



THE JOURNAL OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

Editor—Monitor N. Burrows, assisted by Form VI

No. 66

DECEMBER, 1961

EDITORIAL

In this new School year we have seen a number of staff changes. The departures and arrivals are recorded elsewhere in this issue, or were given in our last number. It will be seen from the headings of our House notes that there have also been changes among the Housemasters. Mr Stewart's departure at half-term caused a re-shuffling of the staff for the latter half of the term, since Mr Robertson, who is to replace him, does not join us till January. We are very grateful to Mrs I. M. Fraser of the Scottish Churches House, Dunblane, who helped us through this period by teaching in the Primary School, thus releasing Mr Bruce to take some Secondary Maths. Mrs Fraser used to teach in Rosyth, and had retired from teaching before coming to Dunblane; but she very kindly came to our aid.

To go a little further back than this term, we must mention the summer holiday activities. Besides the three camps of which we give accounts, at Aviemore, Kirkcudbright, and Loch Rannoch there was again a School trip to Paris for ten days, when twenty boys stayed at the Institut Montaigne, at which we are already well known. Judging by the reports brought back about these ventures, we expect that even more boys will be participating in future. On behalf of all the boys who went this year, we must thank the members of staff who organised these trips.

The much-discussed and long-awaited new building programme seems to be getting nearer. There are no material signs as yet, but the contractors are expected to start work before long. We shall be glad to see the project under way, for it will undoubtedly bring great benefits to the boys of the School; better-lighted class-rooms, more space for recreation, and new amenities, as well as a greater measure of independence for the Primary House.

This year, despite the introduction of Saturday morning lessons, the boys have more free time than before, and many hobbies to occupy their leisure. We give an account of these elsewhere. At this stage, we are not publishing an account of the new School routine. We shall write something about it in the summer issue, when it has been going for the best part of the year. This is the issue which is distributed to Old Boy subscribers, and we expect that the changes in routine will be of some interest to them. It is worth noting that the Sunday night film-shows are now being run with the help of the Fourth Form boys, and not entirely by the staff as before. Also, the films shown have been more appreciated by the boy audience. Considering the differences in the boys' ages, it has been a great feat of selection to keep all of us interested. Nowhere can there be a more critical audience.

Finally, we must say that there is still a disappointingly poor response to editorial appeals for contributions to the "Victorian." We have a few articles from boys, but not nearly enough. Interesting articles, particularly about School affairs, will be welcomed by the Editor, even if they are not of great literary merit. Minor errors can always be corrected. This time one or two acceptable articles sent in by boys have been held over. The reason is that they deal with subjects which should interest old boys and can more appropriately be published in summer. In general our policy has been to put into this issue those articles which are about the past and so may be fresh to many of the boy readers, and to keep for the summer articles about the present life of the School—other than routine reports and records—which will be fresh to the Old Boy readers.

**ADMIRAL SIR COLIN CANTLIE,
K.B.E., C.B., D.S.C.**

Admiral Sir Colin Cantlie has decided to resign as one of Her Majesty's Commissioners for this School, because advancing years and ill-health compel him to spend the winters in the South of England and he is therefore no longer able to be a regular attendee at the meetings of the Board.

Admiral Cantlie was appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty in 1946 to be their representative on the Board. He has served in that capacity for fifteen years and was on his retirement the senior Commissioner in point of service. The School owes him a considerable debt of gratitude for the careful attention which he has given to our affairs over so long a period. He has been replaced as the representative of the Admiralty by Rear Admiral J. H. F. Crombie, C.B., D.S.O., who lives at Braco and is a frequent visitor to the School. Admiral Crombie has already been a Commissioner for several years.

Mr J. STEWART

We are all extremely sorry that Mr Stewart has left the staff but at the same time all of us congratulate him heartily on his promotion. He left the School on the 15th October to become Headmaster of Nethy Bridge School.

Mr Stewart came to the School in 1955 as Principal Teacher of Mathematics. He was appointed Second Master in 1956. Many former pupils have good reason to thank him for the excellent teaching he has given them during this time and indeed for the excellent results which he and they between them achieved in the Scottish Leaving Certificate. It is, I think, worth listing these results to show the progress achieved.

