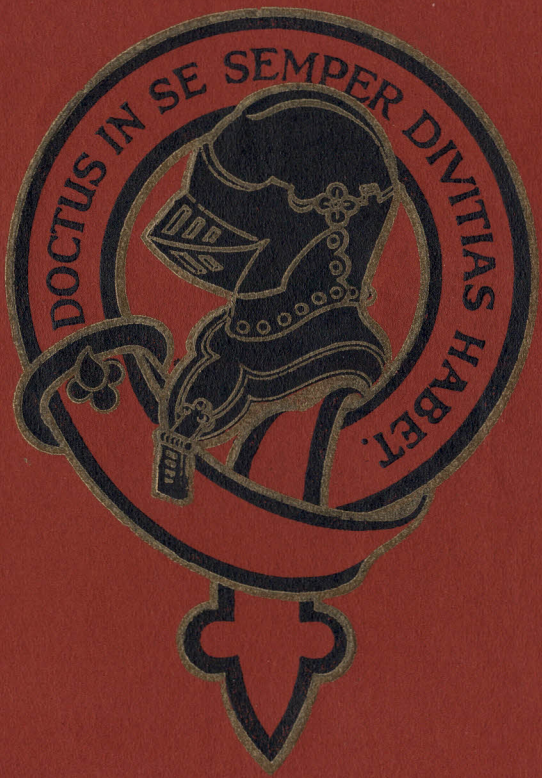
THE VISOR



MAGAZINE OF BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE

SUMMER, 1961.

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FIRST XI, 1961.



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Photo by Cull.



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SCHOOL CALENDAR.

Athletic Sports ..... May 11th

Half-term holiday ..... May 22nd, 23rd and 24th

Summer term ends ..... July 21st

Autumn term begins ..... September 4th

EDITORIAL.

IF ever there is a time of the year when one feels inclined to echo the words of the Preacher, "much study is a weariness of the flesh," then surely it is now, at the end of the summer term, when traditionally the sun blazes down out of a blue sky and the examination candidates perspire, as, blazers off, they wrestle with the diabolical cunning of the G.C.E. examiners. At this time we sympathise with the scholar, crawling like snail unwillingly to school with heavy looks: like him, we resent the confinment, the chalk, and the drone of voices, when all the outside world is calling with its "high Midsummer pomps," and when, as now, mighty deeds are being performed by the Australian touring team. For, in truth, the year's candle, scholastically speaking, is burned out : gone is the zeal, the strength, of September, when "like a giant refreshed with wine" we were ready for all tasks, all comers. Now all we want is the holidays, and, as the old song says, "We want what we want when we want it"—in other words, without delay. We have had enough of books, lessons, examinations, and all that, and we are impatient for fun instead of work, and the country or the beach instead of the playground and classroom. As Lewis Carroll did **not** say,

'Tis the voice of the schoolboy ; I hear him complain,
"There's nothing but lessons and lessons again ;
The detentions I loathe and all homework I dread,
If it goes on much longer, I'd rather be dead.
I'd sooner be swimming in New Ferry baths
Than swotting a textbook of physics or maths."

At such times there is little to be gained by seeking endlessly for inspiration which refuses to come. As Charles Lamb declares, inspiration, "like fires on the domestic heath, goes out in the sunshine." Neither is it of any use to cudgel one's brains : one of the gravediggers in "Hamlet" said, "Your dull ass will not mend his pace with beating." Accordingly, your Editor, despairing and frustrated in his quest for ideas, abandons the struggle and wishes you "Happy Holidays!" trusting that we shall return in September full of vigour for the new year ahead. To those who leave School for the great world outside **Visor** wishes farewell and the best of luck.

VALETE.

4B : Cooke, R.
5B : Blease, G. R.; Chisholm, J. B.; Oldham, T. J.

STAFF NOTES.

IT is with regret that we write of the retirement of Mr. A. R. Thacker, B.A., at the end of the Summer term. Mr. Thacker joined the staff in November, 1926. Previously he had served in the Coldstream Guards throughout the Great War of 1914-1918, had taken his degree at the

University of Birmingham on returning to civilian life, and had taught in Secondary schools in Estonia from 1922 to 1926. Good both at cricket and association football (the code played in B.I. in those days), Mr. Thacker took a prominent part in games, and was a valued member of the 1st XI of the Old Boys' A.F.C., and for many years gave assistance with cricket. Of recent years he has umpired cricket, but will be remembered especially, by his colleagues at any rate, for his outstanding service and meticulous accuracy in the role of Recorder of the Athletic Sports and Cross Country Race. In addition, Mr. Thacker was for a long time a prominent figure in the School Scout Troop and was a Rover Scout Leader.

Of equable and kindly disposition, Mr. Thacker has been very popular in the Common Room, where he has for long presided over the bridge table, enlivening the sessions with his inimitable comments on the hands dealt to him and his partners. We wish Mr. Thacker a long and happy retirement, and hope he will visit B.I. from time to time where he will long be held in kindly remembrance.

This term too we lose the services of Mr. J. W. J. S. Anderson, B.Sc., who is leaving B.I. to become Head of the Chemistry Department at Wallasey Technical-Grammar School. Mr. Anderson, who was educated at Wirral Grammar School and the University of Liverpool, where he took an Honours degree in Chemistry, joined the staff of the Institute in September, 1957 after two years in the Royal Corps of Signals. Mr. Anderson has taken an active part in many aspects of the life of the School, and has given a great deal of time to various activities, particularly to the Bantam XV, the Colts Cricket XI, and the Chess Club, and his willing assistance in these pursuits will not easily be replaced. We wish him every success in his new post.

Finally we must say goodbye to Mr. P. M. Townsend, B.A., who came last September to give us his assistance when we might have been understaffed. Mr. Townsend took an Honours degree at University College, London, after a four year course in Geography, and now he is going to the University of Oxford to take a postgraduate course in Education. Mr. Townsend has fitted well into the life of the School and the Common Room, and has given extremely valuable help on the rugby field as well as in the classroom. Our good wishes go with him, too, in this fresh stage of his career.

In May last we saw with regret a report of the death of Mr. G. Grainger Smith at the age of 70. For a short time in the war period, when there was an acute shortage of Staff, Mr. Grainger Smith, who was then Art Master at Liverpool College, was good enough to come to B.I. twice a week to teach the examination forms, help which was very much appreciated. Mr. Grainger Smith, who was very prominent in local art circles, was a member of the Royal Cambrian Academy, of which he was President in 1959. A picture by him of the night scene on Merseyside during the May bombing raids of 1941 is in the permanent collection of the Walker Art Gallery.

CROSS COUNTRY.

THE Annual Cross Country Run took place this year on the afternoon of Friday, March 24th. The weather was ideal, with good conditions underfoot, and a cool breeze to mitigate the hard slog up the Lever Causeway.

In the Junior event M. L. Hayman of Westminster was first in 17 minutes, 8.8 seconds, R. Woods of Tate was second, and A. Woods of Stitt was third.

House Placings : 1. Tate , 2. Westminster ; 3. Stitt ; 4. Atkin.

