

NUMBER 57

JULY, 1957



THE VICTORIAN

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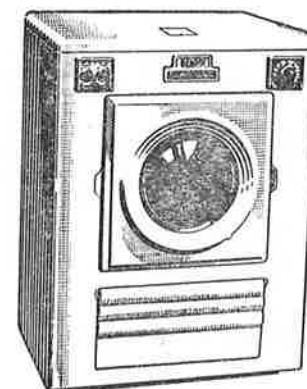
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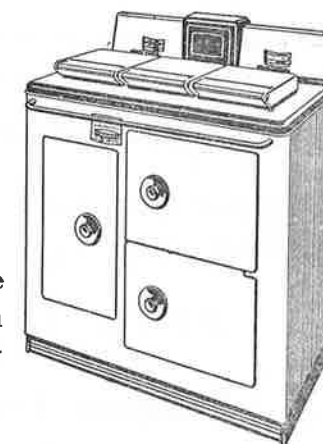
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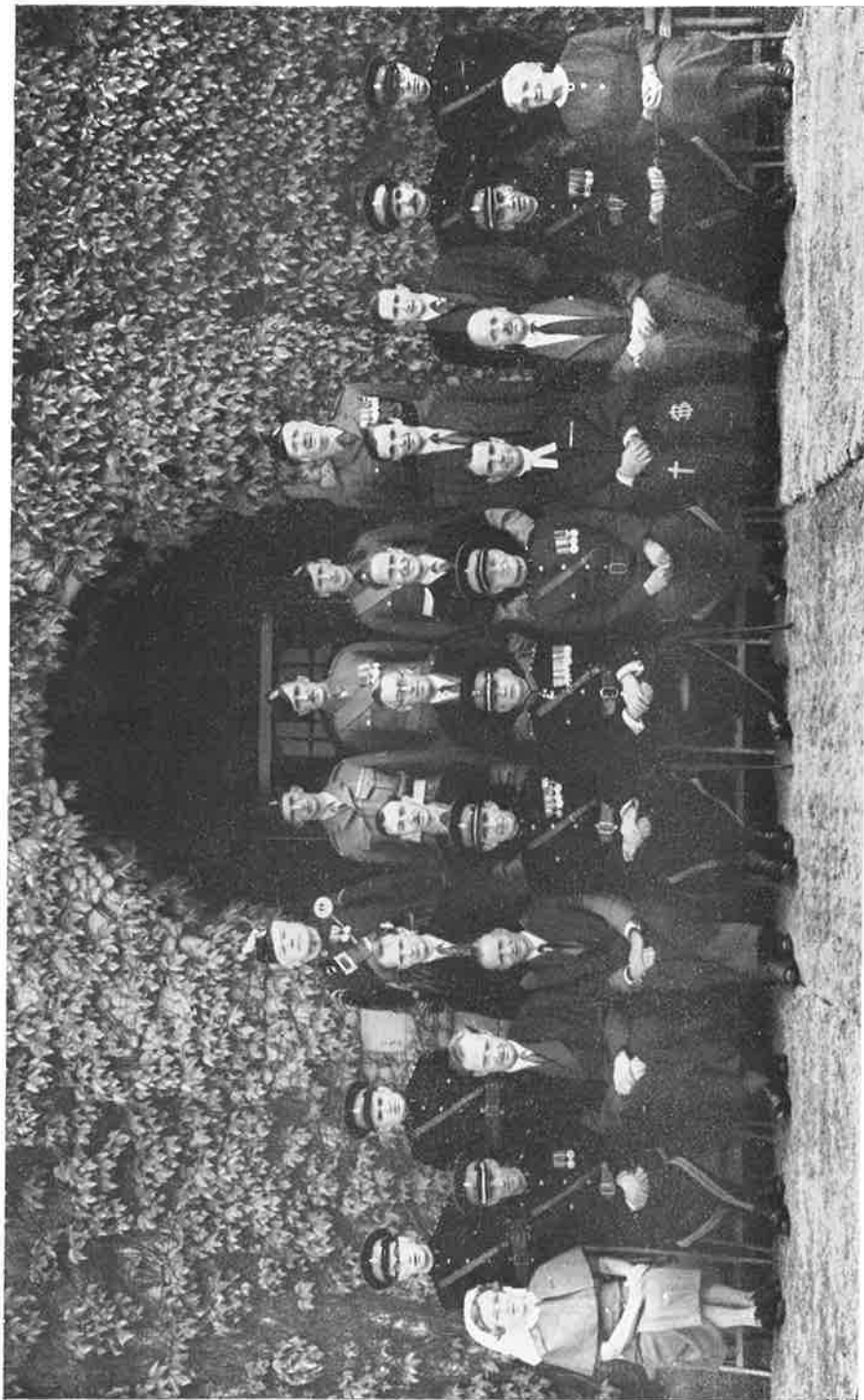


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The Journal of the Queen Victoria School

No. 57

JULY 1957

Editorial

Like all living organisms the School continues to develop, retaining that which is good, discarding that which has been tried and found wanting.

Many things happen throughout a session and what we like least are the departures of well-liked people; people we have known a long time; people who are used to our ways and we to theirs. Some have already gone, some will be going at the end of term.

Major Bradley, our Administrative Officer, left us, and the Army, at the end of the Easter term and we wish him and his family a happy future. We would also like to express our best wishes for a happy retirement, after twenty-five years as a member of the outdoor staff, to Mr H. Ogilvie, who retired in January. We also wish him a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

A well-loved member of the staff retired owing to ill-health during the session. This was Mr J. Guttridge, who was our P.T.I. for very many years and who, on relinquishing that post, became our first full-time groundsman. We wish him health and happiness in the future.

At the end of term we say good-bye to Miss Wilson, our Housekeeper, who retires after being with us since 1948. We thank her for her patience and understanding and her infinite capacity for dealing with our many domestic problems. To her, too, go our best wishes for a happy and uncomplicated future.

Leaving us, not to retirement, but to a new life in Canada, is Mr Lake, our Woodwork Master. He has obtained a teaching appointment in Nova Scotia and leaves with his family to take up his new post in August.

During the years he has been with us he has worked with tireless energy to obtain a well-equipped, smooth-running Woodwork Depart-

ment and he can leave us happy in the knowledge that he has fulfilled that task in ample measure. We wish him and his family success and happiness in their new venture.

We extend a belated but none the less sincere welcome to Miss Neale, our new Hospital Matron, who as successor to Miss Macpherson, joined us at the beginning of the session. Her pre-occupation with the health and welfare of her charges is obvious to us all and we hope her stay with us will be a happy one.

So also do we welcome our new Administrative Officer, Major Cosgrove, and our new Chaplain, Mr Jamieson. The former is an Old Boy of the School and we hope he is already enjoying his position "on the other side of the fence"! Mr Jamieson, who is married, and has three children, comes to us from his last charge, the Kirk and Parish of Keir, Thornhill. Educated at Trinity College, Glenalmond, our opponents in many a stern tussle on the rugger field, he should prove a useful acquisition from the enemy camp! Lest he should think that to be our chief interest in his arrival, we hasten to add that he is more than welcome in his official capacity, and we hope that he will find much to make life worthwhile in our midst.

We hope you like our magazine. Would that it represented a wider selection of the literary efforts of our pupils. Blood is more easily obtained from a stone than copy from the boys of the senior school. None the less we are very grateful to the boys who have helped us out and we look forward to their continued co-operation in the editions yet to come.

We wish you all, staff, boys, friends and relations a very enjoyable summer holiday with lots of sunshine!

Brigadier A. M. Finlaison

Brigadier A. M. Finlaison took over from Lt.-Colonel R. F. Nason as Commandant of the Queen Victoria School on the 2nd of January, 1957, on retirement from the Active List of the Army. His last serving appointment was that of Brigadier General Staff Headquarters Scottish Command.

Brigadier Finlaison joined the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) in 1924 and served with the 2nd Batt. of that regiment in India and Glasgow for eight years. He was then seconded for service in the Sudan for seven years until 1939. His time in the 1939-45 war was equally divided between service on the Staff and with troops. After being in the Greece and Crete operations he returned to the 2nd Batt. The Cameronians as second in command and accompanied that battalion to Sicily and Italy, eventually commanding it. He later commanded 17 and 139 Infantry Brigades in Italy.

Brigadier and Mrs Finlaison hope shortly to move into the new house, at Duthieston opposite the north gate of the School, which is being built by her Majesty's Commissioners as a Commandant's house.

Staff Changes

Departures — Major (Q.M.) Bradley, Mr P. Lake, Miss M. Wilson.

Arrivals — Major J. R. C. Cosgrove, S/Sgt. P. Batt, Rev. A. Jamieson.

Visitors to the School

Brigadier C. E. Eccles, O.B.E., D.D.M.S., H.Q. Scottish Command.

Brigadier J. C. Rowlandson, C.B.E., Brigadier A/Q, H.Q. Scottish Command.

Colonel J. L. Maxwell, D.S.O., O.B.E., Brigade Colonel, The Lowland Brigade.

General Sir Horatio Murray, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. in C. Scottish Command.

D. Crichton Miller, Esq., M.A., Headmaster, Fettes College.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Thomson, P.C., Lord Justice Clerk.

Colonel E. P. Buchanan, M.C., D.L., Touch, by Stirling, Visiting Commissioner.

Rear Admiral J. H. F. Crombie, C.B., D.S.O. E. W. Wills, Esq., M.B.E., Deputy Command Secretary.

Colonel F. J. Ronald, R.A.E.C., C.E.O., H.Q. Scottish Command.

Rev. T. N. Fraser, A.C.G., H.Q. Scottish Command.

Brigadier J. S. Sanderson, D.S.O., O.B.E., Deputy Commander, Highland District.

Lt.-Col. R. E. Young, D.S.O., D.F.C., C.R.E., Highland District.

Brigadier B. C. Bradford, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.C., Commander 153 Infantry Brigade (T.A.).