In 1956 there were 2 passes at Higher and 2 at Lower Grade.

In 1957 there were 3 passes at Higher and 3 at Lower Grade.

In 1958 there were 4 passes at Higher and 5 at Lower Grade.

In 1959 there were 3 passes at Higher and 5 at Lower Grade.

In 1960 there were 4 passes at Higher and 2 at Lower grade.

In 1961 there were 8 passes at Higher and 5 at Lower Grade.

In addition to these there were 2 passes in Dynamics in 1959 and 2 in 1961. Incidentally the figures for the last three years represent 100% successes. Many boys also obtained passes in the General Certificate of Education and in the Junior Secondary Certificate. Certainly Mr Stewart made the boys work!

It has not, however, been in the class-room only that Mr Stewart has been such a good influence in the School. As Second Master he "held the fort" after Major Cowley's tragic death. He took over

Haig House for three years and under him the House flourished. He commanded the A.C.F. contingent very successfully and was also responsible for a large part of the boxing training. For three years he was Careers Master. Few could have carried so many responsibilities in the School and yet at the same time been so unflurried and dependable. I personally shall miss his wise counsel, and the School has lost one of its most hard-working members.

We wish him every success in his new appointment and hope that he will visit us from time to time.

A.L.F.

Mr W. ORR

Mr W. Orr, B.Sc., joined the teaching staff at the end of September, replacing Mr J. C. Ross as Senior Science Master.

Mr Orr was educated at Wishaw High School. On leaving school in 1939, he joined the Meteorological Office, and spent the years 1942 to 1944 in West Africa. When the Met. Office was mobilised, Mr Orr was commissioned in the Royal Air Force, and he remained in uniform till 1946.

In 1948 he entered Glasgow University, from which he graduated with the degree of B.Sc. in pure Science in 1951. After a year at Jordanhill Teachers' Training College, he took up his first appointment as a teacher at Airdrie High School. In 1953 he moved to Coatbridge High School as a Special Assistant Teacher of Science, and remained there till taking up his appointment at Queen Victoria School.

Mr Orr is married and has two children. All seem to have settled here happily. Even their dog has found plenty of friends. To Mr and Mrs Orr and their family we extend a very warm welcome, and we hope that their stay here will be long and happy.

**CHANGE OF ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHAPLAIN**

Not only Roman Catholics, but many others associated with the School in recent years will feel sorry that the Reverend A. Kelly has moved from Dunblane and relinquished his appointment as our officiating Roman Catholic Chaplain. Father Kelly has gone to another post at St. Serf's, High Valleyfield, Newmills, Fife. In him we have lost a staunch friend and sympathiser, who has done excellent work as our chaplain for the past five years.

In his place, we cordially welcome the Reverend F. J. McDermott. Father McDermott has come to Dunblane from St. Patrick's Church, Dundee. He has previously served in our neighbourhood, in Alloa and at St. John's Church, Perth, and was for some time at Dundee Cathedral. He has already established himself in the esteem of his charges, and we wish him a happy and rewarding period in Dunblane and at Queen Victoria School.

Mr A. H. ROBERTSON

We welcome, in advance, Mr A. H. Robertson, who joins Queen Victoria School next term as Senior Mathematics Master. Mr Robertson has had a distinguished career. He was educated at Hillhead High School where he was Dux Medallist in Science and Vice-Captain of the school, as well as being Captain of Rugby and Tennis and a member of the school Swimming team. At Glasgow University, he graduated as M.A. with honours and B.Sc., and was a member of the University Rugby Team. He also played Rugby and Tennis for the Hillhead F.P. first teams.

He then returned to his old school as a teacher of Mathematics, and stayed there till 1945, with an interval of three years in which he was Principal Teacher of Mathematics at Cally House School. In 1945 he was appointed Principal Teacher of Mathematics at Kelvinside Academy, and in 1950 he became Headmaster of Keil School, Dumbarton, a post which he has now relinquished to come to Queen Victoria School.

