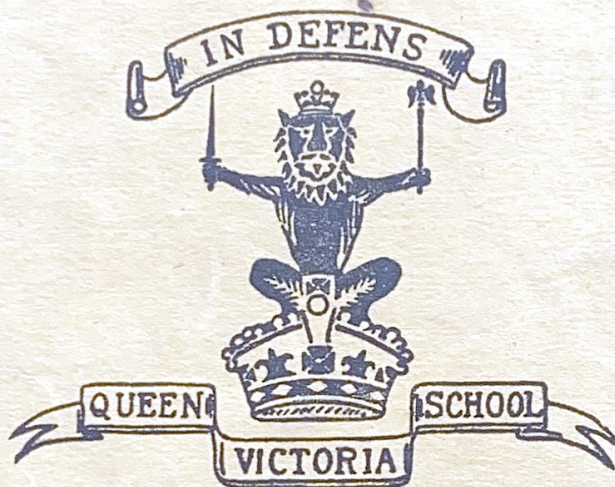


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THE VICTORIAN



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December, 1950

EDITORIAL

IN such a magazine as this we are normally concerned with matters of little significance in the course of human affairs outside the School. It is true, however, to say that, in this part of Scotland, awareness of events in the Far East has been heightened by the presence of the 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in Korea. We send to all Old Victorians in service in the Far East our very best wishes for a successful mission and a safe return.

There have been few outside attractions this term. A party spent a most enjoyable afternoon at Turnhouse, as guests of the R.A.F. on Battle of Britain Day. Most of the School attended a performance of the film, "Treasure Island," in Stirling, and a party of prospective Shakespearean actors went to Glasgow to see Donald Wolfit's "Merchant of Venice." Their splendid work for the School's production of "Macbeth" has proved them worthy of their title. We believe that this production will be one of the finest that stand to the School's credit. A further innovation, or revival (we are not sure which) will be the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols to be held in the School Chapel.

The most important of the forthcoming attractions concerns the arrangements for the Edinburgh Festival, when the School hope to be represented at the Gathering of the Clans, the Murrayfield Highland Games, and, above all, at the Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle. There we hope to provide sixty-four dancers for a massed Highland Fling and thirty-twosome Reels. We have already been up and spied out the land when a Q.V.S. contingent had the honour of being on parade when the G.O.C.-in-C. was installed as Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

As usual we have to report a large number of changes in the Teaching Staff. There have now been no fewer than twenty-seven departures in the past two years. As our establishment allows for eleven instructors only, the effect of these constant changes can readily be appreciated. It is hoped, however, to appoint in the New Year the first batch of civilian masters, whose presence will, we hope, give some much-needed continuity to our instruction.

We have had to say farewell to the last of our National Service W.O.'s and Sergeants, the following masters having left us since July, 1950:—Messrs Ennis, Roche, P. Jones, Beesley, Dunbar, Howard and A. Jones. We cannot let this farewell pass without acknowledging the great debt we owe to these men who, in their short service, gave so willingly of their time and energy. We have particular cause to be grateful to Mr Roche, whose reorganisation of the School games system and whose splendid coaching and example has done so much to restore the School's sporting reputation.

We welcome to the Staff six more R.A.E.C. subalterns, 2/Lts. Hester, Knox, McKenzie, Mullis, Palmer and Williams. Thus, with the exception of W.O. I. Taylor (P.B.T. of C. Coy.) and Mr McKay, our woodwork instructor, both of whom are, we hope, almost fixtures, the educational training staff of the School now consists entirely of commissioned officers of the R.A.E.C.

Of these we would like to congratulate Mr Williams on reaching the final of the Light Welter-weights in the Army Officers' Boxing Championships, and Mr Palmer on his selection to play Rugger for Scottish Command, while commiserating with him on the accident which prevented him from taking his place in the team. We wish him and Father Kaye a happy convalescence and a quick recovery.

The School Rugger Team has earned some hard-won glory, while the Staff Badminton Club, winners of the Premier Division of the Stirling and District League last year, have maintained their unbeaten record.

The new houses, intended for married civilian masters, are almost complete, and a long and ambitious programme of building and renovation is on the way, of which we hope to give more details in our next issue.

Visiting Commissioners

Brigadier-General J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., inspected the School on the 21st September, 1950, and Colonel E. P. Buchanan on 7th December, 1950.

Both Commissioners inspected the boys in their dormitories, and thereafter carried out a thorough inspection of the School premises.



Visitors to the School

(since Grand Day, 1950)

Captain A. P. Herbert, Command Fire Adviser, H.Q., Northern Command.
 Lt.-Col. C. B. Johns, A.D.O.S., Highland District.
 Bhawani Shankar, National Defence Academy, Dehra Dun, India.
 C. A. Mackintosh Wallace, Geddes, Nairn.
 Lt.-Col. A. MacLean, C.B.E., A.A.G., Scottish Command
 Brigadier O. C. Link, A.D.M.S., Highland District.
 Lt.-Col. D. G. Duke, A.A. and Q.M.G., Highland District.
 Lt.-Col. N. Chamier, D.A.W.O., Lowland District.
 D. Crichton Miller, Esq., Headmaster, Fettes College, and Mrs M. Crichton Miller.



Old Boys who have Visited the School

Mr Langley, Stirling.
 N. M. Dick (A.19), R.A.F.
 P. Thomson, R.A.F.
 A. P. Doig (1890), Black Watch, B.A.O.R. 16.
 F.S.R. MacLean (1142), R.A.F., Hemswell, Lincs.
 C. E. Makin (169), Bournemouth.
 A. Finnie (1413), Chatham.
 B. Currie (1186), St. Andrews.
 W. S. Carruthers, General Reinforcements, Hong-Kong.



Glasgow Branch

BIRTHS

Mr and Mrs John Nicol (1124), a son. Mr and Mrs R. McLean (1315), a son.

DEATHS

Hr J. Chisholm (9120). Mr James Craig (383).

We were delighted to have visits from Sgt.-Major A. M. McDermid (1354), who was home on leave from East Africa; Cpl. MacLeod, R.E.M.E. (1745), on leave from Germany, and W. P. Carrigan (2121) and G. Hardie (1035), who have just joined the Branch. We warmly welcome them and know that they will be an asset to the Branch.

The Secretary, Mr J. McLeod, was in hospital at Ballochmyle for several weeks, but he is now back with us and as busy as ever. Mr J. Hutton (632) has left us to open up in business in Dunoon. We wish him and his good wife every success.

The Branch has again started the little whist drives and socials which were such a success last Winter. Our very good friends of the "Cameron Club" have again kindly given us the use of rooms for our functions.

We are looking forward to the night of Thursday, 30th November, 1950, when we hold our

"Get-together," this time in Maryhill Barracks, where the O.C., Major Leckie Ewing of the H.L.I., has kindly granted us the use of the Concert Hall. We expect quite a big party, including about 32 from the School.

"First Hundred." Here are the names and addresses of three of the First Hundred who are members of the Glasgow Branch:

Mr A. Graham (No. 68), 134 Curzon Street, Glasgow; Mr R. Wilson (83), 35 Broomton Road, Balornock; Mr A. Center (100), 37 Leithland Road, Pollok.

The Branch held a very successful dance on Tuesday, 17th October, 1950, in the Corporation Woodside Hall, and the "kitty" had a tidy lift. Mr D. Bryson of Maryhill, played a very important part and once again we thank him. If only some of the "Old Boys" were half as interested as Mr Bryson (who is not a former pupil of Q.V.S.) our Branch would go from strength to strength.

We are a very active Branch, but this is because of the half-dozen Old Boys, proud of Dunblane, and proud of the honour of having been at the Q.V.S., who are keen to see the Branch becoming stronger. Once more I appeal to all former pupils resident in Glasgow to join us at our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, at the Camerons Club.

We wish the School Staff and Boys a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year; also our many old comrades, especially that gallant little band fighting in Korea.

"Let Glasgow Flourish."



News of the Old Boys

We have great pleasure in reprinting the following extracts from a letter written by No. 1212, Sgt. V. Dunn (Q.V.S. 1927-32), 1st Parachute Regiment.

"In January, 1933, I enlisted in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders who were then in Aldershot. I was posted to the band and there I found it consisted mostly of old Dunblane Boys, the Clougher Brothers, Tofts, later to be followed by George Sandilands, myself and my brother Ian Dunn. In our pipe band we had Peter Sandiland, Queen, the Anderson Brothers, the Lochart Brothers and some Duke of York Boys.

"For three years our station was Aldershot, during which time I met 'Pop' Linton who was then a captain. Then the regiment went over seas where I heard of 'Pinty' Ward who was then in the Royal Scots. In 1936 we left Palestine, which was our first station overseas, and went to Egypt, where I heard of 'Shorty' Long and the Shand Brothers of the Scots Guards. During my stay in Egypt I came across James Currie (Bonzo) of the R.E.'s and at Alexandria I ran across Darkie Ronolds of the Coldstream Guards, and heard that Andy Cunningham was also in the Coldstreamers. During my stay in Palestine, I forgot to mention, I ran into W.O.1 Hancock, who was our science master at school. The regiment shifted to India where I didn't have the chance to meet any Old Q.V. Boys. On our return to Egypt from India, which takes me up to the beginning of the war, nothing turned up, and when we were eventually put in the bag, I met no more Q.V. boys until one day in 1944,

while a prisoner in Germany, I received a letter from an old boy whom I had not seen since 1932, saying that they were coming over to get us out, and since that day I have been looking for him.