In the Intermediate race first home was T. J. Graham of Westminster in 25 minutes, 40.5 seconds, D. Hughes of Atkin was second, and G. F. Brown of Westminster was third.

House Placings : 1. Tate ; 2. Stitt ; 3, Atkin ; 4. Westminster.

J. S. Fraser of Westminster won the Senior event in the record time of 32 minutes, 54 seconds, knocking nearly 20 seconds off the old record. Second was C. M. Lee of Stitt, and third J. R. M. Gurden of Atkin. This was a closely contested event and aroused keen interest.

House Placings : 1. Westminster ; 2. Atkin ; 3. Stitt ; 4. Tate.

Tate were the winners of the afternoon with 24 points, Westminster were second with 20 points, Stitt, third with 16 points, and Atkin fourth with 12.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

AFTER a postponement caused by a bout of wet weather at the beginning of the Summer term, the Athletic Sports were held on Thursday, May 11th, and once again, as has happened very frequently of recent years, we had an ideal day. We were pleased to welcome many parents and friends, who enjoyed an afternoon's excellent competition with many good performances. Mrs. A. R. Thacker kindly presented the cups and medals to the winners, and asked for and obtained the traditional day's holiday. Once more the Ladies' Committee provided a delightful tea, and again we must compliment Mr. J. D. Hall and the remainder of the Staff who assist with this function on the excellence of the sport provided and the clockwork precision which regulated it.

RESULTS

	Event	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*Time or Distance*
2nd Form:	Discus	Callister, R.	Elliott, A. C.	Robinson, F.	69′ 0″
4th Form:	High Jump ...	McKittrick, L.	Jacobs, M.	Ratcliff, S.	4′ 10″
				Blair, M.	
Senior:	Long Jump ...	Lee, C.	Mattingly, J.	Elliott, K.	18′ 3″
3rd Form:	Shot	McNulty, M.	Hinds, D.	Oldham, R.	33′
4th Form:	Mile	Davies, P.	Graham, T. J.	Hughes, D.	6 mins.
1st Form:	Javelin	McKay, E. W.	Diamond, L.	Wood, M.	70′ 7″
1st Form:	100 yards ...	Williams, J. H.	Loy, J.	McKay, E. W.	13.6 secs.
2nd Form:	100 yards ...	Scoffield, P. L.	Caplin, K.	Nethercott, R.	13.0 secs.
3rd Form:	100 yards ...	Oldham, R.	Hinds, D.	Ritchie, L.	11.8 secs.
4th Form:	100 yards ...	Evans, E.	Lewis, R.	McKittrick, L.	10.8 secs.
Senior:	100 yards ...	McIntosh, A.	Elliott, K.	Timmons, D. J.	11.4 secs.
3rd Form:	Discus	McNulty, M.	Brown, G.	Morris, R.	98′ 3″
Senior:	Shot	McIntosh, A.	Pritchard, D.	Boyd, R.	34′ 6″
2nd Form:	Long Jump ...	Triggs, A. C.	Elliott, A. C.	Cotgrave, S.	13′ 5″
4th Form:	Javelin	Thornton, C. J.	Quaile, R.	Ratcliff, D.	130′
1st Form:	High Jump ...	Williams, J.	Harper, C.	Titchmarsh, A.	3′ 11½″
1st Form:	220 yards ...	Williams, J.	Loy, J.	Strange, L.	32.0 secs.
2nd Form:	220 yards ...	Caplin, K.	Cooke, T.	Scoffield, P. L.	30.3 secs.
3rd Form:	220 yards ...	Brown, G. F.	Oldham, R.	Hinds, D.	26.8 secs.
4th Form:	220 yards ...	Evans, E.	Lewis, R.	McKittrick, L.	25.3 secs.
Senior:	220 yards ...	Lee, C.	McIntosh, A.	Elliott, K.	24.5 secs.
2nd Form:	High Jump ...	Caplin, K.	Triggs, A. C.	Elliott, A.	4′ 4½″
4th Form:	Shot	Waters, J.	Blythe, W.	Thornton, C.	33′ 6″
Senior:	Javelin	McIntosh, A.	Wise, J.	Williams, J.	138′ 7″
3rd Form:	Long Jump ...	Brown, G. F.	Oldham, R.	Hinds, D.	16′ 1½″
1st Form:	Discus	Watson, J.	Wood, M.	Roberts, P.	56′ 9½″
Senior:	880 yards ...	Fraser, J.	Lee, C.	Docherty, D.	2 mins. 6.5 secs.

	Event	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*Time or Distance*
3rd Form:	880 yards ...	Brown, G. F.	Ward, W.	Kennedy, D.	2 mins. 27.1 secs.
4th Form:	880 yards ...	Ratcliff, D.	Hughes, D.	Graham, T. J.	2 mins. 33.5 secs.
1st Form:	70 yards Hurdles	Titchmarsh, A.	Shaw, M.	Williams, J.	13.1 secs.
2nd Form:	75 yards Hurdles	Callister, R.	Elliott, A.	Caplin, K.	13.0 secs.
Senior:	Discus	Rigg, L.	Branagan, J.	Clays, G.	91′ 10″
4th Form:	Long Jump ...	McKittrick, L.	Blair, A.	Lewis, R.	17′ 4¼″
3rd Form:	High Jump ...	Oldham, R.	Ritchie, L.	Hughes, F.	4′ 8½″
2nd Form:	Javelin	Callister, R.	Callister, K.	Caplin, K.	109′ 1″
1st Form:	Shot	Hartley, L.	Wood, M.	Shaw, M.	23′ 6″
Senior:	440 yards ...	Lee, C.	McIntosh, A.	Young, G.	56.2 secs.
2nd Form:	440 yards ...	Cooke, T.	Callister, R.	Hayman, M.	69.7 secs.
3rd Form:	440 yards ...	Brown, G. F.	Ward, W.	Kennedy, A.	63.5 secs.
4th Form:	440 yards ...	Evans, E.	Lewis, R.	Thornton, C.	60.5 secs.
1st Form:	440 yards ...	Harper, C.	Laing, J.	Titchmarsh, A.	73.8 secs.
4th Form:	Discus	Yates, A.	Waters, J.	Evans, E.	103′ 5″
Senior:	High Jump ...	McIntosh, A.	Johnson, W.	Young, G.	5′ 1½″
1st Form:	Long Jump ...	Dawson, S.	Strange, L.	McKay, E.	12′ 1″
2nd Form:	Shot	Caplin, K.	Robinson, F.	Tilston, B.	30′ 9½″
3rd Form:	Javelin	Hinds, D.	Barrett, P.	Morris, R.	113′ 5″
3rd Form:	Hurdles	Oldham, R.	Morris, R.	Bawn, A.	12.6 secs.
4th Form:	Hurdles	McKittrick, L.	Thornton, C.	Ratcliff, D.	12.4 secs.
Senior:	Mile	Fraser, J.	Gurden, J.	Woodworth, A. C.	5 mins. 3.5 secs.
1st Form:	Relay	S	A	W	62.0 secs.
2nd Form:	Relay	T	W	A	59.2 secs.
3rd Form:	Relay	T	W	S. disqualified	56.5 secs.
4th Form:	Relay	W		A. did not finish	
Senior:	Relay	S	T	S	52.6 secs.
			W	T	48.4 secs.