As his record shows Mr Robertson is a keen sportsman. He has also played a leading part in the activities of the Boys' Brigade, serving as an Officer in the 1st Glasgow Company, and then as a member of the National Executive of the Brigade.

We hope that he will spend many happy years at our School, and we welcome him most sincerely to the staff.

DONALD SCOBIE

His many friends in the School and among the younger generation of Old Victorians have been deeply grieved by the sad news that Donald Scobie died on November 20th after a short illness. By his untimely death we have lost one of the most active and cheerful personalities among recent Old Boys. He maintained a strong interest in the School and was a frequent visitor. As lately as October 14th, he played in the Old Boys' Rugby team against the School XV.

Donald was employed with Bruce Peebles (Engineers) and would have finished his apprenticeship there in June of next year. Not only has a career full of promise been cut off, but we have lost a great sportsman, an enthusiastic games-player and one distinguished by his friendly and helpful ways. He is sadly missed. To his parents and relatives we offer the deep sympathy of all in the School.

SALVETE

We welcome the following boys as recruits to the School :—

- 2934 Aitkenhead, Alexander William (Haig)—R.A.S.C.
- 2935 Anderson, Malcolm MacKenzie — (Wavell) Scots Guards.
- 2936 Burns, Neil Joseph (Wavell)—Black Watch.
- 2937 Byres, Neil David (Wavell)—R.A.
- 2939 Corrigan, James Andrew (Wavell)—R.E.
- 2940 Craggs, Philip David (Wavell)—Cameronians.
- 2941 Crombie, David Clark Alexander (Wavell)—Scots Guards.
- 2942 Cuthbert, Murray Stuart (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2943 Docherty, Paul Francis (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2944 Dunlop, Ian Hunter (Wavell)—R.H.F.
- 2945 Dunlop, John William Russell (Trenchard)—R.H.F.
- 2946 Evans, Paul Anthony Dennis (Trenchard)—Black Watch.
- 2947 Flynn James (Haig)—R.C. of S.
- 2948 Gault, Robert (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2949 Gibson, Paul Andrew (Cunningham)—R.E.
- 2950 Graham, Ian (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2951 Greig, Alastair John (Wavell)—Royal Scots.
- 2952 Hartley, Steven (Wavell)—Scots Guards.
- 2953 Hill, Gordon Frederick (Wavell)—R.E.
- 2954 Hill, William (Wavell)—Q.O.C.H.
- 2955 Johnston, David Michie (Wavell)—R.A.S.C.
- 2956 Johnstone, Graham Bernard (Wavell) — Q.O.C.H.
- 2957 Kennedy, David (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
- 2958 Langlands, Duncan (Wavell)—Scots Guards.
- 2959 Lannen, Colin Alan (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2960 Long, Michael Thomas (Wavell) — Cameronians.
- 2961 McKean, Alan Douglas (Wavell) — Royal Scots.
- 2963 McNaughton, Michael Norman (Wavell) — R.C. of S.
- 2964 Matheson, Roderick (Wavell)—R.A.
- 2965 Morrice, Robert Murray (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2966 Morrison, Alexander Charles (Wavell) — R.A.F.
- 2967 Neill, George Alexander (Wavell)—R.A.C.
- 2968 Nelson, William Gordon (Wavell) — Cameronians.
- 2969 Newman Robert Henry (Trenchard)—R.A.
- 2970 Nicol, Brian McLeary (Wavell)—Royal Navy.
- 2971 Parker, David William, (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2972 Robinson, Christopher John (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2973 Roe, Ian Hugh Cunningham (Wavell)—Scots Guards.
- 2974 Sample, David Louis (Wavell)—K.O.S.B.
- 2975 Scoggins, Michael Grant (Haig)—R.A.F.
- 2976 Scott, Gordon John (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
- 2977 Shields, William Francis (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2978 Sneddon, Ian Douglas (Wavell) — Cameronians.
- 2980 Stainthorpe, David (Wavell)—K.O.S.B.
- 2979 Willmott, John Reginald (Wavell)—R.M.P.

