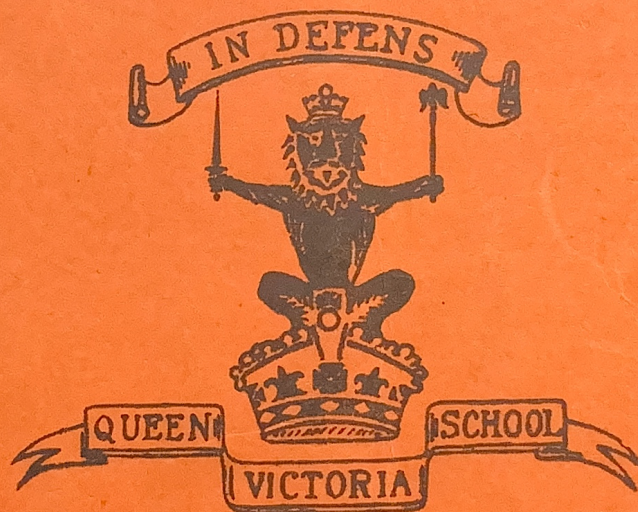


THE VICTORIAN



No. 39

December, 1947

EDITORIAL

AGAIN we were fortunate in having a lovely day for "Grand Day," and, if anything, we had a larger number of spectators than the previous year. We were glad to welcome General Christison, as Inspecting Officer, and Lady Christison, who kindly presented the prizes.

A party of Girl Guides from Norway were among the spectators, and, as you will see elsewhere, a goodly contingent of Old Boys from Edinburgh and Glasgow and other places.

We congratulate Monitor R. Smith of the Duke of York's Royal Military School contingent, on winning the "Primus" medal for 1947, as the best all-round boy in the school under 15. It is the first time the medal has been won by a boy from this contingent.

When we congratulated Lord Cooper on his appointment as Lord President in our last number, we did not realise that this was to mean his severance from the Board of Commissioners, and in a farewell letter he speaks of his happy connection with the school, and asks that his best wishes may be conveyed to the school. It is with great regret that we part from him, and all our good wishes go with him.

The Lord Justice Clerk, The Rt. Hon. Lord Thomson, has taken his place on the Board of Commissioners, and we offer him a hearty welcome.

We also welcome Major General A. P. D. Telfer-Smollett, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Colonel of The Highland Light Infantry, to the Board of Commissioners, and hope soon to see him at the school.

Three events have so far broken the routine of this term—the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, now H.R.H. The Duchess of Edinburgh, and the holiday which this gave rise to—"Hallowe'en"—which was observed as usual with its "Guys" and "Apples" and the great freeze up and sudden rise in temperature, which left all our houses, except such as the school with central heating, with dripping walls.

Mrs Masterson and her family have now left the school to join her husband in Newcastle, and with her has gone her father, Mr Milne, late R.Q.M.S. at the school. Their departure brings to a close a long connection with the school. We are glad that Mr Masterson has recovered so well from his recent operation, and we wish them all the best of luck in their new surroundings.

With the departure of Mr Thornton from the school, we have lost our Editor. Mr Thornton took over the Editorship from Mr Thompson in 1946, and has carried out his duties as Editor most efficiently. Mr Taylor has taken his place, and we hope that everyone will support his efforts by helping him with material for publication.

Once again a considerable number of changes in the R.A.E.C. Staff have to be reported. Messrs Thornton, Cheesbrough and Longbottom have left us to take up different tasks with the Corps. Much as we regret their departure, we are very happy to extend to them our warmest congratulations on their being commissioned. Messrs Rogers, Purser and Eyre have returned to civilian life, and to them we wish to express our sincere best wishes for the future.

We welcome newcomers, Messrs Gathercole, Blackledge, Buffard, Jerstice, Taylor, White and Davidson, who are already happily settling to their new duties.

Appreciation

H.M. Commissioners of this School in March, 1944, made a grant to School No. 1786 Monitor R. F. W. Fisher out of their private funds to study at Dundee Technical College. His studies are now completed, and the following is an excerpt from a letter received by the Honorary Treasurer recently:—

"My studies at college are now complete, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful opening in life you made for me.

"I am deeply indebted to you, Sir, for the personal interest you took in my case, and I would be greatly obliged if you would convey my gratitude to the other members of the Board.

"I sat my final examinations for the Higher National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering last week, and I am happy to say that I have done exceedingly well. As the examination is an assessed one, the results are not official as yet, but my lecturers confirmed my surety in gaining the Diploma.

"On April 23rd of this year I had an interview in London with the Directors of the Eastern Assam Tea Coy., regarding position of Assistant Engineer on one of their Tea Estates. The interview was successful, and I sail next month for Assam. The prospects are excellent, and the commencing salary is very good.

"I greatly appreciate all that has been made possible for me by H.M. Commissioners, and again, Sir, please accept my sincere thanks."

Commissions

School No. 1629, Alexander Sturrock, who left the school as a Monitor on 1st May, 1942, on enlisting as a boy in the Royal Engineers (Ordnance Survey), was commissioned in the Royal Engineers in June, 1947, and now holds the rank of Lieutenant.

Honours and Awards

The following name should be added to the list of Old Boys decorated during the war:—

School No. 1030, C.S.M. R. Douglas, A.P.T.C., M.B.E., D.C.M., M.M.

C.S.M. Douglas left the school in 1929, and enlisted in the K.O.S.B.s shortly afterwards, and later transferred to the Army Physical Training Corps. During the war he was employed with the "Commandos," and took part in several raids. When last heard of he was still serving and stationed at Perth.

School No. 582, W.O.1, P. B. Taylor, R.A.E.C., Mentioned in Despatches.

W.O. Taylor left the school as a Monitor in 1925, and enlisted in The Royal Scots. In 1936 he transferred to the R.A.E.C., and was taken prisoner in France in 1940 whilst employed on the staff of the Intelligence Corps. He has recently joined the staff of the school.

Visiting Commissioner

Brigadier-General Sir Norman A. Orr-Ewing, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., D.L., inspected the school as Visiting Commissioner on 22nd October.

He first of all inspected the R.A.E.C. staff in

the Central Hall, and then presented to W.O.1 P. Taylor, R.A.E.C., the emblem for Mention in Despatches which had recently been awarded to him by H.M. The King. W.O. Taylor, who is a former pupil of the school, was taken prisoner in France in 1940. Sir Norman Orr-Ewing congratulated him on the award.