"On my return to Britain after the war, I kept thinking about all the chaps I did know, and made up my mind to visit the Glasgow Branch, where I met Jeck Vallance, George Maitland and Joseph Sinclair. I also found the name Bootland in the Dumbarton football team; all old boys in my time will remember Charlie Bootland of "D" Company.

"I remained at home with the Cameron Highlanders, until eventually I voluntarily transferred to the Parachute Regiment in 1948. I went to Germany with reinforcements for the Parachute Regiment, and during my stay there heard the name of C.S.M. Scotland mentioned on the wireless, which I found was the son of the old R.S.M. of the School, and who was then stationed at Detmold. I came back with the Parachute Regiment to England and this is when I leave the soldiering part of the army, and go on to the athletic side.

"This year our battalion won the Army Inter-Unit Championships, and as usual we had a Q.V. old boy representing the Regiment, Band-Sgt. Harold Ryan, the event being the 120 yards hurdles.

"I was very surprised to know that W.O.II Roche was one of the masters at Q.V.S.; he will probably remember being a member of our mess during his short stay in Aldershot, while he was waiting to compete in the Army Individual Championships. At one time I remember sitting next to him in the dining room (but I didn't have control of the food). Sorry, I had no idea that he was from Q.V.S. which would account for the deathly silence on my part. I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating him on a very fine performance at the Aldershot Stadium and at Uxbridge."

Sgt Dunn concluded by mentioning that James Currie is now in New Zealand (last known address: Hydro Electric Scheme, Lake Pukaki, Timmaru, N.Z.), and, with appreciative messages to R.S.M. Watson and Bandmaster Lax, signed himself sincerely ours, "Pegasus."

Thank you for your news, Sergeant Dunn, we hope other Old Victorians will follow your example.

St. Andrews Man on Flying Tour of U.S.

Wing-Commander T. W. Kean, 39 Churchill Crescent, St. Andrews, has taken part in a flying tour of U.S.A.—one of six simultaneous world-wide flights on which aircraft from R.A.F. College, Manby, were engaged until they returned on November 17.

Wing-Commander Kean is one of the crew of the Lincoln bomber R.E. 523 (otherwise Thor 2). It took off from Manby making a non-stop 2,100 miles crossing to Goose Bay, Newfoundland. The homeward journey being via Bermuda and the Azores, the plane arrived at Manby on November 17 after 70 hours' flying during the trip.

Wing-Commander Kean was born at Aldershot, Hants, in 1909, and was educated at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. He joined the R.A.F. in 1925.

Five Regiments

A young man of many regiments, son of a soldier, who only some months ago was with the Argylls who are now in Korea, is Private George White, belonging to Glasgow, a time-serving soldier in the H.L.I. at Maryhill Barracks. He is one of the representatives of the H.L.I. in the parade of Scottish Regiments in the finale of the Masque of Scotland in St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, this week in aid of national funds for the British Legion.

He told the "Evening Times" that as a boy from Queen Victoria School, he joined the H.L.I. a few months before war broke out in 1939. He was drafted to the Lowland Division, then when he was old enough embarked for India. His ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean in 1943. He was picked up and landed in North Africa, where he was attached to the Irish Guards until he could proceed to India. When he reached there he was posted to the Scaforth's, was in the Burma campaign and saw fighting in Indonesia. On completing "a tour abroad" he came home. Next he was sent to the Far East, joining the Argylls, leaving them in Hong-Kong a few months ago.

Notes from Harrogate

Herewith some news of Old Boy Army Apprentice Tradesmen at Harrogate.

A./T. Sanderson, Blake, Norris and Wallace passed out to the Regular R.E.'s in July.

A./T. T. May won the Junior Cross-Country run and is in the School Colts XV. A./T. D. Leel is also a Colt and a member of H.Q. Cross-Country team. A./T. Carr, who left the School for civvy life, joined us and is a member of the School 1st XV.

Old Boys have shown up quite well in the School boxing. T. May won the Light Welter weight in H.Q. Coy. but lost in the 1st round of the School competition. Signaller McGuigan won his weight in the Company, but was unluckily disqualified in the 1st round of the School fights. R. Williamson won the Lightweight division in "A" Coy. and the School.

Paxton, J. Kerr, W. Kerr and D. MacKenzie are all doing well.

D. Leel, W. Kerr, J. Kerr and R. Williamson are training to be Electricians; R. Carr, R. Paxton and Sappers Blake, Wallace and Norris, Surveyors; T. May, Painter and Decorator, and D. MacKenzie a Quantity Surveyor's Assistant, whilst Sapper Sanderson is a Bricklayer and Sgn. McGuigan is a Signaller.

HAS BEEN.

Rugby Football

Inter-Company Championship

1st XV.	2nd XV.
A beat B 9-6	A beat B 22-3
D beat A 12-0	A beat D 8-3
D beat B 16-3	B beat D 24-0
1st "A" Company—6 points	
2nd "D" Company—4 points	
3rd "B" Company—2 points	

GRAND DAY

The following account of Grand Day, 1950, is reprinted here by kind permission of the Editor, "Stirling Sentinel."

With a soldierly bearing which made the many veterans present "sit up and take notice," the well-drilled boys of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, created a most favourable impression on parade at the annual "Grand Day" held before a large attendance of Commissioners, Old Boys of the school and parents and members of the public on Wednesday, 26th July, 1950.

The weather was ideal and the colourful spectacle, the stirring pipe tunes and the martial music of the military band made "Grand Day" a memorable affair and one of great credit to the new Commandant, Lieut.-Colonel R. F. Nason, Seaforth Highlanders, and his able staff, particularly Major Washtell, headmaster; Mr F. H. Lax, bandmaster; Mr J. Sanderson, pipe-major, and Mr W. Dunglison, drum and bugle major, whose interest in the boys was reflected in the excellence of their turnout and deportment on parade. The marching of the "babies"—boys whose average age is 9½ years and who have only been at the Q.V.S. for a year—was indicative of the grand training.

The inspecting officer was Lieut-General Sir Gordon H. A. MacMillan, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Commander-in-Chief, Scottish Command, and Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who had as his aide-de-camp Boy A. McArthur, Royal Scots, who discharged his duties with the aplomb of a veteran.

Among others present were Lady MacMillan, who graciously presented the principal school awards; Colonel Addison-Smith, Edinburgh, a Commissioner; Admiral Sir Colin Cantlie; Major-General Sir Philip Christison, former G.O.C., Scottish Command; Sir Charles Thomson, Edinburgh; Colonel Rusbridge, O.B.E.; Colonel E. P. Buchanan, M.C., of Touch; Colonel A. G. Connal-Rowan of Meiklewood; and Sardar Harne Main Singh of the Indian Army.

The inspecting officer was received with the "General Salute," the band playing "The Garb of Old Gaul," after which the General inspected the parade and returned to the saluting base. Before commencement of the "Troop," colours and bands moved smartly to position. The Assembly was played in quick time, the pipes and drums playing "Bonawe Highlanders."

On the command "Troop," the band, pipes and drums moved right to left in slow time to the tune "The Rowan Tree." They then counter-marched and halted, and marched back from left to right as the band struck up "Mary of Argyll." After the drummers' call had been beaten, Sgt. H. Kill received the Colour, which was saluted by the escort, "The Salute" being played by the band. Preceded by the bands—the military band playing "Logie of Buchan"—the Colour was trooped in slow time through the ranks of the Guards, who received it with the salute.

The parade, having formed column of guards, the band playing "Jock o' Hazeldean," it marched past the inspecting officer in quick time, the pipes and drums striking up "Heilan' Laddie." The parade reformed line and advancing in review

order, gave the Grand Salute, the band meanwhile playing "Scotland the Brave."

G.O.C.'s ADDRESS

The parade, having formed three sides of a square, Lieut-General Sir Gordon MacMillan kindly gave the boys permission to be seated during his address.

Lieut-General MacMillan said that was the second time he had had the good fortune to see them on their "Grand Day." There were three things about the Queen Victoria School which specially appealed to him, and he had no doubt to everybody else who had seen the parade.

The first was the good manners of everybody one met about the school. The second was the excellent turnout, and the third was their very good drill discipline. Those were terribly important things, things they had learned during the time, short or long, they had been in the School and which he hoped they would keep for the rest of their lives whatever career they took up.

Sir Gordon reminded the boys that the things he mentioned were not just lessons to be learned at school, but to be preserved in different form for different reasons. If they were good mannered when they were young, when they grew up they would be straightforward and assist people dealing with them. If they were well turned out from early on in life they would grow up to have the self-respect which was so necessary for people who were going to be leaders in this country. By inculcation of the habit of discipline which they were gaining at the School and which had been exemplified on the field that day they would not only set a high standard for other people but would also expect other people to rise to that standard.

All these things, continued the G.O.C., were, as they said in the Army, in short supply in life to-day. We were badly in need of leaders in this country to-day, and therefore the boys of the Queen Victoria School should consider themselves fortunate to receive such an upbringing.

His final request to them was that as sons of fathers who had given service to the country in the Army, they needed the sons of those fathers in the Army as badly as anywhere. In the old days every regiment, and the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, had the tradition of sons of the regiments. He hoped, therefore, when they grew up they would follow in the footsteps of their fathers.

In conclusion, the G.O.C. said it had given him and everybody else the greatest pleasure to see such a fine turnout and display that afternoon, and he congratulated them on all they had done.