Old Boy Visitors

- 23/12/56—Lieut. R. Smith, R.A.
- 23/12/56—J. Smith, R.E.
- 27/1/57—T. Spence, K.O.S.B.
- 24/2/57—D. Craggs, Glasgow.
- 24/2/57—D. McDonald, Glasgow.
- 17/3/57—J. Tripney, Stirling.
- 23/3/57—I. MacKenzie, Seaforth Highlanders.
- 23/3/57—W. McLeod, Dunblane.
- 23/3/57—G. Maitland, Glasgow.
- 4/5/57—A. Watters, Auchterarder.
- 5/5/57—J. Rafferty, Bishopbriggs.
- "—G. Malloy, Edinburgh.
- "—G. Munro, Edinburgh.
- "—A. Melrose, Edinburgh.
- "—J. Whyte, Edinburgh.
- "—J. Sinclair, Edinburgh.
- "—H. Harrison, Edinburgh.
- "—E. Ellis, Edinburgh.
- "—W. McPherson, Edinburgh.
- "—J. Marr, Edinburgh.
- "—A. Clough, Edinburgh.
- "—E. Collins, Edinburgh.
- "—W. Jones, St. Andrews.
- "—A. Tulloch, St. Andrews.
- "—W. Alexander, Glasgow.
- "—J. McKellan, Edinburgh.
- "—D. McKellan, Edinburgh.
- "—E. Gardiner, Perth.
- "—J. Blackie, Edinburgh.
- "—W. Brannan, Edinburgh.
- "—D. Scobie, Edinburgh.
- "—E. Greenhorn, Dunblane.
- "—G. Henderson, Dundee.
- "—A. Ross, Edinburgh.
- "—D. Dempsay, Edinburgh.
- "—E. Stratton, Edinburgh.
- "—H. Alexander, Edinburgh.
- "—J. Eddington, Royal Scots.
- "—G. H. Maitland, Glasgow.
- "—W. McKinnell, Edinburgh.
- "—J. Mitchell, Edinburgh.
- "—R. Taylor, Gargunnoch.
- "—M. Wood, Musselburgh.
- "—J. McLeod, Glasgow.
- "—M. Anderson, Glasgow.
- "—H. Duff, Glasgow.
- "—J. Harvey, Glasgow.
- "—W. McLeod, Dunblane.
- "—D. Mackay, Edinburgh.
- "—G. Anderson, Edinburgh.
- "—D. Anderson, Edinburgh.
- "—G. Archer, Edinburgh.
- 14/5/57—D. Menzies, Penicuik.
- 14/5/57—C. Kane, Edinburgh.
- 15/5/57—W.O. 1 E. Monaghan, R.E.
- 26/5/57—T. Spence, Edinburgh.

Old Boys' Meeting

Brigadier A. M. Finlaison, C.B.E., D.S.O., the Commandant, was in the chair. This was his first meeting with the Old Boys' Association since assuming the appointment of Commandant of the School.

Brigadier Finlaison welcomed those present

and, after inviting Major L. D. Cowley, E.R.D., B.A., Ph.D., R.A.E.C., the Headmaster, to read the Minutes of the last meeting, which were approved, he gave a brief resumé of the school year, with special emphasis on the broadening of the educational curriculum, which was rapidly falling into line with the policy of the Scottish Education Department. There were 18 boys at School over the age of 15, going on to Educational Certificates of various kinds, and it was hoped to raise this number to 26. The scholarship grant was available for those boys of aptitude and ability who needed it.

In sport a very successful year had been completed.

Forty-five boys had gained awards of the Royal Life Saving Society and very satisfactory reports had been received on the three boys who had attended an Outward Bound course at Ullswater and on the three who had attended the Moray Sea School course.

The A.C.F. contingent was well and truly established and 55 boys were being presented for Certificate "A," Part 1, this year.

Grand Day will be held on Tuesday, 9th July. The Salute will be taken by Air Vice Marshal P. D. Cracroft, C.B., A.F.C., Senior Air Force Officer (Scotland) and the prizes will be presented by Major-General D. A. H. Graham, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

The secretaries of the various Branches, on behalf of their members, expressed to the Commandant their appreciation of his address.

The following members of the Old Boys' Association were elected office-bearers:—Chairman, Mr J. McLeod; Secretary, Major J. R. C. Cosgrove, R.A.E.C.; Treasurer, Mr G. Lowdon.

Wavell House

Housemaster — Major J. Baker

Matron — Mrs A. Macrae

Having served their allotted span of two years (without remission) we say farewell to some 28 boys at the end of this term. We wish them every happiness and success in their Senior Houses, at the same time offering our condolences to their future housemasters. We shall miss them very much; they have played hard and sometimes worked hard, and have been a credit to the House. It is now up to those who have completed only one year of their sentence to carry on the good work.

Wavell has been a very happy community and has accomplished quite a lot during its first year as a House. Two boys obtained "A's" in the Promotion Exam., two were not far off, and several collected quite respectable "B's." Of the "also rans" we can reflect with a certain amount of relief that only three got "D's." We have had no major crises since the pencil and button swallows reverted to less alarming occupations.

The health of the House has been good; even those who enjoy bad health have forgotten to worry about themselves during the fine weather of this term. For this, and a good deal more, we have to thank a House Matron who has managed us all quite admirably. She has rarely been known to lose either patience or her sense

of humour, though it is whispered that on one occasion a certain boy happened to be bending down as she was passing with a soft shoe in her hand.

During last term a great deal of energy and time was devoted to Clubs, and we should like to take this opportunity to thank all those masters who so willingly gave us their time. This term there have been no Clubs apart from gardening and, occasionally, pottery. The gardeners have toiled manfully; potatoes are sprouting and the cabbages in their neat green rows thrive. It is hoped that most of the plot will be cleared and planted by Grand Day. The remainder of our "spare" time has been divided between Drill and Games, not quite in the ratio we should have chosen.

The cricket XI has played a number of matches, both with other schools and with the first year XI's of Senior Houses, and up to the time of writing has not yet been put in its place! This has been largely due to some good bowling and smart fielding, some sound, orthodox batting by the captain, and some lusty cow swipes and lucky snicks by various others. The inter-dormitory competition has not yet been completed, but it looks as though Moore will win. We must congratulate Lynedoch on winning the athletic and boxing, and Abercromby on winning the football and cross country. All competitions have been keenly contested, but we must remember that a good loser also has his honour.

And finally a word for our sheep dogs, keepers, warders—call them what you will. We are grateful to Monitor Fairbairn and his terrible trio for much; for keeping us out of a lot of trouble which we would otherwise have got into, and particularly for continuing to keep us in a state of semi-disciplined order with the minimum of fuss and armed aggression. Their patience has often been tried but not often found wanting.

May we all have a pleasant summer holiday, and profit from each other's absence. Much as we will all miss each other, the prospect of two months' solitary is rather comforting!

Cunningham House

Housemaster — Mr E. Drew

Matron — Miss M. Chalmers

We began this term's activities with a miserable third in the cross-country championship. Although badly beaten at first, the boys showed great enthusiasm and after presenting some exciting moments, landed us with second place in the athletics championships.

In the House, our Matron, Miss Chalmers, has looked after the boys most efficiently and pleasantly, whilst Mr Drew, our housemaster, has looked after the welfare of the boys as well as doing all the House paper work. We are all most grateful to them both for the work they have done in the past year.

Fortunately, we have few boys leaving this session, thus allowing us to make a better attempt in next year's championships.

J. S.

Haig House

Housemaster — Mr Hugh Brown

Matron — Miss I. Johnstone

The general atmosphere of the House has been a happy one this session.

Living a communal life, as we do, necessitates a self-discipline, a respect for our fellows, and high standards of cleanliness and tidiness. Slowly but surely we are being led towards that goal. The boys are taking a greater pride in themselves and their surroundings and are learning to respect the laws of their community. Better still, the boys are beginning to appreciate why these laws exist and that it is to their material and moral advantage to adhere to them.

This team spirit shows itself on the sports field particularly, and this session we have been most successful, carrying very nearly all before us. With the drill competition, rifle shooting and cricket championships yet to come, we have safely tucked away the rugger, boxing, athletics, and cross-country championships, and have an excellent chance of winning the House Championship Shield.

I should like to thank, on the House's behalf, both Mr Brown and Miss Johnstone for their untiring efforts on our behalf, and to wish our leavers—A. Quinn, J. Quinn, R. Barr and I. Fairbairn—the best of luck in the future.

Finally, as I shall be leaving myself at the end of this term, I would like to express the hope that Haig will continue to flourish, going from strength to strength, so that future members may find the pride and pleasure in it that we have found.

P. G.

Trenchard House

Housemaster — Major E. Hitchman

Matron — Mrs E. E Stuart

The past year has seen what was in effect a new House settling and becoming established. We hope and believe that it has also seen the growth of a healthy "House Spirit" which will enable us next year to offer an even greater challenge in the various school competitions.

Not that the year has been without its victories, both collective and individual. Since the last issue of the magazine we have won the swimming competition and were well represented in the Scottish A.C.F. and schools championships. Out of the three senior Scottish A.C.F. champions in the school two are from our House, and of the five who qualified for the Scottish school sports two were from the House. We hope to do well in the competitions to come this year.

We must take this opportunity to thank Mrs Stuart, our House Matron, who joined us in the spring term, for the good work she has done since her arrival.

Prefect D. Scobie, J. Henderson, F. Savill have all left us during the year, and W. Dallas and P. Keenan will be leaving us at the end of this term. We wish all of them the very best, in whatever jobs they choose.

I will end by wishing the boys, staff and readers a very happy summer holiday, and promising that, as a House, we will return next year filled with enthusiasm.

J. McK.

Orchestra Notes

It is over a year now since Mr Lax retired. Perhaps the reader would like to know how the ex-Military Band has fared since then.

Mr Muir worked tirelessly, up to the time he left last October, to keep the Band together. Considering the demand on his time, he made a herculean effort. In those months it must be remembered that our future was uncertain and consequently our morale and standard of playing suffered considerably.

Fortunately for us Mr Batt joined us after the Christmas holidays and the Band was officially titled "School Orchestra."

Since then Mr Batt has pulled us out of our state of atrophy. Though at the moment impossible, we hope to eventually become a full string orchestra. To teach the senior members the violin would be pointless as at least two years is required to obtain any proficiency in the instrument. Members would be leaving just when they were fit to play. Thus only the junior members are learning stringed instruments.