VALETE

M. R. NIXON—Joined 1955. Form V Cunningham House. Prefect in Wavell House, 1961. Band, piper. General Certificate of Education, 0 level; English Language, 1960, French, History, Mathematics, 1961. 1st XV, 1961. Colours for cross-country running. School athletics team. Certificate A, Parts I and 2. Entering Welbeck College. Home address: 34 Dreghorn Gardens, Colinton, Edinburgh, 13.

P. W. ROY—Joined 1956. Form IV (Upper). Cunningham House. Band, piper. 1st XV, 1961. Colours and forward-leader. 2nd XI (Captain), 1961. General Certificate of Education, 0 level, English Language, 1961. Certificate A, Parts 1 and 2. Employment not yet decided. Home address: 42 Elliott Crescent, Bedford.

C. B. HERON—Joined 1956. Form IV (S). Cunningham House. 2nd XV, 1961. Certificate A, Part 1. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 1st series. County Junior Leaving Certificate. To be apprentice motor mechanic in Edinburgh. Home address: Gogarbank House, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, 12.

D. P. JOHNSTONE—Joined 1956. Form IV (S).

Cunningham House. 2nd XV, 1961. 2nd XI, 1961. Certificate A, Part 1. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 1st series. County Junior Leaving Certificate. Awaiting result of interview for Army Apprentice School entry as Draughtsman.

I. L. SAVILL—Joined 1956. Form IV (S). Trenchard House. 2nd XV, 1961. 2nd XI, 1961. Certificate A, Part 1. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 1st series. County Junior Leaving Certificate. Awaiting result of interview for Army Apprentice School entry as Vehicle Mechanic. Home address: 23 Crays View, Billericay, Essex.

R. D. TAIT—Joined 1957. Form IV (S). Cunningham House. 2nd XV, 1961. 2nd XI, 1961. Certificate A, Part 1. Emigrating to Nigeria. Home address at present: 31 Golf Course Road, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian.

W. ANDERSON—Joined 1958. Form 3B. Haig House. 2nd XV, 1961. Certificate A, Part 1. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 1st series. Joining Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry (for Scots Guards). Home address: Stanley House, Bird's Mill, Broxburn, West Lothian.

GRAND DAY, 1961

For the second year running, the weather was unkind to us on Grand Day. However, things turned out better than the heavy morning rain led us to expect, and the main ceremonies of the afternoon were carried out as usual. Presenting his annual report at the prize-giving in the Play Hall, the Headmaster said that he was conscious of a temptation for one closely connected with a small school like ours to become too lyrical in any account of its achievements.