Sir Norman Orr-Ewing then went round all the dormitories and spoke to many of the boys who were standing to their beds. He then proceeded on a tour of the school buildings, and inspected all the work in progress. He finally visited the kitchens and saw the boys at their dinners.

Visitors to the School

Capt. H. G. Knight, E.M.E., Highland District.
Major-General and Mrs Martin, Skye.
Lt.-Comdr. J. B. Herepath, R.N., Rosyth.
Admiral Sir Colin Cantlie, K.C.B., D.S.C., H.M. Commissioner.
Major F. P. Bain, District Catering Adviser, Highland District.
Rev. Mr and Mrs Buchanan, Senior Chaplain, India.
Capt. I. J. Thomson, Fuel Technologist, War Office.
Miss N. Farquhar, Aboyne.
Sir John Mackay Thomson, H.M. Commissioner.
Rt. Hon. Lord Cooper, P.C., do.
Lt.-Col. C. L. Addison Smith, C.B.E., D.L., do.
Air Vice-Marshal Sir Charles Longcroft, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.O.S., A.F.C., do.
Colonel A. W. H. Hay Drummond, do.
Colonel Sir George Stirling, C.B.E., D.S.O., do.
Brig.-General Sir Norman Orr-Ewing, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., D.L.
Lieut.-General Sir Philip Christison, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., do.
Major C. D. M. Hutchins, A.P.M. Scottish Comd.
Col. W. F. Hawkins, O.B.E., R.A.E.C.
Major A. W. Corey, C.B.E., Highland District.
Capt. R. G. Brenchley, R.E., Highland District.
Mr R. Marshall, D.C.R.E., Stirling.
Brig. B. B. Edwards, C.E., Scottish Command.
Field Marshal The Viscount Montgomery, K.G., G.C.B., D.S.O., C.T.C.S.
Colonel G. Alley, A.D.M.S., Highland District.
Major H. J. Anderson, D.A.D.H., Highland District.
Lt.-Col. R. E. Lampen, A.M.S., Scottish Command.
Lt.-Col. H. G. Robertson, A.D.H., Scottish Command.
Capt. W. E. Porter, R.A.M.C., Scottish Command.
Lt.-Col. A. V. Kent, 26 Comd. Workshop, Stirling.
Major W. Leckie Ewing, Arden.
Major R. Leckie Ewing, H.L.I.
Lt.-Col. H. D. Anthony, C.I., D.A.E., War Office.
Mr I. Watson, M.A., S. Chief Inspector, Scottish Education Department.
Major-General Sir Archibald Ritchie, H.M. Commissioner, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G.
Mr C. K. Mitchell, Command Secretariat.
Mr W. A. Miller, Command Secretariat.
Col. M. H. Cork, C.E.O., Scottish Command.
Rev. A. Ross, A.C.G., Scottish Command.
Rev. J. A. Williamson, D.C.G., Highland District.
Major A. N. Lechler, R.E., Scottish Command.
Lt.-Col. J. M. Sym, The Seaforth Highlanders.
Major A. C. C. Brodie, The Black Watch.

The Passing of an Old Soldier

The Commandant with Cpl. G. Williams and Boys Stewart and S. Riddell, all sons of Gordon Highlanders, attended the funeral of General Sir Ian Hamilton at Doune on 16th September. A very impressive ceremony was held in the West Church, Doune, which was crowded to overflowing with representatives of the British Legion from all over the country, and from the various Battalions of his old Regiment, The Gordon Highlanders.

The bearers of the District Banner of the various branches of the Legion stood one behind the other in the two aisles of the church, and added colour to the scene.

After the service, the coffin was carried from the church by N.C.O's of the Gordon Highlanders and placed on a farm cart. The procession then moved off in slow time headed by the firing party and Pipe Band of the Gordon Highlanders. On reach the cemetery, 1½ miles away, the mourners formed round the grave, and after the burial service was read, the firing party fired three volleys, the "Flowers of the Forest" was played on the pipes, and the Last Post and Reveille sounded on the bugle.

So passed away a great soldier and a great gentleman.

Sir Ian Hamilton always took a great interest in this school, and in the old days when he was living in the neighbourhood he was a frequent visitor to it.

Bigger and Better

"Grand Day," and what a grand day it was! The sun was shining gloriously on Wednesday, 30th July, 1947, when 140 old school boys and their many friends left Glasgow for the Grand Day Parade at the old school. It was a wonderful turn out of our Glasgow friends, many of whom had never been to the school. We were delighted to have with us many ladies from the Women's Guild of the Camerons Club, also Mr G. Curry, the well known judge of Scottish dancing. After a most pleasant bus run to the school we arrived just shortly after dinner to find that a very large number of visitors were already seated at the sports grounds, which, by the way, were looking lovely. We were not long in settling down and in a wonderful atmosphere, enjoyed, and were thrilled by the beautiful parade. I heard many tributes being paid to the boys—their smartness, soldiers in miniature, the discipline shown when, owing to the terrific heat some small boy fainted—Oh! yes we old school boys were thrilled. This was an official engagement I am sure the G.O.C. Scotland, General Christison, thoroughly enjoyed. After the actual parade the huge crowd were entertained by the Pipe Band, Military Band and Bugle Band, and by a grand team of Highland Dancers.

We were delighted that the School Commissioners had made arrangements for all present to have tea. The Old Boys' Tent, and the General Public Tent was an excellent idea, and although there was certainly room for much improvement, the arrangements were much appreciated, and we feel that next year, all being well, arrangements will even be better.

I must mention two things which impressed me very much—when the General shook hands with Mr P. Scotland, his old R.S.M.—our old R.S.M.

and grand old man. What a lot those two old soldiers could have said to each other, and must have been said in their smiles and firm hand grip. The presence of three Pipe Majors, old school boys—Pipe Major Robertson, Pipe Major Lewis and Pipe Major McDiarmid—I wonder if they were talking about their school days or the highland Games, but anyhow it was nice to see them together.

Now that the show was over, we all mixed together, and all one could see was hand shaking and introductions. It was fine to meet our friends from Edinburgh and to see that they had quite a large company.