Victor Ludorum : McIntosh, A., 44 points.

Runner up : Lee, C., 32 points.

Junior Victor Ludorum : Oldham, R., 40 points.

Runner up : Brown, G. F., 38 points.

House Championship.

1	Westminster	444 points.
2	Stitt	278 points.
3	Tate	251 points.
4	Atkin	148 points.

ENDURANCE AND INITIATIVE TEST.

FOR the fifth year a voluntary test was arranged during the Easter Vacation. As there were so many members of the Fourth Forms who wished to take part in a test which had previously been restricted to boys in the 5th and 6th Forms, an additional shorter test was organised for these boys.

There were 30 entrants for the Senior Test and 16 for the Junior Test.

The task set for the Seniors, who had to report at Midnight, 9th April, 1961, was to—

1. Travel north as far as possible for 36 hours ;
2. On return journey to visit as many places of interest as possible ;
3. Spend at least one night sleeping out ;
4. Keep all evidence and write a full account ;
5. Return by 9 p.m. on 13th April, 1961.

The test required the use of common sense in the choice of route etc. The winners were not those who reached the furthest point in the shortest time. This honour fell to Aspey and Walker of 5B. The winners, whose account appears below, covered more ground, made a better use of time, and wrote a better report.

The performance of all the entrants was of a high standard ; for the weather was very bad, and conditions for travel and sleeping much worse than in previous years.

In the Junior Test too the weather conditions were very bad. Their task was—

1. To report for instructions at 5-30 a.m. on 11th April, 1961 ;
2. To get to the top of (1) Snowdon, (2) The Wrekin ;
3. To visit (1) Anglesey, (2) Harlech Castle, (3) as many other places of interest as possible ;
4. To sleep out one night ;
5. To collect and record evidence ;
6. To return by 11-30 p.m., 13th April, 1961 ;
7. To write a full report.

Once again the test was won not by those who achieved the most (Swaine and Graham of 4B), but by those who made the best use of their time and also wrote the best report.

There was a very high standard of performance, and I shall have to devise a very difficult task for 1962 to be worthy of those who completed the Junior Test this year.

HEADMASTER.

SENIOR INITIATIVE AND ENDURANCE TEST, 1961.

WE arrived at the house of the Headmaster at midnight on Sunday, the 9th April. Our instructions were to go as far north in Scotland as was possible in thirty-six hours, to visit and bring back proof of as many places of interest as possible on the return journey, and to keep an hourly log of the journey.

We made our way from the Headmaster's house to the Mersey Tunnel Entrance, determined to get to Scotland by morning. As soon as we arrived, we commenced to bang on the window of the first car we could see, much to the distress of the driver, who consented in a gruff voice to take us to the end of Scotland Road in Liverpool. Shortly afterwards it rained heavily and so we tried the same trick at a car waiting at some traffic lights. Surprised when the car door opened immediately, we were not so happy on finding that the driver was slightly drunk. He proceeded to inform us that, although he had not stayed in the sixth form at school, at least he knew that Scotland was in the other direction. We nodded in agreement, relieved to discover that he was only going to Aintree.

After we had met some other competitors, a van stopped for us, and we were given a lift into Ormskirk, where we waited at the traffic lights. Soon a Bedford van halted, and the driver eagerly gave us a lift to Preston. On the way he advised us to do what he did in an army endurance test when he borrowed a motorcycle. We walked through Preston to the end of the By-Pass, followed by a starving dog which we finally got rid of by putting him in a field with a high fence.

Thirty minutes later we were bumping along the road to Kendal in a pre-war car driven by a vicar. Delayed by a puncture we reached a garage three miles outside Kendal at five o'clock. The owner of the garage, who accused us of taking away his trade by standing at the garage entrance, called us "a couple of no-good tramps," and told us to keep walking.

Daylight found us on the outskirts of Kendal still "thumbing lifts." At six o'clock an empty lorry gave us a lift over Shap, and over the border to Gretna. After a passing glimpse of the blacksmith's shop we descended from the lorry, which was going to Ayr. Almost at once another lorry stopped, and the driver offered to take us to Kinross, not far from Perth. In contrast to the previous day Monday was very sunny, and we enjoyed the trip across Beatock Summit, where we saw a number of locomotives straining to pull a train up the steep incline.

At Kinross we were picked up by a break-down lorry travelling to Aberdeen. At Perth we got out and walked about three miles along the road to Inverness. It was now four o'clock, and we were tired of walking along the dusty road without obtaining a lift. Fortunately a small Hillman stopped, and the driver, who had once lived in New Brighton, told us he could take us to Carrbridge. We thanked him and after a while went to sleep. Soon we awakened, shivering with cold. We were at about three thousand feet in height and there was snow all around us. Having crossed the Grampians we continued along the Spey Valley. The driver switched the radio on and the Scottish news said that the osprey was nesting in that valley once more.

At Carrbridge we got a lift in a fast van, carrying radio equipment, which was only going as far as Inverness. As we were walking through the town, a Morris skidded to a standstill, and someone beckoned to us from within. The driver took us to a few miles beyond Dornoch and then, as it was becoming dark, we started to walk. At about 10-30 we found a barn to sleep in. We reached it by crossing some marshy ground, but we did not mind because it was raining hard anyway.

In the morning we awoke to find swords of sunlight coming through the holes in the roof. It was sunny and hot, and so after a good breakfast we set off determined to reach John O'Groats by twelve o'clock. Three miles further on a lorry carrying two miners halted for us, and we got on the back. We travelled along the cliff road most of the time with the sea far below us. Near Lybster the lorry went too fast round a bend and crashed into the side of the road ; it reversed and knocked a fence down the three hundred feet drop to the sea. At Lybster we were surprised to meet Walker and Aspey. Shortly afterwards we had an argument with two miners about thumbing lifts. They said, "Di' ye nae ken we were here first?" We kept on walking, but nevertheless the first car we saw stopped and took us to Wick.

Then we got a lift for about five miles in a Jaguar. Afterwards the road was very desolate, and we had to walk the ten miles to John O' Groats, which we reached in an exhausted state at 12-15.

After visiting the last house in Scotland we tried to persuade the car drivers to take us back to Wick but did not succeed until 3-0. Travelling along the route we came by, we reached Bonar Bridge, where there was a transport cafe. The owner gave us a free meal and procured us a lift in a fish lorry to Elgin, which we arrived at by daylight, passing the site of the Battle of Culloden on the way.

We covered the eighty miles to Aberdeen in a lorry carrying vegetables. After visiting the well-known fish market we started along the less interesting east coast road intending to stop at Arbroath to see the abbey. We obtained a lift in a car to Arbroath and then commenced to walk to Perth. Thinking we would not get a lift, we were grateful when a Royal Navy van stopped to take us to Dundee.

