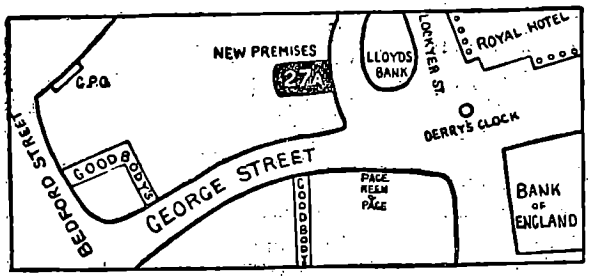

The D.H.S. Old Boys' Association.

President: THE HEADMASTER.

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General Secretary and Treasurer:
MR. H. FERRARO, "Bella Vista," St. Budeaux, Plymouth.

Committee Chairman: MR. C. E. GILL.

Vice-Chairman: MR. W. J. CHING.

Committee Secretary:
MR. C. E. GILL, 14, Haddington Road, Stoke, Devonport ('Phone 614).

Committee: the above with MESSRS. W. J. ANDREWS, B. H. CHOWEN, E. E. COCK, E. HARRIS, F. HAWTON, P. J. MOWAN, G. PLUCKNETT, R. SMALL, L. H. WARREN, R. WARREN, R. J. WERRY and K. T. M. WINTLE.

By the time these notes appear members will have received particulars of the Dinner which has been arranged for December 28th. For some weeks past Mr. Cock has been busy making the necessary preparations and with a larger membership it is hoped that this year's Reunion will bring together an even greater number of Old Boys than did the last. Attention is called to the fact that the Annual General Meeting will be held at the School on the morning of December 28th.

At the last A.G.M. it was decided to raise the Annual Subscription from 2/6 to 3/–. Some of our members seemed to have overlooked this fact as subscriptions of 2/6 for the current year are still coming in. WILL EVERYONE PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS NOW 3/–.

It is pleasing to be able to record the successes of a number of Old Boys, news of which has been received since the last Magazine was printed. We offer them our congratulations. Their old School friends will read of their achievements with interest.

Mr. W. Phillips was among those who were successful at the last Customs and Excise Examination.

Mr. R. Denyer (one of the D.H.S. Assistant Scoutmasters) has passed the Civil Service Examination for Executive Officers. Fortunately he is stationed at Devonport so that the Troop still has the benefit of his help.

Mr. J. M. Widdecombe has been appointed on promotion as Deputy Armament Supply Officer in charge of the R.N.A. Depôt, Gibraltar.

Mr. W. S. Watson, late of King's College, Cambridge, has passed the Taxes Inspector Group of Examinations.

Mr. K. T. M. Wintle (a member of our Committee) has passed the B.A. Examination of London University.

At Oxford University, Mr. R. Noad, having completed his Final, is now engaged in Chemical Research. The D.H.S. representation at Oxford has recently been augmented by the addition of Messrs. Drake and Lawlor.

At London University, our late Senior Prefect, Mr. W. A. Simmonds, is pursuing the paths of Physics. He is also playing for the 1st XV of his College—a fact which in no way diminishes his interest in the activities of the D.H.S. XV.

Mr. C. Mill has brought to a close his period at Reading University by an interesting piece of Research work on X-Rays which has just been published.

Mr. F. B. Anstey has decided on Engineering as a career. Those who knew him well at School will not be surprised at this. He is studying at the Institute of Science and Technology.

Mr. G. Lee is at the University College of the S.W., while Mr. J. Luxton is at Westminster T.C.

Friends of Mr. W. Gray will be pleased to read of his promotion to Warrant Officer rank, while D.H.S.-ians resident in Plymouth will already have read of the appointment of Mr. H. J. Murray as Conservative Agent for the Sutton Division.

Mr. R. Finner of the Estate and Duty Office has taken an Honours Degree in Law, while Messrs. Grant, Lake and Howett have passed the Intermediate LL.B.

Mr. O. E. Rees, who served his apprenticeship with Mr. Harvey, M.P.S., has himself passed the Qualifying Examination of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Early in the Term the School had a visit from Mr. N. Hughes of South Africa. Mr. Hughes had just completed a comprehensive tour of several European countries and was kind enough to give a talk to the VIth on a country very dear to him—Rhodesia.

