

THE VICTORIAN



No. 37

December, 1946



**Lieut.-General Sir Neil M. Ritchie, handing over the new King's Colour to
Boy Colour Corporal T. Young, 31st July, 1946.**

EDITORIAL

WE wish to congratulate our Vice-President, Lieut.-General Sir Neil Ritchie, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., on his appointment to S.E.A.C. in January, and wish him every success. By the time of his departure he will have been with us for a little over a year, and we shall be very sorry to lose him.

Lieut.-General Sir Alexander F. P. Christison, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., late of the Cameron Highlanders, and at present G.O.C. in C. Northern Command, is to be his successor.

We were very glad to welcome General Sir Richard O'Connor, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., late of the Cameronians, and Adjutant General to the Forces, when he visited the school for the first time as one of His Majesty's Commissioners, on the 27th November.

He commanded the Western Desert Forces during the 1940/41 campaign and, with an incredibly small number of troops, captured somewhere in the region of 150,000 Italians. Later, when on a mission for General Wavell during the German push, he had the misfortune to run into a German patrol and was captured.

During his captivity in Italy he made frequent attempts to escape, and spent a long time hiding in the Appenines. It is said that it was in exchange for him that Mr Churchill offered the Italians the release of twelve of their generals. The offer was not accepted. After his release on the collapse of Italy, he commanded a Corps during the Normandy invasion.

Some photographs of Grand Day are published elsewhere in this number. We were fortunate in having such a fine day. The Trooping and Presentation of the Colours were carried through without a hitch, and the hard work put in beforehand was well repaid. There was a very large number of spectators, and the Commandant received many congratulations on the performance.

The plasterers and painters came into the School as soon as the summer holidays started, and they are still with us. We sometimes wonder whether the spring-like atmosphere which they have now introduced into the dormitories was worth the discomfort we have had to endure. The teaching staff, in particular, suffered great inconvenience in connection with the movement of classes. But it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and the slow start, due to difficulties in getting sufficient painters and paint, resulted in the holidays being extended for a week. This, surprisingly, was not regretted, and the appearance of ladders and pots of paints in all corners seems to attract rather than annoy the majority of the boys.

Heartiest congratulations are due to the School Rugger team for the successes to date, and to their coach, Mr Rogers, whose energy and keenness, based on a thorough knowledge of the game, have played no small part in them. Mr Rogers is himself currently playing for Edinburgh Academicals-Wanderers, Scottish Command, and the Army.

Visiting Commissioners

Air Vice Marshal Sir Charles Longcroft, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C., paid his first visit to the School, as Visiting Commissioner, on 25th September.

He inspected the boys on parade, and gave them a short address before taking the Salute at the march past.

He then made a thorough inspection of the School buildings. Unfortunately the painters were in the middle of their work of redecoration, and it was not possible to see the full effect of their labours.

General Sir Robert Whigham, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the School on Wednesday, 30th October, as the Representative of the Commissioners of the Duke of York's Royal Military School.

He inspected the boys of the detachment, and then visited the hospital and the School premises.

Visitors To The School

Lt.-Col. G. R. S. Love, R.A.O.C., A.D.O.S., Highland District.

Colonel J. H. Mackenzie, Colonel of The Royal Scots.

Mrs J. H. Mackenzie.

Sir John Mackay Thomson, Commissioner.

Colonel A. Hay Drummond, Commissioner.

Major General Sir Archibald B. Ritchie, Commissioner.

Lieut. General Sir Neil Ritchie, G.O.C. in C., Scottish Command, Commissioner.

Colonel The Earl of Home, K.T., T.D., Commissioner.

Colonel Sir George Stirling, Commissioner.

Air Vice Marshal Sir Charles Longcroft, Commissioner.

Lt.-Col. C. L. Addison Smith, Commissioner.

Brig.-General Sir Norman Orr Ewing, Commissioner.

Lt.-Colonel Lunt, A.E.C.

Col. K. P. Mackenzie, A.D.O.S., Highland District.

Col. J. T. Godfrey, C.E., Highland District.

Major A. W. Reed, War Office.

Major Coulson, War Office.

Major C. Stannard, R.A.S.C., Perth.

Col. I. M. Stewart, Cmdr. Stirling Sub District.

Lt.-Col. E. Hebblethwaite, A.D.M.E., Highland District.

General Sir Robt. Whigham, St. Andrews.

Major Linfale, D.C.A., Highland District.

Lt.-Col. J. N. Lewis Bryan, D.A.G.G., Highland District.

Mrs Dickson, Provan, Dunblane.

Mr W. Dickson, Provan, Dunblane.

Capt. R. Carrington Smith, R.A.

General Sir Richard W. O'Connor, Adjutant General.

Maj. General N. McMicking, M.G.A., Scottish Command.

Major S. W. Phipps, Coldstream Guards, M/A. to Adjutant General.

Lt.-Colonel C. L. Addison Smith, C.B.E., D.L., W.S., Honorary Treasurer, visited the School as Visiting Commissioner on Wednesday, 4th December. He inspected the Army Educational Corps Staff in the Central Hall, and then went round all the Dormitories and spoke to many of the boys who were standing to their beds. He then inspected the School buildings, and saw all the re-decorations. He visited the Cookhouse and saw the boys at dinner. After lunch he visited the Chapel and Hospital.

Monitors' Room Notes

Apparently it is the done thing to commence these notes with a long list of Monitors who have left and been promoted since the last issue. To those who are used to this, I must apologise for only being able to give the name of one Monitor who has left. He is, of course, John Williamson, who left at the end of last term to go to McLaren High School. Since he lives in Dunblane we see quite a lot of him, and he has played against us for his School's 1st XV. In his place we were given J. Notman, who is at the moment a patient in Bridge of Earn Military Hospital. He is now well on the way to recovery, and we should have him back with us very soon.

Alec Robertson is leaving at the end of this term, while on their return from the Christmas leave Monitors Emmett and Notman hope to make the grade to Cranwell, while Ian Dunn will probably be going to the Army Technical School at Arborfield. It is a bit early to say good-bye, so we will leave that till the next edition.

As you will learn from other sources, the School Rugger XV. has once more been set on its feet (thanks to W.O. II. Rogers, who is our Rugger Master), and we are glad to say that most of the Monitors have secured their places in the team. Monitors Dunn and Robertson are honoured with the position of linesmen, at which they excel. Except for being too fat to keep up with the run of play and a tendency to flag the wrong side at the wrong spot, they do remarkably well.

Among the old boys whom we have seen in the "Holy of Holies" this term, have been A. McVicar, P. Thomson, G. Dwyer, W. Montgomery, D. Vallance, W. Walford, G. H. Maitland, J. and A. Craig, A. Tweedie, G. Groves, J. Black, C. Walford, and P. Kelly.

They all appear to be doing well, and we are always glad to have them visit us. From Peter Thomson we learned that the majority of ex-Monitors at Cranwell have got their places in the Rugger XV., and, judging by results so far, they are far from deteriorating it.

Much to the relief of the Monitors, there was very little work done on the potato fields by our chaps this year. Although they usually benefit materially from it, the thought of numb fingers frantically lifting potatoes into steel baskets cold to the touch, with the knowledge that 7½ hours of the same thing lies before them, is uppermost in their minds. They therefore prefer the warmth and comfort of the School.

As is customary at this season of the year, I will close these notes by wishing all Victorians, past and present, a Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.

J. F. P.

Colours Still An Inspiration To A Soldier

Queen Victoria School Presentation

Grand Day at the Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, on Wednesday, 31st July, 1946, was largely devoted to the ceremonies in connection with the presentation of a new King's Colour to the School. The ceremonial took place on the spacious drill ground behind the School, where also were accommodated relatives and friends of the boys, many from a distance, invited guests, and the general public.