Lady MacMillan thereafter presented the principal awards. Those were:—

Primus of the School—Sgt. J. Harold, Duke of York School; proxime accessit—Monitor Peter Wheeler, Duke of York School.

Best Shot (Bronze Medal)—Monitor D. Scullion, Royal Scots.

Sir Robert Cranston Memorial Essay Prize—Boy A. Lumsden.

Addison-Smith Prize for Public Speaking—Boy A. Lumsden.

Fowler Prize for Art—Monitor D. Grove.
Inter-Company Championship Shield—"B"
Company; Shooting Cup—"B" Company; Drill
Cup—"B" Company; Interior Economy Cup—
"B" Company; Whitehead Shield for Education
—"D" Company.

Vale

Boys who have left the School since July, 1950:—

- 2124 Monitor J. Murray—Civilian life.
- 2238 Sergt. G. Brown—Civilian life.
- 2163 Cpl. A. Bourhill, A.A.S. (Dec., 1950).
- 2190 Cpl. W. McCombe—A.A.S. (Dec., 1950).
- 2239 Cpl. J. Shivers—A.A.S. (Dec., 1950).
- 2143 Cpl. G. Cramb—A.A.S. (Dec., 1950).
- 2195 Boy J. McGranaghan—Royal Navy
- 2400 Boy R. N. McLeod—Withdrawn by
parents.
- 2131 Sergt. R. Sharp—Merchant Navy.
- 2117 Monitor P. Watson—Civilian life.
- 2228 Cpl. A. Barker—Civilian life.
- 2222 Monitor T. MacKenzie—A.A.S., Harrogate.
- 2108 Sergt. D. Leel—A.A.S., Harrogate.
- 2225 Cpl. W. Kerr—A.A.S., Harrogate.
- 2150 L/Cpl. W. Menach, Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2168 L/Cpl. S. Reddell—Royal Scots (R.R.).
- 2178 Sergt. H. Kill—R.A.F. Apprentice School.
- 2168 Boy J. Shackleton — R.A.F. Apprentice
School.
- 2213 Cpl. A. McFarlane—Boy. Royal Navy.
- 2193 Cpl. A. Spence—Band, 9th Lancers.
- 2201 Boy C. Riddell—Boy. Royal Navy.

D.Y.R.M.S. Contingent

- 16735 Monitor D. Grove—Civilian life.
- 16836 Cpl. R. Rayner—Merchant Navy.
- 14905 Monitor D. Peachey—R.E.M.E.
- 16838 Monitor J. Corder—R.A.F. Apprentice
School.
- 16659 Cpl. C. Minshull—A.A.S., Arborfield.
- 16589 Sergt. T. May—A.A.S., Harrogate.
- 16654 T. Straughan—A.C.C., Aldershot.
- 16564 Sergt. J. Harold—R.N. Apprentice School.
- 14142 Cpl. J. Davies—Seaforth Highlanders.

Salve

Boys who have joined the School since July, 1950:

- 2435 Todd, R. D.—Cameron Highlanders.
- 2436 Verlander, D. F.—A.P.T.C.
- 2437 Pirrett, H. McL.—Royal Artillery.
- 2438 Summers, M.—R.A.P.C.
- 2439 Burns, R.—H.L.I.
- 2440 Gardener, E. L.—Black Watch (R.H.).
- 2441 Moore-Hemsley, P.—Cameron
Highlanders.
- 2442 Easton, E. J.—A.C.C.
- 2443 McKillop, J.—Black Watch (R.H.).
- 2444 Dunn, J. W.—K.O.S.B.
- 2445 Blackie, J.—R.A.
- 2446 Carcary, J.—Black Watch (R.H.).
- 2447 Alexander, R.—K.S.L.I.
- 2448 Paterson, W.—Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2449 Tulloch, A.—R.A.S.C.
- 2450 Alexander R.—R.A.F.
- 2451 Smith, H. D.—K.O.S.B.
- 2452 MacFadyen, J.—Royal Navy.
- 2453 Fitzpatrick, B.—R.A.O.C.
- 2454 Welsh, G. H.—R.A.C.

- 2455 Murray, C.—Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2456 MacCrimmon, I.—A. & S. Highlanders.
- 2457 Bethune, A.—Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2436 Cunningham, C.—Cameron Highlanders.
- 2459 Rennie, R. D.—R.E.
- 2460 Hughes, P. McG.—H.L.I.
- 2461 Dixon, H. W. Mc.—Royal Navy.
- 2462 Lambert, C.—K.O.S.B.
- 2463 Grieve, R. A.—A. & S. Highlanders.
- 2464 McKellan, D. S.—Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2465 McColl, R.—A. & S. Highlanders.
- 2466 Scobie, D.—Cameron Highlanders.
- 2467 McArthur, H. J.—Royal Scots.
- 2468 Davidson, D.—R.A.F.
- 2469 Long, T. A.—R.A.
- 2470 Sanderson, P.—Scots Guards.

The Leicester Engagement

On 8th August, 1950, the Pipe and Bugle Bands left the School for a thoroughly enjoyable journey to Leicester.

On the morning of Wednesday, the 9th, we left the Barracks of the Leicestershire Regiment, to go to the Abbey Park where we were to play.

The morning was used up for rehearsal during which the Band of the Coldstream Guards did not appear. At four p.m., we started our programme. This lasted for half-an-hour, so we were not very hard-worked. After this we were free till 7 p.m. From 7.30 till 8 p.m. we played again.

After this we went back to barracks and were sent to bed.

On Thursday we repeated this programme but we played different tunes. But in the evening instead of being sent to bed at the usual time we were permitted to see the fireworks display if we so desired.

We were very sorry to leave Leicester on Friday morning but soon forgot about being sorry when we arrived home on the Saturday to continue our holidays. It will always remain a very pleasant memory.

TYRO.

A Visit to B.A.O.R

Some time in the Summer Term it was whispered that a party from the School might conceivably be going to Germany during the coming holidays. Unlike most of the rumours which continually sweep the School, raising its inhabitants to heights of frantic excitement, this one proved to contain some truth. It finally emerged that plans were being made behind the scenes and the resulting arrangements were that a party of twelve boys and one R.A.E.C. officer were to visit the 1st Batt. Gordon Highlanders at their depot in Sennelager, near Paderborn, B.A.O.R. 16; they were to leave at the end of August and stay in Germany for two weeks.

Travelling through the night to London we of the party spent a day there and, leaving Victoria in the evening, made the crossing from Harwich to the Hook of Holland and arrived in Holland in the early morning. Reaching Paderborn involved a day's train ride through Holland and the shattered Ruhr; this was a most enjoyable and interesting journey. The N.A.A.F.I. car ensured that morale was high. Our reception by the Gordon Highlanders was of a warmth which

immediately established a very friendly relationship with our hosts. It was clear that they intended to make our stay enjoyable and profitable in the highest degree.

The aim of the visit was twofold; the boys were to have a holiday in a foreign country and at the same time they were to see as much as possible of the British Forces occupying Germany. Thus our activities were spent in seeing selected parts of the British Zone, watching the Gordon Highlanders at work and visiting Service units within reach of Paderborn. In one category came a morning spent with a R.A.F. jet-fighter station, another in exploring every aspect and detail of the Centurion tank, a number of exhilarating rides in "the carriers" together with other glimpses of army life. In the wider sphere we journeyed to the Mohne See and the Mohne Dam, to "Hamlin town in Brunswick by famous Hanover City," where the River Weser proved to be appropriately deep and wide. Hamlin was popular with the boys; we investigated the legend of the piper at considerable length and some cost in the city museum. The indispensable P.R.I. bus took us speeding up and down the Autobahn and into the beautiful country round Detmold.

Brigadier MacNab and Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, C.O., 1st Batt. Gordon Highlanders, inspected the boys, who upheld, we believe, the best Victorian traditions by their appearance and bearing. Friendships were formed with members of the battalion in the canteen, where the evenings passed most pleasantly; out came the pipes, and Scullion and Ward stepped forward to show that Victorians can dance.

At Bad Oeynhausen too the company at a W.R.A.C. dance was entertained with piping and dancing, and professed itself delighted.

The interests of variety were further served by the two-day camp which enlivened the second week. All too soon came the time of departure. Strong links had been formed with the Gordon Highlanders, who had been excellent hosts; it was regretted that the battalion would not be in Germany in 1951. The trip, which was regarded as an experiment, had quickly become a successful enterprise of both practical and cultural value. It is to be hoped that the visit will be the foundation of an institution.

The party comprised Monitors Beattie and Scullion, Corporals Phillips and Thompson, and Boys Adams, Airnes, Hughes, McKellan, Nicholson, Raleigh, Stewart and Ward in the charge of Second-Lieutenant Watson.

M. S. W.

The Installation of the Governor of Edinburgh Castle

November 13 was one of those days during term-time which will be remembered by the majority of the school, if only as a half-holiday. For some fifty boys, however, it was much more than a mere day-off from the usual routine. It was an opportunity of witnessing a ceremony in Edinburgh Castle, as old as the castle itself. For as long as there has been a royal castle in Scotland's capital, there has been a governor appointed by royal proclamation to maintain the king's grace and constrain his enemies.

On this cold, clear autumnal day, Lieutenant-General Sir Gordon H. A. Macmillan, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Scottish Command, was installed as 83rd Governor of Edinburgh Castle. The impressive proceedings which accompanied the installation drew large crowds of spectators, including many red-tabbed staff officers, high ranking representatives of the sister services and members of the general public. From my vantage-point in the south enclosure I watched the full pageantry of the ancient ceremony unfold itself.