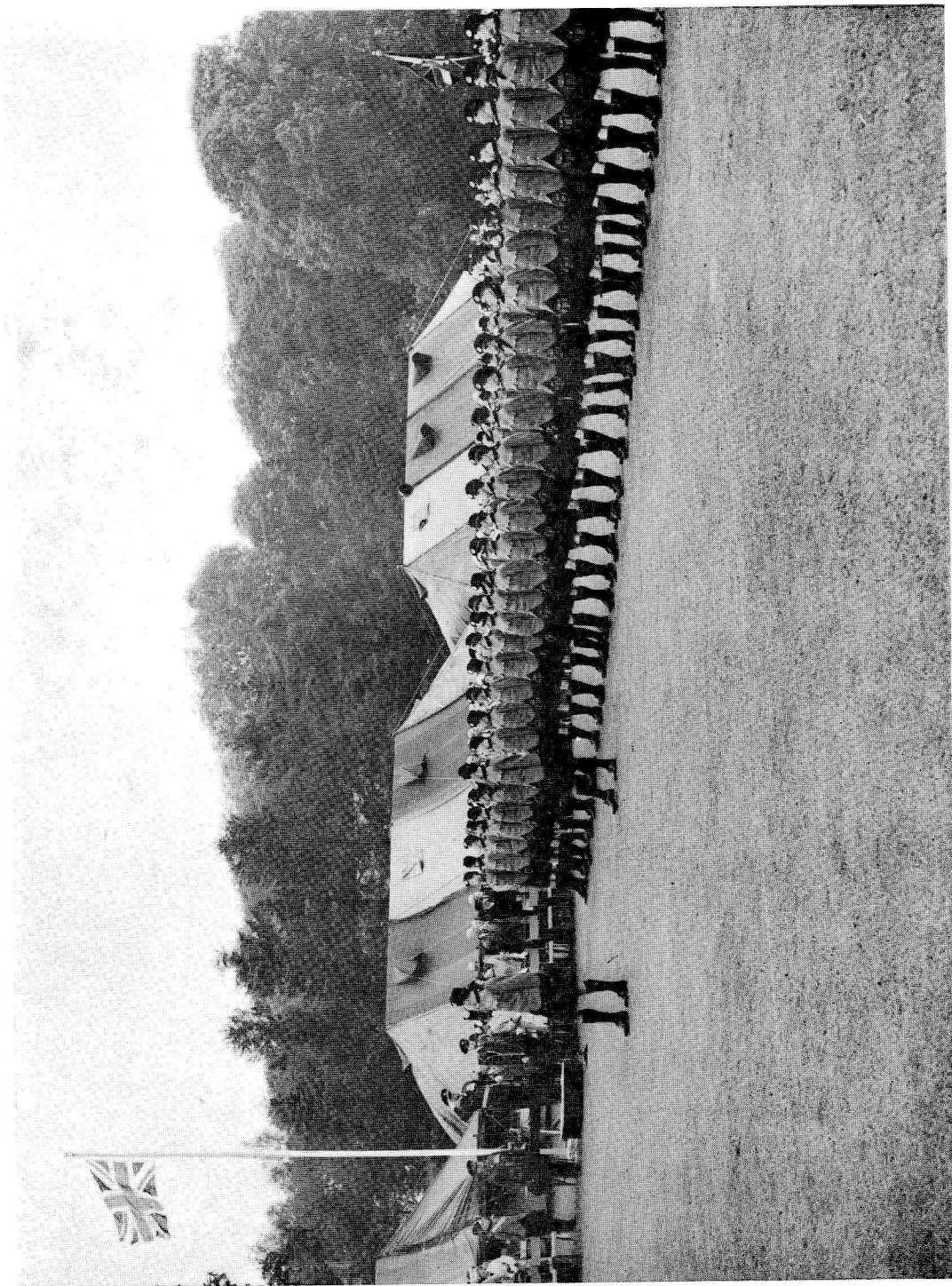
The smallness of the School was both our strength and our weakness: strength because with small classes there could be much more individual attention to the pupils and because every boy had a good chance of shining at something and representing the School in some capacity; weakness, because we had too great a spread of attainment in our classes and could not afford to group boys by ability within a course, and because there was necessarily a lack of competition. Brighter boys might be too easily satisfied with their class places, and with few older boys available, it was too easy to become a prefect. Dealing with the record of the School year, he first referred to the considerable progress and success in School games, and pursuits outside the class-room. One particularly pleasing achievement was the breaking of five relay records out of six in the inter-House Athletic Sports. This showed good team work and had been earned by hard practice in the weeks before the sports day. Scottish Leaving Certificate results (already

reported in our last "Victorian") had been the best ever. Six boys had obtained "groups" in the 5th Year; and so the following term we should have a small but qualified sixth form to concentrate on pre-university work. Of the boys leaving in July, just over 50 per cent were entering the services. We must all be pleased by these developments. In conclusion the Headmaster paid tribute to the three members of the teaching staff who were leaving: Major Hitchman, Mr Ross, and Captain Turner.

Before presenting the prizes, Mr G. I. Stewart, one of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the School, made a brief address to the boys. He reminded them of the importance of the lessons learned and traditions absorbed in Queen Victoria School. He was sure that in future life when they had difficult decisions of their own to make, they would do well to remember how such problems had been handled at School, and treat them in the same way.