Commissioners of the School present were:—Lieut.-General Sir Neil M. Ritchie, K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Commander-in-Chief, Scottish Command; Lieut.-Colonel C. L. Addison-Smith, C.B.E., W.S., Edinburgh; Brig.-General Sir Norman A. Orr-Ewing, Bart., C.B., D.S.O., Cardross; Major-General Sir A. B. Ritchie, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., Newbury, Berks; Colonel the Earl of Home, K.T., T.D., D.L., The Hirsell, Coldstream; Colonel Sir George Stirling of Glorat, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Sir John Mackay Thomson, C.B., Scottish Education Department; Colonel A. W. H. Hay-Drummond of Cromlix, Dunblane; and Air Vice-Marshal Sir Charles A. H. Longcroft, K.C.B., Sherwood, Colinton, Edinburgh.

THE CEREMONIAL

The first part of the proceedings was concerned with the School's farewell to the old Colour. As the Colour came on parade line was formed, the Union Jack was "broken" on the flagstaff, and the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief was received with the general salute. Then came the "trooping." The band, pipes and drums marched past in front of the line in slow time, the pipes and drums playing "The Highland Cradle Song," and returned in quick time playing "The Officer of the Day." No. 1 Guard thereafter moved out of the line, formed to the left, and headed by the bands playing "The Siege of Delhi," moved to a position in front of the old Colour. Boy Corporal J. Scott received the Colour, which the escort saluted, the band playing the National Anthem. The Colour was then trooped in slow time through the line, the band playing "The Garb of Old Gaul," and the ceremony concluded with the band playing "Auld Lang Syne" as the escort with the Colour marched in slow time down the line. This was the School's farewell to the old Colour, which was then cased, the escort returning to its position in the line.

THE DEDICATION

Then followed the bigger event, the dedication and presentation of the new King's Colour, and for this purpose the parade formed three sides of a square with the drums piled in the centre. The new Colour was laid across the drums by C.S.M. W. Maxwell, M.B.E., and uncased by Colour-Corporal T. Young.

The service of dedication opened with the singing of the Hundredth Psalm, "All people that on earth do dwell," which was followed by prayer offered by the Rev. J. L. Pennell, St. Mary's, Dunblane. Thereafter the Rev. A. Ross, Assistant Chaplain General, laid hands upon the Colour and in name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost dedicated and set it apart that it might be a sign of their duty towards their King and Country in the sight of God. He also offered prayer. The

hymn, "O God, our help in ages past" was sung, and the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. J. Chalmers Grant, Dunblane Cathedral.

Thereupon the Regimental-Sergeant-Major, Mr Watson, handed the Colour to General Ritchie, who presented it to Colour-Corporal Young, a Falkirk boy, who received it on bended knee.

GENERAL'S ADDRESS

Addressing the parade, General Ritchie said: Your old King's Colour, to which you have just bidden farewell, has been in the custody and keeping of the Queen Victoria School for over 36 years. In presenting the new King's Colour, I charge you to guard and protect it with the same diligence and care that you, and your predecessors here, have cared for and guarded the old Colour that you have trooped for the last time. The great majority of you on parade to-day are the sons of soldiers, and so you will already realise what the colours mean in the life of a regiment. In days gone by they were carried into battle, and were the rallying point and centre, as it were, around which the regiment lived and fought. To-day they no longer go into battle, but their importance in the life of a regiment is no less than before. They stand as an emblem for all that makes for a good soldier, for loyalty, for discipline, for unselfishness, and a reminder of one's duty to our King and country. They are due reverence and respect, and I am confident that here in your keeping this new King's Colour will receive its due.

THE COLOUR SALUTED

Line having been re-formed, the new Colour received a general salute, and, unfurled, was moved in slow time to the centre of the line, the band playing "God Save the King." Thereafter the parade marched past the G.O.C. in column of companies, the pipes and drums playing "Hielin' Laddie" and the band following with "There's Something About a Soldier." Line was again formed, the parade advanced in review order, the band playing "Scotland the Brave," and gave a general salute. This concluded the inspiring ceremony.

The next duty fell to Lady Ritchie, and was that of presenting the school trophies and prizes won during the year. "A" Company won the Education Shield, "B" Company the shooting cup, and the Addison Smith prizes for public speaking by Monitor Robertson, Sergeant Dick, and Boy Williamson in that order. The Primus Medal, the principal individual prize, was won by Monitor M. Emmet, "B" Company, a native of Perth. Lady Ritchie pinned the coveted decoration on his breast amid the cheers of his comrades.

On the call of the School Commandant, Colonel G. E. Hall, M.C., three hearty cheers were accorded General and Lady Ritchie.

After a short interval, the bands played a delightful musical programme for the entertainment of the visitors, and a party of boys danced the sword dance and four-some reel. The military band was under Bandmaster Lax, the pipe band under Pipe-Major Sanderson, and the drums and bugles under Drum-Major Dunghlison.

Company Notes

"A" COMPANY NOTES

For the first time I find it my honour and duty to pen these notes. Before going any further, I must apologise, on behalf of my predecessor, for his weak powers of clairvoyance. In the previous edition of "The Victorian," Monitor R. Field foretold that "A" Company would do poorly on Sports Day; but to our surprise and joy we won all the team trophies.

Once again we have lost a number of boys. D. Vallance went to the 9th Lancers; C. Dwyer joined the West Yorkshire Regiment; N. Dick, J. Young, W. Edgar and the Chaplins all went to civilian life. We also lost several boys to other Companies and received a few in return. Monitor Notman went to "D" Company, and W. Carruthers to "B" Company. From "B" Company we welcome Cpl. Mulhern and R. Gillies, and from "D" Company, Sergeant Scott. Joe Morgan, who left us to go to "C" Company, has now returned to our ranks.

"A" Company triumphed at Hallowe'en again this year, by drawing with "D" Company for the "Bun-Scoffing Cup." We had a very good time (thanks to Mr Morrison, the Master Cook), and everything was perfect. "A" Company won the Apple Ducking Contest, but lost to "D" Company in the Fancy Dress and Lantern Competitions.

We are beginning to regain some of our lost trophies, for we have won the Rugby Shield, and are in the running for the Football Shield.

This term we have been very fortunate in winning both the kit inspections. Our first success was with "Lynedoch" Dormitory and Baird Dormitory next carried off the honours. Talking of Dormitories, it should be mentioned that we held a very good party in "Lynedoch" on the Sunday after Hallowe'en.

A few old "A" Company boys have come back to see us, among them McCallum, Vallance, Dwyer and Dick. There is to be a meeting of the Glasgow and Edinburgh old boys in the near future, and I am pretty certain our Company will be well represented.

We still have C.S.M. Maxwell in charge of us, playing the rôle of loving father to sixty nice young boys who never do anything wrong. One can imagine him saying: "It wouldn't surprise me to find half of them sprouting wings and flying round the Dormitors one of these mornings." So here's wishing Mr Maxwell all the best at both Christmas and the New Year.

And now, on behalf of "A" Company, I'd like to wish all Victorians, Old Boys and readers of "The Victorian," a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

"B" COMPANY NOTES,

Once again it is time to review the events which have passed in the Company since the last issue of "The Victorian." To "A" Company we have lost Cpl. Mulhern and Cpl. Gillies, to "C" Company Cpl. Lee, and in C/Cpl. Young's place we welcome C/Cpl. Carruthers. Boys promoted to the rank of L/Cpl. were: J. McCann, J. McCartney, T. Mitchell, and J. Philips. From L/Cpl. to Corporal were T. Langan, P. Gill, A. Bradley and J. Hutchison. To Sergeant from Corporal were T. Ferguson and D. Beat; incidentally, D. Beat is Band Sergeant. The Com-

pany extends its congratulations to all boys and N.C.O.'s promoted.