At 2.45 p.m. precisely the General was received on parade with a General Salute. A tall, erect military figure, General Macmillan from the beginning dominated the parade ground, albeit the heralds outshone him in splendour of dress. The latter provided the one vivid splash of colour in a ceremony which was otherwise not as colourful as it might have been had the General and troops been in full-dress uniform.

With surcoat of gold, richly emblazoned with the royal coat-of-arms of Scotland, the Lord Lyon King of Arms advanced to the middle of the esplanade, there to read to the assembled gathering His Majesty's royal proclamation. The Commission proclaimed in stentorian voice, the General requested Sir Thomas Innes of Learney (the Lord Lyon) to demand the keys of the castle. A herald, advancing to the barred gates of the keep, was challenged from the ramparts with the time-honoured formula, "What has the Lord Lyon to do at the gates of Edinburgh Castle?"

Sir Thomas, having duly announced his business, darkly declared that if the king's command was not obeyed the offender would answer "at his highest peril."

So the key, which has been handed to George IV., Queen Victoria and Edward VII., was duly conveyed forth from the castle and brought by an officer of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to the new Governor. General Macmillan was now truly the 83rd successor of Thomas of Canzie—in deed as well as name—having been appointed by royal warrant, installed by the Lord Lyon King of Arms and in possession of the actual keys of the castle.

The ceremony was now nearing its conclusion, but we were yet to see one more impressive scene. Before the Governor was conducted into his castle, he took the salute at the "march-past" of the two-hundred-odd troops on parade. Of all the soldiers who paid their compliments to General Macmillan the Pipes of the Royal Scots and the contingent from the school were the most impressive.

The "march-past" completed, the General and Lady Macmillan were conducted into the Castle and, as the gates closed behind them, the new Governor's flag was slowly raised over the keep—a symbol to the people of Edinburgh that they had a new Governor. All that remained for us from the Q.V. was to search for our transport, have a quick cup of tea and then back to routine once more. I am sure, however, that the pageantry of this ceremony will long remain in our memories.

G. M.

Forthcoming Events

The major excitement of this term will undoubtedly be the production of "Macbeth." We are fortunate in having on the staff so experienced a producer as Mr Raeburn, who has already got several major successes to his credit. In 1947 he produced the "Agamemnon" of Aeschylus for the Experimental Theatre Club, following this with "The Shoemaker's Holiday," by Dekker, for the O.U.D.S. in 1948, and Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" for the Oxford University Theatre Company in 1949. We confidently expect another great success.

At the end of term, there will be a full-scale carol service in the School Chapel. In view of the preparation entailed in these two events, the usual school concert will not be held this year.

Next term it is hoped that Mrs Dunglison will once again be producing a pantomime for us. Rumours have reached us from R.A.E.C. typing circles that her latest choice concerns one R. Whittington, Cat and Company. And very nice, too!

Dramatic Notes

Considerable time and effort during free periods this term have been devoted to rehearsals for "Macbeth," which is scheduled for performance on December 14th and 15th. The cast has been chosen mainly from members of Forms Upper Va and Va, who have also been studying the play in class. "Macbeth" is of all Shakespeare's great tragedies the most suitable for school production; it has been specially shortened for our purposes and should sound most effective when spoken by Scots voices. As it is some time since the school has embarked on any serious dramatic venture, it is hoped that the performance will be something of an experience for actors and spectators alike.

To give the boys a better idea of what acting in Shakespeare involves, a party of two dozen was taken to the King's Theatre at Glasgow on November 15th to see "The Merchant of Venice" performed by Donald Wolfitt's company. The visit was greatly enjoyed by all, and the performances of Wolfitt himself as Shylock and Bryan Johnson as Launcelot Gobbo were especially admired. Owing to restlessness and lack of manners on the part of other school parties in the balcony, a fair part of the play was unhappily inaudible. The Q.V.S., however, was distinguished for its exemplary behaviour and for its notice of many of the finer points!

Perhaps this first experience of Shakespeare's magic in the theatre, together with the excitement of acting in one of his greatest plays, may encourage some to read and see others of his plays when the opportunity arises after they have left school. Their lives will be fuller and richer for the pleasure they will gain. D. A. R.

Award of Trophies 1949-1950

INTER-COMPANY

Championship Shield—B Company.
Whitehead Educational Shield—D Company.
Rugby Football Shield—D Company.

Association Football Shield—B Company.
Hockey Cup—B Company.
Cricket Shield—D Company.

Athletics:—

"Dandy Ninth" Cup—B Company.
Relay Cup—B Company.
Hurdles Relay Cup—B Company.
High Jump Cup—D Company.
Long Jump Cup—D Company.
Putting the Shot Cup—B Company.
Cross-Country Running — David White-Morrison's Academy.
Boxing Cup—B Company.
Swimming Cup—A Company.
Shooting Cup—B Company.
Drill Cup—B Company.
Interior Economy Cup—B Company.
Dancing Shield—B Company.
Basket-ball Cup—B Company.

INDIVIDUAL

Primus Medal—J. Harold.
Proxime Accessit—P. Wheeler.
Victor Ludorum Cup—D. Grove.
Monitors' Cup for Athletics—D. Peachey.
Dundas Cup for Cross-Country Running—A. Spence.
Fish Trophy for Swimming—A. Spence.

Cricket Cups:—

Batting—T. Stranghan.
Bowling—J. Barr.
Fielding—D. Peachey.
Shooting Shield—D. Scullion.

Band Cups:—

Piping—A. Thomson.
Dancing—D. Scullion.
Military Band—Seniors—R. Rayner.
" — Juniors—D. McInnes.
Bugling and Drumming—J. Wiseman.
Drumming—D. Povey.
Silver Bugle—S. Riddell.
Sir Robert Cranston Memorial Essay Prize—A. Lumsden.
Addison-Smith Public Speaking Prize—A. Lumsden.

MISCELLANEOUS

Inter-Schools Invitation Relay Baton—Morrison's Academy.
Best Dormitory—Baird.
Currie Cup for Best Dormitory in A Company (July)—Baird.

Monitors' Room

As this is the first time I have had the honour of writing these notes I should like to wish the best of luck to my predecessor S./Monitor D. Peachey, who left us at the beginning of the term for the R.E.M.E. He started well in the Army as his second letter told us that he was playing for his battalion rugby team. Other monitors who have left since our last issue are Don MacKenzie to the A.A.S., Harrogate; J. Cordner to the R.A.F., and Don Grove and "Schnoz" Murray to civvy life. Their places have been filled by Crombie, Haggart, another MacKenzie, Fairbairn, Thomson, Taylor and last but certainly not the least our six-footer Sanderson. I take this opportunity of congratulating Sandy on his speedy recovery from pleurisy.

As usual all the Mons have played their part in the rugger teams this term and actually at one time or other all of them have played in the 1st XV.

An innovation by the Commandant this term, has been the monthly Monitors' Meeting. At this we air our views on any subject related to the good of the School, make some interesting though usually impossible suggestions, and receive any well-deserved rows that are due to us.

All of us, except for Sandy on sick leave, earned quite a bit at the spuds. From the way one of our number knocked-off the rabbits we could almost have set up a butcher's shop.

Only one of our number is taking part in "Macbeth" at the end of the term. This is Crombie, who is playing the Porter. It's a pity we are not putting on "Henry IV," as he would certainly qualify for Falstaff.

Those of us who attended McLaren High School are working towards the "Highers" in March. Varied fortunes await us there and we'll certainly need to work hard before then.

Through circumstances outwith our control we have lost our old room on the ground floor, and instead, we now occupy two on the Moore flat.

In one we have the billiards table and in the other the usual monitorial scraps.

Another new job has been given to the Senior Monitor this term. He now takes Church Parade on Sunday morning and as a result, now has a permanent sore throat.

All thoughts are now on leave, so with all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, I sign off.

MIFF.

Savings

Total savings on 25th July, 1950:

	£	s.	d.
"A"	394	12	4
"B"	439	12	9
"C"	187	6	4
"D"	300	5	10

Total £1301 17 3

Average per boy—£5 6s 3½d.

Gross Savings for year, September, 1949-July, 1950:

	£	s.	d.
"A"	123	17	7
"B"	127	8	5
"C"	117	17	10
"D"	116	16	9

Total £485 17 7

Average per boy—£1 19s 8d.

Company Notes

"B" COMPANY

Christmas always brings an issue of the Magazine and a reckoning of the affairs in each Company, for good or for bad—in this case for good.

The first change that took place was an interchange of C.S.M.'s between "B" and "C" Coys. "C" Coy's little angels are now under the watchful eye of Mr Dunglison and needless to say Mr Pears is now growing bald with worry in the other half of the School. The change has not in any way affected the Company however and things are just as successful as before, and indeed we are brightening up as far as Kit Inspections are concerned, but old boys always think the Company best in their own day, so I'm leaving myself open to criticism.

On the sports field our activities have been limited—Rugger being the outdoor sport of this term and "B" Coy. wishing it an indoor one: One match out of four won to date. Basketball is the most popular wet weather game and although the competitions proper have not yet started, our prospects are bright. Boxing has started early this year through an almost 100 per cent. entry—from "B" Coy. at least. With two Wednesdays already past, the Company seems to have quite a little hope.

From the last issue the forecasts were right—it was to be no Cricket Shield or Swimming Cup for "B" Coy., but nevertheless we took the doubtful distinction which goes with a third (and last) place.