Our latest Civil Service entrants have settled down to their new life. Messrs. Morgan, Lark and Pomery are in London, while Mr. Rogers has been appointed to Plymouth. The latter is now playing full-back for the Old Boys' Rugger Club and will doubtless prove as big a stumbling-block to the School XV as he did to the Old Boys in Present *v.* Past matches; Mr. H. D. Mason, in spite of a Bank appointment at Tavistock, is also now playing for the O.B.A. Rugger Club as is Mr. F. Godfrey.

We were all sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. M. Brown, but are glad to know that he is improving satisfactorily.

Mr. H. A. Pryor—sadly missed by the Dramatic Society—is now at Falmouth watching over the interests of his country's revenue as a Preventive Officer.

Further north the D.H.S. flag is kept flying by Messrs. Taylor, Wakely and Pearn, all of whom are in the Excise Department at Oldham.

Messrs. Cowling, Frost and Osborne find their lives cast in pleasant lines as E.R.A.'s in the Senior Service, while Messrs. Babb, Baker and McCaffery are equally happy as Ordnance Artificers.

Mr. R. Ware has received an appointment as Army Schoolmaster.

The last examination for Naval Cadets deprived the School of three Football stalwarts, but it would appear that Cadets Dyer-Smith, Healy and Waycott find their chosen profession very much to their liking.

Our congratulations and best wishes to the following, whose marriages have recently taken place: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Harris and Mr. and Mrs. F. Trevithick.

Will Old Boys please note the Speech Day is fixed for Feb. 4th?

FOOTBALL MATCH.

A Soccer match is being arranged between Old Boys of the London Branch and an XI raised at Headquarters. Will all desirous of playing in the latter team please communicate with Mr. R. Warren, 17, Clarendon Place, The Hoe, Plymouth? Mr. Francis is acting as Secretary for the London Team.

The following changes of address have been notified:

J. M. Widdecombe	22 Old Naval Hospital, Gibraltar.
F. Trevithick	12 East Park Avenue, Plymouth.
R. Profitt	St. Enodoc, Cleddau View, Haverfordwest.
E. A. Pearn	60 Werneth Hall Road, Oldham, Lancashire.
W. J. Wakely	21 Fern Street, Coppice, Oldham, Lancashire.
W. N. Trays, L.D.S.	40 Salisbury Terrace, Milehouse, Plymouth.
A. Pritchard	7 Brancker Road, Milehouse, Plymouth.
H. J. Luscombe	6 Western Avenue, London, W. 3

We welcome as New Members:

G. H. Grigg	2 Pentamar Terrace, Stoke.
D. H. Mason	27A West Street, Tavistock.
F. E. Gerrish	4 West Down Road, Plymouth.
R. P. E. Byfield	14 Bridgetown, Totnes.
F. T. Healy	44 Glenpark Avenue, North Road, Plymouth.
C. Rogers	38 Shaftesbury Cottages, Plymouth.
J. Sutton	7 Vine Gardens, Vine Estate, Swilly, Plymouth.
F. Godfree	40 Alcester Street, Stoke, Devonport.
G. Drake	38 Station Road, Keyham, Devonport.
R. Lyon	14 St. George's Terrace, Stoke, Devonport.
G. F. Ladner	"Tremar," West Down Road, Swilly, Plymouth.
G. Pike	32 Chestnut Road, Peverell, Plymouth.

G. R. Callaghan	11 Foliot Road, North Prospect, Plymouth.
J. C. Ridley	48 West Down Road, Swilly, Plymouth.
G. Stevens	10 Princess Square, Plymouth.
G. Lee	University College of S.W., Exeter.
L. Holmes	"Lyndrick," Torrland Road, Hartley, Plymouth.
J. E. Dyer-Smith	3 Somerset Place, Stoke, Devonport.
F. C. Taylor	Customs and Excise, Oldham, Lancashire.
F. S. Blight	49 Amherst Road, Plymouth.
J. Luxton	116 Beaumont Street, Stoke.
H. A. Pryor	40 Hillside Avenue, Mutley.
L. Morton	11 Fairmont Terrace, Ford, Devonport.
N. Salter	60 Stangray Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth.
W. G. Sprague	80 Woodville Road, Swilly, Plymouth,

A REMINDER.