After tea many of the visitors took the opportunity of seeing through the school, and I think I must have felt the proudest man in Dunblane that evening as I conducted a party of 24 on a tour round the school. As we had brought an accordion player with us we all adjourned to the gymnasium where we held a small dance and sing song—the staff club were most hospitable, and as our kiddies were having impromptu "sports" in the field everyone was catered for.

Well all good times come to an end, so tired but sun tanned and happy, we said "Good Night" to the staff, and our little comrades who had entertained us so well. I heard later that over 1200 visitors were at Dunblane on Grand Day.

BROOMIELAW.

Bi-Annual Report from Glasgow

This has been the most encouraging six months to our branch. We have seen many new faces at our meetings especially among the younger members — young Curly McLeod, J. Potter, Puck West, Ian Dunn, have visited us and were made very welcome, and a very special welcome to our good friend W. McQuarrie who is now demobbed after an exciting spell in Palestine. Alas, we have had our losses too—Our President has been forced to resign owing to pressure of business; Jock Meldrum has gone to Canada; William Barclay to the Channel Islands; while young Willie Duncan is waiting to go into the H.L.I. Band. We wish them every success in their new jobs.

Mr A. Center has now taken his place as Chairman with Mr J. Craig as his vice-chairman. Considerable activity can be laid at the door of our Entertainment Convener and his committee, and after the great success of our dance on the 31st October, we feel that they have bright prospects for the rest of the winter programme.

One night recently I had the pleasure of watching a parade of massed pipe bands in the Kelvin Hall, led by three old "Q.V." Boys—Pipe Major A. McDermid, Drum Major A. Turbine and Leading Drummer J. Myles. Albert Tweedie has passed his examinations at Trinity Hall, and is now in his final year. We wish him every success.

We are pleased to report that Robert Maitland has been discharged from hospital, and we now trust that he has fully recovered from his war wounds.

A new step has been taken to encourage the old boys to get together. The Camerons have kindly given us permission to use their rooms on the third Tuesday of each month for a social evening. Two small socials have already been held, and although on each occasion the attendance was small, a very enjoyable time was spent by all—I might mention that the tea and cake

provided helped to make things so enjoyable. I take this opportunity of extending a very hearty welcome to all old school boys who may be in Glasgow on the 1st or 3rd Tuesday of the month to come along and join us, and to the present school boys who come from Glasgow I would like them to tell their parents about us and how glad we will be to hear from any of them.

We wish to thank Captain Cooper for his visit to us and of the excellent way he portrayed his impressions of the school. We feel that he has grasped the spirit in its entirety. We wish him all success and happiness in his new post. We are going to miss Captain Campbell when we come up to Dunblane, but perhaps our loss will not be felt so keenly now that we have found another friend in his successor. To Edinburgh Branch we send our best wishes, and on the first Sunday in May, let both branches try and break all records in attendance where all can be equal again in the glorious memories of the past.

G. H. MAITLAND, *Secretary.*

29 Kelvinside Avenue, Glasgow, N.W.

Piping Awards Won by J. B. Robertson, M.B.E.

Kingussie—1st, 2nd.
 Bridge of Allan—1st, 2nd, 2nd.
 Newtonmore—1st, 2nd, 2nd.
 Lochaber—1st, 3rd.
 Isle of Skye—1st, 2nd.
 Aboyne—2nd, 2nd.
 Braemar—1st, 2nd, 3rd.
 Glenurquhart—1st.
 Nethybridge—1st, 2nd, 3rd.
 Oban—Championship, March and Reel, 1st.
 Northern Meeting — Championship, Pibroch, 3rd; March and Reel, 2nd.

Grand Day

Nature provided a glorious background for the Queen Victoria School's "Grand Day," held in the school grounds at Dunblane on Wednesday afternoon. There were many invited guests, who with the "old boys" and their wives and many friends, formed what was probably the largest gathering which has ever assembled to witness this colourful ceremony.

Immaculate in their khaki uniforms, which displayed an energy of spit and polish worthy of the Guards, the 250 boys, whose ages ranged from nine to fifteen years, paraded in brilliant sunshine, and were inspected by Lieutenant-General Sir A. F. Philip Christison, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Commanding-in-Chief, Scottish Command. He was accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Hall, M.C., Commandant of the school.

With scorching rays of sunshine beating down on them, the lads, under the command of Company-Sgt.-Major A. Maxwell, M.B.E., must have carried out the ceremony under a heavy strain. Two, indeed, were overpowered by the heat and had to be carried off in a faint. However, the boys took it in true soldier-like style, and showed none of the discomfort they had been experiencing.

The parade included boys from the Duke of York Royal Military School, Dover, who were evacuated to Dunblane during the war when their own school was badly damaged by enemy action. The parade drew up in line with the bands in rear.

The School Colour, carried by Colour-Corporal J. Mulhern, was in centre with A. Cunningham and A. Rogers as escorts, under the charge of the senior prefect, Monitor J. Phillips. Later in the parade Monitor J. Scott received the colour.

General Christison was received with the general salute, and after inspecting the boys and speaking to several of them, asking about their fathers and their homes and themselves, he returned to the saluting base for the march past. The music for this was played by the military band, under the command of Bandmaster F. H. Lax, and the pipes and drums bands, under the command of Pipe-Major J. Sanderson. The Drum-Major was fourteen-year-old A. Stewart, who later relinquished his duties in that capacity to C. Cook in order to take his place in the bugle band, which was under the command of Drum and Bugle Major W. Dunglison.

General's Address

Addressing the boys at the close, Lieut.-General Christison told them that the parade which they had carried through was possibly the oldest form of ceremonial parade that was retained in the army to-day. He himself had not seen it since he took part as Colonel of his regiment ten years ago. They did not have a ceremonial merely because it was something to look at. It had a meaning. Their motto, "Fear God, honour the King," was embodied in the ceremonial parade.

They had, he said, the great advantage of being educated and learning games and leadership in a grand school. He knew the one thing they thought about was their school and the fine place it was, and how dear it was to them.

When they went into the world he wanted them to carry these thoughts with them, because this grand country of ours had come through difficult times, and was looking for leadership which had the courage and fine qualities which had been taught at the Queen Victoria School. If they looked back and thought what it had meant to give service to their school then they would feel it was worth while giving service to their fellow-men in the world outside.