We continued by a number of short lifts through the fertile Carse of Gowrie to Perth and thence to Newmains, where there is a road to Edinburgh. It was now pouring with rain, and a driver who was probably sorry for us took us into the centre of Edinburgh. We visited some of the famous monuments such as the castle and the Walter Scott Memorial, and then started back for Newmains at 10-0. Having reached Newmains we were given a lift as far as Carluke Hospital. Tired, hungry, soaked, and freezing cold, we camped in a 'bus-shelter. As soon as we had our sleeping-bags ready, a crowd of people arrived, and we were exceedingly embarrassed.

This occurred again in the morning when a lady who thought we were a couple of starving tramps gave us six shillings. We set out at 8-0 and soon reached Lanark. Unfortunately, after visiting the racecourse we could not get a lift for three hours, but near Thankerton an oil lorry, which was going to Liverpool, stopped when we signalled it.

At Carlisle the driver stopped for a meal, and we visited the castle. We reached Liverpool at 5-0, and, after crossing the Mersey on the ferry, made our way towards the Headmaster's house.

In four days we gained more knowledge of Scotland than we should have gained in a month's geography lessons, and we discovered that the old legend of Scottish meanness is totally untrue. We should like to thank the Headmaster for organising the competition and we hope the other competitors enjoyed it as much as we did.

D. GOODWIN, P. W. TOOLEY (Sixth Form).

JUNIOR INITIATIVE AND ENDURANCE TEST.

DURING the Easter holidays a Junior Initiative and Endurance Test was organised by the Headmaster for the fourth forms. David Parry and I arrived at the Headmaster's house early on the Tuesday morning. We received our booklet and read the instructions. We had to visit the Wrekin, Snowdon, Harlech Castle, Anglesey, and as many other places of interest as possible en route.

By 7-30 a.m. we were at Wrexham and on our way to the Wrekin. From Wrexham we went through Ruabon and Gobowen to Shrewsbury. At the Shrewsbury by-pass we were given a lift to the foot of the Wrekin. We left our bags in the cafe and went to the top. On returning we had a small snack and started back for Shrewsbury, but the going was very slow, and we could not get a lift. By 3-0 p.m., after a short lift, we were in Chirk. Here we photographed the castle before leaving for Llangollen, where we had decided to camp for the night. Two hours later we reached Llangollen. By this time we were tired out, and we gratefully pitched our tent on a farmer's land without arguing about the shilling fee that we should have to pay.

Wednesday morning was wet, and this hindered us with our breakfast, but we finally left Llangollen at 9-00 a.m. We had decided to go to Snowdon, but after two lifts in the opposite direction we arrived in Harlech. We left Harlech feeling very wet and miserable because of the state of our clothes. We eventually got a lift on the back of a lorry on the understanding that we should be going on a long trip to Caernarvon. For two hours we sat on the back of the lorry in the pouring rain, sharing our good fortune with two baths and a do-it-yourself coffin kit. At Caernarvon we managed to find shelter in a barn, and soon, for the first time that day, we were dry.

The morning of the last day was better (the rain was not as heavy as before), and by 10-00 a.m. we were in Anglesey. From Anglesey we went to Bangor, and from there via Penrhyn Castle and Capel Curig to Snowdon. But by now the rain was too heavy, and we were too wet to try to get up Snowdon, and so we started back home. We reached the main road, and by 3-00 p.m. we were at Betws-y-coed and the Swallow Falls. From Betws-y-Coed we travelled quickly to Llanrwst, Colwyn Bay, St. Asaph, and Chester. Once in Chester we soon got a lift into Birkenhead and reported to the Headmaster.

Now we are both looking forward to next Easter when we shall be able to take part in the senior section of this test.

R. DODD, 4A.

THE VINEYARDS OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE finest wines of South Africa are produced in the mountain valleys of the South-Western districts of the Cape of Good Hope. With Cape Town as its centre this area extends about one hundred miles inland, and its climatic conditions are such that it is ideal for the cultivation of the vine.

Viticulture was started at the Cape in 1655 under the direction of Governor Jan Van Riebeck, whose memory is perpetuated in the names of several villages in this area. These early attempts at wine-making were comparatively unsuccessful until the arrival, about forty years later, of the Huguenots, who brought their French methods with them. They settled in the Fransch Hock valley about forty miles from Cape Town, where they established the wines they had transported from France. From this humble beginning the vineyards have spread over hundreds of square miles of this beautiful countryside, and nowadays have developed into one of the major industries of the Cape.

The heavy winter rains and the mountain snow prepare the ground for the hot sun of spring and summer.

This region abounds in high, steep, rugged mountains, between which are long, wide, winding valleys. Through these valleys flow gentle, crystal clear streams over beds of pebble-strewn golden sands, in which the glistening quartzes delight the eye. These streams, which are fed by the melting snows on the high mountain peaks, are used for irrigating the vineyards.

Along the slopes of the valleys terraced vines extend as far as the eye can see, with clumps of trees dotted here and there, in which nestle the white-washed, thatched roofed, gabled, Dutch-styled houses. In winter the vines lie in gaunt, browned rows, their gnarled limbs supported by the trellises.

At the first awakening of Spring the vines burst forth into their luxuriant pale green foliage, which transforms the countryside from the bare, brown desolation of winter into the promise of summer bounty.

As the bunches form upon the vines, the coloured labourers work amongst the rows, their many-hued garments creating a picturesque scene, and in the evenings, as they wend their way homewards, their happy, laughing voices can be heard raised in song in the still air.

In late Summer the bunches reach their last, glorious fullness, and are now ready to achieve their final destiny, the making of fine wines, which have a world-wide reputation for their quality.

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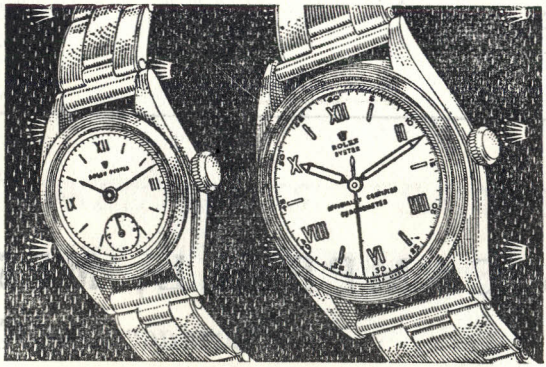
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AT the end of the Spring term, Athletics Colours for Cross-Country running were awarded to K. Aspey, J. H. Davies, J. R. M. Gurden, S. Redfern, V. R. Saunders, P. W. Tooley and M. W. Waring.

* * *

On Monday afternoon, April 24th, a party from the Upper Sixth Science Form toured the Castner Kellner Works of the I.C.I. at Runcorn. Appropriately equipped with overalls and eye shields, they studied the manufacturing processes for calcium carbide, sodium peroxide, sodium perborate, and hydrochloric acid. It proved a most enjoyable visit, including as it did a first-rate tea and luxurious travel in a fleet of limousines.

* * *

Visor heartily congratulates J. R. Crowe, who was at B.I. from 1943 to 1949, on his election as Captain of Birkenhead Park Rugby Union Football Club.