The main event of this term was Hallowe'en, and it was just as enjoyable as it usually is whenever there is plenty of grub to eat. As using their voices to the best advantage in the community singing gave some boys a sore head, they raised the numbers amongst the sick, lame, and lazy at the hospital next morning. Of course there were the usual hungry blighters who had eaten too much, and as a result their tummies had disagreed with the over-feeding. The guisers' competition was well won by "D" Company with their glamorous land girl, who certainly knew how to put on war-paint.

"A" Company did not quite win the "Bun Scoffers' Cup," but they at least have a fifty-fifty share with "D" Company. It certainly was obvious that that show went off well, and the pictures went off so well that they forgot to come on again. Still, after such an enjoyable evening, no one had the right to complain about the picture show breaking down.

Unfortunately, the Company seems to have lost its knack for winning kit inspections, or maybe we have a hoodoo on us. Still we shall win the next one, and perhaps will be able to re-name the Moore Dormitory as best Dormitory in the School, and the Abercromby in their usual position as "worst" Dormitory.

The rugby and football have started again, and up to now I think we are doing quite well in both games. However, the bad weather has spoilt the pitches, and as a result only two or three Inter-Company games have taken place. The Company sports should still be at a good standard next term under the leadership of Monitor Ellis.

There have been two visits this term by School Commissioners, and they were both very successful, and the Company had smart turnouts. Just recently the Adjutant General to the Forces visited the School, and again there was a very smart turnout, and the boys and bands were complimented on their appearance.

I wonder if the boys in the Company know whom they have to thank for the slap-up feed in the drum store. It was a difficult job to get the foodstuffs, but where there's a will there's a way, and Mr Dunglison and Mr Morrison were solely responsible for providing us with the food which is so hard to get these days. So I know the boys will all join in thanking our two friends for their faithful labours.

M. E.

"C" COMPANY NOTES

Once more we must reveal the doings of "C" Company to the readers of "The Victorian." Under Mr Pears and Mr Rask the Company has progressed favourably. We have lost many boys to their parent Companies and welcomed 36 new boys.

Drill competition has been cancelled this year, so we have had no chance of winning it.

We have passed through two Kit Inspections, and are looking forward eagerly to winning the next one. "Cochrane" Dormitory, especially, are looking forward to being best Dormitory.

The outstanding event this term was, of course, the School Hallowe'en Party. This was followed by a Company concert of rather doubtful success. A rather amusing incident happened in the latter. Corporals Watt, McBride and Lee, with Sergeants Myles and Nairn, formed a

Nigger Minstrel Quartet which they called the "Cherry Blossoms." They applied blacking so vigorously that an hour's scrubbing barely removed it.

With the residue of the Hallowe'en funds Mr Rask bought games. Among these was a table tennis set, so "C" Company has formed an Inter-Dormitory Table Tennis League. Clyde is at the top.

Here, however, we must strike a sad note. Monitor Dunn will be leaving us at the end of the term. His place will be literally and figuratively hard to fill. Let us wish him all success in his future career.

Well, as the "angels" have been particularly angelical this term, there is little to write about, so I shall close now, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"D" COMPANY NOTES

I now open the Company notes for the first time.

Since the last issue of "The Victorian" we have suffered the loss of Monitor Williamson, Boy Mantell and Boy Potter who have all returned to civilian life. Our sympathy goes out to Raymond Mantell, who has been in hospital for the past ten months, and, as far as we know, will unfortunately be there for some time to come.

Cpl. Campbell has left us to join the Seaforth Highlanders, and we wish him all success and prosperity in his new sphere of life.

We have been unfortunate in losing Cpl. Scott, who went to "A" Company on promotion to Sergeant. "Scotty," as he was known to the Company, was our best person at sports, and his loss has weakened our Rugby and Soccer teams. In place of "Scotty," we have received Monitor Notman from "A" Company, but, unfortunately, he is too old to compete in the sports.

As new N.C.O.'s we have received L/Cpls. I. Macgregor, R. Rogers and W. Duncan. These boys have now realised their positions, and have fallen into stride. We have also received quite a few young boys from "C" Company, and we hope that they have settled down and will be a credit to the Company during their School life.

We have had bad luck with our First Division Soccer and Rugby this season, but our Second Division is quite good, and we expect to have some unbeatable teams near the end of next year. Of course we hope to put up a good show in the boxing, as we still have some of our star boxers with us.

At Hallowe'en we were lucky enough to share the Hallowe'en Cup with "A" Company. They won the apple ducking; we won the fancy dress and the lantern competitions.

On the 31st the boys of the Company had too much to eat at one time, so part of the food and the tit-bits were taken out, and we had a party in our Dormitory on the Sunday night. In the party we had some boys acting plays written by other senior boys. Some lads went up on to the stage and sang solos, others recited poetry, and Boy Williamson, from Aberdeen, led the community singing.

After this show we had our feed of cakes, biscuits, sweets, lemonade, apples, etc., which

had been nicely prepared for us by our Company Sergeant-Major and his wife.

We did not do very well in the kit inspections this term. In the first one we were second, but the Hopetoun Dormitory drew with the Lyne-doch for the best in the School. In the second kit inspection we were third, and the Napier Dormitory was highly commended.

It is now known that Colour Cpl. A. Montgomery is leaving to join the Royal Engineers, L/Cpl. R. Rogers to civilian life, and Boy A. Rogers to the Cameronians. We wish them every success in their future careers!

I will now close with seasonal greetings. The boys of "D" Company and C.S.M. White wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"MAC."

Drum Notes

I find it my duty and honour, for the first time, to let you know what has taken place in the Drum Room since the last "Victorian" was published.

In the period which has passed we have lost no more than two boys—Cpl. J. Davidson, our leading side-drummer, who has joined the Black Watch, and Cpl. C. Sinclair, who went to civilian life. On behalf of Mr Dunglison, our instructor, and my fellow-drummers, I wish them good luck in their future careers.

The following have been transferred to the drums:—J. Cunningham, from the Military Band; C. Cook and W. Mackay, from the Pipes; and from the tailors, F. Keech, E. Keech, and E. Cassidy.

We have had a few engagements with the Pipe Band, notably a Car Show in the King's Park, Edinburgh. The boys had a good time on the "Old Crocks," and a few photographs were taken.

The Pipers and Buglers played at the Armistice Day Parade at Dunblane War Memorial, the Buglers sounding the Last Post and Reveille. Not all our buglers were present on this occasion, for our services were required at other Remembrance Day Parades; two boys went to Callander, one to Braco, two to Doune, and one to both Causewayhead and Bridge of Allan. Monitor D. J. Notman, our acting drum-major, was in hospital at the time, and his place at the Dunblane Service was filled by Sgt. Ferguson. The latter did very well, considering it was his first appearance as drum-major.

We are scheduled to play at Murrayfield twice next term, for the Scotland v. Wales and the Scotland v. Ireland matches. The drummers are looking forward to both engagements. Two of our number, Cpl. J. Martin and W. Stewart, are due to play in the Victoria Hall, Dunblane, on 11th December.

Potato-lifting interfered with our training, but once again we have settled down to steady work. Many boys have come up from the junior section of the drums, and are making splendid progress. The Bugle Band is making great headway under the supervision of Mr Dunglison.

