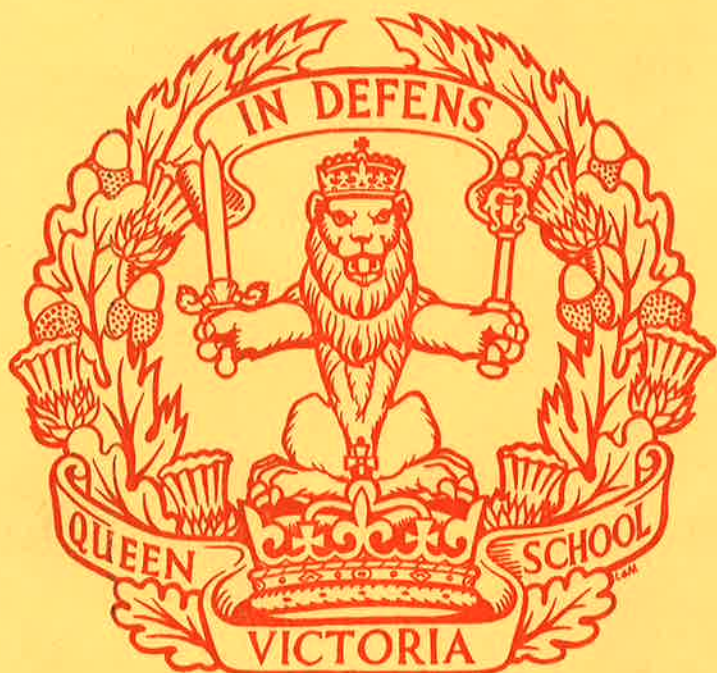


NUMBER 62

DECEMBER, 1959



THE VICTORIAN



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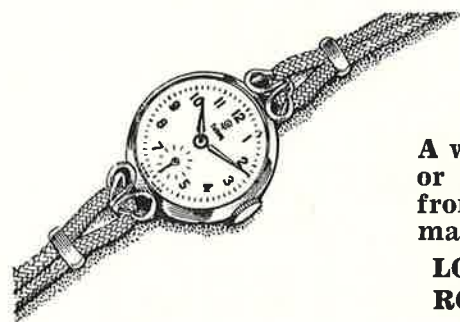
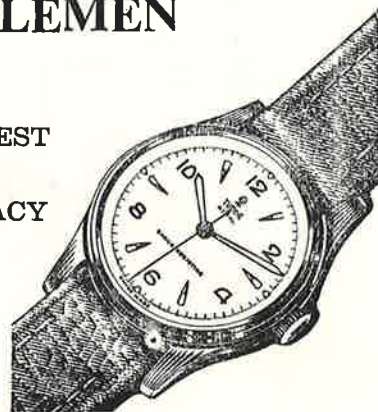
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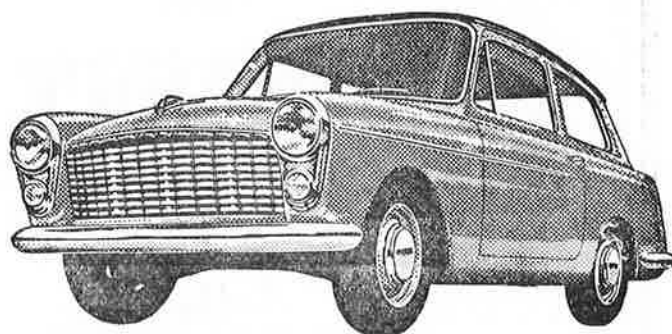
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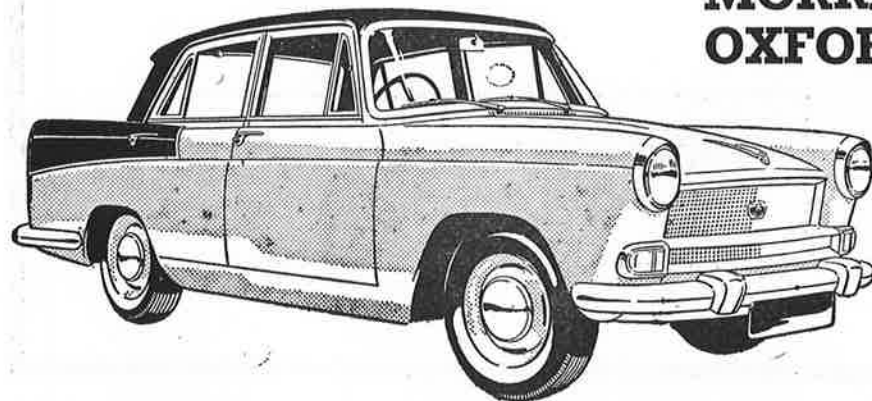
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The Journal of the Queen Victoria School

No. 62

DECEMBER, 1959

Editorial

Once again the time has come to write the Editorial of the "Victorian." However, one great change has been made. Up to this term, the "Victorian" was written, edited, and typed by the masters. For the first time, most of this work has fallen on the boys: the articles and even most of the reports on school activities have been written by boys; the editors were chosen by the rather arbitrary method of picking the boys with the highest marks in the English G.C.E.; the typing for the printers, however, has fallen on the shoulders of Miss Thomson, the Headmaster's Secretary. If there is anyone who does not like the pictures printed in this issue of the "Victorian," that person can blame the Art Editor, Terry Gavigan, who chose them.

Three Inter-House competitions are in progress at the time of writing: boxing, swimming and rugby. Unfortunately, none will be finished before the "Victorian" is printed. These three competitions all carry points in the Inter-House Championship. Just after the mid-term break two "friendlies" were run off; the apple-dookin' contest and the "tumshie" contest, Haig House won the first, and there was a representative of each Senior House in the other. First was Brock of Trenchard House, second was Ross of Haig and third Aitken of Cunningham House.

These competitions were followed by the fireworks' display and the bonfire. Some of the Masters and the four Monitors were the only ones allowed to set off the fireworks, but some seniors had a few bangers of their own. One, who shall be nameless, shouted "We are the people! We threw that, not me!" as he hurled a banger behind an unsuspecting Monitor letting off a rocket.

This term, for a loss of 34 boys who left last term, we have gained 44 "rookies." The R.S.M. will be busy taking the new boys on drill.

The staff also has had a few changes. As

mentioned in the summer issue of the "Victorian," Captain Bennett and Captain Ashworth have been replaced by Captains Lees and Russell. As yet no nickname has been dreamed up for Captain Russell, but Captain Lees has been called "Macaroon Bar" although the name has not stuck. At the end of this term the Hospital Matron, Miss Neale, is leaving.

There were three school camps during the summer holiday. Two of these, the A.C.F. camp at Oban and the Aviemore camp, were well-established school projects. Accounts of these will be found elsewhere in this magazine.

The third camp, however, was an experiment. A party of 20 boys and two masters went to Paris for a week. Mr Brown, who keeps copies of all the back numbers of the "Victorian," says that before the war parties of boys from Q.V.S. went to many places in Europe, including France and Germany. The 1959 Paris trip, however, was the first trip abroad that any school party had made within the time of any person at school just now. The tour was so successful that it will almost certainly be repeated next year.

The school Highland Dancing team was invited to London to take part in the British Legion Festival of Remembrance on November 7th. The show was televised, and letters of congratulation flowed in from all over the country. The Commandant was so pleased with the dancers that he let them off trades for the rest of this term. He neglected to say whether they were still to receive trades pay.

I suppose that if I thought hard enough, I could find much more to write about. But if I did, I would use up too much space, and Mr Hughes, who is still business manager, would shoot me for using so many words. All that is left is for me to wish all readers of the "Victorian"—whether they read this Editorial or not—a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THE VICTORIAN

GRAND DAY, 1959

The sun shone with traditional splendour on Grand Day, although this phenomenon was not so remarkable as usual, when we consider the glory of the summer that is past. Nevertheless, it is remarkable how, year after year, no matter how dull and wet the summer as a whole may be, Grand Day is specially favoured with good weather. The present writer of this article, who is beginning to qualify as one of the oldest inhabitants of Queen Victoria School, cannot remember a wet Grand Day since his coming here; and without delving into statistical weather records, it is believed that there was once a wet Grand Day as far back as 1935.

A preliminary to the Grand Day Parade was the Academic Prize Giving, which was held in the school hall. The Headmaster, Lt-Colonel A. L. Fowler, M.C., M.A. (Cantab.), R.A.E.C., in presenting his report, spoke of the progress in education which the school was making, and stressed in particular the growing opportunities in the school for "non-academic" subjects. The prizes were awarded by Mr W. Arbuckle, C.B., Secretary of the Scottish Education Department. He remarked that he was pleased that many of the former pupils were going on not only to the Universities, "to which we in Scotland have attached perhaps too much importance in the past," but also to the Art Colleges and Technical and Commercial Schools.

Dux of the School is A. Bethune, and the first winner of the Prince Philip Medal, is George Thomson.

The Grand Day Parade was inspected by Lt-General Sir George Collingwood, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Scottish Command. He complimented the boys on their marching, and on their smart and soldierly bearing on parade. In his speech to the boys he spoke of the improvement and enlargement of the school buildings which had been put in hand by the War Office. The money will be spent in redecorating the buildings, building a new technical wing, and adding classrooms and recreation rooms. The present roll of 220 boys may be increased. General Collingwood said that, although "it is not fashionable any more for boys to follow in father's footsteps," he hoped many of the boys would continue in the Services when they left school.

The boys paraded under the command of Senior Monitor A. A. Blackie, who has now left the school to continue his education at Glasgow College of Art.

A diminishing band of South African War Veterans, now sixty in number, were among the visitors.

Following the parade, visitors were entertained by a display of Scottish dancing, under the able tuition of Pipe Major J. Mortimer (ex-K.O.S.B.) and a Gym Display. The agility and general fitness of the boys taking part reflect great credit on Mr G. Reid, D.P.E., who is responsible for physical education in the school. The Pipes and Drums of the school played Retreat, and the high quality of this performance must have

given much satisfaction to Pipe-Major J. M. Sanderson, B.E.M. (ex-Cameronians), and Drum Major D. Legg (ex-Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

Many visitors spent a long time admiring the exhibition of Arts and Crafts (art, pottery, woodwork and metalwork). This is a facet of the school's activities which year by year is achieving greater and greater success. We are sure that Mr V. H. Le Maistre, D.A., Mr J. G. Finlay and Captain R. A. N. Turner, R.A.E.C., felt that their work had been amply rewarded by the admiration shown by the visitors of the high quality of the exhibition.