We have lost our trombone section and only by means of hard work and a lot of special arranging has Mr Batt been able to produce an orchestra of modest credit to the school and one, we hope, with a bright and assured future in the years ahead.

Prizewinners this year are A. Quinn (best instrumentalist) and J. Finlay (most promising performer).

A. Q.

Drum Notes

The drummers have had a comparatively quiet session. We have had a few buglers out, at various parts of the country, to sound Last Post and Reveille on Armistice Sunday.

Last term we had two engagements to Murrayfield and both came off very well, and then it was practice for "Old Boys' Day" when we beat Retreat. But this term has been by far the best.

So far we have had engagements to Gleneagles, Lockerbie, Camelon and Aberfeldy. We have also had the drumming and bugling competitions in which D. Nisbet won the "Silver Bugle" for the third year in succession. B. Carcary won the side-drumming and D. Battye won the tenor drumming. We were congratulated by the Commandant on the high standard of the drumming and bugling, which has risen immensely since Mr Niven took over last year.

At the end of this term we are losing one of our most promising tenor drummers, D. Battye, who is emigrating to Australia. We are also losing P. Keenan to the Royal Navy. We wish them both the very best of everything.

And now, to finish off, we wish Mr Niven, his family, and all "Victorian" readers all the best till next time.

J. D.

Dancing Notes

Since our last notes we have lost a number of our dancers but we have been fortunate

enough to keep up our strength by receiving new boys from the last intake and Mr Mortimer has wasted no time in getting them up to a good standard.

We feel highly honoured at having had the privilege of appearing on B.B.C. Television at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, in "Scotland the Brave," of which it has been said by the viewers that our performance was a credit to our school.

We take the privilege of congratulating J. Murphy in becoming champion dancer of 1957 (Well done, Spud).

It is with deep regret that we say "Goodbye" to our old friend, Jacky Quinn, who has given us many laughs in his performances in "Christmas Crackers." We wish him all the best and every success in his future career.

R. C. C.

Pipe Notes

This year we have been very lucky in losing only three pipers. Of course, these vacancies have to be filled, but there are a number of up-and-coming pipers in the Junior School. Young T. Miller has had a warm welcome to the band, and is showing great promise.

The Piping Competition this year went off very well and the competition has been very keen. Class "B" was won by J. Dunbar, and J. Airnes did well for himself in Class "A."

Engagements have been few but successful. For the most part they have been very enjoyable.

To Mr Sanderson I would like to express our gratitude for his untiring efforts to improve the quality of the band this session. A. McD.

"The Viking"



LINOCUT by R. FRASER (1a)

Q.V. Quiz

What do you know about your School? Here are some questions about it. How many can you answer? (Answers on page 17)

1. When was the School opened?
2. Who performed the opening ceremony?
3. Who unveiled the Memorial Window?
4. Where else, apart from the Memorial Window, are the arms of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling and Perth to be found?
5. Where are the following boys now studying? W. Jones, J. MacArthur, K. Gavigan, A. Tulloch, J. Wilson.
6. What kind of trees were planted to commemorate the Coronation?
7. What plants appear in the School badge?
8. Name the correct title of our A.C.F. company.
9. How many boys have gone to Wellbeck College from here?
10. Name the last three commandants, excluding the present one.
11. What is the name on the very first "Primus" plate?
12. How many reproductions of pictures by Constable are there in the Dining Hall?
13. What are they called?
14. Who was "Primus" in 1952?
15. Reading from left to right put the Saints' names in the Memorial Window in their correct order. Blane, Kentigern, Ninian and Columba.
16. What is the English counterpart of this School?
17. Where is it situated?
18. Who presented the funds from which the School baths were built?
19. Of the R.A.E.C. officers on the staff who has been here the longest?
20. To whom do the following nicknames belong? Slasher, Brasso, Enbow, Denbow, Meterman, Nig, Cheese, Tam, Lemon and Bake.

When I Grow Up

When I grow up, I hope to get a farm in Scotland. It will be small at first, then I hope it will gradually get bigger and bigger. I want to have a mixed farm. If I don't get a farm I would like to be a test pilot. You need a lot of experience to be a good farmer. When I get a sheep dog I am going to call it Lassie or Rover. This is the thing I hope to get—A herd of thirteen cows, twenty-seven sheep and two goats, and sixteen chickens.

MICHAEL THOMSON (Prim. 7).

The River

The river always fascinates me and I like to walk along its banks and peer into its depths.

When calm the river ripples slowly along, and if you look over the edge of the bank you can see the slime-covered rocks with little fishes playing between them, while the stately bull-

rush waves its head over them, nodding peacefully.

The salmon leap high in the air, glinting and glittering, disturbing the surface of the water, as it feeds on flies. Underneath the great clumps of water weed slowly writh, twist and turn as if in vain trying to get away from the imprisoning black rocks.

There goes the Red Admiral fluttering daintily across the surface of the glimmering sheet of water, attracted by the vivid yellow of the buttercup against the dark green of the grass on the opposite bank.

When in flood the river is unerringly lashing at the banks and sending turbulent spray high in the air. The bull-rush droops its head so that it touches the brown murky water which snatches big chunks off the banks as it rushes by.

Things bob along only to be sucked under by the swishing eddies, racing along the surface of the river. Mountainous waves drench the sinewy willow tree on the bank. Huge pancakes of foam race each other down the river and dodge the glistening, forbidding, black rocks.

Gradually the torrent subsides, and the sun sends its welcoming rays down to earth. All is still, save a bird twittering away in the wood, up in the foremost branches of the old oak amid the dripping branches of some firs.

J. WATTERS (Prim. VIa)

Cricket at the Big Chimney

As the boys streamed out from lunch the sun shone down on the Oval—a strip of concrete resembling a crazy pavement—behind which soared the Big Chimney, belching clouds of black smoke. To the right of the wicket was a row of dustbins, too full to keep their lids on; to the left was the Music Room, the windows of which bore scars of previous matches.

On this particular day the pitch was reserved for Bake's mob. On taking the field Meterman picked up the bat, a piece of an orange box, and prepared to defend his stumps. The latter consisted of the lightning conductors at the base of the chimney. With a mighty clang he was out to the first ball from Simple. After many erratic throws the same demon bowler dismissed Lemon. The latter, for having the audacity to score three runs, was sent to field at the boundary, i.e., the Burn.

On taking up his stance Bake slashed out and "fluked" a six over the Burn. Shutting his eyes he swiped again and managed to run four before Jock could find the ball in some long grass.

Shortly afterwards Bake was dismissed and Simple took his place.

Simple's first wallop sent the ball into the coal shed from whence Bake finally reappeared covered in coal dust. Simple's head was finally mistaken for the stumps and he was forced to retire.

Jock now "had a go" and biffed the ball into a bed of nettles. Whilst Simple tried to retrieve it the "School Call" blew and off scampered the gang. Simple? Well, he was left stranded, knee-deep in nettles!

J. SIM (V.)

Army Cadet Force

The strength of the Unit now stands at 62. Fifty-four cadets were entered for the Certificate "A," Part 1, examination held on 12th May, 1957.

Of these one was absent sick and 52 cadets passed the test, the majority by a very comfortable margin. The subjects under examination were drill, weapon training, field craft and map reading.

Perthshire County athletic meeting was held on 11th May, 1957, and our three platoons gained 1st, 2nd and 3rd places—Trenchard having 56½ points, Haig 54½ points and Cunningham 28 points. As

1957. Of these one was absent sick and 52 cadets passed the test, the majority by a very comfortable margin. The subjects under examination were drill, weapon training, field craft and map reading.

Perthshire County athletic meeting was held on 11th May, 1957, and our three platoons gained 1st, 2nd and 3rd places—Trenchard having 56½ points, Haig 54½ points and Cunningham 28 points. As a result, the Perthshire team for the Scottish A.C.F. athletic meeting at Redford Barracks comprised 23 Q.V.S. cadets and three from the rest of the county. In the face of keen competition our boys did extremely well to help carry off both the senior and junior trophies for Perthshire. Three of our cadets—R. Watson, B. Fitzpatrick and J. McKillop—have been selected to represent Scotland at the A.C.F. athletic meeting in London on 29th June, 1957.

Training on Wednesdays has continued for Part II of the Certificate "A." We now have our full allocation of rifles and bren guns. Rifle drill and bren instruction are in full operation. We have taken advantage of the good weather to carry out practical map reading. This has been enjoyed by the cadets and has had its lighter moments such as when one squad headed merrily for Ashfield before discovering that they were holding their map upside down, and the cadet who was so intent on keeping his eye on the mark for which he was heading that he fell into a burn.

The good weather has also allowed us to carry out section attack and defence with rifles and this also has been much enjoyed. At the time of writing two platoons have carried out the Empire Test and so far we have two marksmen, 12 first class shots and nine second class shots. Once the cadets have become used to our new weapons their performance should be stepped up considerably.

The camp is being held at Stromness, Orkney, from 12th to 24th July, 1957, and 23 cadets are taking part.

My Visit to a Berlin Cinema

When I arrived in Berlin last December I resolved to find out as much as I could about this fascinating city.



Not wanting to waste any time, I set out on my first day there to reconnoitre the streets around my home.

Quite near, I found a small suburban cinema. Among the advertisements I noticed the announcement, "Montag, Dienstag, und Mittwoch, Ausser Rand und Band." I turned away, and then suddenly realised something familiar indeed about the words in brackets after the title, ("Rock Around the Clock.")

I stared at the notice incredulously for a few moments. It couldn't be true; but it was! I turned and headed for home. Today was Sunday. I had all afternoon to learn the phrases concerning the cinema.

The next morning I asked our German maid the procedure for buying a ticket in the cinema. I wanted to know if it was different from the procedure in Britain. Different! I'll say it was. You had to ask not only for the ticket you wanted but also for the row in which you wished to sit!

Soon it was afternoon and I was nervously approaching the cinema. A group of German boys and girls waited outside for the doors to be opened. Trying not to seem conspicuous, I gazed at the advertisements, pretending to read them.