J. A. Langley (1954-1959) after completing Part I of the apprenticeship course for the career of Naval Artificer in **H.M.S. Fisguard** has now been drafted to **H.M.S. Condor** for further apprenticeship training. While in **H.M.S. Fisguard** Langley achieved first class passes in Craftsmanship and School, was awarded 3rd prize in School, and passed Ordinary National Certificate (S.1.). Much of his spare time was devoted to canoeing, and he was in great demand as a demonstrator to various youth clubs and other organisations. We congratulate Langley on his success which has been achieved by enthusiasm and hard work.

* * *

When we returned after half-term a sigh of relief went up from all those whose games in the yard had been stopped until wire netting had been fixed along the railings in Hollybank Road. Now that the netting is in position the traditional games have been played at break and in the lunch hour despite the heat.

The thanks of the Arts set of the Sixth and Advanced forms are gratefully offered to Mr. and Mrs. E. Sorby for the loan of their wonderful scale model of Shakespear's Globe theatre which was very much appreciated.

* * *

At the end of April and during the whole of the first week in May, the School played host to a number of Her Majesty's Inspectors. The last inspection before this was in 1947.

* * *

There was a good attendance of parents of the third formers on the evening of May 18th to meet the Head and Staff to discuss the curriculum and general problems of boys of this age.

We were pleased to welcome Mr. Sorby back to School shortly after half-term. We trust that he has now made a good recovery. We also extend our sympathy to Mr. P. Townsend and Mr. Hughes, both of whom have recently suffered from injury received at games.

* * *

Visor also offers hearty congratulations to the following on their recent successes :—

Ministry of Transport, Master's Certificate ..... P. W. Colville

Sergeant T. Seville, Birkenhead Borough Police—promoted Acting Inspector (May, 1961).

I. Galt : L.D.S. (R.C.S.) Final (June, 1961).

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY RESULTS

Certificate in Education ..... P. Jones, R. J. Roberts

Diploma in Public Administration ..... D. Naybour

Diploma in Public Administration, Pt. I 2nd Yr. Examination N. Y. Wilkinson

Degree of B.A. (General Studies) 3rd Yr. Examination ..... R. A. Shales

Ordinary Degree of B.Sc. Pt. I Examination ..... D. Harris

Faculty of Engineering—

School of Civil Engineering, Sessional Examination ..... A. G. Harding

* * *

We congratulate Sir Herbert J. Manzoni, C.B.E., M.I.C.E., Chief Engineer and Surveyor of the City of Birmingham, who is now retiring, on the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science conferred upon him by the University of Birmingham in recognition of his eminent services. We wish Sir Herbert and Lady Manzoni a very happy retirement.

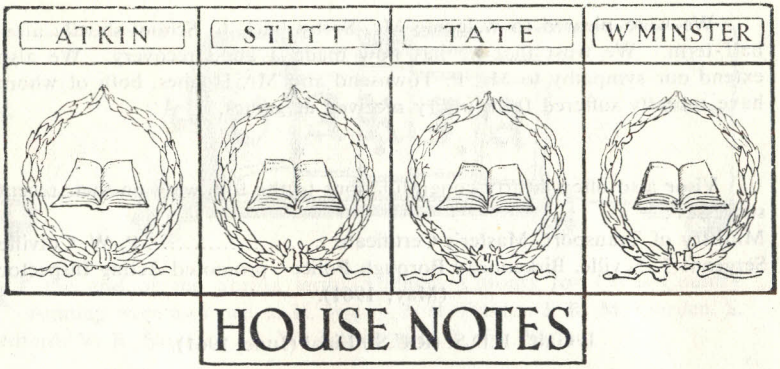
* * *

We learn with regret of the recent death of an Old Boy, Mr. Julius Abbott, who joined the Birkenhead Borough Treasurer's department after leaving School. He saw much service with the 7th Armoured Division in the last war, fighting in North Africa and in Italy, France, and Germany. He was at one time a member of the Old Instonians' R.U.F.C.

* * *

W. R. Peters, who is this year's Head Prefect, has suffered a great deal of illness in his last two terms in the School. He has been undergoing hospital treatment which was interrupted to enable him to sit for his Advanced Level G.C.E. and which he must now resume. We offer him our best wishes for a complete recovery.

Visor congratulates W. E. Ward of 3A on his recent success in the Trinity College of Music theory examination, grade 3, in which he passed with Honours, ninety-two per cent.



HOUSE NOTES

ATKIN

THIS term has been for Atkin one which has shown little promise for the immediate future of the House.

The Seniors were defeated in almost everything we undertook. In the Cross Country Runs we were outclassed although several individuals did make a great effort. On Sports Day the story of defeat repeated itself. A noticeable effort was made in the Cricket Matches in spite of overwhelming odds, and the team played with a spirit that went unrewarded.

The Juniors, however, did show signs of success. The Cross Country was run with a deal of vigour by the majority. On Sports Day we were shown a ray of hope by several of the first-formers who will be greeted warmly when they become Seniors ; for it is there our weakness lies. The Cricket Matches were played with enthusiasm, the House beating Stitt, narrowly losing to Westminster, and being defeated by Tate.

The House must try its utmost to improve next term, and with new blood entering the School it is hoped that more encouraging results will be recorded.

M.W.A.

STITT

THIS term has been a more successful one for the House than the Easter term. In the newly inaugurated gym. competition both the Senior and the Junior teams performed well ; the Seniors won their section and the Juniors gained second place in theirs. This resulted in the House being placed second in the competition as a whole.

The House's reputation became slightly tarnished in the School Cross-Country in which we gained only third place. Lee made a valiant attempt to regain the House's declining reputation with a splendid run, finishing second to Fraser in the Senior Cross-Country, but unfortunately he was not supported in his effort.

At the Annual Sports, which were held in glorious weather, Stitt once again played second fiddle to Westminster, who called the tune in all events except the Senior ones. Here Stitt was particularly strong, and in many events was to obtain maximum points. Heartiest congratulations are extended to McIntosh for his grand effort in becoming the Senior Victor Ludorum and also for the success he has achieved in his prodigious throwing of the javelin.

The latest competition to have been held is the Cricket competition. The only House match of any significance during the cricket season is regularly becoming the Westminster v. Stitt match. Whichever House wins this match invariably has the best chance of winning the Cricket Championship.

This year the match was exceptionally exciting with Stitt defending gallantly against the power of Westminster's bowling, and scraping together a total of 43 runs. Westminster went in to bat confident of reaching Stitt's diminutive total, but eventually it was the eighth wicket partnership which scratched together the necessary runs. All left the field, believing the match won, but, owing to a miscalculation by the scorers, were required to return to obtain another run. With his first ball McIntosh broke the wicket, and it looked for one moment as though the result might yet be a face-saving tie for Stitt. However, the very next ball found a thick edge, and the Westminster batsmen scampered down the wicket for a single.

Stitt's remaining matches against Tate and Atkin were won easily, thanks to some fine batting and bowling by McIntosh. Unfortunately the Juniors once again failed to emulate the Seniors, and lost all three matches by some large scores.

On the whole the House has had a reasonably successful year. There have been failures, but these have been counterbalanced by some successes. With the help of a few more boys such as McIntosh and Pye, who competed in all the House competitions, we should certainly have done better in the Coronation Cup.