To date the School team are undefeated at Rugger and the presence of A. Beattie, D. Scullion, R. Greenhorn, C. Crombie and D. McArthur along with R. Fairbairn, P. Wheeler and Webster farmed out to "C" Coy., in the School teams has been an ample share for any company.

Of the names which appeared in the last issue of the magazine, some will have to be repeated as having left or re-visited the School.

The departures were D.-M. T. May, C. Minshall, J. McGranaghan, H. Kill (although he left as a "D" Coy. boy) and R. Shackleton. Old Boys from "B" Coy. re-visiting were S. Fairbairn, Tommy Mitchell and a few others who were too tired to enter their names in the Old Boy Visitors' Book.

There being very little left to tell, I will close the notes by wishing all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from those in "B" Coy., with especially good wishes to any Old Boy or Member of the Staff whose luck has been bad enough for him to have associated with the old Coy. at any time.

MAC.

"C" COMPANY

Once again readers, I find it is my task to subscribe a brief note, to satisfy your curiosity as to how our happy community is faring.

As is usual at the beginning of the School year we have a large number of recruits "enlisting" and to cope with the situation we welcome six new N.C.O.s, namely, Sgt. Jones, from "A" Coy.; Cpls. Webster, S. Robertson, Raleigh and Lechlin from "B" Coy.; and Cpl. Stewart from "D" Coy. The major change is that we have lost Mr Pears as C.S.M. to "B" Coy. and received in turn Mr Dunglison. We hope Mr Pears has settled down in his new Company, as I can assure you that Mr Dunglison has in "C" Company.

Sports have hit the headlines lately, since inter-company Rugger commenced and there

has been plenty of enthusiasm shown. We have a few of our young lads representing their companies. So one can see that they start young as rugger players.

We have been getting on equally well with our Company routine. Kit inspections have been quite good and the winners of the Commandant's Prize for the best kits were Carcary, Bethune, Gardner and Cunningham.

Hallowe'en was the most important event of the term and as is usual we all had a slap-up feed, for which we owe Mr Webster, the Master Cook, and all his Staff a great many thanks. After the Party we had the competitions in the Playhall. We lost in the dookin' for apples, were second in the guising and Sgt. Jones was 2nd in the lantern competition. These events were followed by Community singing and during a few individual turns, Boy MacCrimmon received a hearty round of applause for his rendering of "Killarney."

I sign off by wishing our new C.S.M. and his family the best of luck, and to all readers a very Happy Christmas.

PIP.

"D" COMPANY

Christmastide comes but once a year and when it comes we look back on the moans and groans, and the successes of the almost terminated term. As our last edition supplied these complaints and successes from the beginning of the year to the end of last term, I have only to relate to all readers about this term's events.

On the resumption of the School year, many old faces had left our modest company. Having made a note of the future careers of these boys, I am able to deliver them unto the readers. Monitor J. Cordner left us to Join the R.A.F., as an apprentice. Monitor P. Watson joined the Merchant Navy and Sgt. J. Harold is giving his services to the Royal Navy as an apprentice. L./Cpl. S. Riddell has joined the Royal Scots while Cpls. W. McCombe, G. Cramb and C. Rayner left for civvy life. We wish all these boys the very best of luck in their careers. Despite these losses we have had a number of new faces, of which the majority are those young boys from "C" Coy., who have settled down in their parent company very quickly.

Other losses and gains took place due to promotions. We have lost D. Graham to "A" Coy., G. Johnstone and J. Barr to "B" Coy., and M. Stewart to "C" Coy. This Term we received two Monitors from "A" Coy—C. Sanderson, who has just returned from a six months stay in hospital, and A. Thomson. From "B" Coy. we received J. Hughes. These boys have settled down to their respective duties and we wish them the best of luck.

There were a number of promotions in the Company itself. Sgt. Haggart was promoted to A./Monitor, Cpls. T. Butler and D. Morrison being made Sergeants, with the former appointed Band Sergeant. L./Cpl. W. Geddes and Boys T. Duncan and E. MacConnachie to Corporal, and Boys Jeffrey, W. McInnes, J. B. Graham and B. Williamson were promoted to Lance Corporal.

The main attraction of the Term was the Annual Hallowe'en Party. We had a very attractive tea which was supplied by Mr. W. Webster and his staff, to whom we give our heartiest

thanks. The Hallowe'en competitions were the same except for the Rugby Tournament. Although not successful in the Rugby and the "apple dookin'" competitions, we managed to win the "Hallowe'en Trophy" with our display of lanterns, Boy T. Williamson having the best lantern in the school and our team winning the team competition, being the only fully represented team with four members.

The sport of this term has been rugby. Up to the time of writing, "D" Coy. 1st XV. has beaten "B" Coy. 1st XV. by 16 points to 3, our 2nds however were less successful being beaten 24-0 by "B" Coy. 2nds. We are well represented in the School 1st and 2nd XV's. We have five members of the 1st in Monitors Colbert, Sanderson and Thomson, Cpl. W. Geddes and Boy D. Wood. T. Duncan has played only one game for the 1st but is a regular member of the 2nds along with Monitor R. Haggart, Sgt. T. Butler, Cpls. J. Hughes and L./Cpl. J. B. Graham.

Our success as regards Kit Inspections has been very limited, only once having the privileged position of second.

So with our details of interest told, I will end the notes for this edition by wishing our C.S.M., Mr White, whose guidance has led us through yet another term, and all readers and Old Boys a Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

J.W.A.C.

Pipe Band Notes

As usual, the Pipe-Major has been very hard at work in training the younger members of the Band. Auld, who is a very young piper has gained a permanent position in the playing-out band, McKenzie, MacDonald, MacCrimmon and Munro have played with the Band on Church Parades.

During the Summer Holidays, the Pipe and Bugle Bands played at the City of Leicester Horticultural Show and Festival, and I am sure that every member of the Bands felt very proud as he marched between two six-footers of the Coldstream Guards. The Band performed four times during their two-day stay. Next on our list was the Alva Illuminations. Accompanied by the Bugle Band we played a few sets in the Glen, but unfortunately the rain spoiled the show, and only a few people turned up. Last but not least was the soccer match at Brockville Park, where Rangers and Falkirk drew 1-1.

Already we have eight engagements for next year, including two at Murrayfield, and we hope to have a dancing one during the Edinburgh Festival, with sixty-four boys to dance the Highland Fling and thirty-two for a Thirty-twosome Reel.

In closing the Pipe Notes I would like to end by wishing the Pipe Major and all our readers, wherever they may be, a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

THOMSON, P.-M.

Military Band

A discordant note from a clarinet reminded of something even more unpleasant, the Band Notes. As usual we lost several stalwarts at the

end of the school year. S.-Mon, Peachey, Mon. P. Watson, B.-Sgt. D. Leel, Cpls. Davies and Menach, Mon. Murray, Cpl. Rayner, Boy Riddell and Sgt. Sharp have all left great gaps over the Band Room. As usual, however, their places have been filled by the younger boys who are certainly coming along fine. Sgt. T. Butler has been appointed B.-Sgt. and we congratulate him on attaining this coveted rank.

At the tail-end of last term we paid visits to Trcon, Perth, Stirling and Glenfarg to play at several functions. Our only outing this term has been the Armistice Sunday Service at the Dunblane War Memorial. It is rather a good job that we have had no engagements this term as we need all our time in coaching the younger boys.

This term the Bandmaster has journeyed into the realms of the "Masters." Schubert's "Moment Musical" is one of the new pieces. We have also learned a new march, "The Aldershot Tattoo."

We have had quite a bit of news from old Band Chaps. At the Tattoo on Edinburgh Castle Esplanade during the Festival we were represented in every military band playing there. The bands were those of the Royal Scots, the Life Guards, Royal Scots Greys and the 9th Lancers. As usual we have several Old Boys at Kneller Hall. Bill Carrigan, who left earlier this year, is now playing in a silver band in Glasgow, thanks to the help of the Old Boys' Association, Glasgow. Taffy Davies, who joined the Seaforths Band last term goes out to Singapore in the New Year.

Mr Lax is still with us, and I close these notes by wishing him and Mrs Lax, along with all our readers, especially Old Boys, the Compliments of the Season and the Best of Luck in the New Year.

R. S.

Drum Notes

Once again it is time for the "Victorian" and of course the Drum Notes.

We have lost a great many of our best buglers and drummers since the last "Victorian," including Tom May, our drum-major, whose place has now been taken by Cpl. Barr who is doing extremely well. Others who left were J. Cordner, J. Harold, T. Straughan, S. Riddell and J. McGranaghan, all of whom went to the Forces, and D. Grove, A. Bourhill and "Puggy" McCombe who went to civvy life.

During the Summer Holidays the Pipe and Bugle Bands went to Leicester. They stayed there for five days in the barracks of the Leicestershire Regiment. Everyone agreed that it was a great engagement.

In October we went to Alva to play at the illuminations and although they do not compare with those of Blackpool they were very good.

The other engagement was at the Rangers versus Falkirk match at Brockville Park. It was a very good game and was enjoyed by all.

As in every year, some of the best buglers went out to play "Last Post" on Armistice Day at a number of different towns. Boy Wood went to Muthill, Cpl. Wiseman to Comrie, Boys Adams and T. Burns to Callander and J. Scott went to

Killin. "Geezer" McKee and Wullie Black went to Doune and after the show were invited to a house where they gave a good account of themselves in the "Eating Stakes." They also went to Bridge of Allan and received books on painting and birds, which will no doubt be much appreciated by our intellectual friends.