In conclusion, I hope these notes have not been too boring, and I take this opportunity to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

J. E.

Pipe Notes

The Pipe Band since last term has lost one-third of its members. These are J. Williamson, C. Campbell, D. Potter, C. Chaplain, R. Dick, A. Montgomery, J. Young and J. Walls. Others who have left, though not in the band, are T. Young, W. Edgar and R. Vallance. Their loss has been a serious one, but, undaunted, P/M. Sanderson set to work and filled the vacant gaps. Newcomers are E. Robertson, McIntyre, Williamson, Kerr, Thomson and Cunningham. Of these, McIntyre and Thomson are very good and keen players, and the others too, once they have settled down, should be a credit to the Band.

The competitions this year were all won by practically the same boys, the most outstanding achievement being that of Jimmie Robertson. Originally entered for Class B. Piping, which he won, he graduated to Class A. and won the three competitions there. This made his score a possible five wins in five competitions. Later, in a competition at Perth, he won first place in a Slow March competition, with J. Williamson second. Gordon Williams also hit the high-spots on leave, gaining three piping prizes in Aberdeen.

Although on paper Robertson seems to have had a series of runaway victories, it is not so. He had to play his best to beat G. Williams in the B Class competitions, and in Class A. Hutchinson and A. Robertson were always hot on his heels. Hutchinson gained three second places and Monitor A. Robertson three thirds.

"B" Company very deservedly won the Inter-Company Dancing Shield. They never looked like losing, and won by a comfortable margin. "D" and "A" Companies (second and third respectively) tried hard, but were not in the same class. Since "B" Company will probably have an almost unchanged team next year, they will have to settle down in earnest to wrest the laurels from this year's victors.

As is to be expected, engagements since the summer term have been few. We attended a motor show in Edinburgh, a fête in Aberfoyle, and a Falkirk v. Aberdeen football match at Falkirk. All were extremely successful and greatly enjoyed.

Next term, however, we have the high lights of the year in the way of engagements. These, of course, are the visits to Murrayfield.

Unfortunately, owing to the switch back to a peace-time programme, there will only be two instead of four matches. Since Ireland and Wales only lost by narrow margins last year, the whole band is looking forward to two hard games.

Many old pipers will be glad to hear that Pipe-Major Sanderson has composed another march, the fourth since he came to the School six years ago. It is an excellent four-part tune called the "Causewayhead Legionnaires," and we hope that the Band will be playing it in a very short time.

Before closing I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Band, to say farewell to Pipe-Major Monitor A. Robertson, who is leaving at the end of the term. We wish him the best of luck.

Military Band Notes

Once more the time has come round when I again find it my honour and duty to re-open these notes in the chronicles of the Military Band. Since our last issue of "The Victorian," there have not been very many changes in our numbers. The few boys who have left us are:—Band/Sergeant Graham (known in Q.V. as "Apeface"), from the horn stand; Sergeant Smith from the bass stand, who left us to join the R.E. Ordnance Survey; Sergeant Dick, clarinet player and vocalist (civilian life); G. Dwyer (West Yorks Regiment), and K. Fowler (civilian life), both from the euphonium stand; P. Cooper (civilian life), who was our third cornet player, and J. Davidson (Black Watch), who was on loan to us from the drums in place of R. Wilson, who recently left us to sail for New Zealand. I am informed by some of his friends that the latter has settled down in his new surroundings. The Band wish him and the rest who have left us the very best of luck in their new spheres of life.

The period just gone by has been a comparatively quiet one, broken only by one engagement to Dundee and a few wrong notes from the cornet stand. We have now two newcomers to the Band in the persons of Sergeant J. Scott, transferred from the Pipes, and Boy. J. Shackleton, transferred from the Drums and Bugles. These two boys have filled the vacant roles of bass-drummer and side-drummer respectively. Both of them are getting on very well, and we hope that they will be with us for a long time to come.

On Armistice Sunday the Band played at the Memorial Service in Dunblane, and also at the laying-up of the old colour in the School Chapel on December 8th. We had quite a number of old band boys up to see us during the course of the current term. These were mainly: A. McVicar, G. Dwyer, D. McNeil and T. McCallum, and many others. A week from the time of going to press, the Old Boys' Associations at Glasgow and Edinburgh are going to pay us a visit, and we feel confident that the Military Band will be well represented in their number.

Of course the Band has had the usual intake of young boys from the junior section. These boys are all progressing splendidly, and are rapidly catching up with some of the older boys.

Potato-picking impeded the progress of the Band, but nevertheless our Bandmaster soon brought the Band back to its improving standard.

Grand Day has come and gone, and I think everyone will agree with me when I say that the three Bands put up a remarkable show.

Bandmaster Lax is, of course, still with us, fully recovered from the effects of his broken arm, mentioned in our last issue. The Band is still jogging along serenely under his guiding eye. A scheme is being put into practice by which all our instruments are to be silvered instead of half of them being brass. This will greatly improve the appearance of the Band and save the boys a lot of cleaning, for which I am sure they will be thankful.

I will now close this issue of Band Notes by wishing the reader, on behalf of the Band boys and the Bandmaster, a Merry Christmas and the best of luck and prosperity in the New Year.

R. M. F.

Rugby

The season shows promise of becoming a glorious one for the School XV. As might have been expected, our first games have been against our local rivals—the Stirling and Callander High Schools. After several weeks of practice games and training, the XV. first turned out on November 9th to tackle the Stirling H.S. 2nd XV. Everything pointed to our being mauled on that morning; our backs were not then working as a line, and they had the bad habit of taking and giving passes standing still; the eight forwards were eight forwards and not a pack. The first half of the game didn't give us any clearer idea of whether we could beat this bigger, but less active team, and it wasn't until just before full time that we regained the lead, just scraping through successfully by 7 points to 6. Full marks go to J. Ferguson for a very pretty drop goal.

The next week we went to Stirling for a return fixture, and we saw a vast improvement, particularly in our back division. The first try of this game convinced us of this improvement, for it was a try of which any senior club would have been proud. A clean heel from a set scrum about 40 yards from the Stirling line gave scrum half J. Ellis the ball. Ellis came round the open side, dummied past his opposite number, and put a clean pass across to stand-off J. F. Phillips, who drew his man well, and passed to J. Scott at right centre. Scott took this pass at top speed, and went straight for the line, leaving his opposite man and the full-back standing. This put the team in a winning mood, and we won convincingly by 9 points to 3.

Whilst we were waiting for the game at Stirling to commence, we watched the McLaren High School, Callander, 1st XV. playing the Stirling 1st XV., and our performance gave us the cocky idea that we could take them on. By good fortune it was discovered that they had a vacant fixture the following Saturday, so they were invited to Q.V.S. They came, briefed to regard the game as a little gentle practice, and they left with a definite, though rather dazed, respect for us, because not only did we beat them by 11-6, but the School undoubtedly deserved to win by a wider margin. Ellis and Phillips as our halves did more than any others to win this game, but all played hard, and they had by then definitely got a winning spirit that has yet to be damped.

The following Saturday, November 30th, a very much-strengthened Stirling XV. came back to avenge their earlier defeats. Right up until the time that the game began it had been raining, raining it seemed for about four months, consequently the pitch soon became a quagmire. This was good for the kick-and-rush tactics of the visitors, and not conducive to good handling, the way we try to play the game. However, anticipating this, the week's training had given the forwards plenty of practice in putting the ball at their feet and taking. They did this well in this game, and only heeled in the enemy "25." The result was a most convincing win of 18-0, Ellis scoring 3 tries and Phillips, Scott and McCulloch bagging one each.