Suddenly the doors were opened, and we all surged forward. As my turn to buy a ticket approached I began to wish that I had not come at all. However, before I had time to leave the queue, I was in front of the box-office.

"Bitte?" The woman gave what I thought was an evil smile, as if she knew! "Ich möchte ein mal Reihe vier bitte," I managed to stammer. She ripped off a ticket from a large roll and said "Reihe achtzehn." I gave her a sickly smile and scuttled through the vestibule towards a small door for which everyone else was heading. As I handed my ticket to the usherette, she muttered those mystic words as well: "Reihe achtzehn."

I tried desperately to remember what achtzehn meant. As I walked past the rows I noticed that each row was numbered 21, 20, 19, 18 . . . eighteen! That was it, I had to sit in row eighteen.

With a relieved sigh I slumped into a seat and waited expectantly for the show to begin. Whilst waiting I heard one German boy making a fairly accurate attempt at pronouncing the American title of the film, which, according to him, was "Rack Arrround Zee Clack."

Suddenly the lights dimmed, and the show began. The first picture was an uninteresting one about the training of horses for polo matches. After this came the news. I remember most vividly one part of the news regarding the Hungarian revolt in Budapest. I saw things in that picture that were so horrifying that not even a glimpse of them would be shown in a British newsreel film.

Then came the main picture. The singing was all in English although the dialogue was in German. The German boys and girls in the cinema did not seem to like the film, but made fun of it whenever they could.

Time flew, and soon the picture was over. The lights brightened, the curtains closed, and the spell that had been cast for the past hour vanished as everyone shuffled towards the exit.

I briskly made my way home, thinking about my visit to the cinema and resolving to return there some other time.

F. POOKE (Form IV.)

Epitaphs

While I was wandering through the graveyard of Dunblane Cathedral one day I saw a large, black, weather-beaten stone monument. Inscribed upon one side of this was the most sensible epitaph which I had seen for a long time:—

"Remember man as you pass by,
As you are now so once was I,
As I am now, so you must be.
Prepare ye therefore to follow me."

As I was reading, I thought about other amusing and tragic epitaphs which I had previously heard of, such as the one written in memory of a smuggler:—

"Here I lies
Killed by the Excise."

And another in loving memory of a careless rustic who accidentally stopped an arrow from a long bow:—

"Here lies I,
Jonathan Sky,
Killed by a long-bow
arrow in the eye."

Another, telling of a plump little sea captain who lost his ship and, unfortunately, his life:—

"Ship's captain Small,
Not very tall,
Drowned in a squall,
Dear to us all."

R. CHESSER (IIIa).

A Circus in Town

It was a hot Tuesday afternoon. From a cloudless sky a blazing sun beat down on Dusseldorf, a city of perspiring people, glinting cars and roads of sticky tar. The crowds swarmed to the Rhine bank upon which was pitched Sarrassini's Circus. From a distance the ground seemed to be moving as the jostling throng pushed this way and that, struggling to reach the ticket booth.

When we arrived we managed to park the car in one of the many back streets bearing the unheeded notice "No Parking." We had already booked circus seats and we were able to go straight into the main tent and find the seats shown on our tickets. Soon the crowd began to push and fight their way in and sit themselves down in the first seat which came to hand. After a time it was discovered that too many tickets had been sold, and that, coupled with the fact that at least half the rabble were in the wrong seats, kept the show back for over half an hour. Finally one of the non-committal officials thought of bringing in some more seats.

The show was now able to start. Although in German, we followed it quite easily and, except that we saw too much of the horses, the show was very good. The Germans are of a more serious nature than ourselves, and their clowns seldom appeared. The atmosphere was kept tense

with defiantly-roaring lions, tight-rope walkers, and trapeze artistes, one of whom caught a trapeze which immediately snapped in half.

When the show ended we sat still and let the impatient hordes fight their way out to the blazing sunshine. We had no difficulty then in getting out, but once outside we had to push our way through a gaping mob watching a man performing show acrobatics on the very high main upright of the big tent.

When we finally reached the car and were driving away, we could look back and see this acrobat for quite a distance, but because of the traffic it was not until we were home and were eating our supper that we could talk freely about our hectic afternoon.

R. LOGAN (IIIa).

A Macabre Ballad

The scene is in the village square
With all the townsfolk gathered there.
The Mayor upon the dais stands,
Conducting the band with upraised hands.
He stops the band and yells at once:
"Tighten your strings you village dunce."
He tightened his strings, there came a twang,
At which the Mayor cried: "You shall hang."

At the crack of dawn the very next day
They hauled the wretched fellow away
To the high, grim gallows down the brae.
All the village crones were there,
Waiting with needles to knit his hair.
The hangman helped him to his knees,
And the poor young fiddler gave a wheeze.

The noose was put around his throat
And he was helped towards the moat.
Upon a plank they made him stand,
Below him lay the shifting sand.
A pike was pushed at his skinny back,
The hangman pulled, and he fell like a sack.
The Mayor arrived a little too late
To see the fiddler meet his fate.
And that is all I have to relate.

RALPH MASTERTON (IIIa).

My First Flight

After passing through the Customs all the passengers were lined up in front of the air terminal. We were taken the short distance to our aircraft, a Hermes, by a B.O.A.C. bus. As the bus glided to a halt I jumped down to the ground, had my name checked on the passengers' list, and then bounded up the steps into the plane. The steward asked us to fasten our safety belts, the engines began to roar into life.

Slowly the plane moved forward in the direction of the runway. The plane had scarcely turned into the wind when the engines were put into full throttle. After the engines had been tested we began to move forward, slowly at first, then gradually faster and faster. Suddenly the vibrations ceased and the ground started to fall away beneath us. Smoothly and majestically we

flew high into the sky like a giant bird on the wing.

Soon we were over the Channel and the white cliffs of Dover fell behind with only a haze on the horizon to indicate the presence of land. Since that moment I have hoped and longed for the time when I will be up in that clear, celestial world with the controls of man's most wonderful creation in my hands.

D. ATCHISON (IIIa).

The Thieves' Den

In a dark cobbled street in Soho all was silent, except for the workmen's footfalls clomping down the road. The dim light of an old street lamp lit up the silent alley, when round the corner of the road came a silent figure, carrying a bulging brief case. As he walked under the lamp his face became visible. He wore a felt hat down over his eyes, and the collar of his grey raincoat was turned up, a livid white scar ran down his unshaven face. It was the face of the notorious gangster, Scarface Jones. He turned quickly into a door, and climbed the stairs to the dingy little room he used as a hideout. He walked into his shabby residence, the air was filled with the smoke of cigarettes and the smell of spirits. The plaster peeling off the wall, encouraged by an elbow knock now and again, fell to the floor. Men were sitting at a table playing cards, chairs tilted back, and one man, a German, Karl Rurik, was sitting with a bread knife in one hand and a slice of bread thickly covered with jam in the other. "Any luck?" he said. Scarface opened the bag, which was full of money and jewels. "How about this? Straight from Lord Welterheat's safe." Suddenly there was a whistle. "The cops! Off with the light." The light was extinguished, feet were heard running below, which soon died away. "Danger past," said Scarface. "On with the light and give me a drink." A drink was poured out and Scarface said, "Here's to us and may our operations be successful."

D. WATSON (Prim. VIa).

Stamp Club

The Stamp Club was held throughout the session. Owing to the large amount of members two evenings were necessary, one for the junior boys, the other for the seniors.

The juniors were highly enthusiastic and the scope and variety of some of their collections was a credit to their bargaining powers. Both they and the senior boys received many stamps which had been sent in by Old Boys of the School, particularly by Mr Harrison of Edinburgh.

The senior boys tended to specialise in their collections; R. Watson's collection of stamps of the United States was particularly well arranged.

During the session competitions were held, aimed at developing the boys' knowledge of stamps and stamp catalogues. These proved very popular and will form a regular feature of the club's activities for the coming session.

E. D.

Annual Inspection 1957

Tuesday, 9th July, at 4 p.m. o'clock

Inspecting Officer :

Air Vice-Marshal P. D. CRACROFT

C.B., A.F.C., Royal Air Force

Senior Air Force Officer, Scotland

The School is drawn up in line with the Pipes and Drums in the rear.

On the order of the Parade Commander, the Colours are marched on to parade to the march "Victorians."

INSPECTION

The Air Vice-Marshal will be met on arrival by Brigadier A. M. Finlaison, Commandant of the School, who will conduct him to the Saluting Base.

The Air Vice-Marshal is received with the "General Salute" on the bugles.

The Air Vice-Marshal inspects the parade and returns to the Saluting Base.

MARCH PAST

The parade moves off, and forms Column of Guards on the left of the Saluting Base. The band plays "Bonnie Dundee."

The Guards march past in column in slow time to the tune "Neuve Chapelle" and in quick time to "Hielan' Laddie," the march past of the School.

The parade re-forms line, advances in Review Order, and gives the General Salute.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

The parade forms three sides of a square and marches up to the Saluting Base.

The Air Vice-Marshal addresses the parade.

The following prizes are then presented by Mrs Cracroft:—Primus Medal, Dux Medal, Champion Company Shield, a Junior Championship Cup, School Trophies, Addison-Smith prizes for public speaking, Sir Robert Cranston Memorial Essay Prize.

The Senior Monitor, P. Gibson, calls for three cheers for Mrs Cracroft.

MARCH OFF

The parade re-forms line and, headed by the band, marches off the ground to the march "Scotland the Brave."