(We must acknowledge the courtesy of the "Dundee Courier and Advertiser" and of the "Scotsman" for permission to use extracts from their files.)

Miss Neale

There will be a general sadness in the school at the departure, at the end of the Autumn term, of Miss Neale, the Hospital Matron. Although she has only been with us for three years she has set her stamp on the school hospital. Dare we say, for instance, that it is now the cleanest and brightest place in the whole school? She has also caused many improvements to be made over there in equipment and general comfort and we are told that many of the staff think it is all TOO comfortable and attractive.

Maybe she has made some of the more senior boys wince at being called "Darling" in front of very junior boys; but this we know has stemmed from an essentially kind nature. Many of us are grateful for her care to us when we really have been feeling "under the weather," and many of us will remember always her competent command of the situation in an emergency—and there have been quite a few in her day, what with epidemics, accidents in the swimming bath, and of course bones broken at rugby (and other forms of horse play!) We wish her all good fortune and happiness in her retirement in the south of England and we extend a hearty welcome to her successor, Miss S. J. MacLeod.

Regimental Awards, 1959

SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS

Association Prize—Monitor A. R. Bethune.
Association Club Prize—J. Rennie.

GORDON HIGHLANDERS

Sir George Whyte Prize—D. Robertson.

ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS

R. Mannion, T. McNamee.

BLACK WATCH

Sir A. G. Wauchope Prize—Monitor G. G. Ferrier.

R. N. Masterson, G. A. F. Strachan.

The Black Watch awards were presented to the winners by Major General N. McMicking when he visited the school in February.

New Boys

- 2839 Adams, Lambert Norman—Black Watch.
 2840 Black, Thomas Ian—Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.
 2841 Bonar, Terence Alexander—Royal Scots.
 2842 Brown, Alan Scott—R.A.F.
 2843 Cassells, Graeme Stuart—Royal Scots Fusiliers.
 2844 Cobb, Stuart Murray—Royal Engineers.
 2845 Fraser, John Laurence—Royal Army Medical Corps.
 2846 Gilder, Patrick—Royal Army Service Corps.
 2847 Hay, James Walter—R.A.F.
 2848 Heron, Larry Colin—Cameronians.
 2849 Hewgill, Martin—R.A.P.C.
 2850 Hewitt, Ronald—Royal Highland Fusiliers.
 2851 Irvine, Robert Andrew—R.A.F.
 2852 Isitt, David Thomas—Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.
 2853 Jagger, David Tom—Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.
 2854 Jeffrey, Rhoderick James—Scots Guards.
 2855 Johnston, Ian—Royal Army Service Corps.
 2856 Kilgour, David—Royal Artillery.
 2857 Laughlan, David—Royal Highland Fusiliers.
 2858 Ledingham, John McPetric—Royal Army Service Corps.
 2859 Logan, Stuart Hugh—Royal Pioneer Corps.
 2860 Logue, William James—Royal Military Police.
 2861 McDougall, Roderick John—Cameronians.
 2862 McLaughlin, Barry John—R.A.F.
 2863 McLaughlin, Cornelius—R.A.F.
 2864 McLaughlin, Terence Brian—R.A.F.
 2865 McPhail, John Gordon—Gordon Highlanders.
 2866 Matheson, John—Royal Artillery.
 2867 Matheson, Robert Edgar—Royal Artillery.
 2868 Miller, James—Gloucestershire Regiment.
 2869 Murray, John McCrone—Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.
 2870 Nealon, David Cumming—Royal Scots.
 2871 O'Connor, Michael Bryan—Royal Scots.
 2872 Robertson, Colin Grant—R.A.F.
 2873 Smith, Andrew James—R.A.F.
 2874 Stace, Alfred William—Royal Scots Fusiliers.
 2875 Tait, John Hamilton Crombie—R.E.M.E.
 2876 Watt, Andrew John—R.A.F.
 2877 Watters, James Hemingway—Royal Signals.
 2878 Welsh, John Robertson—Royal Tank Regt.
 2879 Wilkie, Ian McDonald—Royal Army Pioneer Corps.
 2880 Wills, Michael Stewart—Royal Scots.
 2881 Wilson, Robert Stewart—Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.
 2882 Dempsey, Joseph—Royal Scots.

British Legion Jubilee Prize

The British Legion prize, for the best boy leaving school to join one of the Services, has been awarded to A. G. W. Milne. He entered the Army Apprentice School, Arborfield, in September, having gained passes in five subjects in the G.C.E. Ordinary Level examination held last June.

Leavers—Summer, 1959

- Aitchison, D. McK. — Merchant Navy.
 Bethune, A. R. — Babcock & Wilcox, Student Apprentice.
 Blackie, A. A. — Glasgow School of Art.
 Hamilton, A. S. — Edinburgh University.
 Ray, D. — Applied for Civil Service.
 Watson, R. M. — Royal Technical College, Glasgow.
 Bruce, E. R. C. — Merchant Navy.
 Chessar, R. C. — Civilian Life.
 Masterson, N. R. — Merchant Navy.
 Rennie, J. W. — Apprenticeship, Nottingham.
 Ferrier, G. G. — Merchant Navy.
 Finlay, J. W. E. — Gordonstoun School (for Royal Navy Scholarship).
 Geary, C. J. — Civilian Apprenticeship.
 Leaman, G. R. — Army Apprentice School.
 Milne, A. G. W. — Army Apprentice School.
 Kill, L. C. F. — Civilian Employment.
 Barbour, T. J. — Applying for R.A.F. Apprentice School.
 Blackie, G. J. — Royal Marines Band.
 Baird, D. C. — Civilian Life.
 Davies, R. — Army Apprentice School, Harrogate.
 Leitch, R. B. M. — Junior Leaders Battalion, R.A.O.C.
 McArthur, D. J. — H.M.S. Conway.
 McLeish, M. J. — Applying for Army Apprentice School.
 McNamee, T. R. — Civilian Life.
 Mannion, R. E. — Civilian Life.
 Marshall, E. R. — Awaiting vacancy at Lawers Agricultural College.
 Milne, S. I. S. — Farming.
 Murphy, M. — Civilian Life.
 Orr, D. S. — Civilian Life.
 Strachan, G. A. F. — Army Apprentice School.
 McColl, J. — Civilian Life.
 Dailly, A. — Army Apprentice School.
 Horne, J. H. — Army Apprentice School.
 Ritchie, D. — Emigration.

Old Boy Visitors

- 12/ 8/59—J. McKellen (2345), Edinburgh.
 14/ 8/59—A. K. Dunstane (1993), Argyll.
 25/ 8/59—D. McKenzie (2222), Berks.
 26/ 8/59—H. Burns (948), Preston.
 1/ 9/59—W. A. Twins (386), Kent.
 6/ 9/59—D. Flett (1315), Dundee.
 7/ 9/59—T. Young (2134).
 7/ 9/59—W. Young.
 12/ 9/59—R. Mackay (1224), Bucks.
 16/ 9/59—McArthur (2638), North Wales.
 26/ 9/59—W. Gray, Renfrew.
 26/ 9/59—D. O'Donnell, U.S.A.
 27/ 9/59—M. Anderson (687), Glasgow.
 18/10/59—D. Dempsey, Edinburgh.
 24/10/59—N. McInnes (2278), Stornoway.
 11/11/59—W. Alexander (2327), Glasgow.

Cricket

Although we have had a glorious summer, the start of our cricket season was rather damp. Our 1st XI team, looking weak on paper, actually played very well, winning a tough match against Morrison's Academy, who invariably beat us. We congratulate McLennan, who has gained his colours for meritorious performances.

Unfortunately, after our fairly successful season, we were soundly beaten by the Staff XI. Again Capt. Bennett had the highest score, closely followed by Mr Williams, Mr Jamieson, and Major Baker; the boys' runs being kept down by the consistent bowling of Mr Hughes and Mr Bruce. Naturally we hope to eradicate this defeat by winning the match next year. The full score is appended.



STAFF XI

J. Baker, c Bruce, b Walker	9
T. Williams, c Owens, b Blackie	14
A. Bennett, b Blackie	16
A. Ashworth, c Miller, b Walker	4
R. Hughes, b Walker	1
H. Brown, c Milne, b Blackie	1
A. Jamieson, b Blackie	11
J. Stewart, b Blackie	0
G. Reid, b Blackie	1
N. Bruce, b McLennan	1
J. Ross, not out	6
Extras	0
Total	64

McLennan: 1 wicket for 18 runs; Walker: 3 wickets for 37 runs; Blackie: 6 wickets for 9 runs.

SCHOOL XI

G. Thomson, b Hughes	9
G. Leaman, hit wicket, b Hughes	3
C. Walker, b Bruce	9
A. Leitch, b Bruce	0
H. Miller, b Bruce	0
A. Milne, b Bruce	4
A. Blackie, c Hughes, b Bruce	9
E. Bruce, lbw, b Hughes	0
N. Burrows, b Bruce	0
D. McLennan, st. Williams, b Hughes	4
D. Owens, not out	4
Extras	0
Total	42

Hughes: 4 wickets for 23 runs; Bruce 6 wickets for 19 runs.

The other School XIs did extremely well and we hope that the boys coming into the senior school will play just as well, and carry on in their predecessors' footsteps.

The school cricket is in a healthy condition. During the summer of 1959 we were able to put out four XIs and overall met with a fair amount of success. Of 22 games played, 13 were won, 2 drawn and 7 lost. Full details are given below.

The 1st XI won three of their six matches and lost one (excluding the match against the Staff). The bowling was rather undistinguished, although towards the end of the season, good performances came from Blackie and MacLennan. Batting showed distinct promise at times, Walker, Thomson, Leitch and Blackie doing well. The fielding was excellent, and some particularly good catches were taken. A. A. Blackie, as captain, retained colours won in the previous season, and colours for 1959 were awarded to Thomson, Walker and MacLennan. With eight of the 1959 1st XI available for next summer, we should do even better.