That brings us up to date; four wins on successive Saturdays, and, we promise you, more to come. The team, though young and light, is good, and this is mainly due to several boys who look like going quite a long way in the game if they improve at the rate they have done since last year. It is possible to mention only a few,

but pride of place must go to J. Ellis. Ellis isn't 15 yet, but he is already a scrum half in the Haydn Tanner tradition, and with good coaching he will finish in first-class rugger—or perhaps higher. So far no one has succeeded in holding him; he has a dummy that never fails, gives a good long pass, and tackles and goes down to a ball quite brutally. Ellis is the driving force of the team, and when he learns to kick as well with his right as he does with his left, and shakes off odd moments of lethargy, there's no knowing how high he will go. He has a hard-working partner in J. F. Phillips, who captains the side, and one try on November 30th, when the ball passed between them five times before Ellis scored, proves that they are learning fast how to combine and work well together. Whilst Ellis has been responsible for almost all the movements that have led to scoring, M. Emmett at full back is the one who has done most in defence. Emmett's older brother has a reputation both here and at Cranwell as a resolute tackler, but we, who had not the pleasure of knowing the elder Emmett, believe that young Michael has at least equalled his brother's reputation. His tackling cannot be too highly praised, and he is fearless in going down to the ball.

Several others deserve individual mention, amongst them J. Isdale, who is a tough forward; J. Morgan, whose wing forward work and kicking has been good; J. Scott, who has settled down as a useful centre, and D. Peachey, a winger, whose tackling is first class.

We are pleased to inform all Old Victorians, that the game is very much alive in the School, and that our fixture list for next term is almost completely filled; it will be filled before we break up at Christmas, and we shall not give up our unbeaten record without a struggle.

T. G. P. R.

A Day On Loch Lomond

The fortunate boys who were able to go home for the August holidays will be pleased to hear that those who were left behind spent a memorable day amidst the beauty of Loch Lomond.

The party consisted of twenty-four boys, with Mr Gutteridge in charge. We set off in a private bus at nine o'clock, and, travelling via Balloch, reached the loch after a very pleasant journey.

About noon we boarded the steamer and sailed the complete length of this famous stretch of water, calling at various landing-stages en route. The presence of several other youth organisations greatly enlivened the trip. The Company of Girl Guides was particularly welcomed, and the fun really started when we changed uniforms with them and danced on deck to the accompaniment of Scottish music.

We stopped for a cup of tea at Ardlui, after which we set off by bus and drove to a small wood which Mr Gutteridge had selected as the site for our picnic. Our large hamper was opened before we could say "Jack Robinson," and we set-to with great gusto, sitting around the camp fire Mr Gutteridge had built.

Later, we went for a ramble, before boarding the bus for the homeward journey, which was made via Callander. It was 7.30 p.m. when we drove through the School gates, and the day closed with another good tuck-in in the dining hall.

Royal Army Educational Corps Staff

As there have been so many changes in the Educational Staff recently, the present Staff is given below, showing the date of their posting to the School and the Forms of which they are in charge:—

- Form VI., W.O.I. I. Longbottom, 24/5/46, Science Master.
 Form U.V., W.O.II. R. H. Eyre, 27/6/46, Maths. Master.
 Form V., W.O.II. W. Stones, 9/7/46, French Master.
 Form L.V.a, W.O.II. T. G. P. Rogers, 29/1/46, History Master.
 Form L.V., Sgt. R. J. Taylor, 12/7/46.
 Form IV., W.O.I. W. M. Cheesbrough, 23/3/46, English Master.
 Form L.IV., Sgt. D. V. Thackray, 8/6/46.
 Form III.a, W.O.I. J. Thornton, 8/1/46.
 Form III.b, W.O.I. A. G. Pielou, 6/7/46, Map Reading Master.
 Form II., Sgt. M. H. Barrett, 14/6/46, Book Craft.
 Form I., W.O.I. V. F. H. Purser, 27/6/46, Geography Master.

Roll of Honour

The following further names of Old Boys who gave their lives for their country in the last war have been received. A complete list as far as was known was published in the last number.

If anyone knows the names of any others, please send them to the Editor as soon as possible.

- School No. 726—Staff Sgt. James Wingate, Royal Engineers, killed in Normandy on 6th June, 1944.
 School No. 769—Sgt. James Husband Millar, R.A.O.C., killed in action in France on 6th June, 1940.
 School No. 837—Acting Leading Stoker Andrew M. Robertson, Royal Navy, killed while on H.M. Submarine "Regulus" in the Mediterranean in December, 1940.
 School No. 1295—David Hardy, Master Mariner, Merchant Navy, lost at sea by enemy action on 18th March, 1943.
 School No. 1482—3054091 Cpl. J. E. Dakers, The Royal Scots, reported wounded and missing from Patrol in Arakan, Burma, on 4th April, 1943, and later officially reported killed.

Honours And Awards

The following should be added to the list of Honours and Awards published in the last number:—

- School No. 920—L.-Col. R. Linton, Royal Corps of Signals, mentioned in Despatches in 1941, for service in the Middle East and again in 1945, for service in North West Europe.

Commissions

The following should be added to the list of Old Boys published in the last number who have obtained Commissions:—

- School No. 534—Captain J. J. Thornhill, K.O.S.B. and Royal Northumberland Fus.
 School No. 883—Captain S. T. Garner, Seaforth Highlanders.
 School No. 1397—Lieut. (QM.) J. L. Davidson, R.A.S.C.
 School No. 1371—Captain W. A. Morton, 5th (Scottish) Parachute Regiment.
 The following officers, who obtained commissions before this war, have not previously been recorded:—

- School No. 181—Major J. D. Henry, R.A.S.C., commissioned in 1918, recalled in 1939, and served throughout this war.
 School No. 1099—Major O. J. Degnan, R.A.S.C., commissioned in 1938.

Former Pupils, Queen Victoria School

Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch.

A year has now passed since we decided to try and get the Association going again, and I think we can say that we have had a fairly good year. We have met every month in rooms kindly given for our use by the members of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders' Club, and I must say how much we appreciate their kindness and help. Our numbers at each meeting have not been very large, sometimes even disappointing, but we have enjoyed our meetings, and we have got together a grand crowd of boys.

We have held one dance and one theatre and supper night; both functions were well attended and were much enjoyed by all present. This month we are having another theatre night, which I am sure will once again be a very enjoyable evening.

On the first Sunday of May we attended our old School as a Branch, and it is hoped that on next "Old Boys' Day" we will double our numbers.

On "Grand Day" we were once again able to visit the School accompanied by our wives and children, and a lovely day was spent by all.

We of Glasgow are disappointed to know that Edinburgh is still "sleeping," and once again appeal to our comrades of the East to rally on the first Sunday of May, 1947, and to visit the School in large numbers, and let us have a real re-union. Two of our fine comrades have left us to rejoin their old Regiments; both were regular soldiers and had served many years at home and abroad. We wish the very best of luck to William McQuarrie, who has rejoined the H.L.I., and John Cosgrove, the Ordnance Corps. By the way, boys, let us hear from you.

We were glad to welcome home from Killearn Hospital our good friend, Frank Quinn. Frankie had not been well since coming home from a Japanese Prisoner of War Camp, and recently went through a big operation. I am pleased to say he is looking and feeling very well.

We are delighted to welcome to the Glasgow Branch the undermentioned Former Pupils who

have joined us within the last two or three months:—

417, A. McDiarmid; J. Vallance; 1051, A. Turbine; 1159, G. Sandilands; P. Sandilands; 1468, J. Myles; 1794, J. Dunn; A. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, R. Graham, W. Walford (Services), 2024, G. Buist.