We also had six trumpeters in the school production of "Macbeth." They did very well and sounded quite the thing.

Although most of the bigger boys have left, we still have with us Monitor Beattie, Sgt. Povey, Cpl. Wiseman and Boy Wood, all of whom however will soon be leaving. There are always new faces appearing such as Boys J. Scott, A. Brown, D. Sample and J. Sim, all of whom entered the Seniors in their first term and now are all members of the Bugle Band. This is due largely to the patience of our Drum Major, Mr Dunglison, who we are glad to say, is still with us. I must close now wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

SPLINTER.

Games

Although there have been a number of Staff changes this term, the new school games system introduced last year, has once again served our purpose and, I may add, has met with the same success. Under this system, each boy in the School enjoys three games periods per week, in addition to the physical training lessons so ably and efficiently conducted by C.S.M. P.T.I. W. J. Gutteridge.

Games have always proved to be of great value in contributing towards a general condition of health and well being, a spirit of true and chivalrous sportsmanship. Our general aim is to transform the games period into an hour of purposeful enjoyment. In this way it gives the boy a chance to "let off steam" after the confinement of the classroom, an opportunity for eager action which sweeps away the mental cobwebs and fills him with a zest for living. At the same time we have endeavoured to achieve some degree of bodily and mental fitness, both springing from enjoyment and dexterity in our major British sporting activities.

Our main activities this term have been Rugby Football, Boxing, Basket-ball and Cross-Country running; the latter three will be continued through the Easter Term when their respective championships and competitions will be keenly contested.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

We had quite a number of stalwarts who had played in the teams last season to build round this season, and we had hopes of a greatly improved side.

As the season progressed our hopes were fulfilled and it did one good to see a team of boys going about their business with such zest and vigour. The general all-round play was quite high, with the tackling exceptionally good, but, as in everything else, our boys still have a lot to learn. The points which require improving are those which are taught through experience.

The three-quarters still do not think of the game as a tactical battle in which each member is a unit of a line, anticipating as accurately as

possible the thoughts and movements of his colleagues. Too often the attack is a blind rush down the middle to be caught in possession, with a three-quarter line in full support, or a brilliant piece of individual work spoiled by attempting to beat that extra man before parting with the ball, and then, on parting, chucking it with a quick flip over the shoulder in the general direction in which one hopes one's partner should be. This sort of pass not only relieves the pressure on the opponents, but very often turns his defence into an attack with our own three hopelessly out of position. This did not happen too often but it should not happen at all. Once or twice our backs have shown what they can do in attack, as on occasions a try has been scored with all the three handling and a final back pass inside for the try. To offset any deficit we might have had in attack there has been magnificent defensive displays by these same backs. No fancy knee-stroking nor cuddling round the neck, but that deadly lunge round the knees which brings down an opponent no matter what size or weight. From the full-back to the scrum-half the backs made a name for themselves as a very efficient defensive machine. This is proved by the number of tries scored against us for the season—two, one by Trinity College, Glenalmond, and the other by Perth Academy, 2nd XV.—in seven games. The defensive kicking to touch was well up to the mark and it was pleasant to note that there was no blind kicking when attacking an opponent's line.

The forwards on the whole season's games have played a winning part in the team. The early games showed a sad lack of packing in the tight with the result that the opposing forwards slid through our scrum with the ball at their feet, but again another virtue saved the day. Not one of them feared to go down on the ball to stop the rush. A very good point, but many an unnecessary knock could have been avoided by tighter packing.

In the loose they always possessed the necessary dash and fiery temper to cause the opposing defence many an anxious moment. But again many of these attacking forward rushes lost their advantage through the ball not being heeled when the rush was checked. Will boys never learn the basic rule?—when a forward rush is checked, **HEEL!** Another pleasing fact was that on a number of occasions we saw our lads use the deadliest of all attacks; a pack in full cry in a short-passing bout which ended in a try being scored. I am glad to say that this did not lead to all the forwards always picking up the ball in attempts to emulate their three.

The line-out work was very good. It was heartening to see the boys gripping the ball and sending bullet-like passes to the half. Only very occasionally did that horrific wild swipe at the ball creep in, but the pack leader soon stopped it with equally horrific language.

Generally our forwards were very good, especially in the loose and under good leadership showed many flashes of brilliance.

Finally may it be pointed out to the boys, that the time spent in practice games under a coach is utterly worthless unless they think over and remember the points brought out during that game. Any boy who is going to continue playing rugby after leaving school will find that he has very little time to take part in practice

games, but by giving up ten or twenty minutes of his spare time daily, he can put in sufficient practice to keep himself up to scratch and often improve any weakness he has, without actually taking part in a game.

The following points can be studied alone or in groups of twos or threes.

ALL PLAYERS. Handle the ball as a loving mother handles her child—very few children are dropped. Catching fast and lobbing balls—arms held cradle fashion and the ball clasped to the body. Punting for touch—"Gaining ground" is as good a game as any for this and the beauty of it is that it can be played by two people.

FORWARDS. Forwards should pay particular attention to the dribble—use only the inside of the feet, calves and knees. In practice, as soon as you touch the ball with your toe, stop and start again. You'll soon get fed up stopping and starting and do it correctly, or give it up and be dropped from your team. Later, get together in threes and fours and do a combined dribble. Remember, never wait in front of the ball for it to come to you, **YOU ARE OFF-SIDE**, get behind it. As soon as any member kicks the ball forward a yard, stop and start again and you'll soon get fed up with the offender and send him aside for more individual practice.

PLACE-KICKING. Every point in place-kicking is of equal importance. To neglect any one point will doubtlessly make you miff your kick. When taking a kick all eyes are on you, so make a brave show of it.

Make your own mark and ensure that you have enough earth above surface to hold the ball steady when placed. The mark should be half oval-shaped to hold the ball. Do not be slipshod about making the mark, knead it into shape with your hands and ensure that the end is pointing directly, **NOT** generally, at the spot you have chosen for direction.

The ball should be placed in the mark with the upper end towards goal and the end on the ground towards the kicker.

The rugby place-kick is essentially a toe kick, but with the upper toe cap, not the part nearer the sole, i.e., the toe should be kept pointing downwards until the moment of impact. Finally, the actual kick. You will soon find your own run-up—this is important. Do not come up to the ball at express speed, but in an easy and relaxed movement, to arrive at your kicking position with the instep of the non-kicking foot in line with the ball. Swing the leg back high and swing the foot down through the ball and follow through, kicking your own height. Whilst all this is going on your eye should be on the part of the ball you are going to kick. It is equally as bad to watch the far end of the ball, as it is to raise the head completely.

Lastly, but oh! so important—**THE PASS.**

Every member of the team should have plenty of practice at this. Arms extended, body turning in either direction from the waist in a very free movement and during this time the eyes should be on the waist of the person to whom you are going to pass and your eyes do not leave the waist until the ball sticks there. If only you could see yourself being smart in looking one way and passing the other. Your opponents will love you, but your team and spectators will turn their heads away in shame.

During the practice games gratify your coach

by paying attention to the points which he brings out. The coach is normally hard-working, has played a lot of rugger and has made a study of the game, so do not become petulant and sulky when he pulls you up. He is working on team-building and not pulling you up because you are a much superior player to him.

All the boys take this opportunity of wishing Mr Palmer a speedy recovery to health and vigour after the disaster of breaking his leg badly during a game with Edinburgh Wanderers. We miss his coaching and this accident makes him miss many opportunities in representative games in the Army. He had already been selected to play for Scottish Command against R.A.F. (Scotland), after representing Highland District against Lowland District.



Fixture Lists and Results

1st XV.

23rd Sept., v. Perth Academy 2nd—won—14-6.
28th Oct. v. Stirling High School 2nd—won—6-0.
4th Nov., v. Perth Academy 2nd—won—18-0.
11th Nov., v. Alloa Academy 1st—draw—3-3.
25th Nov., v. Alloa Academy 1st—cancelled.
2nd Dec., v. Stirling High School 2nd—cancelled.

"A" XV. (under 16½ years)

7th Oct., v. Dollar Academy "A" XV—won—17-0.
21st Oct., v. Trinity College 4th—won—9-5.
18th Nov., v. Dollar Academy "A" XV—won—24-0.
9th Dec., v. Trinity College 4th—lost—3-6.

2nd XV.

30th Sept., v. Perth Academy 3rd—lost—6-14.
11th Nov., v. Perth Academy 3rd—won—13-6.
25th Nov., v. Alloa Academy 2nd—cancelled.

Junior XV. (under 14½ years)

7th Oct., v. Dollar A. Jun. XV.—won—9-3.
14th Oct., v. Dollar A. Jun. XV.—won—29-5.
4th Nov., v. Stirling High Jun. XV. won—12-3.
2nd Dec., v. Stirling High Jun. XV.—cancelled.

Q.V.S. 1st XV. versus Perth Academy 2nd XV.

At first our forwards were very sluggish in the tight and little better in the loose and our backs had little opportunity of showing their prowess as an attacking force but their defensive play was superlative. Later the forwards woke up and the threes came into their own but I am sorry to say only as so many individuals and not as a line. R. Fairbairn scored a grand try by using his terrific acceleration from a slow start and R. Smith our stand-off scored magnificently when he received the ball from R. MacKenzie and spotted at once that Perth were going the wrong way and with a great burst of speed and a couple of sidesteps went over after a run from the enemy 25.