TEA INTERVAL

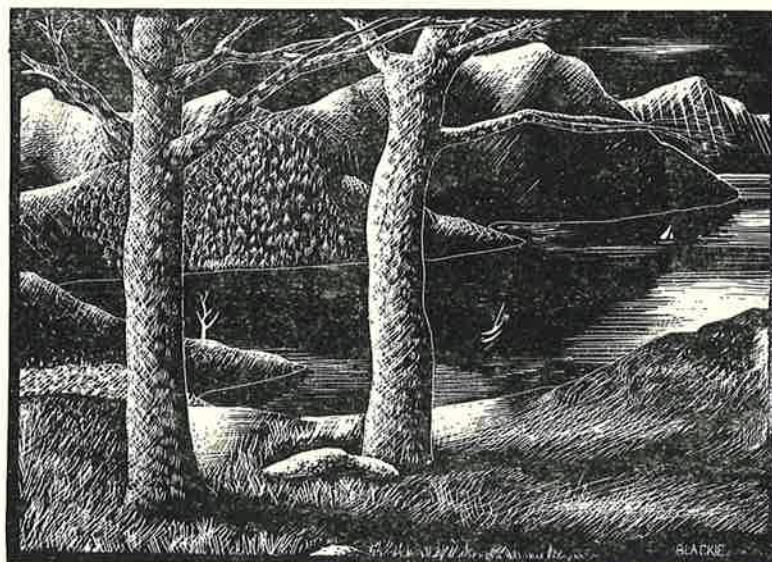
ARTS AND CRAFTS

Exhibitions of work done by the boys are to be found in the Band Room.

Programme

1. Trumpet Fanfare Scholes
2. Display: Eightsome Reel.
3. Physical Training Display.
4. Display: Highland Fling.
5. Beating of Retreat.
Retreat Call on Bugles.
Retreat March The Banks of Allan Water.
Slow March The Rowan Tree.
March Kitchener's Army.
Strathspey Loudon's Bonnie Woods and Braes.
Reel The Piper o' Drummond.
March The Earl of Mansfield.
March Off Victorians and Hielan' Laddie.

- Pipe Major J. McC. Sanderson
Drum Major R. Niven.
Dancing Instructor J. Mortimer.



FELL WALKING

During the Easter holidays I was lucky enough to attend an Outward Bound course at their Mountain School at Ullswater in the Lake district. During the course of my stay I had ample opportunity to do some fell-walking.

I had done some walking at Aviemore but at Ullswater we were expected to stick to much tougher routes.

My first walk took four days, during which time we slept in tents, cooked food we were carrying with us, and marched all day. In the four days we walked over sixty miles, carrying forty-five pound packs, and climbed two fairly high mountains.

My reflections on fell-walking varied after this first walk. I felt none too happy, especially as it had rained throughout the last day and I was wet, tired and hungry. Nevertheless I had a sense of achievement and had gained some confidence.

The Lake District is very beautiful with a grandeur all its own. While walking along the highest part of the "High Road," a road across the top of the fells and used by contraband runners, we stopped to orientate our maps. Beauty was spread all around us and visibility was excellent. Many miles away lay Lake Windermere and even the Irish Sea was visible in the far distance. The beauty of the rolling fells which soar and plummet between the placid waters of the lakes makes climbing in the district an unsurpassable experience.

A. BLACKIE (IV.)

His Outward Bound course must have filled the Author's confidence to the brim. To praise the UNSURPASSABLE beauty of the English Lakes whilst living a stone's throw from the Trossachs and Loch Lomond shows a courage verging on the foolhardy!
Editor.

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS, 1956

This annual event took place in the re-designed Playhall and was the first theatrical production to make use of the new stage.

Jackie Quinn clowned and gagged in his own irrepressible way and he was ably supported by the rest of the cast. Captain Blakemore's compering was well timed and very entertaining.

It would, I think, be fair to say that despite the very much better facilities available this production lacked a little of the pace and origin-

ality of the 1955 show. This can almost certainly be put down to the fact that there are so many activities demanding of the boys' time now that it is well nigh impossible to find the time for as many rehearsals as would be liked.

When this is remembered, it will be realised what a sterling task Mr Mortimer performed, and we look forward to our 1957 show with a sense of pleasant anticipation.

Last but not least we must thank Mr Bruce for his "devotion to duty" at the piano.



Q.V. Species

No. 1 — THE PIPERUS

*The Piperus is
A frightful beast,
The noise it makes—
To say the least!
Sounds as if
Someone's daughter's
Being murdered
In the married quarters.
People hear
Its voice and ponder
Distance makes
The heart grow fonder.*

Easter Orchestral Concert

The School Orchestra, under the direction of Mr Batt presented a short evening concert at the end of the Easter term.

The programme was very carefully selected with the youthfulness of both players and audience kept in mind. In consequence the result was refreshingly light and entertaining but without any lowering of standards or taste. Nor did the conductor talk down to his audience when introducing each item.

These points are often forgotten by many of the very fine bands which visit us from time to time.

By the standard of the playing the boys had obviously put in a tremendous amount of work at rehearsal; particularly when it is remembered that this concert was the first to be given by the orchestra since Mr Lax's retiral. Nor had they had a regular conductor between that time and the advent of Mr Batt last Christmas. Perhaps special mention might be made of Quinn's horn playing, which was very good indeed with a really excellent tone.

Piano duets were played by Messrs Batt and Bruce, and the Junior Choir, under direction of the latter, sang traditional songs with very pleasing effect.

Programme — Overture, "Fortuna," Zamecnik; Waltz, "Sunset Dreams," Zamecnik; March, "Homeland," Longstaffe; Piano Duet, March "Dambusters," Coates, and "Three Scottish Country Dances," Traditional; March, "Always Jolly," Zamecnik; Selection, "Monsieur Beaucaire," Buccolossi; Junior Singers, "Two Traditional Songs," Waltz in E Flat, "Polonaise Militaire," Chopin; Two British Sea Songs, arr. Batt.

Q.V. Howlers

Q. Explain the precautions the highwayman took to avoid capture.

A. He disguised himself and his horse so that you did not know which was which.

Q. Name an English manufacturing town and for what it is famous.

A. Rugby; Mr Bruce.

Q. Name two British fishing ports and the fish that are landed there.

A. Liverpool — kippers; London — fillets.

The life of a crofter is very hard. If he breaks his leg he has to climb into his helicopter and try and find a doctor.

After King Alfred was beaten by the Danes he dressed himself up as a spinster and went to find the Danish King's secrets.

Bede was not a nice man. He invented schools and everybody hated him.

A year later Clovis was inspecting his men and when he came to the man who smashed the vase he knocked his head off with his battle axe for having dirty weapons on parade.

A minister's house is called a reverence.

Wedding

The wedding took place in the Memorial Chapel of Lt. Ronald Smith, R.A., 61st Field Regt., R.A., to Miss Isobel Wilkie, of Dunblane, on 26th December, 1956.

After the service the couple were piped from the church by Pipe-Major Sanderson, and the Commandant and Mrs Nason were among the guests.

Both the groom and his best man, Sgt. J. A. I. Smith, R.E., came from Duke of York's to Q.V.S. in 1943.

Mawkins Brae

Mawkins Brae, "the school wood," was a beautiful sight at all times of the year. In Spring, the emerging buds peeping out promised the coming greenness. In Summer, the flowers, the shrubs, and the leaf-grown trees jewelled a thick and polychromatic background to the open fields. In Autumn, however, this heterogenous wood was at its best. As the setting sun shone on russet shades, the multicoloured leaves of the

trees, as they turned their deepest tinges, instilled a quiet and thoughtful atmosphere to the school grounds. Beautiful in bloom, but still beautiful in nakedness; dancing as skeletons, the gaunt trees waved in the icy blasts. The snow-mantled conifers swayed majestically as they looked disdainfully down upon their deciduous and shivering friends. The Winter's grasp held the wood in a spell.

It is no wonder that the pupils of Queen Victoria School loved this paradise of beauty, fun, excitement and adventure. Often, under the sleepy supervision of teachers, short hours of Nature Study were passed in fighting, diving and playing in the deep beds of leaves. But, more often, the wood was used illegally. The bird-nesters, the breakers of bounds, the climbers, all used this wood where interest was in abundance. The much-persecuted fraternity of smokers would often crawl unobserved into the wood, and in some dim glade would "light up."

Then came the woodcutters. From day to day long convoys of horses, bulldozers and lorries moved to and fro. Although it is generally recognised that the British labourer is lethargic, these woodcutters (some were Irish!) were too quick for us. Groups of philosophising and complaining boys counted, day by day, the remaining trees. Soon this wood-covered brae, dominating the northern approach to the School, and serving as a wind-break, was no longer wood covered, and only half a wind-break. Neither realising, nor caring, the younger boys swarmed over and around the fence, always ready to lend a hand, or perhaps it was to hear the Irishmen

swear; to the older and more thoughtful of us it was a tragedy.

Yet, to write an article of this kind is an invidious task, for there is another side to the matter too. Although we fondly called this brae "the school wood," it was not ours. The owner, on realising that the four thousand pounds worth of timber in it was almost past its prime, had it cut down by a Glasgow firm: and the wood is now probably being used in many worthwhile projects. One gleam of comfort still flickers. The now bare, untidy, root-strewn brae is to be replanted with larch which mature within thirty years.

However, anything of beauty which is destroyed must always be a sad event; and to the boys and staff of Queen Victoria School, and even to visitors, it is a great loss.

P. GIBSON (VI).

Country Dancing

This class continued on its merry way until the end of the Easter term.

Meetings were held every Saturday evening at 7 p.m. in the Gymnasium. Instruction was given by Mr Reid and Mr Bruce provided the music at the piano.

The highlight of the session was the party held on Saturday, 30th March. This was given mainly as a measure of gratitude to the group of young ladies from Dunblane who partnered us, hail, rain or shine, throughout the wintry Saturday evenings.

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SCHOOL ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Individual and Inter-House Championships were held on the sports field on Monday, 10th June, 1957. The weather was brilliant and a highly successful meeting was held.

Results:—

JUNIOR HOUSE

Minor — Throwing cricket ball — Hill (135ft. 8ins.); High Jump — Hill (3ft. 8ins.); Long Jump — Hill (12ft. 4ins.); 75 yards — Hill (10.8 secs.)

Majors — Throwing the cricket ball — McGavin (156ft. 3ins.); High Jump — Laughlan (3ft. 9ins.); Long Jump — McRae (11ft.



11ins.); 100 yards — Laughlan (13.6 secs.); 220 yards — Finlay (31.6 secs.)

Minor Champion — Hill; Major Champion — Laughlan.

SENIOR HOUSE

Junior — High Jump — Mannion (4ft. 2ins.); 75 yards Hurdles — Scully (12.8 secs.); 220 yards — Scully (31.8 secs.); Putting the Shot — McLeish (22ft. 7ins.); 100 yards — Scully (13.8 secs.); Long Jump — McLeish (13ft. 1in.)