The outstanding performer in the 2nd XI was Matthews, who in five matches took 28 wickets for 56 runs, a very consistent performance. We hope that he will do well in 1960. Finlay showed good promise as a bat.

	P	W	L	D
1st XI	..	..	..	..
2nd XI	..	..	..	..
3rd XI	..	..	..	..
4th XI	..	..	..	..
	6	3	1	2
	5	4	1	0
	7	4	3	0
	4	2	2	0
	C. C. W.			

Boxing

The boxing contest has started, but up to the time of going to Press the finals have not been fought. Altogether there are 120 contestants—33 entrants from Cunningham House, 41 from Haig House, and 46 from Trenchard. Figures seem to tell against Cunningham House, and it has few very good junior boxers. Haig House has the best senior boxers, while Trenchard has an excellent intermediate team. The only comment to make is—may the best House win.



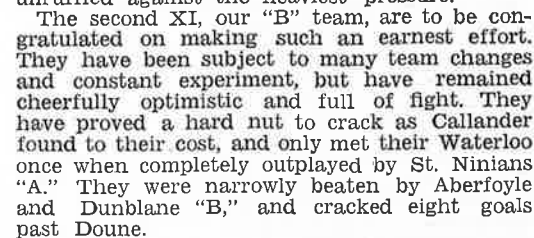
Gym Notes

Judging by the enthusiastic applause which the gym team received last Grand Day, we can conclude that the performance was highly spectacular—the two trampettes and the buck being used to change the old monotonous routine and to introduce much variety.

Unfortunately, our numbers have been drastically reduced by many of the boys leaving, and during the following terms Mr Reid will have to continue his laborious task of training new boys to reach the standard which was attained last year.

C. C. WALKER.

particular mention must be made of the defence which has settled down very well and remains unruffled against the heaviest pressure.



							Goals		
			P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
"A" team	..	..	5	5	0	0	28	3	10
"B" team	..	..	6	2	0	4	9	14	4

Model Railway Club

A second and much simpler layout has been constructed, most of which should be running by Christmas, although the lineside and scenic work will take us till Easter to complete. Thereafter, the Club will work in two groups. While one group is operating the completed layout, the other group will be working on the larger original layout, which may take as much as four or five years to complete. However, even now, we have a small group working on the carpentry of both layouts, so that the larger one is not at a standstill.

We are very grateful for the gift of an electric soldering iron, from an old boy of the school. This has been a great blessing, as the construction of a model railway involves the making of hundreds of soldered joints.

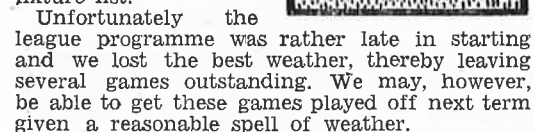
The goods department of the rolling stock has had a recent addition in the form of three cattle trucks, two Shell tankers and a bulk-grain wagon. Our next important rolling stock venture is to be the construction of a six coach main line passenger train.

All this should keep us more than fully occupied till the Club's session closes at Easter.

A. N. J.

The West Perthshire League, in which we have two teams, has got under way. It has lost a little momentum over the last few weeks as the heavy rains and early dark have caused several cancellations.

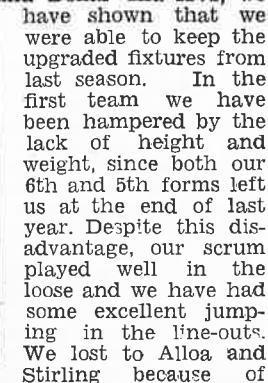
The intention was that half the programme would be played this term. We would close down, however, for the Easter term because for so much of the time the grounds are far too heavy for our rather small footballers. In the Summer term we would complete our fixture list.



To date our "A" team is unbeaten and tops the league. They have scored twenty-eight goals and lost three in the five matches they have played. The line-up has settled down to be, for most games: — D. Robertson (goalkeeper); McConnell and Washington (backs); Cormack, Allan and Paterson (half-backs); Stevenson, McLaughlin, Miller, Brough and Johnston (forwards). They have all played well and

Captain - - H. Miller
Vice-Captain - A. D. Leitch

This year our team has been playing some very good rugby, having won five of our seven games. In beating Strathallan 3rd, Glenalmond 3rd, Dunfermline 3rd and Dollar 2nd XVs, we



our inexperience in playing heavy teams who prefer to play a footballing game rather than orthodox rugby.

Special mention must be given to J. W. Wilkie, our open-side wing-forward, who brought considerable honour to the school when he was chosen to play for the Midland Schools' rugby team against the Glasgow Schools' team.

Our 2nd XV have lost the only two games they have played, because the boys who would have been playing for it have been brought into the 1st XV. The rest of the 2nd XV fixtures have been cancelled as it is impossible to form a heavy enough team to match the 4th and 5th XV's of other schools.

Again, in the under 14½ years team, we have had to suffer a few defeats because of height and weight difficulties. All the games which were lost were played when the 1st XV was also playing, as some of the under 14½ players had to leave their proper team to play for the 1st XV. When this team was at full strength their play was of an exceptionally high standard, with some good quick service from the scrum and half-back line.

The 4th XV (2nd year team) looks successful enough on paper but it has usually had the advantage of weight and size over its opponents and in some matches a very big advantage in experience. No proper "team" has yet been produced from the talent available. The team discipline is poor, position drills are still ignored and a decent tackle is rarely seen. The match at Dalhousie provided an object lesson in teamwork. Here we were defeated by smaller boys, playing one short for a good part of the game, whose courage and discipline exposed the shortcomings in our team.

The best players have been Armstrong and Bell among the forwards, Young at scrum-half, and Gerald Ross, who has been running very strongly at three-quarter.

A 5th XV has also been formed from the remainder of the 2nd year. Not surprisingly this team has suffered some heavy defeats from the

2nd year sides of other schools. But at least the boys concerned have had some extra games, and have sometimes shown up fairly well against bigger and stronger opponents.

The 1st year "A" and "B" teams have had a poor season until now; this was mainly because they were new to rugby and found it very hard to stay in their positions, and their opponents have played kick and rush games which completely upset the pattern of their practice game coaching. Now they have settled down and have begun to play moderately good rugby, and should have more success in the second half of the season.

All our teams have played tough, hard rugby this season, and have thoroughly enjoyed themselves in doing so.

			P	W	L	D	Points	
							F	A
1st XV	..	..	7	5	2	0	69	59
"A" XV	u/15½ years	..	3	1	2	0	36	29
2nd XV	..	..	2	0	2	0	0	74
3rd XV	u/14½ years	..	8	4	3	1	120	79
4th XV	u/13½ years	..	6	4	2	0	126	48
5th XV	..	..	5	3	1	1	56	60
6th XV	u/12½ years	..	5	1	4	0	12	67
7th XV	..	..	1	0	1	0	3	9

The First Game of the Season

On Friday, 11th September, the boys returned from their holidays, one of the last schools to do so. As a result there were only two rugby practices before the first match of the season—Q.V.S. 1st XV v. Dollar Academy 2nd XV. Another handicap which the Q.V. had was a lack of 6th year pupils. Both 5th and 6th year left, and so now there are none of these older boys in the team.

During the first half of the game play alternated between the two posts, but there was no score. There was no fouling observed by the spectators, and the team itself thought it was a clean game.

In the second half play was mostly within the Dollar twenty-five. Twelve minutes after the start of this half, Wilkie scored a try, which was not converted. Eight minutes later a try was scored by the Dollar winger, and the score were equal. Some hard fighting developed after this, but the game almost ended in a draw. Then just a few minutes from the end, Q.V. was given a penalty on the 25 line, about 10-15 yards off-centre. The captain, Hugh Miller, brilliantly converted it, to give Q.V. a win in the first game of the season.

Chess Club

The Chess Club meets every Tuesday and there is a good attendance of novices and more experienced players. Evidence of the interest shown in chess is that club members often borrow chess sets to play in their spare time, especially at week-ends. Last Easter term a handicap tournament was arranged, which aroused a good deal of interest. The result of the tournament was:—

1st, D. Aitchison; 2nd, N. Greenhorn; 3rd, A. J. Kay.

This is very creditable to Greenhorn who, at that time, was a first year boy.

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

As always at the end of the summer term many boys left, but new boys have come up from the Junior School. We are sorry that Monitor Blackie, Prefect Rennie and Prefect Finlay have left, and we wish them every success in their future careers. Prefect Leitch has become our Monitor, with Walker and McGill as the Prefects.

We welcome to the House all the new boys—MacKenzie, Richardson, Aitchison, Towns, Thomson, Cooper, McRae, R. Millar, Clater, Lorimer, McFarquhar, and M. Owens. We also extend a warm welcome to John Matheson who comes from Islay, and Terry McLaughlin from Huntingdonshire, who have joined the school this term.

For the first time the school sent some examples to an Army Arts and Crafts competition and came out with flying colours by winning all the events for which we entered. We congratulate Monitor Blackie, T. Gavigan, R. Whyte and R. Fallone on gaining certificates.

After the half-term holiday we had two friendly Hallowe'en contests. W. Aitken came third in the "Magic Lantern," and our Apple-dookin' team, Owens, Edgar, Craggs, Prefect McGill, Ritson and Gavigan, came a close third.

Edgar and Whyte, along with the rest of IVb, are drawing a scaled ground-plan of the school, which they carry out in their own spare time, for Maths.

Last year the school started the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and a few of the boys from this House passed. Silver series—Monitor Leitch and Monitor Thomson, now in Wavell House. Bronze series—Finlay and B. Leitch. This year Monitor Leitch and Monitor Thomson have entered for the Gold series; Prefect McGill, Prefect Walker, Finlay and P. Owens for the Silver series; Baillie, M. Thomson, Craggs, Aitken, Edgar, Ritson and Melvin for the Bronze series.