The future of their country lay in the hands of boys like themselves. When they went into the world it was not a case of doing things for themselves only. His own experience was that if one did one's duty and thought of others and how they could help them, one was rewarded with success, prosperity, and, above all, happiness.

On the occasion of Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery's visit to the school in May last, General Christison said that Viscount Montgomery had told him that that day had been one of the happiest in his life.

General Christison congratulated the boys on their excellent show, and also the bands and those in charge.

"I wish you all a happy holiday and the best of success for the future," concluded the General.

Prize Presentation

Lady Christison presented the various trophies and shields to the winners, congratulating them on their success.

The winner of the Primus Medal for the best boy of the year was fifteen-year-old R. Smith, London. The Fish Trophy for the best swimmer was won by fourteen-year-old R. Gillies. The winners of the Addison-Smith prizes for public

speaking were:—1, J. Isdale; 2, J. Phillips; 3, A. Williamson. Various boys accepted the other shields and trophies on behalf of their winning Company.

Following this three hearty cheers were awarded General and Lady Christison. The parade then re-formed line and marched off. Tea was served, and a musical programme was sustained by the bands.

The Guests

Among those present were Major-General Hakewell-Smith; Captain Boutswood, R.N., representing the Commander-in-Chief, Rosyth; Sir George Stirling, Lord Lieutenant of Stirlingshire, and Lady Stirling of Glorat; Sir A. Ritchie; Sir Charles A. H. Longcroft, K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C., ex-Air Vice Marshal, representing the R.A.F., and Lady Longcroft; Admiral Sir Colin Cantlie, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., representing the Royal Navy; Col. A. W. H. Hay-Drummond and Mrs Hay-Drummond of Cromlix; and Lieut.-Col. C. L. Addison-Smith, C.B.E., D.L., W.S., honorary treasurer of the school, and Mrs Addison-Smith; and Sir John Mackay Thomson, Secretary of Scottish Education Department.

Several bus loads of "old boys," with their wives and friends, came from Glasgow and Edinburgh, Mr J. M. McLeod, 42 Cowlares Road, Springburn, who was a sergeant-major in the R.A., being in charge of the Glasgow visitors, and Mr Neil Cameron in charge of those from Edinburgh. Among these parties were some of the first boys in the school, which, incidentally, was opened by King Edward VII. in September, 1908.

Primus Medal Winner



Sgt. R. Smith (Contingent, D.Y.R.M.S.) being presented with Primus Medal by Lady Christison.

Company Notes

"A" COMPANY

Again the time has come when I must remind the reader that "A" Company is still very much on the map. My first topic is drill and the drill competition, a competition which touches the heart of every boy in the Company, especially when he is allowed to practice during his free periods. The day of judgment finally came, the judge was by then a familiar figure about the school. He was Major Gilmore, who until recently occupied the Commandant's quarter. We tried our best, but we were beaten in a very fair fight by our everlasting rivals, "D" Company.

Sport.—In this sphere of school life we were much more successful. We won practically everything that could be won on Sports Day—Football Shield, Rugby Shield, Fish Swimming Cup, Relay, Hurdles, Dandy Ninth, and polished the whole lot off with the championship. The reader will realise, therefore, that we have cause to be proud of ourselves.

Decrease.—Since my last effort in these columns, quite a number of boys have left us—B/Sgt. Joe Morgan, our star footballer; C/Cpl. R. Gilles, fish and individual cross country trophy winner; "Kippers" Mulhern, renowned for his marvellous mental ability; L/C Sander-son, known to most of us as "Goofy"; Sgt.

Langan, L/C Norris and boy Inglis, who left us at the beginning of the current term. Mon. Smith and Sgt. Anthony have left us to join the ranks of the gallant N.C.O.'s in "C" Company. By now we hope that all these boys will have settled down, and we wish them all the very best of luck. Of course, we have had the usual intake of boys from "C" Company, and these boys are settling down as well as can be expected. Sgt. Barr has joined us from "B" Company, and has been a great help in the running of the Company. Cpl. Williams, from "D" Company, is now with us, and doing his little bit. We welcome these boys, and hope that by now they will have discovered that "A" Company is not such a bad Company after all.

We had a grand time at Hallowe'en, thanks to the Master Cook, Mr Morrison. I am sure we had no complaints about the scarcity of food on that occasion. The meal was followed by a concert in the Playhall.

To this event the four Companies contributed five acts, and we enjoyed every minute of them. Of course there was the annual apple ducking competitions, and here again we were thwarted by "D" Company. This was followed by the "Guiser" and Lantern competitions.

Mr Maxwell is still with us, and we were very pleased to see him back with us again after his recent spell of absence.

On behalf of the boys of "A" Company, and

C.S.M. Maxwell, M.B.E., I would like to take this opportunity of wishing Old Victorians and the reader a Merry Christmas and all the best in 1948. With these closing words, I take my leave of the reader until we meet again in the next issue of The Victorian.

RONALD M. FIELD.

"B" COMPANY

Once again as we draw to the end of another term I write about the happenings of the Company.

We have lost a number of boys, some on transfer and others leaving school. Among the latter are J. Brown, joining R.A.M.C.; E. Cassidy and E. Johnson, both of whom went to civil life. Sgt. Barr joined "A" Coy. as Band Sergeant; C/Cpl. D. Nairn, who returned to his old Company, "D," as Sergeant; Cpl. T. Mitchell and L/C Fairbairn joined "C" Coy. to assist in keeping order amongst the recruits.

Last term we were not so lucky in the sporting world, but E. McCann won the Victor Ludorum, and J. Scott won the Monitors' Cup. Our greatest success during the sports was the winning of the Novelty Race. The team was Mr Dunglison, Monitor J. Scott, C/Cpl. D. Nairn, Cpl. T. Mitchell, and Boy V. Scullion.

The highlight of this term was the Hallowe'en Party, which is reported on elsewhere, but I must mention the wonderful feed, with more than enough for all. We thank Mr Morrison for his wonderful effort at the tea.

The most popular event was the "Spud picking," popular because it meant a period of no school and straight to bed on return from work. It also meant more pocket money for the Christmas break.