TATE

OWING to the sad lack of keen cricketers and athletes in the House, as far as the Seniors are concerned, Tate has not done very well in the Coronation Cup Competition.

The Juniors on the other hand must be given most of the credit for the few successes of the House.

In the Junior Cricket matches, the House gained Victories over Stitt and Atkin and would have beaten Westminster, if the allocated 20 overs had not run out with three wickets to fall and seven runs to make ; a few more overs would have secured the match easily.

In the Senior House matches, Stitt and Westminster won convincingly, and the House beat Atkin by a few runs.

In the Annual Cross Country and Sports Day events, it was the Junior members of the House who gained the points, and this goes to show that, although we did not gain a very high position, in the next few years Tate will prove to be a much stronger contender for the annual games honours and trophies.

B.D.

WESTMINSTER

AFTER Easter, the House began where it left off at the end of last term, and the result has been a continued run of success.

All six cricket matches were won. The Junior team experienced little difficulty, but the Seniors had to struggle against Stitt, only triumphing with their last pair together and after a recount. Especially to be congratulated are Brown and Oldham in the Juniors, Wise and Johnson, who bowled well for the Seniors, and Docherty, who captained the Senior side admirably.

In the Cross Country, the House reluctantly surrendered first place to Tate, despite the fine efforts of Seniors like Fraser, Tooley, and Docherty. The Intermediates also ran well, but the Junior members of the House must exert themselves a little more if Westminster is to maintain its traditional and habitual superiority in all aspects of the Coronation Cup competition.

Westminster again swept the board on Sports Day. The expected challenge from Stitt failed to materialise, and all Westminster athletes are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Thus, Westminster has definitely retained the Coronation Cup, regardless of the results of the Christmas and Summer marksheets. This, however, should not be a signal for relaxation, and continued keenness and hard work are necessary from all boys if the House is to repeat its successes next year.

W.R.P.

ATHLETICS 1961.

THE programme began early this year and we were fortunate to have good weather in February to begin training. Cross Country and field event practice occupied the early training sessions, and by the end of the Easter term the heats had been completed in preparation for an early Sports Day. Unfortunately the weather was shocking at the end of April, and the Sports were postponed for two weeks. May 11th was a beautiful day, and all the events were completed. The Ladies' Committee again catered for all, and, thanks to their enthusiasm and efforts, all were satisfied.

One new School Record and eleven new Best Performances were recorded namely :—

School Record : 880 yards, J. Fraser, 2m. 6.5s. (2m. 10s.);

Best Performances : 4th Year 100 yards, E. Evans, 10.8s. (11.0);
4th Year Javelin, C. Thornton,, 130′ (108′);
4th Year 220 yards, E. Evans, 25.3s. (25.4);
4th Year Discus, L. Yates, 103′ 5″ (102′ 5″);
3rd Year 880 yards, G. Brown, 2m. 27.1s. (2m 31.6s.);
3rd Year High Jump, R. Oldham, 4′ 8½″ (4′ 6″);
3rd Year Javelin, D. Hinds, 113′ 5″ (102′ 3″);
2nd Year High Jump, K. Caplin, 4′ 4½″ (4′ 2″);
2nd Year Javelin, R. Callister, 109′ 1″ (85′ 3½″);
Senior Relay (4 x 110 yards). Stitt, 48.4s. (48.5s.);
1st Year Relay (4 x 110 yards), Stitt, 62s. (62.8s.).

Full details and results of the Sports and Cross Country appear separately.

After the Sports the school took part in a number of Athletics Matches and details are as follows :—

Seniors v. Park High School. (Away).

This match was won by 54 points to 53, and was as close as the score indicates. Evans, Lee, and Fraser were quite outstanding for the School team, and, considering this was early in the season, the results were most satisfactory. Our firsts included :—

100 yards : 1st Evans B.I. 10.6s.;
220 yards : 1st Lee B.I. 25.5s.;
880 yards : 1st Lee B.I. 2m. 17.9s.;
Mile : 1st Fraser B.I. 5m. 5.6s.;
Javelin : 1st McIntosh B.I. 149′ 7″;
Discus: 1st Rigg B.I. 124′ 6½″;
Shot : 1st Boyd B.I. 33′ 5″.

Juniors v. Park High School.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Years all had matches against P.H.S. In the 1st Year we fielded A, B, and C teams, but they all lost their matches. In the 2nd Year the A team lost, but the B team drew. The 3rd Year A team lost by 2 points, and the B team had an easy victory.

Seniors v. Wallasey Grammar Technical School. (Home).

This match resulted in another win for the Senior team. Again Lee was outstanding in all his events, and captained the Athletics team with success. McIntosh, too, had a magnificent afternoon, winning three events and throwing the javelin 174′ 7″, which is two feet further than the standard required for the National Championships. Our firsts included :—

880 yards : Lee, 2m. 15.3s.;
High Jump : McIntosh, 5′ 1″;
100 yards : Evans, 10.8s.;
Long Jump : Lee, 18′ 2½″;
Javelin : McIntosh, 174′ 7″;
220 yards : Lee, 24.8s.;
Shot : McIntosh, 34′ 7¼″;
Mile : Fraser, 5m. 0.5s.;
Relay 4 x 110 : School, 48.1s.
Points W.G.T.S. 66; B.I. 93.

Town Trials.

These were held in May in three sections, and the following B.I. boys were selected to represent Birkenhead in the County Championships.

Seniors : J. Fraser—Mile.
Intermediate : L. Rigg—Discus.
E. Evans—100 yards.
A. McIntosh—Javelin.
Juniors : M. McNulty—Discus.
G. Brown—Long Jump.
R. Oldham—Hurdles.

Inter Year Matches.

These have been organised throughout the Summer term and have produced some keen competition and good results. J. Fraser of the Lower 6th, in a match against the 5th Year, broke the old School mile record with a fast time of 4m. 50.1s. This was 3.7s. faster than the existing record. It might be mentioned that this race was completed in rain and not long after most of the athletes, including Fraser, had completed a half-mile race.

County Championships 1961.

These were held at Sale, and while our boys excelled themselves, returning faster times and longer distances than ever before, we were unable to capture any championships. J. Fraser was sixth in the mile in an unofficial time almost ten seconds faster than his recent School record. E. Evans did the 100 yards in 10.4s., which equals the School record, but even he did not qualify for the final. L. Rigg threw the discus over 145 feet to finish in the first six. The standards were very high indeed despite a gusty wind, and the School is very proud of our own boys' performances. Cheshire can look forward to some success at the All-England Championships in Chesterfield on July 21-22.

Athletics Colours.

These will be awarded on the last day of term this year, and, in keeping with tradition, the boys will not be informed of the awards until the actual ceremony.

Rugby Colours.

At the end of the Easter Term, Rugby Colours were awarded to the following boys :—

Upper Sixth : C. Lee, B. Doveston.
Lower Sixth : A. Steedman.
Fifth Year : A. McIntosh, G. Young.

Inter-House Gymnastic Competition.