Although there have been no House competitions yet, we have had a good many practices for rugby, swimming and boxing. Some heats have been run off for the swimming, and we seem to have a fair chance. Although we only had a mediocre entry for the boxing, we have quite a few boys in the finals already, and we hope for success. In the school rugby, Prefect Walker was awarded his colours, and Monitor Leitch was re-awarded his.

Now, on closing, we would like to thank Mr Bruce, our Housemaster, and Miss Chalmers, our House Matron, for their help to all the boys during this term. On behalf of the House, we would like to wish them a Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year.

C.W. A. L.

HAIG HOUSE

The beginning of a new school year has brought many new faces and appointments to the House. Harry Johnston is now House Monitor and Senior Monitor of the school, while James Wilkie, James Kay and Hugh Miller are the new Prefects. From Wavell House we received 12 boys—W. Anderson, S. Collie, D.

Fraser, T. Hughes, A. Kay, P. Kay, I. McGregor, A. Mackie, R. Matheson, E. Mayo, J. Williamson, and J. Wright. In addition we have three new boys—J. Hay, A. Stace and I. Wilkie. One of the boys who joined us from Wavell House has since been withdrawn. We welcome these boys and hope that they will enjoy their life in Haig House, and will do their best for the House and the school in the next few years.

There are three House competitions this term—rugby, boxing and swimming. The Prefects have been busy coaching the rugby teams which Monitor Johnston has chosen to represent the House. We hope to be successful in the rugby competition, but it will be a very hard tussle as the Houses are more evenly matched than in previous years.

We also have high hopes in the boxing competition, as we are well represented in this sphere, and there have been some encouraging results in the preliminary bouts.

The other Houses seem to be stronger swimmers than we are, but we shall try our hardest, and come away with as many points as we can.

The health of the House has on the whole been good but we are more than a little concerned about the 'flu epidemic which seems to start at about this time every year. M. McLean has had a "stookie" round his arm for the last few weeks, and D. Turnbull is in hospital with "housemaid's knee," but both should be completely recovered before the beginning of the Christmas holidays.

On the whole, it has been a happy and successful term for the House and everyone is looking forward to a well-earned Christmas holiday.

H. B. J. W.

TRENCHARD HOUSE

The House started the school year without the familiar faces of Monitor Alan Bethune and Prefects Bruce, Chessar and Milne. It seemed the giants had left. . . . This term we have Monitor Donald MacLennan and Prefects Rodney Maxwell and Malcolm Watt to lead the House, which includes the following "new boys" from Wavell:—D. Coulter, J. Donnelly, E. Gillespie, R. Kilcullen, J. McDonald, K. MacMillan, A. Michael, T. Milne, A. Murtagh, T. Nimmo, D. Warwood, R. Wright. To all of these a welcome. We hope that they will do well in the House and live up to the promise that they showed on the sports field when in the Primary School.

More goodbyes and good wishes—to T. Barbour, J. Horne and L. Kill, who have left us since the last "Victorian."

In an exciting finish the House won the Championship Shield, just managing to beat Haig by a solitary point. I am sure that Major Hitchman wishes for a "repeat performance." This term there are three events, boxing, rugby and swimming, and though the Houses seem to be more evenly matched this year, we hope to go into the New Year a few points ahead of our rivals.

Good fortune and happiness to Douglas Bethune, Kenneth Hill, David Robertson and David Scully, who leave at the end of term, and may we all have an enjoyable holiday, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

D. MacL.

WAVELL HOUSE

As usual at the beginning of the school year, we welcome 37 new boys, who very quickly settled down. They arrived the day before term started, which made things much easier for everyone. We might point out that there is no truth in the rumour that they are being allowed to go home a day earlier to make up for it!

It has been a quiet term with no major incidents worthy of report. At the time of writing no inter-dormitory competitions have been decided, but the swimming and the football competitions look like being very closely contested. The health of the House has been good. We were very sorry that Archie Doyle had to go to Stirling Infirmary; however, he is doing well, and at present the main problem seems to be to keep him in bed. We all wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to having him back next term.

We have to record our appreciation of the quiet efficiency of Monitor Thomson's team of Prefects. Even Masters Tait and Cassells, the undisputed champions of the art of getting into trouble, will admit that we have been fortunate in having three such energetic, keen and long-suffering Prefects. Our thanks also to Matron for her never failing patience, efficiency and kindly authority.

The dancers in Wavell deserve special mention. They have worked very hard and had their reward when they went to London to take part in the Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall.

When all work hard and play their part it is not always fair to pick out individuals. We must, however, congratulate J. C. R. Jeffrey on winning first prize in his class in the Services Art Exhibition, and J. Oliver and R. McNeill for being runners-up.

It is now within two weeks of the end of the term. May we all have a pleasant holiday, a very Happy Christmas, and the best of luck in 1960.

The Queen's Garden Theatre

In the gardens of Versailles, which were designed by Le Notre, there is a small amphitheatre enclosed by a dense, green hedge. It is called The Queen's Garden Theatre.

Leading down to the bottom is a spiral gravel path which emerges on to a beautifully-kept lawn.

Stone tiers stretch round in a semi-circle, covered by a blanket of moss, through which water filters into a shallow basin, where goldfish swim lazily to and fro.

Opposite are two walls apparently identical in construction, but on a closer inspection one finds that they are different. The tiles of one wall are fixed separately by a length of copper wire. The wire, however, is not visible, for each tile overlaps the one beneath it. Though the tiles overlap in the other wall, it is built normally. The interesting thing is that when the tiles

are struck different musical notes are produced. Thus one wall is a mammoth xylophone, while the other acts as a sounding-board.

It amazes me that of the many people who visit Versailles, very few know of this small but interesting feature of the gardens.

C. C. WALKER.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Throughout the whole of last year fifteen boys worked hard to gain their Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, six trying for the Silver Award and nine for the Bronze Award.

Those attempting the Bronze Award were: C. Stewart, J. Laughlan, D. Baird, P. Finlay, T. McNamee, B. Leitch, R. Maxwell, D. Scully and R. Bird. Their pursuits were many and varied, and consisted of stamp-collecting, dancing, drumming and model making. The public service for all of us was first aid, and we all passed with flying colours under the expert instruction of Miss Neale, our Hospital Matron. With a little practice and training the Bronze Award boys passed their athletic and fitness tests, choosing the section which suited them most. The fifteen mile hike they had to take was in the vicinity of the school, and consisted of travelling up to their camping site near Braco, walking over to Sheriffmuir and thence to the school. Only two boys were unfortunate enough to fail the Award, and they are trying again this year.

Those attempting the Silver Award were: C. Geary, H. Johnston, G. Thomson, A. Leitch, J. Ross and G. Leaman. Our pursuits were more difficult than those of the Bronze Award and were made up of woodwork, shooting, drumming and piping. The first aid was also more advanced, and in that sphere we had to pass both Bronze and Silver tests. Everybody passed their athletics and fitness tests without much difficulty and looked forward to the last section of the series, the trek. The trek was the most memorable of all the tests. It took place in the Argyllshire mountains, while we were at the A.C.F. camp at Oban. The first afternoon we covered 12 miles alongside Loch Awe, and the next day trudged 20 miles along roads and supposed bridle-paths in the direction of Oban. After a night at Kilmoor we plodded the last five miles into Oban, our feet covered in blisters, and more than pleased to be back to civilisation. Only one of us failed the Award, but was given the Bronze Award instead. The certificates and badges were presented to those successful candidates by Air Marshal Sir Brian E. Baker, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., A.F.C., when he visited the school at the beginning of this term.

This year the scheme seems to be much more popular, and 42 boys are entering, four going for the Gold Award, fifteen for the Silver and twenty-three for the Bronze Award. I hope they do as well as those boys who tried last year.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr G. Reid, on behalf of all the boys who entered for the Awards last year, for his help, encouragement and efficient running of the scheme.

H. B. J.

Drum Notes

At the end of the Summer term we lost our boy Drum Major, E. Bruce, and our leading drummer, R. Masterson. This term we have adequate replacements in R. McIntosh as the Boy Drum Major and T. O'Connor as the leading drummer. We have also had to replace C. Geary and R. McIntosh in the side-drum section. D. McInnes, A. Richardson, A. Evans and R. Logan have proved themselves worthy in their positions as new side-drummers.

This term there has only been one engagement, at the Black Watch Barracks in Perth. There we played at the Passing Out Parade, and the officer taking the salute, General Graham, congratulated us on our fine display.

As usual, on Armistice Sunday, buglers went to the neighbouring villages to blow "Last Post" and "Reveille" at the cenotaphs. In the morning at the School Chapel R. McIntosh blew the calls. R. Maxwell went to Muthill, T. O'Connor to Callander, and J. McDonald, the holder of the Silver Bugle, went to Doune and Thornhill. All of them were complimented on their playing.

During the term all the side-drummers have been busy learning new beatings for forthcoming engagements. Because of Mr Legg's tuition the drummers have reached a high standard and will not spoil our reputation at Murrayfield and the other engagements.

In closing, I would like to thank Mr Legg for his efforts to improve our standard of drumming, and on behalf of the other drummers I would like to wish him a Happy Christmas and a Guid New Year.

A. L. R. McI.

Pipe Notes

The Christmas term has been, as always, a fairly quiet term for the "pipers." We have, however, made a good start to the school year.

Immediate replacements were made for G. G. Ferrier and D. J. McArthur in R. MacRae and M. Maclean, who have now settled down very well. R. Miller should join the ranks next term, making the full strength twenty-one. At the end of this term we are losing D. (Danny) Robertson, who is moving to Africa, and to him and his family we wish happiness in their new life.

Our only engagement this term was at the Black Watch Depot at Perth. General Graham, taking the salute at the passing-out parade, congratulated us on our fine piping and encouraged us to join the Highland Regiments as pipers. On Armistice Day, Pipe Major Sanderson being in London with the dancers, our Boy Pipe Major played the Lament in the Chapel. In the afternoon he and Prefect Watt played at the Remembrance Service in Dunblane.

Two new tunes have been learned for the two Murrayfields next term—"The Highland Brigade at Tel el Kebir" and "The Road to the Isles." Having pipes on the square in fine weather and in the Pipe Room in bad weather, we are quite ready for next term's engagements.