Our 1st XV. lost their first match, but the 1st XI. drew in their match, and, sad to say, the 2nd XI. lost to "D" Company.

We are in the midst of preparing for our Company party at the end of term.

I will close wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

J. SCOTT.

"C" COMPANY

At the time I put pen to paper I find that Christmas is drawing near. It therefore means the season of good cheer—if the latest Budget allows it! Now to settle down to business. Since the last "Victorian," many changes have been made in the way of N.C.O.'s and boys—the N.C.O.'s leaving to carry on their various careers and the boys joining their parent Companies. The N.C.O.'s who have left us are Sgt. J. Nairn and C/Cpl. W. Watt to civilian life, and Sergeants Fee, T. McBride and Cpl. C. Wagstaff to the army. We all wish them success in their future life. We have also received 30 new boys into our charge, all from different parts of the surrounding big towns.

The Company have by now fully recovered from the effects the Hallowe'en party has had on them. "C" Company also hit the spotlight by coming second in the Guiser Competition and putting on a Toy Soldiers' act, which came off very well, thanks to the help of Mr Watson, our R.S.M., to whom we are very loyal. By the way, the N.C.O.'s we gained by way of promotion this term were Monitor R. Smith, Sgt. Anthony and Cpls. Blake, Daly, Fairbairn and Tripney. The Com-

pany is now starting to save again, so that they may have a Christmas party at the end of the term before going on leave.

So with the thought of the Christmas party and Christmas entering our minds, I will close, wishing all readers "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," from Mr Pears, our C.S.M., and the boys and N.C.O.'s of "C" Company.

"PEACH BLOSSOM" (D.P.)

"D" COMPANY

Since the last issue there have been many changes in the Company, due mainly to transfers and promotions. Two new sergeants, I. McGregor and D. Nairn, have been promoted, and are doing well. T. Pickering has been promoted Colour-Corporal and, but for the raucous din he makes when marking up sick reports, is doing quite well. Owing to promotion we have lost our football star, G. Williams, and also F. Blake, who went to "A" and "C" Companies respectively. Boys who have left the Company are A. Bradley, I. Norris and E. Wallace, who joined the Ordnance Survey; John Gracie who went to Arborfield, and I. Paterson, who went to civilian life.

At the end of last term "D" Company surprisingly won the Drill Competition. "A" Company was a very good second. A more surprising event, we were second in the Kit Inspection, which was held on the same day. Since, however, we have fallen to bottom place again.

The highlight of this term was, of course, the school Hallowe'en party. If there is one "sporting" sphere in which "D" Company excels it is the "bun scoffing," so it was no surprise when we won the cup.

In other spheres of sport "D" Company have done well (for them). Our 2nd eleven has won one match, and our 1st fifteen lost 9-3 to "A" Company, but it was in my opinion the best game played between two Companies for years. Worthy of mention are S. Cox, who played well at wing forward, and R. Myles, who did some very good running but was unlucky in not being able to cross the line. We scored when Myles kicked a penalty goal from about the 25 yards line.

I regret to say that John Hall is still on sick leave after a long spell in hospital. We hope he has made a complete recovery, and that his share of the "D" Company Hallowe'en party did not cause a serious relapse. On behalf of the Company, I would like to say "hurry back."

At present "D" Company are swotting up plays and sketches for our "breaking up" party, which we hope to make a great success. The only difficulty is restraining the "would-be" actors from smothering themselves in make-up, for they believe that they cannot be actors unless liberally painted and powdered.

Well, that is about all I can say; so I will end by wishing all readers "A Merry Christmas" and all the best in the coming year.

Monitors' Notes

BEING A BRIEF RESUME OF THE DOINGS OF SCHOOL MONITORS, PAST AND PRESENT.

No Monitors have left, and none have been promoted since last term, so for once in the school's history it seems as if I shall have to get

down to work instead of filling up space with school numbers, destinations, and so on. The only ex-Monitors we have had with us since the last publication have been P. Paterson, E. Aspland, and Donald Notman. The first two, who are at Warminster, were up for several days at the end of last term. They are doing well. So are the other ex-Monitors who are there. Eric Aspland certainly has not shrunk since leaving, and even Monitor Field is small in comparison. Donald Notman, now at Cranwell, was up two or three weeks ago, and we gathered that he has received his boxing colours. Mike Emmett, who went to Cranwell at the same time, has played several times for the 1st XV. there, and it is to be hoped that he will soon be a fully fledged member.

For us still at school, things are running on the same lines. There are grumbles about getting up, about going to bed, about parades, kit inspections, and anything you care to think of. Heaven help the Monitors the day they find nothing to grumble about. They will die of boredom.

At the moment, rugby is taking a fine toll of our surplus energy. Of the six Monitors five are in the 1st XV. and one in the 2nd XV. The hope of gaining rugby colours at the end of the season keeps interest high, and takes some of the disappointment away from days on which we have no fixtures.

The Monitors are heroes. Yes, it cannot be denied. Several weeks ago some wildly excited boys reported that a man with one or three arms which were joined on to hands with claw-like nails was prowling round the school. The six Monitors were given the task of bringing the prowler to book. Before going out on their hazardous mission, they compared notes on the appearance of the person, which had been volunteered to them by gasping youths.

Piecing the puzzle together, we came to the following conclusion: he was a tall, fat, well-built specimen, with one thin arm and various wooden arms, and a couple of wooden legs. His cap was a cross between a glengarry, cricket cap and trilby; his jacket was of various colours, probably tartan, and his shorts were long. Undaunted, the man-hunters set forth with dreams of glory and renown spurring them on. Two hours later they returned, dirty, cold, wet, and empty-handed. Anyone who had mentioned "prowler" to them would have gone sailing down the school burn.

Pipe Notes

After the excitement of the summer competitions and the numerous engagements which fall on that term, this autumn term is very quiet for the pipers. We have, however, been fortunate in being asked to appear at the Dunblane Hydro. Two of these appearances affected dancers only, but the third was a combination of piping and dancing. The dancing team this term is a very young one. But they are not entirely lacking in skill and confidence, and have put up quite creditable performances so far. Let us hope that they do not lose this standard.

By the time these notes have been printed, the pipe band will have been in attendance at Murrayfield, things being well. The first game

will be between Scotland and the Wallabies. Next term we will go to two others, one of them being Scotland v. France. These engagements are doubtlessly the highlights of the year from our point of view, and no piper would like to miss them if he could help it.