Intermediate — High Jump — (4ft. 4ins.); 75 yards Hurdles — Finlay (11.4 secs.); 220 yards — Miller (28.4 secs.); Long Jump — McGill (14ft. 11ins.); 100 yards — Miller (12.6 secs.); Putting the Shot — Owens (30ft. 11ins.)

Senior — 880 yards — Docherty (2 min. 24 secs.); Putting the Shot — Quinn (33ft. 2ins.); 100 yards Hurdles — Hamilton (15.4 secs.); Long Jump — Quinn (16ft. 8ins.); Discus — Quinn (126ft.); 220 yards — Rennie (26.6 secs.); Javelin — McKenzie (103 ft. 9ins.); 100 yards — Rennie (12 secs.); 440 yards — Hamilton (61.6 secs.); High Jump — Quinn (5ft. 1in.)

Open — Putting the Shot — Anderson (32ft.); 100 yards Hurdles — Ferrier (15.2 secs.); Javelin — Anderson (140ft. 9ins.); Long Jump — Scott (17ft. 4ins.); 440 yards — Watson (55 secs.); Mile — Gibson (4 min. 52.8 secs.); 220 yards — Watson (24.8 secs.); High Jump — Chessar (5ft. 2ins.); 100 yards — Watson (11 secs.); Discus — McKillop (86ft. 4ins.)

Junior Champion — McLeish; Intermediate Champion — H. Miller; Senior Champion — A. Quinn; Open Champion — Watson.

Scottish Schools Athletic Association

The above Association held its annual meeting in Edinburgh on Saturday, 15th June, when the following boys represented the School — Ferrier, Scott, McKillop, Anderson and Watson.

They are to be congratulated on putting up

an excellent performance and gained the following results:—

Ferrier — 1st, Long Jump (13-15 age group).
Scott — 4th, Long Jump (13-15 age group).
Anderson — 3rd, Javelin (17-19 age group).
Watson — 5th in Final of 220 yards after winning his 3 heats. He gained a standard medal (15-17 age group).

Invitation Relay Baton Meeting

The above meeting was held on the evening of Wednesday, 19th July, 1957. Schools accepting our invitation were Strathallan, Dunfermline High School, Perth Academy and Morrison's Academy.

Some very good times and distances were recorded. Worthy of note were Ballantyne's (Strathallan) 880 yards in 2 mins. 5 secs. and Kerr's (Perth Academy) mile in 4 mins. 36 secs.

The Baton was won for the second year in succession by Dunfermline H.S. and was presented by the Commandant.

Results:—

880 yards — (15-17) — 1, Ballantyne (S); 2, Penman (D); 3, McKenzie (P); 2 mins. 5 secs.

High Jump — (17-19) — 1, Johnstone (D); 2, Greerson (S); 3, Kerr (P); 5ft. 4½ins.

Weight — (17-19) — 1, Edwards (D); 2, Ogilvie (P); 3, Anderson (Q); 35ft. 9ins.

Discus — (17-19) — 1, Sim (Q); 2, Smellie (P); 3, Lawson (D); 96ft. 4ins.

Long Jump — (15-17) — 1, Carter (P); 2, Ferrier (Q); 3, Sim (S); 19ft. 8ins.

Javelin — (15-17) — 1, Pattinson (P); 2, Penman (D); 3, Blackie (Q); 131ft. 3½ins.

440 yards — (13-15) — 1, Matheson (D); 2, Wingate (S); 3, Adamson (P); 58 secs.

440 yards — (15-17) — 1, Bower (D); 2, Boswell (S); 3, Godman (P); 52.3 secs.

440 yards — (17-19) — 1, Watson (Q); 2, Dalmonth (S); 3, Fraser (D); 53.9 secs.

Javelin — (17-19) — 1, Cameron (P); 2, Budge (S); 3, Edwards (D); 122ft. 4ins.

High Jump — (15-17) — 1, Chessar (Q); 2, Robinson (S); 3, Stewart (P); 5ft. 3ins.

Weight — (15-17) — 1, Bryce (P); 2, Moss (D); 3, Russell (S); 39ft. 3ins.

Long Jump — (13-15) — 1, Scott (Q); 2, Wingate (S); 3, Greig (P); 17ft. 10½.

220 yards — (13-15) — Holloway (S); 2, Bruce (Q); 2, Roberts (D); 26 secs.

220 yards — (15-17) — 1, Woods (D); 2, Carter (P); 3, Robertson (S); 23.6 secs.

220 yards — (17-19) — 1, Watson (Q); 2, Wood (S); 3, Edwards (D); 24 secs.

Long Jump — (17-19) — 1, Irvine (S); 2, Henry (P); 3, Johnstone (D); 16ft. 11½ins.

Discus — (15-17) — 1, Resell (S); 2, McKillop (Q); 3, Finlay (D); 115ft. 3ins.

High Jump — (13-15) — 1, Leigh (Q); 2, Smart (D); 3, Greig (P); 4ft. 9 ins.

100 yards — (17-19) — 1, Lilley (S); 2, Johnstone (D); 3, Ogilvie (P); 10.7 secs.

100 yards — (15-17) — 1, Carter (P); 2, Ferrier (Q); 3, Bower (D); 10.8 secs.

100 yards — (13-15) — 1, Scott (Q); 2, Smart (D); 3, Lashore (S); 10.8 secs.

1 Mile — (17-19) — 1, Kerr (P); 2, Denver (D); 3, Crabb (S); 4 mins. 36 secs.

Relay — (under 17) — 1, Dunfermline; 2, Perth Academy; 3, Q.V.S.; 1 min. 11.2 secs.

Cross Country Running

During the last year this sport, which hitherto played a very minor part in the School's programme, has become increasingly popular as it is a sport at which many people, who are less accomplished in other spheres, can excel. Mr Reid produced two teams for the Strathtay Harriers' Race and the Q.V.S. "B" Team managed to gain third place — the first two places being taken by the Strathallan teams. This is a promising start to a new sport, and things look bright for the future.

The School Senior Individual/Inter-House Cross Country Race was won by Haig House, who romped home to fill the first three places. Senior Monitor Peter Gibson was the Individual Champion again, Robin Watson coming a close second. This was the first race over the new route.

The Junior Individual Champion was P. Finlay and the Junior Inter-Dormitory Championship went to Abercromby.

Cricket

Although Q.V.S. is primarily a rugby school, cricket has definitely — at last — secured a grip. It is a good thing to be able to stand and watch any cricket match and to see the batsman ask for his guard correctly, and to see him endeavouring to play the correct stroke to the ball. This is the result of coaching and is the only way in which this school can hope to become known for its first-class cricketers. Fielding, however, is still in the raw and early stages and this will have to be strengthened considerably. It is encouraging to see the Juniors playing such fine cricket and drawing with and even beating the 1st year team.

We have to thank Mr Hughes for the way in which he has coached the 1st XI and for his willingness to coach anyone else who asked for his advice.



	P	W	D	L
1st XI ..	4	1	—	3
2nd XI ..	4	—	3	1
3rd XI ..	2	1	—	1
Q.V. Colts	1	—	—	1
1st year ..	3	—	—	3
6th XI ..	1	—	—	1

Boxing

This art comes naturally, I suppose, to boarding school boys and this is reflected in the standard of Q.V.S. boxing. A class for the training and teaching of the finer points of ringcraft was run during the winter session by Mr Stewart and Mr Martin in the Playhall or Gym. It was quite a full house every period and bloody noses and staved thumbs were not infrequent. Monitor J. McKillop and Prefect A. Quinn represented the Q.V.S. A.C.F. at the Scottish A.C.F. championships at Glasgow. Both did credit to their school and themselves by getting into finals of their weights. Another outside contest was arranged with Morrison's Academy, Crieff, at Dunblane, and the boys' boxing was judged and refereed by Scottish A.B.A. officials. Although the Crieff boys won by a comfortable margin, one could see both signs of improvement in the Q.V.S. boxing, and "young hopefuls" who may be the champions of tomorrow.

House boxing went off with a bang and the competition was terrifically keen, with all the more youthful and carefree members of the audiences cheering and clapping frenziedly. Haig House were the winners with a clear nineteen points over the runners-up, Trenchard House. Many thanks to Mr Reid for the way in which the competition was run, and to Mr Martin for his first-class refereeing of the bouts. Results:—

JUNIOR HOUSE

65-70lb. (10 years)—Johnstone. 71-75lb. (10)—Laughlin. 76-80lb. (10)—O'Connor. 81-85lb. (10)—Kilcullen. 90lb. (10)—Roy.
67-72lb. (11 years)—Hill. 68-78 (11)—Finlay. 83-86lb. (11)—Laughlan.

SENIOR HOUSE

69-74lb. (12 years)—McInnes (H). 80-83lb. (12)—McLaughlin (H). 86-91lb. (12)—Maxwell (T). 92-97lb. (12)—Marshall (T). 98-103lb. (12)—Miller (H).

63-82lb. (13 years)—Murphy (H). 90-95lb. (13)—Geary (H). 100-105lb. (13)—Dunbar (H). 111-116lb. (13)—Docherty (T). 115-119lb. (13)—Marshall (T). 127-135lb. (13)—Leigh (T).

86-106lb. (14 years)—Burns (H).

OPEN

111lb.—Hamilton (C). 119-135lb.—Ferrier (H). 117-121lb.—Bethune (H). 113-139lb.—Scott (H). 135-149lb.—McKillop (T).

Best loser—Rennie (C).

Best style—Leigh (T).

Six boys, representing Moore, Lynedoch and Abercromby dormitories, fought two contests each in the Junior House Inter-dormitory competition on 3rd April. A strenuous and pleasant evening's boxing was enjoyed by the Junior House. Results:—

1, Lynedoch (7 wins); 2, Moore (6 wins); 3, Abercromby (5 wins).



Rugby

When looking back over the past season one can see how much the standard of School rugby has improved.



After losing Wilson, Poulson, Gavigan and Jones last session the pessimists declared that the 1st XV would have "had it" next terms. Contrary to their expectation the 1st XV actually improved. Without one outstanding player they discovered that they simply HAD to work as a team and thereby discovered the main essential of good rugby.