In all weathers, the pipes must be maintained

and the frosty weather is no help at all. Pipe Major Sanderson never lets us down, and to him we extend our greatest thanks.

R. N. R.

Dancing Notes

Since I last wrote the Dancing Notes, the dancers have only had two engagements—one at the "Festival of Remembrance" in the Royal Albert Hall, London, and the other at the Albert Hall, Stirling. However, we hope to have many others lined up for us in the forthcoming year.

The dancing at London was a tremendous success. Thirty-six dancers were performing, the youngest being D. J. McKue, who had been under special instruction with Mr Mortimer for only three months. After our arrival we quickly made ourselves at home in the Regent's Park Barracks, and then had a swift, but interesting, glimpse of London, before our rehearsals. Sqdn. Leader Ralph Reeder, who was the producer, was extremely kind to us during our rehearsals and made our stay in London a pleasant one. However, I must not forget the endless hours of practice we had back here at school. On behalf of all the boys taking part I sincerely thank Mr Mortimer, our very capable Dancing Instructor, for teaching us the dancing. After our return from London many congratulatory letters flowed in to the Commandant and Mr Mortimer.

The engagement at the Albert Hall, Stirling, on the evening of Friday, 29th November, was also a success. The stage in the hall being not very large, only twelve dancers attended.

And so, as 1959 draws to a close, I once again thank Mr Mortimer for giving us his excellent tuition, and for bringing our dancing to that high standard always prominent among Q.V.S. dancers.

J. R. F.

Debating Society Notes

The Debating Society, which is the newest hobby operating in the school, meets every Monday evening in one of the outside classrooms. Captain Russell is our chairman and the Headmaster our honorary president. At the first meeting a committee was formed:—

Secretary—J. R. Fraser; House representatives—Cunningham House—W. Aitken, Haig House—D. Turnbull, Trenchard House—D. Scully.

Every second Monday the members of the committee think up the motions, i.e., that country life is more pleasant than town life, for the remainder of the Club to debate the following Monday. During the speeches, the secretary jots down notes of what is said, and then makes a neat record of the speeches.

So far the Debating Society has been quite a success, but next term we hope to be much better as, by then, we will have more confidence in speaking in front of an audience.

J. R. F.

SCHOOL ROLL

FORM V

JOHNSTON, H. B.—Senior Monitor.
Head of Haig House.
G.C.E.: Maths, Science, French.
1st XV.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series.
LEITCH, A. D.—Monitor.
Head of Cunningham House.
G.C.E.: Maths, English, French, History.
Colours: Rugby (1958/59, 1959/60).
1st XV (Vice-Captain), 1st XI.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series.
MACLENNAN, D. A. M.—Monitor.
Head of Trenchard House.
G.C.E., S.L.C.: Maths, English, French, History, Science, Pass in Arithmetic.
Colours: Cricket (1958/59).
1st XV, 1st XI.
ROSS, J. A.
G.C.E.: Maths, English, History.
1st Form Prize Form IV.
Colours: Rugby (1959/60).
1st XV.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series.
THOMSON, G.—Monitor.
Head of Wavell House.
G.C.E.: English, History, French, Maths.
1st Form Prize Form IV.
Colours: Cricket (1958/59), Rugby (1958/59).
1st XV, 1st XI.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series.
Prince Philip Medal, 1959.
WILKIE, J. W.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English, Maths.
3rd in Addison Smith Speaking Prize, 1959.
Colours: Rugby (1959/60). Chosen to play in Midland XV.
1st XV, 2nd XI.

FORM IV

BIRD, R. L.
2nd XV, 2nd XI.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze Series.
BURROWS, N.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English, French.
1st Form Prize IIIa.
1st XV, 1st XI.
FRASER, J. R.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.
GAVIGAN, T. D.
Art Editor of "The Victorian."
2nd XV.
HIDE, J.
Colour Corporal.
2nd XV.
KAY, J.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English, French, History.
2nd Form Prize IIIa.
Editor of "The Victorian."
2nd XV.
MCGILL, A. J.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English.
1st Eric Drew Memorial French Speaking Prize (Junior), 1959.
Sub-Editor of "The Victorian."
Colours: Athletics (1958/59).
2nd XV.
MACKINTOSH, R. G.
Boy Drum-Major.
2nd XV, 2nd XI.
MATTHEWS, G.—Prefect.
1st Eric Drew Memorial French Speaking Prize (Junior), 1959.
1st XV, 2nd XI.

MAXWELL, R.—Prefect.
1st XV, 1st XI.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze Series.
MILLER, H.—Prefect.
Colours: Boxing (1958/59), Rugby (1958/59, 1959-60).
1st XV (Captain), 1st XI.
OWENS, D. R.
1st XV, 1st XI.
ROY, R. N.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English, French, History.
Boy Pipe-Major.
2nd XV, 2nd XI.
WALKER, C. C.—Prefect.
Colour Sergeant.
Colours: Cricket (1958/59), Rugby (1959/60).
1st XV, 1st XI.
WATT, M. D.—Prefect.
G.C.E.: English.
Intermediate Art Prize.
1st XV.

FORM IVb

BROCK, I. R. G.
3rd XV.
EDGAR, V. C.
3rd XV, 2nd XI.
KIRKWOOD, J. K.
2nd XV.
McCORMACK, M. J.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.
McINNES, D.
3rd XV.
MUNN, R.
RITSON, W.
2nd XV.
RUSSELL, T. M. W.
1st XV.
SCULLY, D.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze Series.
Colours: Athletics (1958/59), Cross Country (1958/59).
1st XV.
STEWART, C. G. N.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze Series.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.
TURNBULL, D.
2nd XV, 3rd XI.
WHYTE, A. C.
Technical Drawing Prize.

FORM IIIa

FINLAY, P. R.C.
2nd Form Prize IIa.
Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Bronze Series.
2nd XV, 2nd XI.
McGAVIN, L. T.
2nd XV, 3rd XI.
MILLER, T.
2nd XV, 3rd XI.
NIXON, M. R.
1st Form Prize IIa.
1st XV.
TRUSWELL, H. McK.

FORM IIIb

BAILLIE, J. D.
BETHUNE, D.
CRAGGS, R. J.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.
DUNN, K.
EVANS, A.
FORESTER, J. B.
3rd XV.
HILL, K. W.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.

JOHNSTONE, J. McG.
3rd XV, 3rd XI.
LAUGHLAN, J. A.
2nd Form Prize IIB.
2nd XV, 3rd XI.
McGRORY, G.
1st Form Prize IIB.
MELVIN, T. M.
3rd XV.
O'DONNELL, I.
ROBERTSON, D. McN.
2nd XV, 3rd XI.
ROSS, C. S.
SIM, G. I.
THOMSON, M.
3rd XV.
WHYTE, W. R.
WISHART, R. A.
3rd XV.

FORM IIA

AITKEN, W. A.
1st Form Prize Ia.
4th XI.
ARMSTRONG, M. J.
3rd XV, 4th XI.
ARNETT, M. H. A.
4th XV.
BOWES, R.
5th XV.
BROWN, C.
5th XV, 3rd XI.
DONALDSON, S.
4th XV.
DOUGLAS, K.
4th XI.
FAULDS, A.
GILLESPIE, M. W.
4th XV, 3rd XI.
KELTIE, D.
LOGAN, R. J.
5th XV.
McARTHUR, S.
3rd XV.
McFADYEN, J. A.
McKENZIE, R. D. T.
5th XV.
McRAE, H. McG.
MAXWELL, D. A.
5th XV, 4th XI.
MURRAY, K.
4th XV, 4th XI.
ROY, P. W.
3rd XV, 4th XI.
SCOTT, W. J. S.
4th XV.
SMITH, R. I.
2nd Form Prize Ia.
TAIT, R.
5th XV, 4th XI.
WATSON, D. J.
4th XV.
WATTERS, J.
5th XV.

FORM IIB

BARBOUR, P. H.
5th XV.
BELL, T. D.
2nd XV.
DAVIDSON, K. M.
FALLONE, A.
GRAY, I. C.
GREENHORN, C.
HAMILTON, C. C.
HERON, C. B.
5th XV.
JOHNSTONE, D. P.
4th XV, 4th XI.
KILCULLEN, J. A.
6th XV.
LAUGHLAN, M.
4th XV.

McCONNELL, I.
4th XV, 3rd XI.
McDONALD, J. A.
MACLEAN, M.
4th XV, 3rd XI.
MARSHALL, S. T.
2nd Form Prize Ib.
O'CONNOR, T. J.
4th XV, 4th XI.
ROBSON, C. J.
1st Form Prize Ib.
ROSS, G.
4th XV, 3rd XI.
SAVILE, I. L. S.
6th XV.
SCOTT, G. H. S.
SINCLAIR, A. J.
4th XV.
STEWART, C. J. A.
WATT, R.
WILSON, T.
4th XV.
YOUNG, W.
4th XV, 3rd XI.

FORM Ia

AITCHISON, I. S.
6th XV.
COLLIE, S. D. C.
5th XV.
COULTER, D. T. W.
FRASER, D. S.
GILLESPIE, E. D.
6th XV.
HAY, J. W.
5th XV.
KAY, A. C.
1st Form Prize 7a.
5th XV.
KAY, P. C.
McKENZIE, J.
6th XV.
MATHESON, J.
MICHAEL, A. McG.
6th XV.
MILNE, T. A. G.
7th XV.
OWENS, M. J.
6th XV.
RICHARDSON, A. D. M.
6th XV.
STACE, A. W.
5th XV.
THOMSON, E.
1st Form Prize 7a.
5th XV.
WARWOOD, D. E.
7th XV.
WILKIE, I. M.
5th XV.
WRIGHT, J. T.
6th XV.
WRIGHT, R.
6th XV.

FORM Ib

ANDERSON, W. C.
6th XV.
BROWN, J.
CLATER, R. D.
5th XV.
COOPER, A. M.
5th XV.
DONNELLY, J.
HUGHES, T. D.
KILCULLEN, R. T.
LORIMER, I.
McDONALD, J. McF.
2nd Form Prize 7b.
McFARQUHAR,
McGREGOR, I. S. A.
5th XV.
McLAUGHLIN, T. B.
5th XV.