Several boys have left school, and, of course, the band since last year. As usual, their places have been filled by the up and coming youths, who never fail a plea for pipers to fill up the gaps.

The band gave a fine performance on Grand Day, and the fact that the weather was glorious and the scene more like that of pre-war days, probably helped to improve the performance. The only other parade of importance since then has been the Armistice Day Parade. The band was not at full strength, as several of the boys were playing at other services in various parts of Perthshire.

Then, of course, there was the photographer. The band had to dress up and display themselves in front of the camera. Some of the members are in for a shock when they "see themselves as others see them," to misquote.

As is the custom, I end up this article by thanking Pipe-Major Sanderson on behalf of the band for services rendered during the year.

Band Notes

Once again the Military Band has concluded its busy season of summer engagements, and is now enjoying the comparative quietness of the Christmas term. Most of these engagements were mentioned in the past issue of "The Victorian," but there remains one to be reported. This one was to Dunfermline on the 28th July. We were very pleased indeed to renew our engagements there after a very long period of absence. We played a large variety of tunes on the bandstand in the public park. We had quite a large audience, and the boys enjoyed every minute of it. The Press gave us a splendid report, and we deeply regret that it could not be published in these columns as we had hoped.

At the time of going to Press, we have the youngest band we have had for many a year, owing to the fact that thirteen boys left us at the end of last term. These were, B/Sgt. J. Morgan, who left us for the K.O.S.B.; Sgt. Norris and Cpl. Wagstaff, to R.A. staff band at Woolwich; Boy Brown, R.A.M.C. Band; Sgt. Nairn, civilian life; C/Cpl. Bradley to R.E.M.E.; Sgts. McBride and Lee, R.C.O.S. Band; C/Cpl. R. Gillies, civilian life; Sgt. Langan and L/Cs. Wallace and Norris, R.E. (O.S.); Boy A. Johnston, withdrawn. We were very sorry to see these boys leave us, and we wish them the very best of luck in their new spheres of life. Their leaving us, however, gave the smaller boys a chance to get into "reds" and play out with us, and I must say that these boys are progressing admirably.

We were very sorry to lose the services of C.S.M. A. J. O. Rask of the Highland Light Infantry, who, for the past four years has been the Bandmaster's assistant. We appreciate very much all that he has done to lighten the Bandmaster's daily duties. On behalf of the Bandmaster and the boys, I would like to wish Mr

Rask every success on his return to his unit, and to thank him for all he has done for us.

Somehow we managed to see Grand Day. No doubt the reader witnessed this glorious event, and will therefore appreciate the amount of practice put in. We were highly complimented on our standard of marching, a fact of which we are all very proud. Of course, when I say the band, I am including our friends and neighbours in the pipe band.

Mr Lax is still with us, carrying on with the good work, and having to work much harder to keep the Junior Band going, now that he has lost the assistance of Mr Rask.

Alas! once more I have come to the end of my tether, having said my piece, so I take my leave of the reader by wishing him, Mr and Mrs Lax, and old Victorians, the very merriest of Christmases and a bright and prosperous New Year.

RONALD M. FIELD.

Drum Notes

This Victorian brings us to the end of another very successful year for the Drums.

We have lost the following old boys—J. Ellis, T. Patterson, N. and G. Sanderson, and wish them every success wherever they are. We hope sincerely that the new arrivals will reach the same standard of efficiency.

We have Mr Dungleison to thank for our proficiency in drumming and bugling, and although he makes us work hard, he works much harder to keep us up to the mark. This hard work has resulted in the re-introduction of the bugle band, which everyone likes, and also makes a change from the Pipe Band and Military Band.

We have to fulfil three engagements at Murrayfield, one this term and two next.

We have had a very successful year, and we wish you all, at home and abroad, the same success for the coming New Year.

D/M. W. STEWART.

Rugby Notes

We have found great difficulty in enlarging our rugger fixture list this year. We have managed to arrange nine for the 1st XV, and three for the 2nd XV. The Saturday of the week we returned from the summer holidays, found us with a fixture at Perth Academy. We had eight new members in the team who had played little rugger, and we only managed one practice. Although beaten 18-0, the team played better than expected, and certainly better than the score suggests. The new members have to be congratulated on a fine game in adverse conditions.

The next 1st XV. game was against Alloa Academy 2nd XV. Although younger and lighter than the Alloa team, the school XV. played magnificently, and led 8-0 at half-time. Monitor Isdale and Carr each scored a try, while after failing at the first attempt Monitor Phillips converted. The weight of the Alloa XV. told in the second half, and the game ended with the score

at eight points each. The team played very well, and showed great promise.

The 2nd XV., which has been re-formed after many years, had a game against Stirling High School 3rd XV. The game was full of vim and enthusiasm without a great deal of very good rugger. School won 12-0 with four unconverted tries. Robertson bagged two, and Nairn and Stewart one each. Stewart's try resulted from a passing movement from a set scrum, the ball travelling right over to Stewart on the wing, who scored a grand try. The scrum played quite well, but the greasy ball was not conducive to good handling by the threes.

That then is an account of our games up to the moment. Compared to last year, they seem rather inglorious, but as mentioned before, the teams are settling down well, and should give a good account of themselves.

In the Inter-Company rugger, "A" Company 1st XV. and "B" Company 1st XV. had a fast, exciting game, which resulted in a win for "A" Company, the team that showed the most co-operative spirit.

The award of rugger colours has been re-introduced. Last year Monitors Phillips, Isdale, Ellis and Emmett were awarded colours. More will probably be awarded at the end of this season.

Football

The school football team has had two games against the schoolmasters. In these games we were beaten 4-2 and 5-0, but they improved our football and gave us much-needed practice.

The team to represent the school will be:—Eddington, Peachey, Burns, Carr, McCann, Stewart, Williams, Robertson (Captain), Watters and Miles.

In the match against Alloa Technical School we were well and truly beaten by a team which was superior all round. We were not disgraced, and Robertson and McCann should be mentioned for playing a hard and forceful game.

The lesson learnt was that our team must cultivate team-work and quickness off the mark and on the ball.

Salve

Boys who have Joined the School since 17/9/46.