The game became fast and furious with many knocks given and taken. Perth scored one try and one penalty and R. Smith scored again and A. Beattie also scored. Smith converted only one of the tries.

This game showed that we have the material which with practice will give us a team to be reckoned with and it also showed that we have nothing to fear over our defence because the tackling was really worthwhile.

Q.V.S. 1st versus Stirling High School 2nd XV.

Many reputations were marred in this game

with only R. Smith, A. Beattie, D. MacArthur and V. McGuirk coming in for any special mention.

The forwards were sluggish and seemed to have lost their old fire in the loose. Poor pack leader McGuirk wore himself out in shouting and showing an example but only D. MacArthur gave him any support. What a poor day for the forwards.

The threes, with the exception of A. Beattie and R. Smith, had better forget this game. Had the dropped passes been tries it would have required a counting machine to tote up the score.

These comments are for the attack because as usual the tackling was excellent. R. Smith had both tries with no conversions.

Q.V.S. 1st XV. versus Perth Academy 2nd XV.

We were badly hit by the sickness of R. McKenzie, our scrum-half, and decided to try out T. Duncan the junior scrum-half. There was much sceptical shaking of the head amongst the team but the move came off and his orthodox service from the base of the scrum allowed our threes some room for activity.

This game was fierce and on a number of occasions tempers were hot and became a little frayed. This did not detract from the game as a spectacle as both sides took as much as was given.

All the forwards were great and it seems to be a pity to mention names but it must be done. MacArthur was in his fieriest mood and scored a grand try by hurling himself over the top of the loose maul for a try. C. Sanderson, in his first game after a long illness, showed that he had not lost any of his old fierceness, and in fact seemed to be making up for missed games. He played a "stormer" and scored two tries. V. McGuirk was a fine leader who expended every ounce of energy and scored twice.

The threes moved smoothly but the close marking of Perth did not give them much chance to penetrate although they did get away on more than one occasion and scored once through R. Fairbairn. None of the tries was converted. The Perth threes had very little chance to get going as our backs tackled very hard and well, and when their wingers did get through J. Colbert, who had an outstanding game, brought them down. Perth did not score and this in itself speaks for our defensive powers.

Q.V.S. 1st versus Alloa Academy 1st.

For the last two years this game has always been a hard and closely contested one—last year 5-3 for Alloa and this year a draw 3-3. The Alloa team has always been older and heavier than ours and this game, though not reaching classical standards, gave our boys the opportunity of showing what a lighter lad can do if he knows how to tackle correctly. It was only the sheer determination of our tackling that stopped Alloa from crossing our line.

The Alloa heavier pack heeled the ball each time in the tight but their threequarter movement always broke down due to the steady tackling of our threes and forwards. The forwards by their quick breaking and speedy fanning out greatly assisted our backs in the defence. On many occasions the Alloa winger was confronted by our own winger and two of

our forwards, he tried kicking ahead but J. Colbert always appeared on the spot and put in some fine kicking to touch.

Our only real chance was snapped up by R. Smith who went over for a good individual try.

Alloa pressed harder after this but they could make no impression on our defence and then tragedy; Sanderson who had played a storming game was penalised for offside, in the last minute, under the posts. Alloa gladly accepted this chance for a draw.

It was a grand game and hectic in every minute of play.

**Q.V.S. (under 16½ years) versus
Dollar Academy (under 16½ years)**

The forwards packed better in the tight but still did not appear to be comfortable.

Beattie opened the scoring with a brilliant run down the wing from the halfway line. He made use of his natural swerving run and left a number of opponents lying or groping for him along the touchline. R. Fairbairn and D. Scullion tackled extremely well and both scored a good try each. Our forwards were superior in the loose and it was on account of this that Greenhorn came into the picture with two tries. He is an excellent winging forward and shows what can be done by a forward who is ever up with the ball. Beattie converted once.

A good game with every member of our team going all out.

**Q.V.S. (under 16½ years) versus
Trinity College 4th**

This was a great game in all ways. Fast and furious with Glenalmond giving as much as they took and both sides tackling like furies.

Our forwards played quite well in the tight but for all that they were given a lesson in close, low packing and slick heeling. The ball came out of the Glenalmond pack like a returned penny out of a slot machine and this meant a lot of extra work for our backs, but this they did very well by close marking and fierce tackling. There was nothing much to pick between the packs in the loose except that Glenalmond heeled quickly when checked in a rush. After a couple of sharp lessons our forwards did the same.

Our backs were shown how to pass the ball and it is just as well that Glenalmond showed off their passing in the standing position or our work would have been doubled. Our threes were always the more dangerous on account of the straight and hard running and had our passing been at all normal the score must certainly have been increased. D. MacArthur played a magnificent game but he very nearly nullified his good play by giving away two needless penalties in front of goal in the last five minutes. Luckily for us neither opportunity was accepted. The tackling of both sets of threes was so superb that it was left to the forwards to do the scoring. D. MacArthur flung himself over from the line-out and scored a second try with a quick pick up and rush with the opposing pack going the wrong way. As usual opportunist Greenhorn was up with the ball when the full-back fumbled and he touched the ball down. P. Wheeler had a very good game and was always noticeable in the loose.

This was a good game to watch with both

sides playing all out. We were a trifle lucky to get away with a win.

**Q.V.S. (under 16½ years) versus
Dollar Academy (under 16½ years)**

One should not be unnecessarily hard on a winning team but in this case although the School won by 24 points to nil the criticism will be anything but favourable.

The forwards for once were opposed by a lighter pack but were pushed and pulled all over the ground and naturally outheeled in the tight. In the loose they held their own. The defensive work of the backs was good but it is a sad reflection on their attacking powers that the tries were scored by Sanderson (four) a forward, and Beattie (two) the stand-off. Fairbairn converted three.

The forwards would not bind and Dollar simply slid through them with the ball at their feet. This state of affairs may be forgiven in the first game of the season but it is unforgivable and disgraceful in the seventh.

It is often said that British people love to stand and watch a busy workman showing his prowess and this actually happened with our threes. Granted that Beattie our new stand-off is terrifically fast off his mark and possesses a good swerving run but is it any reason why our threes should still be standing admiring his running when he is twenty yards ahead and ready to part with the ball. Time and time again he was left to battle alone. His two tries were good individual efforts.

The pack held their own in the loose by the powerful leadership of Sanderson who was ably supported by MacArthur, Wheeler and Greenhorn.

A win, but very poor rugby.

Q.V.S. 2nd XV. versus Perth Academy 3rd XV.

Our team travelled to Perth and met a weightier and superior team.

Although beaten they were not disgraced, and tribute must be paid to their tackling ability when it is known that Perth only crossed their line four times although they had the ball in the tight on nearly every occasion. T. Butler, our full-back, deserves special mention for his tackling of the wing threes who often came away on their own and also for his courageous going-down on the ball to stop forward rushes. Each member played a courageous game and never gave up trying.

**Q.V.S. (under 14½ years) versus
Dollar Academy (under 14½ years)**

The greatest weakness of our team was the tendency of our backs to run across and cut out the rest of the line. It was actually a line of six individuals and not an attacking team. The forwards, D. Brown, C. Irvine and A. Thomson scored the three tries. This was A. Thomson's first game of rugby and showed that he was good enough for a trial in the 1st. He had an excellent game and led the pack well. In defence the whole team played well.

**School "A" XV. versus
Trinity College, Glenalmond 4th XV. (under 16½)**

After missing two games through frost, we had the pleasant surprise of hearing that the Glenalmond pitches were fit for play. On arrival, however, we found them very muddy. This

circumstance was probably in our favour, but in the long run, the mud was really the victor, with Trinity College second and Q.V.S. a good third. On a dry ground I think we should have played better and lost by a larger margin.

Throughout the game, the College backs handled a messy ball extremely well and fully matched us in fire and robustness. The School forwards were rather more sluggish than usual, with some notable exceptions. It was disquieting to see front row forwards hanging about outside the loose scrums, waiting for something to happen, or pushing with their hands instead of shoving with their shoulders. The back-row put in some sterling work, but it is high time all the team get down to studying the laws and technique of the game. There was so much handling in the scrums and disregard for the offside rules that we deserved to lose through a penalty goal.

The two tries scored were both scrappy ones, but the game was full of life and played at a good pace throughout. Indeed, the referee jokingly said that he had difficulty in finding enough infringements to give him a rest, though heaven knows there were enough. But if all our games were as well and firmly handled as this one was, we should soon be playing better rugby.

To a Q.V.S. spectator, the two outstanding moments were a glorious flying tackle by Fairbairn, which prevented a certain score and one thrilling run, when Sanderson (nicknamed from the touchline "The Monster") broke away from half-hearted tackling, of which there was very little, in his own half, made a lot of ground and sent off Fairbairn on a long run, ended only a few yards from the line. Otherwise the chief source of satisfaction was a very lively debut in the pack by Webster.

Altogether, a hard game, which Glenalmond thoroughly deserved to win in spite of a plucky if unco-ordinated, effort by the School.

D. G. W.

Q.V.S. (under 14½ years) versus Dollar Academy (under 14½ years)

For this game we turned out our strongest under 14½ team which proved too strong for Dollar in beating them 29 points to nil.

R. Fairbairn scored five tries, the others being scored by R. Greenhorn, one, and W. Geddes the other.

In this game we discovered a very fine place-kicker in S. Cairns and he will be worth his place in any junior side for his kicking alone.