Our first Inter-House Gym Competition was held at the end of the Easter Term in two sections, Juniors, consisting of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Year boys and Seniors, 4th, 5th, and 6th Year boys. The Headmaster, a former Physical Educationalist, judged the competition which entertained the School spectators for more than two hours. The results were as follows :—

Junior.			*Senior.*		
1	Westminster	304 points;	1	Stitt	386 points;
2	Atkin	292 points;	2	Westminster	383 points;
3	Stitt	286 points:	3	Atkin	336 points;
4	Tate	278 points.	4	Tate	334 points.

Final Placings.

1	Westminster	687 points;
2	Stitt	672 points;
3	Atkin	628 points;
4	Tate	612 points.

FIRST XI CRICKET.

Holt High School, Cancelled—Holt's pitch flooded.
Wirral Grammar School, Loss—Wirral 87; B.I. 59.
Quarry Bank High School, Win—B.I. 152 for 6 dec; Quarry Bank 31.
Oldershaw Grammar School, Win—B.I. 92; Oldershaw 39.
Rock Ferry High School, Win—B.I. 146 for 8 dec.; Rock Ferry 64.
Wirral Grammar School, Win—Wirral 39; B.I. 42 for 3.
Helsby Grammar School, Win—B.I. 125; Helsby 39.
Wallasey Technical Grammar School, Win—Wallasey 54; B.I. 56 for 7.
Park High School, Win—Park High 58; B.I. 59 for 3.
Chester Grammar School, Win—B.I. 83; Chester 27.
Alsop High School, Win—B.I. 131 for 7 dec.; Alsop 38.
Caldy Grange Grammar School, Win—Caldy 53; B.I. 54 for 2.
St. Anselm's College, Win—B.I. 67; St. Anselm's 39.
The Old Instonians,
The Staff,

THE cricket season poured and drizzled in during the Easter holidays, and practices then and during the first few weeks of the Summer term were held in anything but ideal conditions. Nevertheless, attendances were very good and a number of unknowns were discovered.

The opening match was against Wirral Grammar School who batted first and were 45 runs for 7 wickets at one stage. Their ninth man in hit 24 not out, and their total reached 87 runs, McIntosh taking 6 wickets for 22. The School's innings started disastrously, 3 wickets being down for 6 runs and 4 down for 13 runs. Matters improved as a result of Johnson making 14 and McIntosh 23, and the score reached 51 for 6. The rot then set in, and four batsmen made no runs at all, two being run out because of poor calling, the final total being 59 runs.

The value of a good opening partnership was emphasized in the game against Quarry Bank High School, when the School won the toss and batted first, the opening stand realizing 78 runs, the team declaring at 152 for 6. Wise was the top scorer with 35 runs, and Hansen and Lee made 25 and 24 respectively. Quarry Bank made 31, Johnson taking 6 wickets for 12 runs, and McIntosh 4 wickets for 19 runs.

Batting first against Oldershaw Grammar School, the School hit 92 runs and then bowled out their opponents for 39, McIntosh taking 6 wickets for 16 runs, and Johnson 4 wickets for 23.

The game against Rock Ferry High School was played in very wet conditions, the rain pouring down heavily on occasions. The sun struggled through the clouds in the intervals between the showers, and the evening proved quite a pleasant one. The School batted first and made 146, the captain, Docherty, hitting 52 not out, and Kevan and Lee making 21 and 20 respectively. Rock Ferry were all out for 64, Webster taking 3 wickets for 4 runs.

A return match with Wirral Grammar School resulted in a reversal of fortunes. Wirral were all out for 39, McIntosh taking 6 for 21 and Johnson 4 for 15. The School then made 42 runs for 3 wickets.

Against Helsby Grammar School, the School made 125, Ratcliff hitting 36 runs. With Johnson taking 7 wickets for 20 runs, Helsby were all out for 39.

After this series of wins, the School came close to defeat in the match against Wallasey Technical Grammar School. Wallasey batted first and were all out for 54, McIntosh taking 4 wickets for 13 runs and Steedman 3 wickets for 3 runs. When the School batted, 6 wickets were down for 26 runs, and the bowlers were certainly on top. For an inexplicable reason, the bowlers were suddenly changed, and the score leapt to 56 for the loss of one more wicket.

Having won the toss, Park High School elected to bat and were all out for 58, McIntosh taking 5 wickets for 22 runs, and Johnson 4 wickets for 34 runs. The School then made 59 for the loss of 3 wickets, Hansen hitting 17 not out and Wise 17.

To date, then, the season has been a successful one with Docherty, Wise, McIntosh, and Hansen heading the scorers, and McIntosh and Johnson having taken 33 and 31 wickets respectively, McIntosh at a cost of just over 4 runs per wicket, and Johnson at a cost of less than 6 runs per wicket. The fielding has frequently been very good, Ratcliff being particularly good when at his best. Docherty has set a fine example as captain, and his wicket-keeping has been such that a total of only 10 byes has been conceded.

The team wish to thank the Ladies' Committee for providing teas throughout the season, the groundsman for his work on the square, and Forshaw for his in the score book.

SCOUT NOTES.

THE 23rd Troop this year has a large majority of first-year Scouts. The Kingfisher Patrol, with their Patrol Leader Peter Farrell, held a week-end camp at Overchurch at Whitsuntide, and a Troop Camp was held at the end of June at the same Camping Ground.

The Senior Scouts and Rovers meet weekly in their Den, and badge work continues. David Birchall has recently gained the Meteorologist and Conservation Badges. Three of the older boys, who have been receiving instruction in climbing, have spent week-ends in Snowdonia.

Last year we joined forces with the 63rd Troop for our Annual Summer Camp, and the idea proved so successful that we are camping together again this year. Our site is eight miles over the Yorkshire border near Slaidburn village, and close to the famous beauty spot, the Trough of Bowland. We leave Birkenhead on July 27th, and return home on August 9th. Visiting Day for parents and friends will be held on Sunday, August 6th.

We are pleased to welcome back to the Troop Assistant Scoutmaster David A. Jones ("Prof" to us all), who completed his National Service in February, just in time to take part in the "Gang Show" which the Birkenhead Boy Scouts' Association put on for four nights in March at the Technical College. Four of our younger Scouts—Malcolm Bickley, Richard Mort, Raymond Nethercott, and John Reid—made their stage debut in this Show, and John Harding was one of the hard-working call boys. Two of our Scouters, Mr. Coughtrie and Mr. Clarke, helped to produce the Show, and Mr. Tomlinson acted as critic. Several old (pre-War!) Scouts of the 23rd assisted in many ways, and these included Mr. Norman Little, Mr. Geoff Bennett, Mr. Stan Davies, and Mr. Bryce Halliday (himself a Scouter in Birkenhead). We were delighted that the Headmaster and Mrs. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wynne Hughes, and Miss Cojeen were able to spare the time to see our Show.

We end our notes with congratulations and best wishes to Assistant Scoutmaster (Seniors) Derek Potter, who married Miss Janet Walker at Charing Cross Methodist Church on March 18th.

THE OLD INSTONIANS ASSOCIATION.

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A. H. JACKSON, Esq., 101 Bebington Road, Birkenhead.

THE Old Instonian club room in Elmswood Road was closed at the end of June, having been open since December 1957. It is hoped that the larger and more suitable premises in Argyle Street will be opened officially in October, and work on them is proceeding apace.