Name.	Date of Joining.	Father's Regiment.
D. J. McKay,	6/1/1947,	Cameronians (S.R.).
M. I. Aitken,	6/1/1947,	R.A. (Field).
D. Edgar,	6/1/1947,	H.L. Infantry.
D. Kiddell,	6/1/1947,	Gordon Highlanders.
T. Malone,	6/1/1947,	R.S. Fusiliers.
P. Ward,	6/1/1947,	Royal Artillery.
T. W. Gavigan,	6/1/1947,	Royal Scots (R.R.).
G. F. Cairns,	6/1/1947,	R.A. Corps.
H. G. Bain,	6/1/1947,	R.A.O. Corps.
J. B. Graham,	6/1/1947,	R.C. of Signals.
B. F. Williamson,	6/1/1947,	Royal Engineers.
N. D. MacInnes,	7/1/1947,	Royal Navy.
J. McKee,	13/1/1947,	A. & S. Highrs.
K. Robertson,	4/2/1947,	Black Watch (R.H.R.).
J. Manson,	14/4/1947,	Royal Scots (R.R.).
D. Morrison,	14/4/1947,	R.A.F.

J. Barr, 14/4/1947, R.S. Fusiliers.
 L. Carroll, 14/4/1947, Middlesex Regt.
 C. Griffiths, 14/4/1947, Black Watch (R.H.R.).
 J. Henderson, 14/4/1947, R.E.M.E.
 J. Jeffrey, 14/4/1947, R.A.S. Corps.
 H. Fairbairn, 15/4/1947, Cameronians (S.R.).
 A. A. Beattie, 15/9/1947, Gordon Highlanders.
 E. Jones, 15/9/1947, Black Watch (R.H.R.).
 J. Kelly, 15/9/1947, A. & S. Highlanders.
 S. W. Howard, 15/9/1947, H.L. Infantry.
 G. Burns, 15/9/1947, Cameron Highlanders.
 A. D. Anderson, 15/9/1947, R.A.F.
 M. B. A. Lochlin, 15/9/1947, Pioneer Corps.
 M. A. Stewart, 15/9/1947, Black Watch (R.H.R.).
 T. Meechan, 15/9/1947, R.A.S. Corps.
 F. Maher, 15/9/1947, Seaforth Highlanders.
 J. Hamilton, 15/9/1947, Cameron Highlanders.
 W. G. G. J. Cheyne, 15/9/1947, Gordon Highrs.
 R. W. Milne, 15/9/1947, Royal Artillery.
 R. Carcary, 15/9/1947, Black Watch (R.H.R.).
 R. C. Hastie, A. & S. Highlanders.
 A. Airnes, 15/9/1947, R.A. Corps.
 A. Hunter, 15/9/1947, Cameron Highlanders.
 R. E. Campbell, 15/9/1947, A. & S. Highlanders.
 D. MacInnes, 15/9/1947, Royal Navy.
 J. M. Harvey, 15/9/1947, Seaforth Highrs.
 B. D. Creek, 16/9/1947, A. & S. Highlanders.
 E. Dickson, 16/9/1947, R.A.M. Corps.
 E. A. Gentles, 22/9/1947, Royal Artillery.
 I. F. Nicholson, 22/9/1947, Black Watch (R.H.R.).
 J. Charleston, 30/9/1947, Royal Artillery.
 W. R. Geddes, 30/9/1947, R.A.F.
 J. Gordon, 30/9/1947, Gordon Highlanders.
 H. McIntosh, 30/9/1947, R.E.M.E.
 J. Blackwood, 6/10/1947, A. & S. Highlanders.
 M. Stewart, 27/10/1947, Royal Artillery.

Vale

Boys who have left the School since 17/9/1946.

A. G. Robertson, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 R. R. R. Rogers, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 S. Hunter, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 J. F. McCartney, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 R. J. Marshall, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 W. Carruthers, to civilian life, 20/12/1946.
 M. Emmett, joined R.A.F., 15/1/1947.
 D. J. Notman, joined R.A.F., 15/1/1947.
 J. W. Dunn, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 17/2/1947.
 G. S. McMillan, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 17/2/47.
 G. R. McCrae, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 17/2/47.
 W. J. Duncan, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 17/2/47.
 A. Montgomery, joined Royal Engineers, 26/2/47.
 B. Duncan, to civilian life, 28/3/1947.
 T. Daly, to civilian life, 28/3/1947.
 A. Watson, to civilian life, 28/3/1947.
 J. McDonagh, to civilian life, 28/3/1947.
 D. J. McKay, discharged on medical grounds, 28/3/1947.
 D. McIntyre, withdrawn by parents, 1/5/1947.
 A. Kirkwood, withdrawn by parents, 6/5/1947.
 J. Ellis, to civilian life, 29/5/1947.
 J. McCulloch, joined Royal Engineers (O.S.), 17/7/1947.
 J. Morgan, joined K.O.S.B. Band, 31/7/1947.
 J. G. Norris, joined R.A. Band, 31/7/1947.
 J. Lee, joined R.C.O.S. Band, 2/9/1947.
 J. Gracie, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 2/9/1947.
 G. Sanderson, A.T.S. (Boys), Arborfield, 2/9/1947.
 J. Brown, joined R.A.M.C. Band, 10/9/1947.
 J. Nairn, to civilian life, 2/9/1947.
 W. Watt, to civilian life, 2/9/1947.

A. Rogers, to civilian life, 2/9/1947.
 R. Hawthorne, to civilian life, 2/8/1947.
 E. Cassidy, to civilian life, 2/8/1947.
 R. Gillies, to civilian life, 2/8/1947.
 J. Mulhern, to civilian life, 2/8/1947.
 J. Patterson, to civilian life, 2/10/1947.
 J. Inglis, withdrawn by parents, 6/10/1947.
 A. Johnston, withdrawn by parents, 20/10/1947.