Devonport High School Old Boys' Association

ANNUAL DINNER

on Monday, December 28th, 1936,

in the Duke of Cornwall Hotel

6-30 for 7 p.m. — Dress Optional

Ticket - 5/-

Tickets from: Mr. E. E. Cock, 39, Cedarcroft Road, Peverell, Plymouth; or the School.

THE LONDON BRANCH.

Chairman—MR. A. T. BROOKS.
Secretary—MR. J. H. FRANCIS, 41, Taylor Avenue, Kew, Surrey.
Treasurer—MR. M. J. COLLIER.
Committee—The above with MESSRS. A. J. SWAN and A. P. PIKE.

Since the publication of the last Magazine a further Ramble was held by the London Branch. Some thirteen stalwarts took part, and from all appearances and accounts were thoroughly rewarded

in the manner that only a rambler can truly appreciate. The party was again led by Mr. Mills, and once again he succeeded in reading his map with a geographical exactitude bewildering to such of us as were less expert in the art. We are truly grateful to Mr. Mills for the assistance he has given in drawing up the route of the Old Boys' Rambles. He has satisfied everyone—our canine friend Prince in particular!

The membership of the London Branch now exceeds sixty, and it is hoped that any Old Boy living in or near London who has not yet joined the London Branch, will hasten to do so.

Any Old Boy who has reason to believe (for example, by not being more than a few years in arrears with his subscriptions) that his name still features on the London lists, and yet who does not receive a Magazine, should communicate with me to ascertain the cause. Unnotified changes of address and Post Office lapses are most frequently to blame.

It is hoped to play an Association Football Match at 10.30 a.m. on Boxing-Day between the Plymouth and London Branches of the Old Boys' Association. The ground will be the new School Field opposite Weston Mill Cemetery. Any Old Boy desirous of playing for the London Branch should get in touch with me, stating in which position or positions (only one at a time, of course) he would be willing to play. Even if you do not play, you would be heartily welcomed if only you came along to give your vocal support.

It is hoped to hold the Annual General Meeting of the London Branch early in the New Year. Members will be notified of the exact date and place of meeting as soon as these essentials have been arranged.

Changes of address:

H. B. Every	86 Lonsdale Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.
J. H. Francis	41 Taylor Avenue, Kew, Surrey.

New Members:

A. J. Legg	13 Chatsworth Road, Brondesbury, N.W.2.
J. K. Dixon	67 Grafton Road, Acton, W.3.
F. B. Anstey	Wycliffe House, 58 Lewisham Park S.E.13.
R. L. Morgan	21 Foxley Road, Brixton, S.W.9.
A. Pomery	52 Canford Road, Clapham Common, S.W.11.
H. Smith	Stockton House, Fleet, Hants.
J. A. Peter	21 Foxley Road, Brixton, S.W.19.
R. W. Oliphant	Union Jack Hotel, Eaton Street, Waterloo Road, S.E.1.

DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' A.F.C.

The progress of the D.H.S. Old Boys' Rugby Club, together with the success gained by other Plymouth Old Boys' sports clubs, were the incentives which made one or two D.H.S. Old Boys deter-

mined to place the name of Devonport High School amongst the records of local soccer.

After a consultation with the Headmaster, without whose help the club would never have started, it was decided that the Old Boys' Soccer Club be revived. Following a few friendly matches last season, the club entered the Plymouth and District United Churches' League at the commencement of the present season, and although to date we have not won a match, we have three draws to our credit and hope to register many wins before the season finishes.

It has been said that Rome wasn't built in a day, and, believe me, neither is an Old Boys' Association Football Club. In this connection I wish all Old Boys would realise that there are many more important ways in which they may and *must* help the club, in addition to playing. It is the duty of every member of the Soccer Club to do their utmost to ensure the success of any social function which may be held to help the finance of the club. In addition, I sincerely ask all players who cannot play in any match to let me know before Friday evening or Saturday morning; the number of times this has happened so far has been disgusting and disheartening.

I also hope that all members of the Soccer Club will come along to the Old Boys' Dinner this year, not only to help to ensure the success of this annual event, but to demonstrate their appreciation in a practical way of the financial assistance given by the Old Boys' Association.