McMILLAN, K.
McRAE, R.
5th XV.
MATHESON, R. I.
MAYO, E. J.
MILLER, R. J.
5th XV.
MURTAGH, A. J.
NIMMO, J.
7th XV.
TOWNS, A. D.
WILLIAMSON, J. C.

PRIMARY 7a

ALLAN, J.
"A" Football Team.
BLACK, T. I.
BROUGH, J. M.
"A" Football Team.
CORMACK, D. S. E.
"A" Football Team.
DONALDSON, N. S.
IRVINE, R. A.
JOHNSTON, I.
"A" Football Team.
LOGUE, W. J.
McCONNELL, N.
"A" Football Team (Captain).
McKENZIE, L.
McLAUGHLIN, C.
MARSHALL, D. I.
2nd Form Prize 6a.
"B" Football Team.
MATHESON, R. E.
MILLER, J.
"A" Football Team.
MULLEN, D. J.
NIX, D. A.
PATERSON, H. A.
"A" Football Team.
ROBERTSON, D. C. K.
"A" Football Team.
SHARP, J. R.
SMITH, K. S.
STEWART, W. P. L.
"B" Football Team.
TIERNAN, B. J.
WARWOOD, A. I.
1st Form Prize 6a.
WASHINGTON, A. M.
"A" Football Team.

PRIMARY 7b

COCKBURN, I.
1st Form Prize 7b.
DOYLE, A.
"B" Football Team.
JEFFREY, T. C. R.
"B" Football Team.
KILLEY, M. H.
McKUE, D. J.
McLEAN, J. S.
MARSHALL, I.
MENZIES, N. A.
MONAGHAN, T.
"B" Football Team (Captain).
O'CONNOR, P. K.
OLIVER, J. D.
"B" Football Team.
SCOTT, D. V.
"B" Football Team.
1st Form Prize 6b.
SINCLAIR, A. J.
"B" Football Team.
STEVENSON, C. W.
"A" Football Team.
SYCAMORE, J. A.

PRIMARY 6a

BONAR, T. A.
"B" Football Team.
BROUGHTON, A. L.

BROWN, A. S.
CLARK, N. R.
COBB, S. M.
GILDER, P.
FRASER, I.
HEWGILL, M.
HEWITT, R.
ISITT, D. T.
"B" Football Team.
JAGGER, D. T.
KILGOUR, D.
LAUGHLAN, D.
"B" Football Team.
LEGG, D. P.
LOGAN, S. H.
McNEILL, A. S.
McNEILL, R. J.
O'CONNOR, M. B.
SMITH, A. J.
TAIT, J. H. C.
"B" Football Team.
TRUSWELL, C. G. M.
WATT, A. J.
WELSH, J. R.

PRIMARY 6b

ADAMS, L. N.
CASSELLS, G. S. T.
FRASER, J. L.
HERON, L. C.
JEFFREY, R. J.
LEDINGHAM, J. McP.
McDOUGALL, R. J.
McLAUGHLIN, B. J.
"A" Football Team.
McPHAIL, J. G.
MURRAY, J. McC.
NEALON, D. C.
"B" Football Team.
ROBERTSON, C. G.
WATTERS, J. H.
"B" Football Team.
WILLS, M. S.
WILSON, R. S.

GLOSSARY

If a stranger overheard a conversation between two boys from Q.V.S., some of their vocabulary would puzzle him. In order to eliminate this handicap, I have drawn up a glossary of our school slang:—

allabum—do not bother.
bonker—what did I tell you.
dishwater—soup.
to drive—to strike.
drive-ball—soccer.
garbage—cabbage.
glory seeker—one who is continually trying to get himself praised (especially on the rugby field).
harder—black leather shoe worn by all the boys.
hunks—sweets.
the Oafs—Army Cadet Force.
to poo—to smoke.
the rabble—those without authority.
sambo—sandwich.
to skive—to shirk.
skit—(a word of warning) watch out.
slops—waste tea.
softer—sandshoe.
sook—one who is a master's favourite.
spewgo—sago.
sporties—rugby shorts.
two's up—after you.
wick off—go away.

"Anon."

Paris Trip, 1959

In the first week of September, a party of twenty boys from the school, under Mr Malkowski and Mr Brown, visited Paris.

During this visit we stayed at the Institut Montaigne at the edge of Le Bois de Vincennes. The Institut is normally an infants' school, but during the summer holidays it is converted into a hostel "pour les jeunes gens." From all the countries neighbouring France, young people come and stay at the Institut during their visits to Paris. The accommodation is therefore somewhat cramped, but nobody seems to mind, as everyone soon becomes friendly. Even though the area was rather confined, the arrangement as a whole was extremely efficient, especially for the meals. At fixed times different parties would have their food, and nobody would have to wait. The tours were also well organised and all the interesting places were seen. At this point I should like to express our thanks to Messieurs Blanchard and Hubert for the most enjoyable time they gave us.

Our main reason for visiting Paris was to see the celebrated spectacles, and of course we were shown them by the Institut's guides. On the first we had a general view of Paris from a bus. The other days we visited one or two renowned spots, Le Tour d'Eiffel, Le Louvre, L'Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, Le Sacre Coeur, La Conciergerie. We also had a whole day at the Palace of Versailles, and we shall all remember walking round the vast palace grounds. I think we saw everything of interest in Paris.

Although we had conducted tours nearly every day, we did have some free time in which we explored the city on our own. Most of that time was spent on the "Metro," and by the time we left everyone knew how to travel on it. The cafes there also proved interesting places, even if we did have to leave tips. All round Paris people saw kilted figures, and indeed the kilt caused a great deal of interest. Everywhere we went somebody wanted to take our photos. But the kilt also caused great curiosity. It seemed as if all Paris wanted to know what we wore under our kilts. If anyone talked to a French female this invariable question arose: "Que portez-vous sous la jupe?" — but they never found out.

On the whole everyone enjoyed himself. We would like to thank Mr Malkowski and Mr Brown for organising such an interesting visit.

* "What do you wear underneath your skirt?"

A. L.

The Photography Club

After tea every Tuesday, a group of photography enthusiasts make their destination the science laboratory. Here the Photography Club meets for an hour, under the supervision of Captain Lees.

The club was founded last year, and at present comprises 19 members, half of whom are former associates. Though we have the essential photographic equipment any "luxuries" are provided by the members.

Every week a lecture is given by a member on anything connected with photography. After this, or if there is no talk, the "novices" are

instructed in the art by Captain Lees and the "old hands" are left to a free choice, which is usually limited by whether Messrs Fraser or Watt wish to use the enlarger or not.

A minor industry, which is in its infancy, is developing and printing films for boys who never have the opportunity to perform the arduous assignment.

M. D. W.

Two Successful Old Boys

In 1957 two Q.V. school boys left this school. One, Peter Keenan, went to H.M.S. Ganges. The other Michael Slorance, went to an Air Force Apprentice School. Both have now become very successful in their careers. Here is part of a letter written by the Captain of H.M.S. Ganges:

"Peter Keenan joined H.M.S. Ganges as a Junior Engineering Mechanic in the Autumn of 1957, and soon made an impression in his Division. He was a very smart keen boy who quickly learned to take a pride in his uniform and in the Royal Navy and its traditions. He was soon promoted to Leading Junior, and later on to Petty Officer Junior. He was a keen athlete and played Rugger for H.M.S. Ganges, besides doing well at boxing and swimming. He was awarded his Divisional Colours. He was invariably at, or near, the top in all his technical and educational examinations, and before leaving the Training Establishment qualified for advancement up to the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

"On completion of his courses, Keenan was promoted to Junior Instructor, and for the next four months he was employed training new entries. Only the very best are selected for these important duties, and Keenan earned great credit by the way in which he performed them.

"Keenan was drafted to H.M.S. Raleigh in February of this year, for further specialist training in Engineering, and he is now at sea in the Fleet. There is little doubt that if this boy's present progress continues, he will enjoy a successful and rewarding career in the Royal Navy."

The following article about Slorance is reprinted by kind permission of the "Stirling Sentinel":—

"An interesting presentation was made at the Q.V. school on Wednesday afternoon. The Air Ministry had donated to the school an inscribed book, "Jane's World Aircraft," in recognition of former Q.V. school boy Boy Entrant Michael Arthur Slorance having passed out as best instrument mechanic and first in education of No. 32 Entry at R.A.F. Technical Training School, St. Athan, Glamorgan, Wales.

"The presentation was carried out on Wednesday by Group Captain E. G. L. Millington, C.B.E., D.F.C., Station Commander, R.A.F., Leuchars, Fife. Present were Aircraftman Slorance; the Commandant of the school, Brigadier A. M. Finlaison, C.B.E., D.S.O.; the headmaster, Lt.-Col. A. L. Fowler, M.C., M.A., R.A.E.C., and senior boys who were at the school with Aircraftman Slorance.

"Aircraftman Slorance's father is also in the R.A.F., joining in 1929, and now being a senior technician at Leuchars.

"Aircraftman Slorance was at the Queen Victoria School from 1952 until 1957."

Aviemore Camp

Once again the bus drew up by the now familiar Bailey Bridge, and we all poured out of the bus and viewed the wonderful scenery around us. To our surprise we found that the engineers had been to work and instead of a small path there was a rough dusty road before us, which was very helpful when it came to taking the provisions up to the hut.

Several boys tried to beat the school walking record by using all sorts of methods. The average distance set up by the boys was about 100 miles.

The weather was rather unsettled for most of the time but once or twice there were a few days when the weather was perfect for mountain climbing. Though once when a party went up Cairn Gorm they experienced some of the worst weather possible; rain, high winds and visibility reduced to about 12 yards.

One of the most exciting journeys we had was when a party went down the Teith Bhuide to Loch Avon and the Sheltering Stone, where there are provisions for travellers who are forced to stay there for the night.