I have given a brief account of our activities, and conclude by appealing to all Q.V. boys resident in Glasgow to join us the first Wednesday of every month at the Camerons' Club.

J. M. McLEOD, Chairman.

Editor's Note.—It may interest the writer to know that Mr Neil Cameron is taking steps to restart the Edinburgh Branch. I hope any Edinburgh Old Boys who see this will communicate with Mr Cameron, c/o Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders' Club, Albany Street, Edinburgh, and help him to get it going.

Presentations To The School

The following have been presented to the School, and we wish to take this opportunity of thanking the donors for their generosity:—

Eight mounted Stags' Heads and nine Antlers—presented by Mrs Dickson, Provau, Dunblane, widow of the late Mr W. C. Dickson of Glassingall, Dunblane. These have been erected in the Play Hall, thereby greatly improving its appearance.

A Stag's Head, presented by Mr Scrimigeour, Wedderburn, Errol, Perthshire.

A Japanese Officer's Sword, presented by C.S.M. Daker, The Royal Scots, in memory of his twin brother, the late Cpl. J. E. Daker, also The Royal Scots, and whose loss is reported elsewhere in this issue. Both were old boys of the School.

"Where Are They Now?"

In the last issue of "The Victorian" you published my letter and also a reply from "Old Argyll," for whose information I am very grateful. I was sorry to read about the deaths of two of my old friends, Mr A. W. McTavish (Jock) and Sgt. A. McDine. I served as a Boy with Jack, and in later years with McDine in India and Egypt. I have learned that James Buchanan and his brother Alec are resident in Edinburgh, and one day soon I hope to meet them again.

Peter McGinlay came to see me before he sailed for Canada; he was R.S.M. of the 91st Canadian Highlanders. I have heard that J. McLachlan is in New Zealand, and that my old friend John Kennedy is staying in Bridge of Allan. I must contact John Kennedy for the next Old Boys' outing to Dunblane. So, once again, thanks, Old Argyll.

Now, once again, I am going to ask where are they now? This time former pupils I met while I was in the Army many years ago. While attached to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in Calcutta, I met Alan Cameron, Moxey, Balgarnie, Binnie, Scott and Marshall, a fine crowd of old Victorians; but where are they now? In Allahabad I met the Brackenridges, the two McLeishs—while in Egypt I met Matt Walker, Lovat, Lewis—where are they all now? I do hope in the summer issue of "The Victorian" to hear about some of those old school boys.

J. M. McLEOD.

"Sons Of Old Boys"

It may be of interest to other Old Boys to know that the sons of the following Old Boys are now in the School:—

School No. 2148.—J. McI. Robertson; son of School No. 483, R.S.M. J. B. Robertson, The Scots Guards, who was in the School from 1915 to 1919. His eldest son, Alexander (School No. 1792), was also in the School, and is now in the R.A.F.

School No. 2154.—R. Bailey, son of School No. 666, R. Bailey, who was in "C" Company from 1918 to 1923. The boy's uncle, who has 18 years' service as a Piper in the Gordon Highlanders, is also an Old Boy.

School No. 2220.—J. A. Robertson, son of the late School No. 837, Leading Stoker A. M. Robertson, Royal Navy. He was in the School from 1920 to 1925.

School No. 2241.—P. C. Bowell, son of School No. 1114, Sgt. J. R. Bowell, Corps of Military Police, who was in "D" Company from 1925 to 1930, and enlisted in the Scots Guards as a Tailor Boy in 1931.

School No. 2251.—S. A. Robertson, son of School No. 1210, Sgt. S. M. Robertson, R.A.S.C., who was in the School from 1927 to 1932.

"Old Victorian Visitors"

(Since our Last Issue)

2nd Lieut. H. O. Dyer, R.E.M.E.

D. McCartney, Merchant Navy.

N. Murray, Royal Engineers.

Captain R. J. Taylor.

Major J. R. Pirie, D.A.A. and Q.M.G., Sub District Ayr.

Cpl. A. Hume, Seaforth Hghrs.

J. McCann, Edinburgh.

R. W. Smith, Fife.

R. Plank, Glasgow.

Lieut. D. Hume, Seaforth Hghrs.

R. N. Taylor, W.O., London.

R. McBride (W.O.I.), Royal Engineers.

W. A. Bradley, North Berwick.

W. L. Fraser, Inverness.

Neil Cameron, Edinburgh.

A. L. Price, Edinburgh.

Wm. Wright, Edinburgh.

Pat. Kelly, Royal Engineers (O.S.).

G. Walford, R.A.S.C.

James Black, Glasgow.

George Groves, Edinburgh.

Albert Tweedie, Glasgow.

J. G. Craig, Glasgow.

A. C. C. Craig, Glasgow.

G. H. Maitland, Glasgow.

W. Walford, Royal Marine Band.

D. Vallance, 9th Queen's Lancers.

A. MacVicar, Royal Marines.

W. Montgomery, Royal Navy.

G. Dwyer, West Yorks.

Ceremony Of Laying Up The Old King's Colour at Queen Victoria School, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 8th December, 1946

The Ceremony of "Laying-Up" the old King's Colour of the Queen Victoria School, presented by King Edward VII, at Balmoral in 1909, was carried through at the School on Sunday, 8th December, 1946, in the presence of a large gathering of boys and their friends.

The service, which took place in the school chapel, was conducted by the Rev. Leslie Pennell, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and the Rev. J. Chalmers Grant, B.D., The Cathedral. It opened with prayer and a reading from scripture, and was followed by the singing of Psalm 23, and Hymn 214.

Then the old colour party, with the colour at the "carry," moved down the aisle to the tune, "The Garb of Old Gaul," played in slow time by the military band. The party halted in front of the chancel steps, where the Commandant, Colonel Hall, took post facing the colour party and handed the colour to the chaplain, who received it and placed it on the altar. He then offered prayer. He said:—

"Almighty God and Lord of Hosts, we now lay up within this House of Prayer this emblem of Thy Grace and Blessing; may all who look upon this be reminded of their duty to their God, their King and their Country, for Jesus Christ's sake." Amen.

"O Almighty Lord and Everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of Thy Laws and in the works of Thy Commandments, that through Thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul: through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Amen.

"Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven, give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our tres-

passes as we forgive them that trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever." Amen.

In the course of a short address, Rev. J. Chalmers Grant told the boys the story of the colours, which were to be seen in many churches torn, tattered and faded, some with bullet and shell holes through them. If those flags could only speak they would have some thrilling and adventurous stories to tell of brave deeds and braver men; now they were carefully laid up because we were proud of the men who followed them into battle in days gone by. Long ago the colours of the different regiments were much more important than they were to-day. Before long-range weapons were introduced they accompanied the army into battle, and it was felt such a disgrace to an army to allow its colours to fall into the hands of the enemy that the most heroic efforts were made to save them. At the battle of Hastings, 1066, the English soldiers formed a bodyguard round the standards and made a circle facing the foe as they fell. Their orders to-day were to fight everything that was impure and to be good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

At the close the congregation joined in singing Hymn 532 and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

The boys paraded outside after the service and marched past the flagstaff, the pipe band playing "Hieland Laddie." The salute was taken by Colonel Sir George Stirling of Glorat, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Stirling, and a Commissioner of the School.

The small chapel was filled to capacity with the boys, school staff, parents and old boys, and we were very glad to see such a large gathering of old boys and their families,

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we report the sudden death on the 26th November, of Mr D. Drummond, T.C.II clerk at the School. He came to us as T.C.III clerk in January, 1944, and was upgraded to T.C.II last year.