D.Y.R.M.S. CONTINGENT

W. J. Kirkwood, withdrawn by parents, 20/12/46.
 D. Beat, joined R.A. Band, 8/1/1947.
 P. Walker, joined 15/19th Hussars Band, 8/1/47.
 R. R. E. Beadle, A.T.S. (Boys) Arborfield, 17/2/47.
 C. Wagstaff, joined R.A. Band, 31/7/1947.
 F. J. Norris, joined R.E. (O.S.), 2/9/1947.
 E. Wallace, joined R.E. (O.S.), 2/9/1947.
 T. Langan, joined R.E. (O.S.), 2/9/1947.
 A. Bradley, A.A. School, Chepstow, 2/9/1947.
 J. McBride, R.C. of Signals, 2/9/1947.
 C. Weldon, to civilian life, 2/8/1947.

Old Boys Who Have Visited the School Since 16/11/1946

382 G. A. Coyle, Edinburgh.
 827 F. Lonie, Edinburgh.
 67 H. Harrison (Sen.), Edinburgh.
 1785 H. Harrison (Jun.), Edinburgh.
 957 W. A. Bradley, Edinburgh.
 373 J. M. McLeod, Glasgow.
 100 A. F. Center, Glasgow.
 1468 J. Myles, Glasgow.
 687 M. Anderson, Glasgow.
 1117 J. M. Craig, Glasgow.
 500 J. S. McLeod, Glasgow.
 1179 A. H. McDermid, Glasgow.
 329 T. M. Minson, Glasgow.
 1311 J. L. Brown, Glasgow.
 21 J. T. Mair, Edinburgh.
 949 J. L. Martin, Edinburgh.
 1903 A. Dupuy, Glasgow.
 2024 G. Buist, Glasgow.
 1758 — Potter, Edinburgh.
 305 N. Cameron, Edinburgh.
 397 J. Robertson, Edinburgh.
 608 — Lees, Edinburgh.
 1194 J. M. Barron, Edinburgh.
 1488 C. M. Barron, Edinburgh.
 1308 W. Barron, Edinburgh.
 1193 W. McPherson, Edinburgh.
 1256 A. Bain, Edinburgh.
 362 D. Patrick, Glasgow.
 252 W. B. Robertson, Edinburgh.
 P. B. Robertson, Edinburgh.
 674 A. C. C. Craig, Glasgow.
 1302 D. McDermid, Glasgow.
 336 W. A. McKinnell, Edinburgh.
 573 J. G. Anderson, Edinburgh.
 620 J. Sinclair, Edinburgh.
 43 G. Stirrat, Edinburgh.
 1649 G. Queen, Bathgate.
 1714 J. L. McLeod, R.A.F., Cranwell.
 1822 J. Emmett, R.A.F., Cranwell.
 (1836 K. Gavigan, Merchant Navy.
 1805 G. Walford, R.A.S.C.
 1753 B. Brown, R.E.M.E.
 2021 T. Kirkwood, Seaforth Highlanders.
 1397 J. L. Davidson, R.A.S.C.
 2028 R. Notman, R.E. (O.S.).
 1942 P. Kelly, R.E. (O.S.).
 2125 N. Murray, R.E., Aldershot.

- 1675 A. Tweedie, Glasgow.
 1987 A. Barker, Scots Guards.
 1541 G. Broadbent, Rosyth.
 1688 R. Morton, Stirling.
 1978 J. G. Young, Bishopton.
 R54 Tony Basham (D.Y.R.M.S.), Herne Hill.
 2002 W. Edgar, Glasgow.
 1677 J. Rafferty, Glasgow.
 1906 R. Edgar, Glasgow.
 1069 G. H. Maitland, Glasgow.
 236 F. Kirkpatrick, Glasgow.
 891 J. L. Learmonth, Glasgow.
 716 T. Wilson, 2nd Cameron Highlanders.
 116 J. Bain, Edinburgh.
 1034 D. Mackay, Edinburgh.
 545 G. Malloy, Edinburgh.
 614 R. Fraser, Edinburgh.
 576 W. Learmonth, Edinburgh.
 106 A. Binnie, Edinburgh.
 1057 A. Kidd, Edinburgh.
 1240 J. E. Bunt, Edinburgh.
 631 T. L. Tunnah, Edinburgh.
 2027 J. Davidson, Black Watch.
 1510 G. Gallacher, R.A.F.
 844 W. D. Fraser, Inverness.
 1971 N. Dick, Girvan.
 W. A. Lenton.
 A. V. S. Lenton, Drymen.
 814 E. D. Fraser, Fintry.
 843 E. H. Fraser, Inverness.
 1629 A. Sturrock, Chatham.
 1546 W. D. Paxton, 4th Hussars.
 648 J. H. Slorrance.
 1405 W. McKay.
 1439 W. Bain, Edinburgh.
 833 T. Wallace, Glasgow.
 520 R. Lees, Ayrshire.
 1550 J. Burley, Scots Guards.
 1587 J. Lawrence, Scots Guards.
 1370 J. Mackenzie, Pipe Major, Scots Guards.
 1620 G. West, Scots Guards.
 1938 A. Morrison, Scots Guards.
 1203 A. Goodall, Edinburgh.
 131 W. Sutherland, H.M.S. "Vindex."
 16158 E. C. Aspland (D.Y.R.M.S.), R.E. (O.S.).
 634 A. E. Taylor, Glasgow.
 1712 D. McIntyre, Mobile Survey, Kenya.
 1196 A. S. Hogg, Killin.
 1177 N. Anderson, Cameron Highlanders.
 1030 R. Douglas, A.P.T.C., Indian Army.
 81 J. R. Pirie, H.Q., Lowland District.
 1887 G. Sinclair, Glenfarg.
 1917 P. Paterson, Huntly.
 1874 H. Martin, Edinburgh.
 1962 A. Montgomery, Edinburgh.
 1808 R. Yule, Isle of Wight.
 1834 E. Blake, Dunblane.
 16464 J. Smith (D.Y.R.M.S.), R.E. (O.S.).
 1896 P. Thomson, R.A.F., Cranwell.
 471 T. Faulkner, Edinburgh.
 1145 R. G. Kelley, Wakefield, Yorks.
 1828 M. Lawrie, Killin.
 1718 R. Dyke, Royal Navy.
 1884 J. D. Todd, Glasgow.
 502 J. B. Robertson, M.B.E., London.
 1739 J. McKell, Glasgow.
 1646 J. Hall, Grenadier Guards.
 1679 M. Melloy, R.E.M.E.
 1611 W. Reith, R.E.M.E.
 1878 J. Isdale, R.A.S.C.