Q.V.S. (under 14½ years) versus Stirling High (under 14½ years)

In this game we tried a new combination in the back division, playing MacConnochie, McInnes and D. Graham for R. Thompson, T. Duncan and S. Cairns.

These little chaps proved themselves to be stout defenders as Stirling did not cross our line once—they scored from a penalty kick.

Although our threes tackled very well they did not have the speed or penetrative power to cut through the Stirling defence and it was left to our forwards to do the scoring—R. Greenhorn, Jamieson and J. Webster scoring one each and E. Phillips the stand-off the other. The outstanding game was played by T. Burns at

full-back. Time and again he was left to contend with the opposing full-back, a big fast lad who came up as a fifth three on the wing. Not once did this chap pass Burns whose tackle was terrific. Later this full-back was always looking round for someone to pass to, but he was too fast for his own threes.

In all it was a good game with the threes good in defence and R. Haggart, Greenhorn, J. Webster and A. Cunningham the pick of the forwards.

Q.V.S. 2nd XV. versus Perth Academy 3rd XV.

Our team was at full strength and from the first were after blood.

Our defence was assisted greatly by the Perth stand-off running across. This was just as well for our tackling was not up to its usual standard. Our own stand-off commenced to copy in running across and it was not until he was unmercifully barracked that he started to pass out and then came the tries—two by R. Thompson and one by Hughes. Cairns converted two of them.

Our forwards played very well in the loose except when the old fault of not heeling when checked crept in. R. Haggart was outstanding and T. Butler was always safe.

A very good game on the whole with Perth showing the better rugby and technique but we won on forward rushes and opportunism.

Rugger Personalities

J. Colbert has developed into a first-class player who is a powerful tackler, a good kicker and gathers the ball when going all out. An asset to the team.

A. Beattie started the season on the wing and there showed the ability to score owing to a fine swerving run, acceleration off the mark and a safe pair of hands. Later in the season we found he was more of an asset at stand-off. Has had a very good season.

R. Fairbairn is an extremely useful three whose greatest asset is his terrific tackling ability. He accelerates very quickly from a slow start and uses it to good purpose. Could improve beyond measure if he would watch the ball into his hands when on the run.

D. Scullion like Fairbairn is a terrific tackler and though not so fast is a powerful runner who shows great determination and knows how to hand off. His handling is safe.

W. Geddes started the season as a winging forward but as we were hard up for a strong tackling wing three he was played in that position. He is very young and will improve when he can cut out slowing down to pass a man. His tackling is sound.

R. Smith is a sound thinking stand-off, who, when called upon, can pull that extra something out of the bag to fox the defence. He has had a good season and in two matches saved us by scoring the only tries. He feeds his threes very well, is sound in defence and his punting and drop-kicking are very good.

R. MacKenzie is a very sound courageous scrum-half. He naturally passes very low but hard and after Smith discovered this they were a very good combination. He is very nippy and is quick in smothering the opposing half.

V. McGuirk, the pack leader, is sound in every way. He leads his pack by example and encouragement. At times is inclined to be abusive if there is any slackness. Has had an excellent season.

C. Sanderson missed the first few games. A big built six-footer who uses every cunce of his weight. He gives many a hard knock and takes them in good measure. He is always to be reckoned with in his sudden lumbering runs for the line, as he is strong and hard to pull down. His line-out work has been exceptionally good. A grand player.

P. Wheeler has had a very good season. A forward who is always up with the ball and is a very fine defender.

J. Wiseman started the season badly but improved immensely and was outstanding in a couple of games. He should keep going in every game and he will be a great player.

D. MacArthur has developed into a fiery, dashing forward. He has had a great season and was among the scorers on a couple of occasions. He is always up with the ball and utterly fearless.

A. Thomson started in the 2nd XV, but soon made his way into the 1st where he played prop. He has not had any outstanding games but has that great quality of being where he is most needed and he pushes his weight.

S. Taylor, like Thomson, is our prop and something similar to him in his game. Could work up a bit more life in the loose, but he did do his job of prop very well.

D. Wood our hooker is stout hearted and sound. When our forwards played a normal game he showed that he is a sound hooker and never gave up trying to get the ball.

2nd XV.

T. Butler, a full-back, has kept his promise and turned out to be a useful player to have in the side. He possesses a sound pair of hands and a good tackle. At the beginning of the season his punting was very poor but by assiduous practice has improved it greatly in accuracy and length.

E. Phillips as stand-off had a good season, but must remember that after he has drawn his man he must get the ball to his threes. He improved as the season went on and played some very good games indeed.

R. Haggart has played great rugger throughout the season. As a forward he was always up with the attack and proved to be a fierce tackler in defence. He paid the penalty for this by being tried on the wing in the under 16½ team, and although he did not shine he should improve with confidence.

J. Webster is a grand winging forward who pushes his weight and is always up with the ball. He breaks very fast from the scrum and is a good tackler. He made a very good debut in the under 16½ years team against Glenalmond.

J. Gordon proved a very sound hooker who would not allow the opposing hooker to forage for the ball in our scrum. He is courageous and always went down on the ball when required.

T. Burns. Special mention must be made of this diminutive full-back. He is only 12½ years but his stout heart in the tackle, his safe gathering of the ball and his uncanny positional play made him outstanding in practice and we were

forced to play him on his merit in the under 14½ team. We can expect great things from him in the future as I have yet to see any boy appear to enjoy the game so much. His grin is broadest when he sees a big winger coming through on his own. Well done, Burns!

Many other boys—S. Hughes, R. Thomson, J. B. Graham, S. Cairns, C. MacKay, S. Robertson, V. Scullion, J. Barr, J. Jamieson and others too small to mention—have played in School games and performed well but lack of space will not allow of special mention. For those who have not had anything written about their play I can only add that they have not to feel hurt as they all did their share towards giving the School a very good season and at some future date they may play so well that the Editor cannot but help put their names on the roll of honour in Personalities.

Rugby Colours

Already in possession:—Full Colours—Monitors R. Smith, V. McGuirk, J. Colbert, A. Beattie, C. Sanderson. Half Colours—R. Greenhorn, R. Haggart, R. Fairbairn.

New awards:—Full Colours—Monitors P. Wheeler, D. Scullion, D. MacArthur, R. Fairbairn, R. MacKenzie and Cpl. R. Greenhorn. Half Colours—J. Wiseman, D. Wood, T. Butler, S. Taylor, A. Thomson, J. Webster.

Boxing 1950

Owing to the large number of entries for the Individual Championships, it was deemed necessary to bring forward the start of the Boxing Session to this term. As a result of this we have spent many happy Wednesdays watching some very spirited and gallant fights. We have not enough space to report on all the fights, but a few have been chosen on account of the contestants performing worthily.

W. Cheyne v. H. Bain

This was a case of a fighter against a boxer. Both fought vigorously in the first and second rounds, with Bain punching the more accurately. In the third round Cheyne was inclined to swing and leave himself open, but they were both going for each other and meant to finish the fight as soon as possible. Some nice boxing was seen here and Bain gained the verdict, no doubt through his straight punching and initiative in attack.

K. Gavigan v. H. Hamilton

This was Hamilton's fight from start to finish. Gavigan evidently had no answer for Hamilton's vicious left and was evidently in difficulties in the last round, in which he was continually on the retreat but trying to fight back all the way. A worthy winner and a very plucky loser.

H. Grieve v. W. Cunningham

Grieve was the aggressor during the opening stages of this fight. Cunningham's ducking and weaving was worrying Grieve, but a joy to watch from the spectator's point of view, his only fault was that he could not punch his weight.

We saw in the third round more activity than hitherto, Grieve attacking incessantly and Cunningham being content to defend and let fly with an occasional left.

A close contest in which Grieve was the winner.

E. Clarke v. J. Mills

Clarke was the master in the first round by his two-fisted attacks which had Mills in a daze in more ways than one. Precisely the same thing happened in the second round, but Mills was trying harder to stand and fight it out, but he weakened towards the end.

Clarke was by far the stronger, fully shown in the third round in which Mills was lucky he did not end up in the horizontal position. Clarke was an easy winner, but Mills must be commended for his courage and tenacity against a stronger opponent.

P. Ward v. J. Hughes

The opening was extremely cautious. However, as the fight progressed so the tempo mounted, until in the third round both boys stood toe to toe and slogged it out. As a matter of fact they were both nearly "out" by the conclusion of an exciting match, of which Hughes was a very close winner.

R. Thomson v. J. McKee

This contest started in a quiet fashion, but ended in bedlam. Both lads fought hard, though

Thomson appeared on top. The third round had the fans on their feet, and in this round McKee appeared to be superior to Thomson, whose punching at times was wild and erratic and therefore ineffective. A hard-fought contest of which Thomson was a close but worthy winner.

R. Greenhorn v. J. Henderson

Greenhorn opened up with his characteristic windmill attack, Henderson however soon settled down, and for this round honours were even. In the second round, Greenhorn's superiority came to the fore, and this was his round. His long reach was a decided asset, especially against Henderson who is built on stocky lines.

The third round saw a rather lethargic Greenhorn, whose energy seemed to have been entirely sapped. He was the better boxer, however, and won a somewhat dull contest.

J. Kelly v. J. Barr

Barr was the better of the two mediocre boxers in the first round. In the second he produced some of the finer points of the game, of which Kelly was obviously ignorant. Kelly, however, landed some telling blows but not sufficient to slow Barr to any extent.

In the third round Kelly was more aggressive, but Barr's defence was too safe and Barr was the winner of an interesting bout.

C. SANDERSON.

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