Mr Drummond will be missed by us all, and we offer our deepest sympathy to his widow. The funeral took place at St. Mary's, Stirling, at 2.30 p.m., on 28th November, and he was buried in Ballengeich Cemetery. The Commandant, Mr Masterson, C.S.M. White, Mr Strathdee, and Mr MacRoberts attended the funeral.

We regret to report the death of Sgt. J. Easton, of the Palestine Police, as a result of injuries received in a terrorist "booby trap" explosion in Jerusalem on Sunday, 10th November. He was in the School from 1931 to 1935, when he enlisted as a piper in the Cameron Highlanders. His School number was 1530. He came from Edinburgh, and we offer our deepest sympathy to his family.

From the Church of Scotland's Palestine Police Chaplain we have received the following tribute to Sgt. Easton. It is good to think that he was educated here. May his short life be an inspiration to the School.

Police Mobile Force H.P.,
Jenin, Palestine.

The Commandant,
Queen Victoria School,
Dunblane.

Dear Sir,—You may be surprised to receive this letter from Palestine. The explanation is that I am the Church of Scotland Chaplain to the Palestine Police, and on the 10th of this month we lost one of your former pupils, John Easton, who attended your School from 1931 to 1935, I think. The object of writing was to let you know how he died and how highly we held him in esteem. He was a detective sergeant on our C.I.D., engaged in countering Jewish terrorism. For months his life has been in jeopardy, since his job was one of the most dangerous in the world. On the fatal day six C.I.D. Jewish Affairs men were searching a house, when a booby trap exploded and four were killed. One of these was John Easton.

The present tension has caused us heavy losses, but I do not think any man will be more missed than Easton. He had such fine gifts of courage and tenacity of purpose, and buoyant cheerfulness.

As a sportsman he was a fine soccer and rugby player as well as a Scots dancer and piper. The Argylls sent along two pipers and buglers to play the "Flowers of the Forest" at the funeral on Mount Zion.

Easton was a credit to your School and to the Cameron Highlanders, with whom he did boy's and man's service for a time. He was such a gallant lad, engaged in fighting a hidden and cowardly and fanatical thing which strikes from behind in the dark. Despite the dangerous nature of the work, Easton never lost his cheerful manner and outlook . . . He was a man in ten thousand. Your School may well be proud of him and of your part in forming that grand character.

The object of this letter is completed . . . but I felt impelled to give you knowledge of how he had fallen, and to thank your School for the part it played in the character training.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

BRYAN NISEET
(Church of Scotland Police Chaplain).

Salve

Boys who have joined the School since 1/7/46:

Peter Bowell 11/9/46, C. Mil. Police.
James Hughes, 16/9/46, H.L. Infantry.
Robert Lamb, 16/9/46, A. & S. Hghrs.
Edward Clarke, 16/9/46, Royal Scots (R.R.).
James Howitt, 17/9/46, R.A.S. Corps.
James Jamieson, 16/9/46, Gordon Hghrs.
Andrew Hutchison, 16/9/46, Black Watch.
Robert Greenhorn, 16/9/46, Royal Artillery.
James Raleigh, 16/9/46, Black Watch.
Richard Morgan, 16/9/46, K.O.S. Borderers.
Stewart Robertson, 16/9/46, R.A.S. Corps.
Calum MacKenzie, 17/9/46, Seaforth Hghrs.
Roy Tosh, 17/9/46, R.A.S. Corps.
Ronnie Wooderson, 16/9/46, Black Watch.
Kenneth Garrad, 16/9/46, Seaforth Hghrs.
Victor Scullion, 16/9/46, Royal Scots (R.R.).
Robert Thomson, 16/9/46, Royal Scots (R.R.).
Eric MacConnachie, 16/9/46, Royal Air Force.
Andrew Murphy, 17/9/46, A.A. Corps.
Donald Graham, 17/9/46, Seaforth Hghrs.
Alexander Kirkwood, 16/9/46, Seaforth Hghrs.
William Lockhart, 16/9/46, Cameronians (S.R.).
Thomas Williamson, 16/9/46, Black Watch.
Brian Amers, 17/9/46, K.O.S. Borderers.
Robert Haggart, 30/9/46, R.A.O. Corps.
Nicholas Lambert, 7/10/46, K.O.S. Borderers.

D.Y.R.M. School Contingent.

Harry Lacey, 17/9/46, Royal Artillery.
James Cordner, 17/9/46, R.A.M. Corps.
Thomas Butler, 17/9/46, East Lancs. Regt.
Sydney Taylor, 17/9/46, Lancashire Yeo.
Robert Raynor, 17/9/46, R.W. Fusiliers.
John Davis, 17/9/46, K.D. Guards.
Richard Davies, 17/9/46, R.W. Fusiliers.
Norman Poulson, 17/9/46, Lancs. Fusiliers.

Vale

Mr W. A. Masterton, Clerical Officer i/c "Q" at the School, is leaving us shortly on transfer to the Ministry of National Insurance Branch of the Civil Service. He is one of the oldest members of the staff, having joined the School on 23/3/31.

He was educated at the Royal Hibernian Military School, Dublin, our Irish equivalent, and from there enlisted in the Black Watch (R.H.R.).

After ten years' service with his regiment he was discharged on medical grounds, and joined the School Staff. His wife is the daughter of Mr J. Milne, the late R.Q.M.S. at the School, whose post Mr Masterton now holds under its change of name which took place when it was transferred to the Civil Service Clerks' Department.

Thus both he and his wife are bringing to a close a long association with the School. It must

**Continued on page 16*

An Old Boy's Pride In Old School

Story of a Happy Reunion

It was a grand idea sending out invitations to the Glasgow Branch and to Mr J. Robertson of Edinburgh requesting the attendance of former pupils to the school on Sunday, 8th December, 1946, for the "Laying-up" ceremony. I was one of the members from Glasgow, and very proud I am to have been there. Sixteen former pupils, accompanied by several ladies, the wives and friends of members, left Glasgow shortly after 12 o'clock, arriving at the old school about 1.30 p.m.

On arrival we signed the visitors' book, and one of our party noticed the signatures of some Edinburgh boys, but we were to get a big surprise later, for over 40 members, accompanied by many ladies, arrived from Edinburgh. It was with great pleasure we learned that the Edinburgh Branch had got started again and that the former pupils of Edinburgh and the East of Scotland had responded grandly.

Mr J. M. McLeod from Glasgow must have been a very happy man, for all along he has maintained that Edinburgh was only sleeping and that one day they would arise in strength. His faith in his comrades in Edinburgh has been justified. The school staff kindly placed their club at our disposal, and it was wonderful meeting so many old friends. It was the first visit to the school of some of the members since they had left over 20 years ago. Some members had completed over 21 years in the Army—while many had travelled very extensively all over Europe and the East.

At 2.45 p.m. we were all seated in the Chapel. It was packed, and I think the most crowded I have ever seen. I am sure most of the members must have been thinking of other days when as boys they sat in that Chapel and of comrades who sat with them—who gave their lives in the two Great Wars. Such were my thoughts—I felt proud but a little sad. It was a simple but beautiful service, and the singing of the boys lovely to hear. Now came that part of the

ceremony that had brought us to Dunblane—the "Laying-up" of the old colour. I am sure there was not a school boy present who was not thrilled at that moment, who was not thrilled when the band played and the Colour Party, only school boys, but with the bearing of Guardsmen, slowly marched down the Chapel carrying the old colour many of us knew so well. The Colour was handed over to the Commandant, who in turn handed it to the Chaplain. It was all so touching, so impressive. After the service the boys paraded in the main square and marched past Colonel Sir George Stirling of Glorat, who took the salute. The Commandant, introduced Messrs J. Robertson, Neil Cameron (Edinburgh) and E. Quinn and J. M. McLeod (Glasgow) to Sir George Stirling, who asked when they had joined and left Queen Victoria School.