There is also standing the famous "Old Grey Man," an old tree which some years ago was struck by lightning and was deformed into the shape of an old man with his arms outstretched. When we returned to the Bailey Bridge to go back to school many photographs were taken of the tree and many initials were carved in remembrance of the camp.

R. J. L.

A.C.F. Camp, Oban

This year 42 cadets, accompanied by four officers and two S.M.I.s spent a most enjoyable two weeks at Oban, billeted in the local T.A. Drill Hall.

For all exercises the cadets were divided into two parties, "A" and "B," each under the supervision of two officers. On Saturday, 11th July, the exercises began with one in which party "B," sub-divided into groups of 4, tried to get back to camp unobserved from various points around Oban. Only three of the six groups were successful.

On Sunday the 12th, all cadets went to a church service in the Old Parish Church of Oban. In the afternoon Party "A" completed the above parachutist exercise with a deal more success than Party "B," five out of six parties returning successfully.

On Monday, for Party "A" came the most important part of their training. In the morning they were ferried across the Firth of Lorne to the Island of Kerrera. For three days they were kept on the move, to every part of the island, only returning to base camp for meals. On the second day, Tuesday, Party "B" toured the island in a launch and kept up wireless contact with Party "A." After Party "A" returned from Kerrera on Wednesday, footsore but happy, Party "B" went to the island for their exercises and returned to the mainland on Friday. On the days when one party was on the island, the

party left at camp was kept occupied with various lighter exercises.

The second week was taken up with many different kinds of training exercises, and a few visits to the shooting range. On the range all cadets fired rifles, Bren guns and Sten guns, and on returning to camp ensured that the weapons were well cleaned and oiled—a most gruesome job.

Do not believe that the time was all taken up by manoeuvres. All cadets, except those in the cookhouse and on defaulters, were granted leave from after tea till ten o'clock every evening, and on various afternoons. In fact, the only days when leave was not granted to cadets was when they were on the island of Kerrera.

Finally, on the morning of 24th July, camp was smoothly broken up under the guidance of the six instructors, and everyone was ready to depart by 8.30 a.m.

Now I close by wishing, on behalf of all cadets, to Commanding Officer Captain Stewart and the other three officers, Captains Reid, Ross and Jamieson, who worked so hard to make the camp a success, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. However, I must not forget a great big thanks to S.M.I. Lowden and S.M.I. Mortimer for dishing up such good meals to feed all the hungry stomachs, and to them also I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

J. R.

Other Boarders at Q.V.

To the public, Queen Victoria School appears to be only a boarding school for boys. To many of the boys in the school, however, it is known to be also a boarding establishment for lost or unwanted animals.

Two years ago a stray dog made its way into our grounds. Liking the meat, milk and other scraps salvaged by the boys, it decided to stay. Each night the dog stole up to its "owners'" dormitories at a late hour and went round the dormitories for an inspection. Then the boys went on holiday. On their return they found the dog had gone.

Many boys, more particularly the small ones, are attracted to white mice. Two were given a home not very long ago in a cage, lined with straw and grass, in a dormitory. The owners fed the mice with milk, cheese and bread, and each night allowed a crowd to watch these peculiar animals. The mice had a marvellous time—until a matron found out.

Birds are the most common pets. They are also the creatures most commonly "boarded" here. Budgerigars cannot be kept here, but crows can until they are old enough to fly. On the balcony outside a dormitory (and a master's window) two young crows, found left by their parents, were kept in a box lined with grass and straw. Thinking the noise of these birds would cause the master to suspect, the boys moved them to another place where they stayed until they could fly. Two kestrels shared the same experience a year ago.

Though a pigeon has just left us, no livestock, to my knowledge at the time of writing, shares our quarters.

R. N. ROY.

School Prize List

The following prizes were presented at the ceremony in the School Play Hall on Grand Day, 1959, by Mr W. F. Arbuckle, C.B., Secretary of the Scottish Education Department:—

CLASS AND SUBJECT PRIZES

Primary School

P.7a—1 (equal)—A. Kay and E. Thomson.
P.7b—1, I. Cockburn; 2, J. McDonald.
P.6a—1, A. Warwood; 2, D. Marshall.
P.6b—1, D. Scott; 2, I. Lord.
Primary Art Prize—A. Murtagh.

Secondary School

Ia—1, W. Aitken; 2, R. Smith.
Ib—1, C. Robson; 2, S. Marshall.
IIa—1, M. Nixon; 2, P. Finlay.
IIb—1, G. McGrory; 2, J. Laughlan.
IIIa—1, N. Burrows; 2, J. Kay.
IIIb—1, D. McArthur; 2, L. Kill.
IV—1 (equal)—J. Ross and G. Thomson.
V—1, D. A. M. MacLennan.
VI—A. Bethune; A. Hamilton (Maths and Science); A. A. Blackie (Art).
Intermediate Art—M. Watt.
Woodwork—G. G. Ferrier and S. Marshall.
Metalwork—G. Strachan and M. McLean.
Technical Drawing—A. Whyte.
Cranston Memorial Essay Prize—J. Finlay.
Eric Drew Memorial French Prize — A. Bethune, A. McGill, G. Matthews.
Addison Smith Memorial Prizes for Public Speaking—1, A. Blackie; 2, D. Aitchison; 3, J. Wilkie.
Dux Medal—A. Bethune.

The following prizes were presented at the Grand Day Parade by General Sir George Collingwood, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Scottish Command:—

Prince Philip Medal for best boy of age 15—G. Thomson. Wavell Memorial Cup for best boy in Outdoor Pursuits—A. A. Blackie. Best Bugler—J. McDonald. Best Drummer—R. Masterson. Best Drummer and Bugler (combined)—R. Maxwell. Best Piper—G. G. Ferrier. Best Highland Dancer—J. Watters.
Best Shot—R. Masterson. The First Hundred Trophy for best A.C.F. Platoon—Cunningham House. Wavell (Junior) House Dormitory Cup—Moore Dormitory. Senior House Championship Shield—Trenchard House.

General Certificates of Education

The following boys were successful in the G.C.E. examination:—

E. Bruce, N. Burrows, R. C. Chessar, G. G. Ferrier, J. Finlay, C. Geary, H. Johnston, J. Kay, G. R. Leaman, A. Leitch, A. McGill, N. Masterson, A. Milne, J. Rennie, J. Ross, R. Roy, G. Thomson, M. Watt, J. Wilkie.

Acknowledgments

We should like to thank the Headmaster's secretary, Miss Thompson, and Mr Hughes, without whose help the publication of this issue of the "Victorian" would not have been possible. Both have generously devoted much of their own time towards the typing and managing of this magazine.

On behalf of all the readers we wish them a very Merry Christmas, a Guid New Year, and "Lang may their lums reek." A. M. J. K. T. G.

A November Day

It is a cold, cheerless day in the middle of November. The wind from the South is blowing hard and the dead leaves are being blown hither and thither. The moors are cold and drab, no longer warm and resounding to the joys of the birds as in summer. The cold wind howls and the bare trees moan about their lost, warm covering. The rocky cliffs look steep and black as the mist enshrouds them. The houses are outlined, like fantastic monsters in all shapes and sizes, looming over you as you shelter under their dim eaves. People, with their numb fingers stuffed in their pockets, materialise out of the gloom and pass away again like spectres. The lamp standards with their dim haloes look like huge candles in a dimly-lit church. The winter is coming, bringing with it a cold white robe for Mother Earth, and the south-west wind to numb our fingers for us. The wind blows the branches and dead leaves into our faces. The beauty has all gone and the flowers are now bedraggled and waiting to be taken from their plight and burned. After your cold numbing walk, you hurry home to your bright fire of logs, a pair of snug bedroom slippers and your pipe. As you look through the window before going in, you think: "Ah, what a contrast to this cold biting wind." The sitting-room looks rosy and inviting as you fumble with the key. You go inside and sit down, the horrors of the mist behind you.

A. I. WARWOOD.

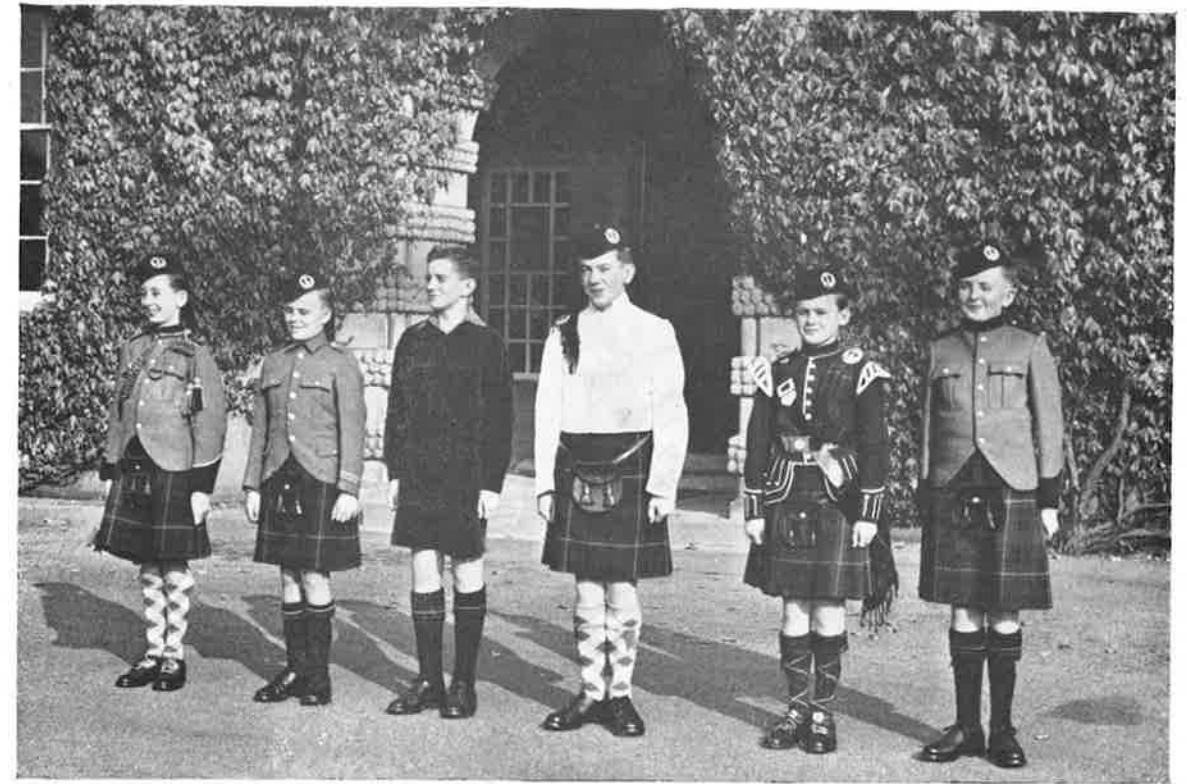
A Visit to a French Family

This summer I was one of the sagacious boys who made the trip to Paris with Mr Malkowski and Mr Brown.