We heard from Dr Dunbar, one of our School doctors, that when he visited Trinity College, Glenalmond, recently he heard much praise for the great improvement in our rugby.

This, of course, reflects great credit on Capt. Ashworth, who kept the 1st XV training hard all season. It was hard to find a pack combination and despite many near-successful experiments a really good combination has yet to be found.

No one could fault the three-quarters—their movement was precise and fast and their handling and passing was the pride of the Fifteen. Gibson, playing at centre-three, had complete control of the backs and Quinn at scrum-half fed magnificently.

The progress shown by the 1st XV is reflected through the 2nd, 3rd and 4th XV's, and the standard of rugby in these younger teams is high. Results:—

P	W	D	L	F	A
11	8	0	3	115	74
10	5	0	5	105	92
14	7	1	6	176	105
8	3	0	5	70	69

Answers to Q.V. Quiz

- 1908; 2. H.M. King Edward VII; 3. Rt. Hon. James Stuart, Secretary of State for Scotland; 4. Carved on the front of the School; 5. St. Andrew's University, Edinburgh University, Glasgow School of Art, St. Andrew's University, Glasgow School of Art; 6. Pink Hawthorn; 7. Thistle, oak; 8. 1st Perthshire (Q.V.S.) Ind. Coy., A.C.F.; 9. Two (B. Williamson and R. Adams).
- Lt. Col. Nason, Lt. Col. Hall, Major Hawkins.
- A. W. Macdonald; 12. Three; 13. "The Haywain," "Flatford Mill," and "Bridge Across the Stour."
- John Barr; 15. Columba, Ninian, Kentigern and Blane.
- Duke of York's Royal Military School.
- Dover.
- Edmund Pullar, Esq., of Bridge of Allan.
- Captain Bennett.
- J. Kerr, E. Bruce, E. Leigh, D. Sheach, M. Slorance, A. Leitch, R. Chessar, T. Millar, G. Leaman, R. Lovatt.

Seven-a-Side

At the end of the Easter term a seven-a-side Rugby League was started, this taking the place of the normal full side games. Each house fielded four teams—two from the senior secondary and one each from the first and second years.

All the games were played with a high standard of sportsmanship and with the best possible spirit, each team doing its best to win. Though some high scores were recorded, for the most part tackling was low, hard and clean.

The best show was put up by Haig House "A" team, who won all its games and conceded not a single point.

The results were as follows:—

Senior Secondary Teams

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Haig House "A"	5	5	0	0	58	0	10
Haig House "B"	5	4	0	1	53	14	8
Trenchard House "A"	5	3	0	2	40	20	6
Trenchard House "B"	5	2	0	3	22	66	4
Cunningham House "B"	5	1	0	4	21	42	2
Cunningham House "A"	5	0	0	5	6	51	0

2nd Year

Haig	2	1	1	0	10	0	3
Cunningham	2	1	0	1	8	13	2
Trenchard	2	0	1	1	3	8	1

1st Year

Haig	2	2	0	0	16	0	4
Trenchard	2	1	0	1	3	8	2
Cunningham	2	0	0	2	0	11	0

Primary School Sport

The Primary School Football XI continued its successful season during the winter term, two matches being played against Dunblane School, both of which were won.

A keen inter-dormitory soccer championship was fought out in which each of the three Primary dormitories — Abercromby, Lyndoch and Moore — produced a team. Six games were played in all, mostly in snow, sleet, fog and other glories of a Scottish winter, but they were thoroughly enjoyed by players and spectators alike. The Cup was finally won by Abercromby dormitory.

The cross-country run was again organised on a dormitory basis. It took place on the day after the senior race, which was run in glorious spring sunshine, but the Primary house race took place in pouring rain following the tradition of the football matches. Some very good times were put up, however, and the Cup was again won by Abercromby dormitory.

Two other keenly-contested events were the school sports and the boxing competition, both of which were won by Lyndoch dormitory.

The cricket XI has had considerable success in its matches with outside schools and has played a series of very enjoyable games against



first year boys in the senior houses on Sunday evenings. The batting, bowling and general fielding sense has improved greatly during the season and we have hopes of sending some really good material up to the senior school. At the moment of writing the inter-dormitory competition is being played and as results stand at present it looks as if Moore dormitory have a very good chance of winning the Cup.

The spirit in which the games have been played and the good results achieved has been very encouraging and we look forward with confidence to an equally successful session with the new boys who are joining in September and will soon be playing with us.



Royal Life Saving Society Awards

In December an examination for the awards by the above Society was held in the School Baths. The following awards were made:—

Intermediate Certificates — H. Johnston, J. Finlay, G. Thomson, C. Walker, E. Marshall, G. Matthews, D. Baird, B. Lambkin, R. Munn, D. Owens, N. Roy, H. Miller, M. McMillan, R. Davis, J. Dunbar, A. Gibson G. Blackie.

Bronze Medallions—F. McLuskey, W. Colburn, G. Neilson, D. McArthur, E. Bruce, R. Marshall, G. Ferrier.

Bronze Crosses—A. C. Macdonald, M. B. Macdonald, R. Mackenzie.

Scholars Instructors Certificates — I. Forbes, D. Aitchison, M. B. Macdonald, A. C. Macdonald.

Instructors' Certificate—J. A. Fairbairn.

Land drill was practised in the gym during the winter months whilst the baths were closed but was replaced by water drill upon their being opened for the summer.

At the end of this term they will be closed once more, this time for many months, whilst the long overdue repairs and improvements are carried out.

On Monday, 24th June, an examination for life saving certificates was held. The following awards were made:—

Intermediate Certificates — I. O'Donnell, D. Robertson, R. Mannion, J. Nelson, R. Maxwell,

T. McNamee, V. Edgar, I. Brock, S. Milne, T. Miller.

Bronze Medallions — C. Geary, A. Milne, P. McColl, R. Davies, E. Marshall, S. McAllister, G. Matthews, J. Macdonald, J. Sim, J. McKillop, J. Dunbar, H. Miller, D. Owens, N. Roy, R. Munn, D. Baird, D. McNicol, G. Thomson, J. Finlay, J. Wilkie, P. Keenan, H. Johnston.

Scholars Instructors Certificates—E. Bruce, D. J. McArthur, R. Marshall.

Instructors Certificates—A. C. Macdonald, M. B. Macdonald, R. Mackenzie.

Awards of Merit—J. Fairbairn, R. Mackenzie, A. C. Macdonald, D. Aitchison.

Gymnastics

In spite of many obstacles, such as a very rigid time table which only allowed us half-an-hour a week, obsolete apparatus, and a crowded summer term, the enthusiasm of this class has not been dampened.

A display will be given on Grand Day which, while not being as spectacular as we would wish through insufficient practice, we hope will be up to last year's standard.

The Groundy

Athletic meetings! Rugby games! Soccer matches! Cricket matches! The smooth running of these events depends on several people. One person, who is perhaps taken too much for granted, is Mr Hill, our very capable groundsman. He is known to the boys as "the groundy" and always has a smile and a friendly word for everyone.

Mr Hill came to us at the beginning of the Easter term when the playing field was not exactly in the best of condition. We had been without Mr Guttridge's services for some time owing to his illness. We were in the middle of a very busy season, and the ground was well churned up, but within a few weeks a complete transformation had taken place on the field. With the aid of Mr Hill's new draining systems, the field had recuperated splendidly.

All through this term we have been very busy with various athletic meetings and cricket games, and never has Mr Hill let us down. There has always been a nice green patch for a cricket match, and the running lanes have always been well marked.

But Mr Hill's activities do not stop at his excellent work in the school. In the village he looks after what I am sure must be one of the county's best bowling greens, though I am told he plays an excellent game of bowls.

He has shown his kindness and friendliness by inviting a few of the boys in the upper forms to the green for a game of "bools."

Many thanks, Mr Hill, and may your worthy work and your warm friendliness continue flourish.

ANON.

The Masters v. The Boys

Result:—

Masters, 0; Boys 9.

Comments:—

The Boys—"Mud, mud, glorious mud,
Nothing quite like it for cooling
the blood."

The Masters—!!! ? ? ! ? ! ? ! ? ?

The Masters v. Rest of Staff

This massive struggle took place after the Masters had recovered from the above-mentioned debacle but before the Rest had second thoughts about their challenge.

As no member of either side was under sixty-five it was decided to play the match on the Junior XI's pitch—its size being in proportion to the players' skill and fitness.

The game started at quite a pace—some players were even *running*—and it was obvious that a duel was to develop between the Masters' centre forward and the Rest's centre half. The former made many delightful moves, perhaps his most dazzling being the way in which he stood on his opponent's one foot whilst neatly whipping away the other.

The centre half was the rock upon which all the Masters' attacks broke down. And when the Masters were down he rolled on them!

Towards the end of the first half the Rest's goalkeeper suddenly remembered the bribes he had accepted and let through one of the Masters' forwards' miskicks. The referee, with examinations in the offing, was no fool and pointed to the centre of the field. This looked as hard and unyielding as any other part of it, but no doubt he had something in mind.

The referee was performing a sterling task.

Whilst twenty-two elderly gentlemen were performing tremendous feats of futility all round him he had his own problems. He had pulled up the Master Cook five times for a foul throw and starvation stared him in the face!

Shortly after the commencement of the second half the Rest built up a big attack and one of their forwards suddenly found himself unmarked in front of the Masters' goal and in possession of the ball. Feeling that his chances of remaining in this happy state were pretty slim, and having no desire to be maimed for life, he got rid of the ball. The Rest had equalised!

This reverse galvanised the Masters into action and they proceeded to pull out every foul in their repertoire together with a few made up on the spur of the moment. Thereupon the Rest, too, produced a few original touches.

The referee, however, had decided to let matters take their own course. The "domestic fury and fierce civil strife" were too much of a responsibility for even a Senior Monitor—and anyway he was rather worried about his tea!

Slowly the game moved towards its close and it seemed as if a draw was inevitable. But suddenly the Rest suffered two mortal strokes of ill luck. For the first time in the match one of the Masters' forwards shot straight and secondly rigor mortis had set in in the Rest's goal. The resulting goal came as a great surprise to all concerned.