At 5 o'clock we all sat down to tea, and considering the great difficulties of catering during these times, praise is due the authorities, particularly Mr Morrison and his female staff, for their kindness. I am sure they must have had a great deal of extra work to do, which they did in a very excellent manner. Just before leaving the dining-hall, Mr J. M. McLeod from Glasgow, said how delighted he was to see such a large gathering from Edinburgh and on behalf of his Glasgow comrades wished the Edinburgh Branch every success. A suitable reply was made by Mr Neil Cameron, Edinburgh.

From 6.30 p.m. the Staff Club was again put at the disposal of the visitors, but our friends from Edinburgh had to go away early, so with much hand shaking and expressions of good wishes, we parted, having spent a grand day at our old school. Those many former pupils who missed the visit to Dunblane on the 8th December certainly missed something mighty important, something beautiful, a lovely memory.

"BROOMIELAW."

Vale

(Continued from page 15)

have taken some effort to decide to accept the new post, for Mr Masterson has his heart and soul in the School, and has never spared himself in his work for it. In saying farewell, we wish Mr and Mrs Masterson every success and prosperity in their future home in Newcastle.

Boys who have left the School since 1/7/46:—

William Douglas, withdrawn, 12/7/46.
Robert Wilson, withdrawn, 20/7/46.
Calum Campbell, joined Seaforth Hrs., 2/8/46.
Neil Sanderson, joined Scots Guards, 1/8/46.
James Davidson, joined Black Watch, 2/8/46.
Thomas Young, to civilian life, 2/8/46.
Ronald Graham, to civilian life, 2/8/46.
John Williamson, to civilian life, 2/8/46.
Norman Dick, to civilian life, 2/8/46.
Jack Young, to civilian life, 2/8/46.
George Anderson, withdrawn, 2/8/46.

Charles Sinclair, withdrawn, 2/8/46.
Patrick Toal, withdrawn, 2/8/46.
Thomas Chaplin, withdrawn, 2/8/46.
Neil Chaplin, withdrawn, 2/8/46.
Ronnie Dick, withdrawn, 17/9/46.
Peter Cooper, withdrawn, 17/9/46.
William Mooney, withdrawn, 2/8/46.
William Edgar, withdrawn, 24/9/46.
Brian Amers, withdrawn, 24/9/46.
David Potter, withdrawn, 4/10/46.
Kenneth Fowler, withdrawn, 18/10/46.
Ifor Trotter, withdrawn, 29/11/46.

D.Y.R.M. School Contingent.

Ernest Stafford, withdrawn, 28/6/46.
Derek Vallance, joined 9th Queen's Lancers, 2/8/46.
George Dwyer, joined West Yorks. Regt, 2/8/46.
James Smith, joined Royal Engineers (O.S.), 18/9/46.
Raymond Mantell, discharged on medical grounds, 1/11/46.

WANTED

Everyone connected with and interested in Queen Victoria School to take in and read

"The Victorian"

The School Magazine of Queen Victoria School. Published twice yearly—July and December. Minimum Annual Subscription, 3s., will be gladly received by the Editor, Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, Scotland.

Keep in Touch by Reading "The Victorian"

To the Editor,
 "The Victorian,"
 Queen Victoria School,
 Dunblane, Perthshire.

Dear Sir,

I herewith enclose a Subscription of
 and shall be pleased if you will forward me single copies of the
 two subsequent issues of "The Victorian."

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

THE EDITORIAL STAFF:—"The Victorian."

Editor—W.O. I. Instr. J. Thornton, B.A., A.E.C.

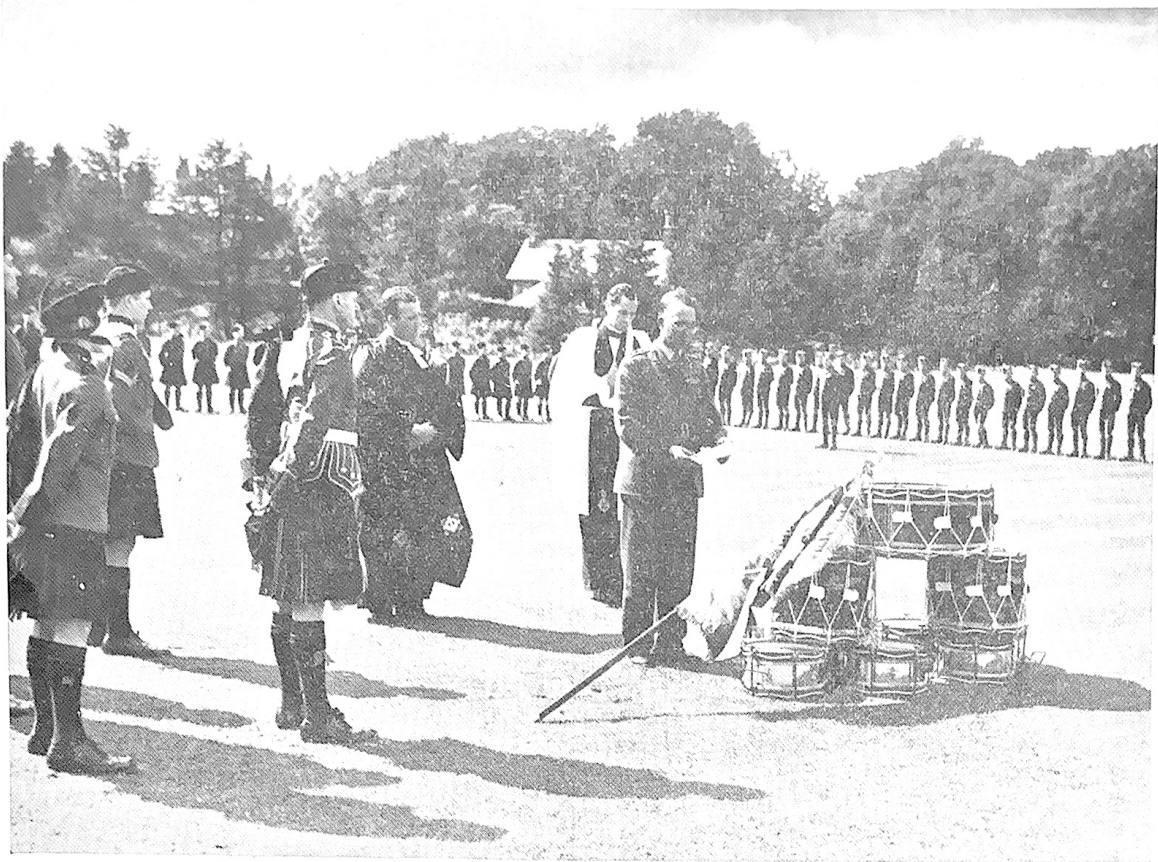
Sub-Editor: — Senior Monitor J. F. Phillips.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: R.S.M. W. WATSON, B.E.M., K.O.S.B.

CALENDAR 1947.

January		February		March		April		May		June	
S	.. 5 12 19 26	.. 2 9 16 23 ..	.. 2 6 13 20 27	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..
M	.. 6 13 20 27	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..
T	.. 7 14 21 28	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..
W	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30
T	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31
F	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..
S	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31

July		August		September		October		November		December	
S	.. 6 13 20 27	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 7 14 21 28	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 7 14 21 28	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30
M	.. 7 14 21 28	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..
T	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..
W	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..
T	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31
F	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..
S	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..



Dedication Ceremony, 31st July, 1946.



At the "Old Crock" Rally.