While on vacation I visited the highlights of the city by day and frequented the cafes by night. The most enjoyable day for me was the day before our departure from Paris. On that day Paris was at our feet. A friend and I had already resolved to visit my pen-pal, who lives on the outskirts of the city, in Bois-Colombes. On arriving, we were greeted by a cheery French woman who came rushing out of a hair-stylist's to announce herself as my pen-pal's mother. After she had directed us to her house, my friend and I met my pen-pal, Robert. The morning was devoted to conversation, which was in both French and English. At 1 o'clock lunch was served, and I shall remember it for many a long day. I have never had such a large repast set before me in my life. After various courses, accompanied by wines, Madame Castallengo brought to the table a roast chicken. As soon as we had finished this course, we found that half of the meal was still to follow. In the afternoon I explored Bois-Colombes with Robert and frequently used my camera. All too soon it was time for us to return to our lodgings on the opposite side of Paris.

Needless to say, I hope to re-visit Paris next year.

A. MCGILL.



Left to right—1 Drummer, 2 Walking out dress, 3 School dress, 4 Dancer, 5 Piper, 6 No. 1 dress



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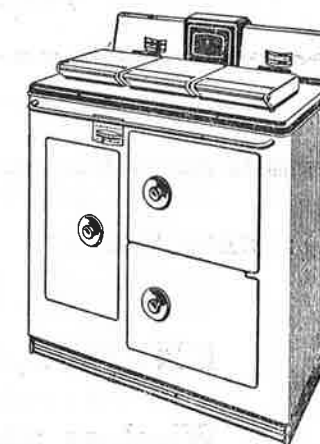
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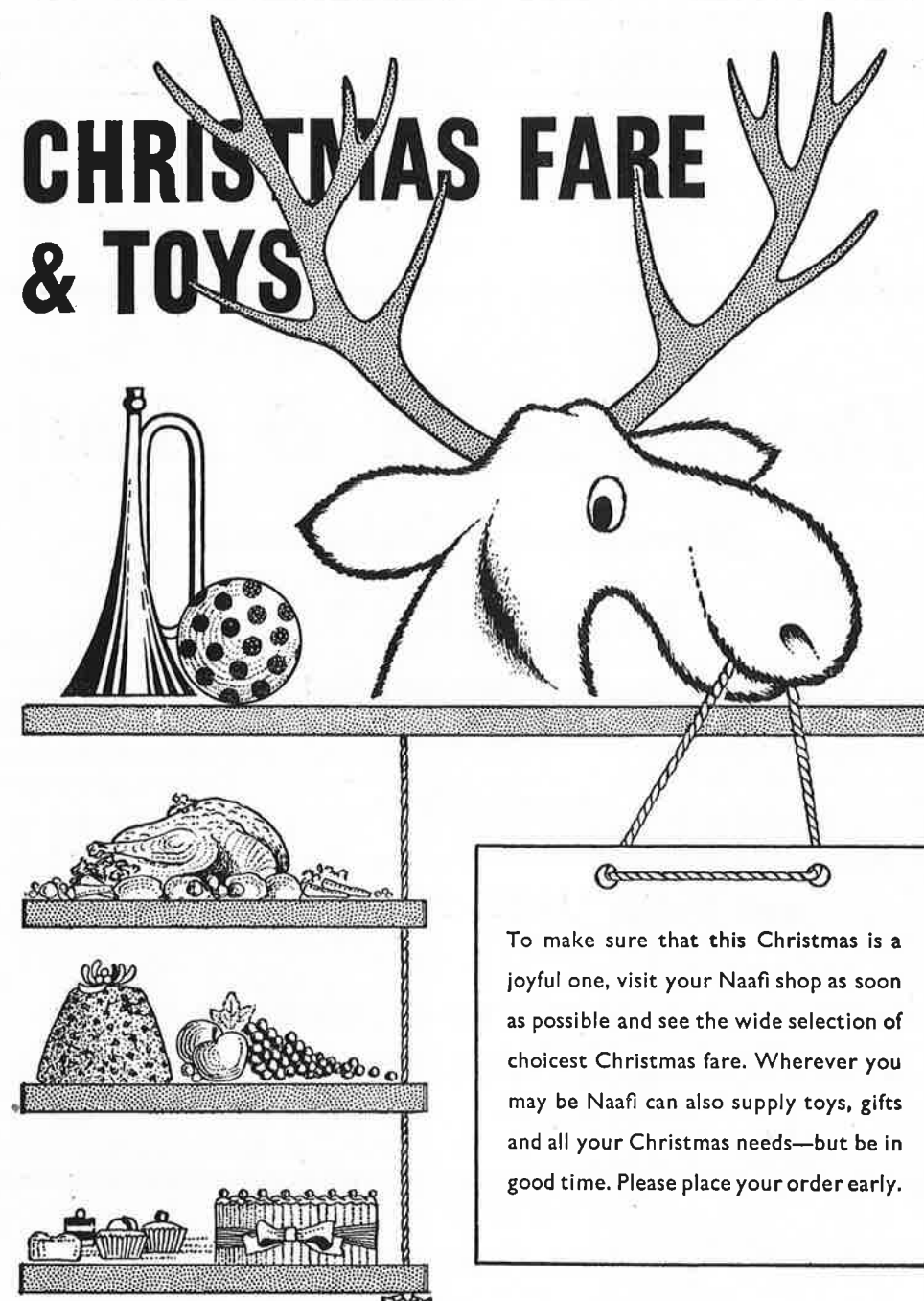
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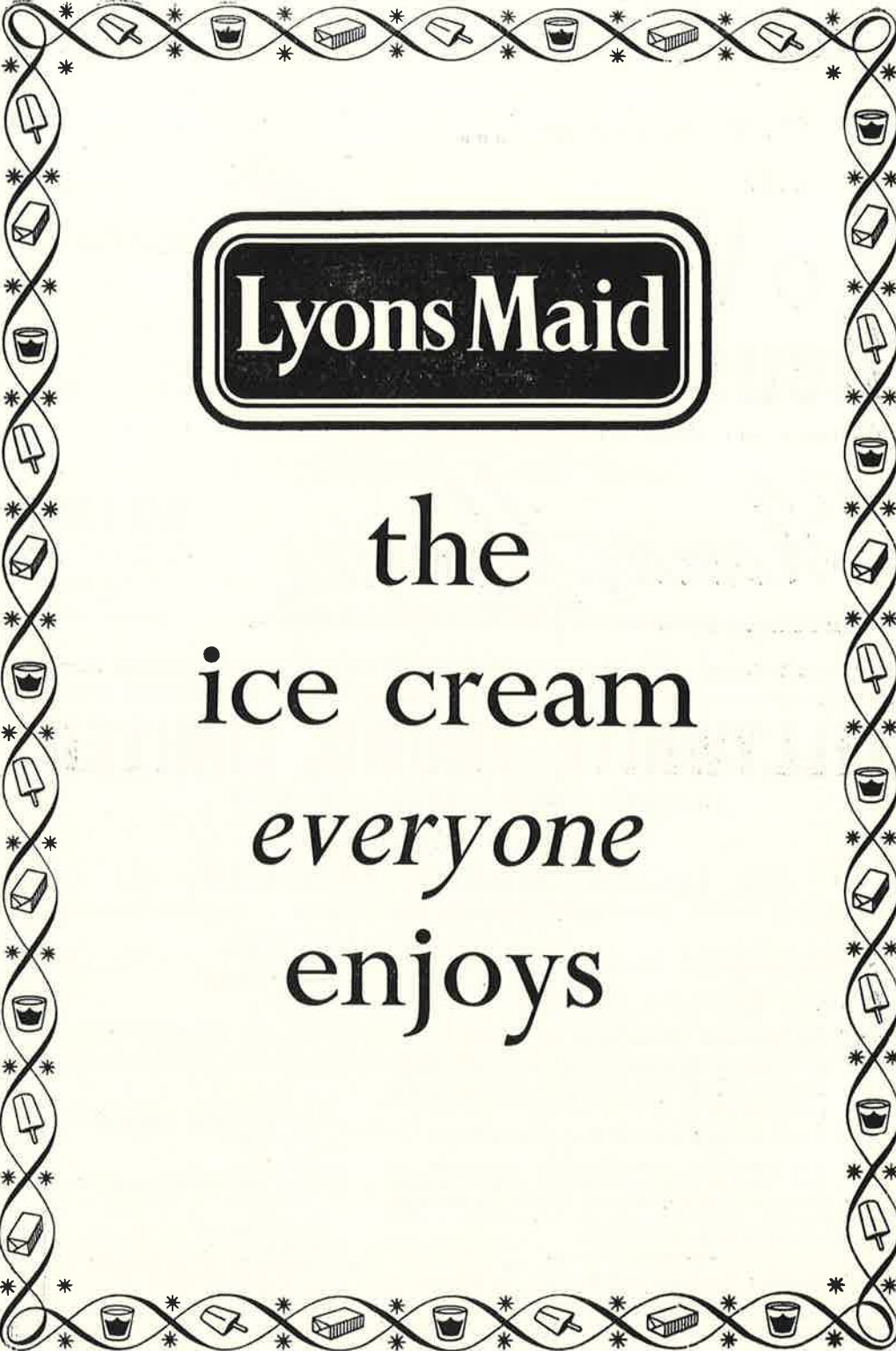
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