Although it is impossible to express here, thanks to all individuals who deserve such, I, on behalf of the Soccer Club do thank all those who have helped us in our hard struggle to exist, and in particular our worthy chairman, Mr. Austin, and our treasurer, Mr. R. G. W. Pengelly, who has worked harder than anyone to make the life of this Soccer Club everlasting.

In closing, I would again ask for the support of all at the Annual Dinner. The tickets, which are five shillings each, can be obtained from me at 17, Clarendon Place, The Hoe, Plymouth.

RODNEY G. WARREN,
Hon. Secretary.

On Being A Civil Servant.

No sinecure is more eagerly sought after in these times of economic instability than a post in the Civil Service. In the popular mind nothing is more symbolical of the conception of solidity, respectability and security than our black-coated worker, the Civil Servant. Beloved of the gods indeed are those who can claim the coveted title. Lengthy holidays, short hours and a congenial

environment, work a subsidiary rather than a principal in the terms of his engagement. It is no extravagant indulgence in superlatives to call the unemployed civil servant *rarissima avis*. *Rarissima avis* in very sooth!

Just as the prudent man invests in the funds so the wise paterfamilias leaves no stone unturned to consolidate the future of his son or daughter by obtaining for him or her a clerical, executive or administrative post in Government employ. For of all employers the Government is the head; of all employers the Government is the model. Parliament itself is the amphitheatre for this oft-vaunted proclamation.

Without daring to suggest that any smoke exists without a fire, without wishing to crush the illusions of countless millions to whom the Civil Service is the earthly counterpart of Paradise, we may yet pause to consider whether our bright horizon is the thing of scintillating beauty we had always imagined it to be. The matter is not at once resolved by a comparison with the miner, the labourer, and all those who toil arduously for meagre pittances. True it is that the hands of a Civil Servant are begrimed with nothing more than red ink—tied though they be with inescapable and interminable red tape. True it is that a Civil Servant can look forward with confidence to his "official emoluments". For some men, to ask for more than this is a species of incomprehensible avarice. Nor do we deny that, in the cause of social welfare and stability, it is maybe good that there should be some such men whose intellectual horizon is thus limited. We should, however, be wanting in reason were we to think that the Civil Service is a mould to which the characters of all may be fashioned, to imagine that the Civil Service is the universal and infallible solution of the problem of Careers.

No man of sufficient determination and foresight will ever be completely overwhelmed by his environment; no man of outstanding business perspicuity will ever fail for lack of opportunity. Yet no surer deterrent of the spirit of imagination and pioneering exists than the traditional conservatism of the British Civil Service and its enervating insistence on the sanctity of precedents. Its continual strength is, for the individual, its basic weakness. Fortunate indeed that not all men are star-gazers!

And what of the question of work? How often is the dissatisfied Civil Servant reproached with, "You can grumble, but I wish I had your job". And yet the national services can be administered with an efficiency all too galling when the taxpayer is called upon to sacrifice part of his income, or relinquish a substantial portion of his inheritance in the interests of the dispassionate State. Hard work and justification for grievances are not the prerogatives of "outside employees".

As to accommodation, misconception in the public mind is equally rife. Good light, modern furnishings and hygienic rooms

are those things of which the Office of Works has no official cognisance. What was good enough in the seventeenth century is good enough now, and good enough they still will be four centuries hence. Solidity! Stone! Whitehall! Somerset House! Prisons! Barracks! The Civil Service!

Not for one moment is it anticipated that the slightest credence will be placed in the words of truth and wisdom which have been written above. It is an impossible task to persuade some people that that which they had always persuaded themselves was a virgin white is at its best nothing but a streaky grey.

To become a Civil Servant is in itself an achievement. That it should not be the *Ultima Thule* of our life's ambition is the object of this brief essay.

J. H. FRANCIS.

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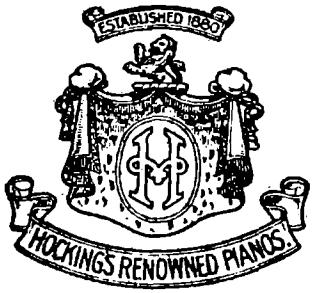

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