The Association tie, black with open gold visors in diagonal lines, in a new and much improved material, is now on sale at Bibby and Perkin's in Grange Road. It is available to Association members on production of a membership card.

Recently the Association joined the Confederation of Merseyside Grammar School Old Boys' Associations, other members being Alsop High School, Holt High School, Wallasey Grammar School, Waterloo Grammar School, Prescot Grammar School, Bootle Grammar School, and Oldershaw Grammar School.

The annual golf competition for the W. J. Pyke Cup was held at Heswall Golf Club on Wednesday, June 7th. The thanks of the Committee are due once more to Mr. R. M. Delf who organised the meeting which proved most successful.

The annual cricket match against the School is to be played on the evenings of July 19th and 20th.

By invitation of the Headmaster, a representative of the Association is to present the Old Boys' Sports Prizes at the breaking-up assembly on July 21st.

OLD INSTONIANS A.F.C.

THE Soccer Club has just completed its most successful post-war season. The first eleven won the League Championship, equalling the record number of points gained in doing so, and were finalists in the Marlborough Trophy, where they didn't find their normal form and lost to Liobians.

The second eleven finished in the top half of their division after a shaky start to the season, and emulated the first eleven in taking part in the Final of the Junior Trophy. They played very well but lost narrowly to a very competent liobians side, so that in both finals we were thwarted by Liobians.

The third eleven were second in their division, being beaten for first place by goal average only—a very near thing. They also progressed very well in the C. D. Connerty Cup, finally being beaten by the odd goal after a replay in the round prior to the semi-final.

No less than five of our players were chosen for the trial match for the League Representative side, and two of them, Dave Lee and Frank Stalker, played for the Representative side which defeated a Manchester League eleven.

We held a hot pot supper in May to celebrate the Club's successes this season and an excellent turn-out voted this the most enjoyable evening ever held. Dunn and Markey provided a most polished Cabaret and Roy Dorrity's rendering of his self-composed "Ballad on the Boys of the Teams" was the hit of the evening (albeit still attracting libel suits from all and sundry).

The profits from the Association's weekly Tombola sessions have enabled us to purchase a smart new Continental strip for the Club and these will be in evidence next season. We are also carrying out repairs and improvements to our Ground at "Woodslee" which will give us a high standard of comfort. We look forward to meeting in the Association's new premises in Argyle Street next season, and this again will improve the Club's facilities. In both the latter mentioned connections, our grateful thanks are due to all those who gave their efforts on our behalf. A lot of hard work has gone into both the Tombola sessions and the preparation

of the new Clubrooms and a practical way of showing our thanks would be to bear in mind that there is still much to be done and volunteers are still needed for both causes. Mr. Malcolm or Mr. Dorrity will be pleased to hear from anyone who can spare even a couple of hours.

In wishing all Staff and Boys a very enjoyable and sun-drenched Summer holiday, we remind you that we shall be delighted to hear from any of you who wish to join our ranks when the Autumn comes around once again. You are assured of a warm welcome and fine football, whilst retaining all those old happy School friendships.

OLD INSTONIANS R.U.F.C.

NOT since that auspicious time long ago when we first played on the green if sloping fields of Bidston has the Club faced a more important season than that starting next September. During it will be laid the final plans, stratagems, and bricks and mortar sufficient unto the purpose of preparing our new ground at Woodchurch for season 1962-63 or possibly earlier.

On this ground we shall have two top-class pitches and a clubhouse which will be the envy of many clubs. It is very easy of access, fronting as it does, the main Woodchurch Road about half a mile before the Co-operative laundry. It is costing a great deal of money, about £3.000, and no little worry. We feel, however, that the venture is worthwhile in obtaining a durable and comfortable home for the Club, in making the Club worthy of the School it represents, and in creating a club and a clubhouse to which any member may be proud to bring his friends. Given sufficient support from the School in the shape of playing and non-playing members (both are equally welcome) we need have no fears for a notable and expanding future.

The Club is proud to acknowledge the help given by boys still at School during the past season, those stalwarts who kept the 3rd and 4th teams bowling along, who strengthened the 2nd XV in two or three important positions, and especially Chris Lee who played so very well at full back for the 1st XV. The system by which boys still at School are eligible, if they so wish, for any of our XV's is continuing. Any boy who requires reliable information on any of the Club's activities should approach any of the officers, and advice will be given gladly.

Finally, a brief note on future social events for all who are interested, and short comments on last season.

On May 22nd we have our annual barbecue at Greasby; on August 28th our annual car rally at the same place; on 22nd October the first dance; and on 10th November the annual hot pot.

Last season's performance was very patchy. After three good seasons a somewhat jaded 1st XV lost some games normally regarded as certain victories, and on the other hand gained some notable successes including wins against the strong Birkenhead Park 2nd XV (twice) the famous St. Helens Recs. (twice), and Bangor University. In the scrums at Birkenhead Park on a mud heap and in a rainstorm we covered ourselves in the first round with nothing but the ingredients of the pitch. At

Caldy we had an excellent first round win over New Brighton, but in the second round had the misfortune to meet the Oxford Greyhounds at their scintillating best and to lose our dangerous centre, Roy Dawson, with a broken leg.

How very pleased we were to see the School side playing so well at Park, which made up for our performance at the same place. We look forward to having our Club supported by such boys when they leave School.

H. G. SMITH *(Hon. Sec.)*

OLD INSTONIANS GOLFING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Society took place this year at the Heswall Golf Club on Wednesday, June 7th, when 16 players returned cards in the 18-hole medal competition for the W. J. Pyke Cup. The event was followed by a dinner, a few brief speeches, and reminiscences. The result of the competition was a tie between George Venables and Alec Douglas, and, adopting Ronnie Delf's bright suggestion, the two leaders will hold the Cup for six months each. Attached is a list of the leading returns.

The Society's guests were the Headmaster and Mr. J. E. Allison. In addition to those whose names are listed in the leading returns, the following were also among those present, some as players and others who were unable to be there early enough to take part in the competition :— R. Cela; R. Dorrity; J. Goodier; J. D. Hall; F. H. Heslop; F. A. Jobson; L. T. Malcolm; H. H. Owen; W. J. Pyke; A. E. Richmond.

After the meal Ronnie Delf resigned from the Secretaryship, which was accepted by Harold Brown. It was agreed that next year the venue will be Wirral Ladies' Golf Club, on a Thursday at the beginning of June. Nearer the date, notices will be circulated, and a record attendance would be most encouraging. These occasions are really delightful in the convivial company of colleagues of yesteryear. So please all come and bring all golf playing Old Boys of your acquaintance. The thanks of all who attended the get-together are extended to Ronnie Delf for his zealous efforts in organizing the competition and making it such a success.

H. H. OWEN.

Leading Returns.

G. C. Venables	77- 5	72
A. G. Douglas	88-16	72
R. M. Delf	90-14	76
A. N. Phillips	94-18	76
D. T. Whalley	82- 5	77
J. G. McCoy	98-20	78
L. Hird	97-18	79
D. S. Bruce	98-18	80

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