Shortly afterwards the final whistle blew and with one exception the participants staggered off happily. The Masters had won, the Rest were far from disgraced. The exception was pretty sure that the winning goal had put paid to his breakfast.

All that is left for the writer to do now is to correct a misconception among the Perth Road lorry drivers who watched the match. Queen Victoria School is not a school for spastics.

P.S.—The referee still looks pretty healthy, so we think he got his tea.

REMBRANDT.

SCHOOL LIST

Wavell House

Monitor — J. Fairbairn. Prefects — D. T. McK. Aitchison, R. C. Chessar, G. C. Ferrier.

I. S. Aitchison, W. A. Aitken, M. J. Armstrong, M. H. A. Arnett, P. H. Barbour, J. D. Bell, D. M. C. Bethune, I. R. G. Brock, C. McK. Brown, J. C. Brown, R. J. Craggs, K. M. Davidson, K. R. J. Davies, K. M. Douglas, K. Dunn, A. Evans, P. R. C. Finlay, J. B. Forrester, I. C. Gray, C. McC. Greenhorn, C. C. Hamilton, C. G. Hedges, C. B. Heron, K. W. Hill, J. Innes, D. P. John-

stone, J. McG. Johnstone, P. C. Kay, J. A. Killcullen, J. K. Kirkwood, J. A. Laughlan, M. Laughlan, R. J. Logan, A. R. MacRae, R. D. T. McKenzie, M. R. MacLean, S. T. Marshall, I. McConnell, D. A. Maxwell, S. R. McArthur, J. A. McDonald, J. A. McFadzen, L. T. McGavin, G. McGrory, T. M. Melvin, T. Miller, K. Murray, A. J. Murtagh, K. G. Newman, M. R. Nixon, T. J. O'Connor, I. W. O'Connell, D. Ritchie, D. McN. Robertson, C. J. Robson, C. S. Ross, G. Ross, P. W. Roy, I. L. Savill, G. H. Scott, W. J. Scott, G. I. Sim, A. J. Sinclair, C. J. A. Stewart, E. Thomson, M.

Thomson, H. McK. Truswell, D. J. Watson, J. Watters, W. R. Whyte, T. M. Wilson, R. A. Wishart, W. Young.

Cunningham House

Monitor — J. K. Sim. Prefects — A. S. Hamilton, A. A. Blackie, R. McKenzie.

J. P. Airnes, N. K. Amers, G. T. Blackie, M. Burrows, N. Burrows, R. Cummings, A. Dailly, V. C. Edgar, J. W. F. Finlay, A. Forbes, T. D. Gavigan, I. Johnstone, J. Kerr, A. Leitch, R. B. M. Leitch, J. V. R. Lovatt, J. Lorimer, R. Marshall, S. I. S. Milne, G. McNamee, T. McNamee, S. McAllister, M. McC. McMillan, D. McNicol, A. J. McGill, D. McGavin, M. B. McDonald, P. McColl, D. Owens, J. Rennie, M. A. Slorrance, G. Thomson, C. C. Walker, A. C. Whyte.

Haig House

Monitor — P. R. Gibson (Senior Monitor). Prefects — A. R. Bethune, A. Quinn, G. H. Welsh.

D. C. Baird, D. A. J. Battye, R. L. Barr, B. J.

Carcary, W. W. Collins, W. Culbard, R. Davies, J. A. Dunbar, I. R. A. Fairbairn, J. R. Fraser, C. J. Geary, H. B. Johnston, J. G. Kay, E. G. Lawson, R. J. V. C. Logan, R. E. Mannion, R. N. Masterton, H. Miller, J. Murphy, M. G. Murphy, R. D. Munn, D. J. McArthur, A. J. McDonald, D. S. McInnes, J. L. McLaughlan, M. J. McLeish, D. T. Nisbet, D. S. Orr, D. A. Pooke, J. Quinn, D. Ray, R. N. Roy, D. M. Sheach, G. A. F. Strachan, I. F. Scott, R. Watson, J. W. Wilkie, W. R. Wright.

Trenchard House

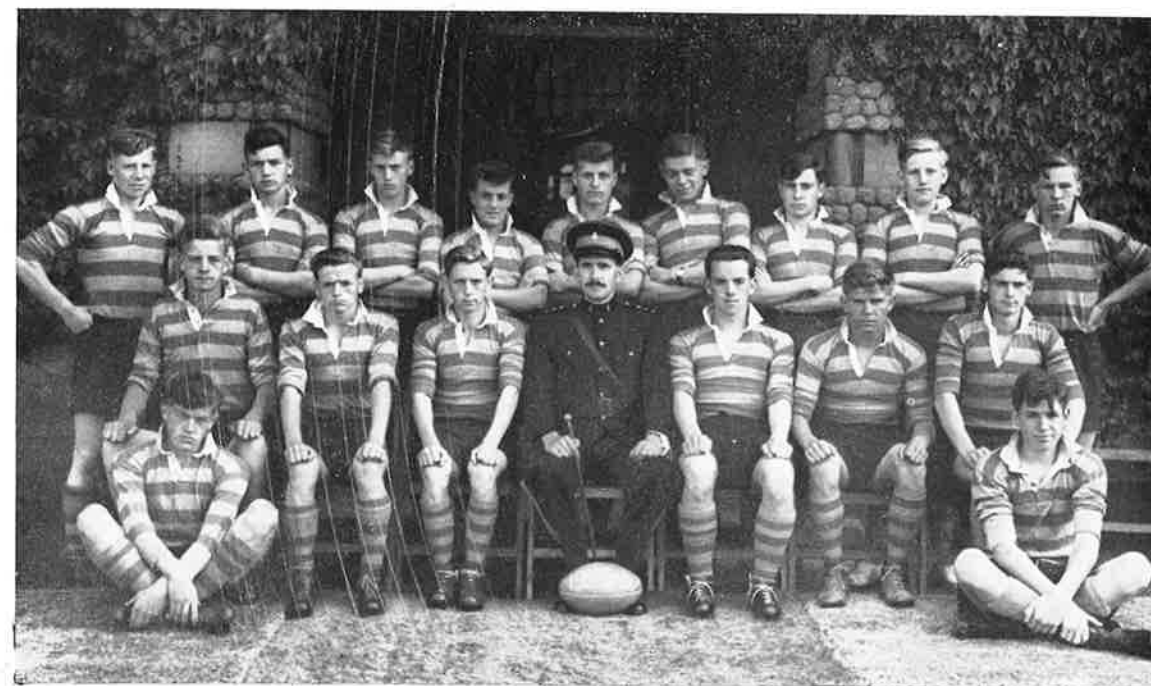
Monitor — J. McKillop. Prefects — R. Anderson, B. Fitzpatrick.

T. J. Barbour, R. L. Bird, E. Bruce, W. Dallas, J. Docherty, J. A. M. Fee, J. H. Horne, P. Keenan, L. C. M. Kill, G. R. Leaman, E. A. Leigh, E. Marshall, G. Matthews, R. Maxwell, A. G. W. Milne, J. McColl, A. C. McDonald, J. McDonald, J. D. McGrory, R. G. McIntosh, A. McKinnon, D. A. M. MacLennan, J. N. Nelson, E. A. Pooke, J. A. Ross, D. Scully, J. M. F. Strachan, R. F. Thomson, R. Veasey, M. D. Watt.



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Back Row—Thompson, Leaman, Milne, Keenan, McKinnon, Geary, Barr, J. Quinn, Wilkie, Murphy, Dunbar, Nisbet, Finlay, McNamee, Logan. *Second Back Row*—McKenzie, Hamilton, Leitch, Cumming, Rennie, Slorrance, Lovatt, Airnes, M. B. MacDonald, Lorimer, Aitchison, A. J. MacDonald, Welsh, A. Quinn, Bethune, Ray. *Centre*—I. Fairbairn, Anderson, Chessar, MacArthur, Watson, Veasey, Blackie, Marshall, Leigh, Fitzpatrick, A. C. MacDonald, Ferrier, Culbard, Scott. *Front Row*—Carcary, McLennan, J. Fairbairn, Gibson, R.S.M. Lowdon, Capt. Ross, Capt. Stewart, Capt. Reid, C.S.M. Mortimer, McKillop, Sim, Kerr, Amers. *In Front*—Burrows, Dallas, Bruce, Sheach, Lawson, Masterson.

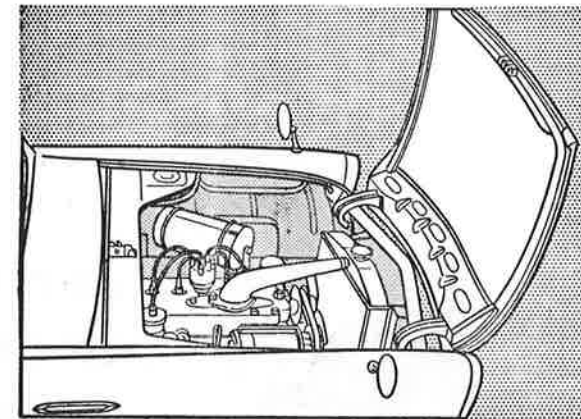


1st XV. SESSION 1956-57—*Back Row*—Sim, Scott, Fitzpatrick, MacKenzie, Bethune, Watson, Ray, MacDonald, Chessar. *Front Row*—J. Fairbairn, Quinn, Gibson (capt.), Capt. Ashworth, Anderson, Blackie, Ferrier. *In Front*—MacKillop, I. Fairbairn.

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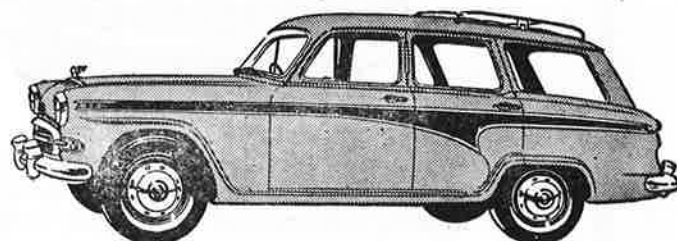
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