At the parade on the playing-field, the Inspecting Officer was Air Vice-Marshal R. B. Thomson, C.B., D.S.O., D.F.C., Air Officer, Scotland. The traditional drill movements were executed with the usual steadiness and precision. Addressing the boys, Air Vice-Marshal Thomson complimented them on their bearing. He had inspected many parades, and found he could form a general impression as soon as he arrived on the parade-ground. Here he had at once received an impression of good discipline and good

GRAND DAY. 1961



spirit. Turn-out was very good, though he could still distinguish those boys who had given their shoes the extra touch just before the parade. He then spoke about education. Having previously had to present prizes at a school, he had consulted various works of reference, to find a definition of education. What he found was that there was no mention in any of these of examinations, or of the passing of examinations as a measure of education. He found instead that education was associated with the development of qualities of character, such as industry and moral courage.

Mrs R. B. Thomson, wife of the Inspecting Officer presented medals and trophies to the winning individuals or House and Dormitory representatives, with a word or two for each of the winners, and received the traditional bouquet, handed to her by J. I. McCorkle of Wavell House.

During and after the tea interval the displays of Highland Dancing and of Gymnastics were presented as effectively as always, and many visitors went to examine the show of work in Art and Crafts done by the boys during the School year.

Then began the final ceremony of beating the retreat. Unfortunately, before it could be completed, the rain which had threatened us all afternoon began to come down in earnest; and to save the performers and their equipment from a drenching, the authorities decided to curtail the ceremony. Grand Day ended in rain. But, on the whole, we can count it lucky that the few dry hours of the day coincided so nearly with our programme.

PRIZE LIST 1961

Prizes presented in the Playhall

Class Prizes

PRIMARY 6A—1 J. Lee, 2 J. Wood.
6B—1 C. Robertson, 2 D. Issitt.
7A—1 D. Jagger, 2 M. Hewgill.
Progress Prize—A. Morrice.
7B—1 B. McLaughlin, 2 J. Tait.

FORM IA—1 K. Smith, 2 A. Warwood.
IB—1 S. Robertson, 2 W. Stewart.
IIA—1 D. Maxwell, 2 A. Kay.
IIB—1 T. McLaughlin, 2 J. McKenzie,
3 R. Miller.
IIIA Upper—1 R. Smith, 2 P. Roy.
IIIA Lower—1 M. Armstrong.
IIIB—1 C. Robson, 2 T. Wilson,
IV—1 P. Finlay.
V—1 J. Kay, 2 A. McGill.

Subject Prizes

ART—Senior—T. Gavigan.
Intermediate—D. Watson.
Primary—M. Hewgill.

Technical Subjects

Woodwork and Metalwork—T. McLaughlin.
Woodwork—S. Donaldson.
Metalwork—A. Murtagh.
Technical Drawing—I. Gray.

Special Prizes

Addison Smith Prize for Public Speaking—
1 R. N. Roy, 2 N. Burrows, 3 J. Watters.
Sir Robert Cranston Memorial Essay Prize—
J. Kay.
Eric Drew Memorial French Prize—Junior—
D. I. Marshall.
Headmaster's Prize for the best Reader in Chapel—
P. Finlay.
Dux Medal and Prize—J. A. Ross.
Perth and Kinross Junior Leaving Certificate (fifteen-year-old leavers)—
M. Arnett, H. MacRae, P. Barbour, R. McKenzie, J. Bell, A. Fallone, C. Hamilton, I. McConnell, J. A. McDonald, M. MacLean, S. Marshall, T. O'Connor, C. Robson, G. Ross, A. Sinclair, C. Stewart.

Prizes Presented at Grand Day Parade

Prince Philip Medal—G. Matthews.
Best Piper—R. N. Roy.
Best Drummer and Bugler—J. McDonald.
Best Bugler (Silver Bugle)—R. Maxwell.
Best Drummer (London Old, Victorians' Trophy)—
W. Aitken.
Best Highland Dancer—J. R. Fraser.
Best Shot—J. R. Fraser.
Wavell Memorial Cup (for best boy in outdoor pursuits)—J. A. Ross.
British Legion Jubilee Prize (for best boy leaving to join the Services)—A. D. Leitch.
First Hundred Trophy (for best A.C.F. Section)—
Trenchard House.
Grant Cup, for Champion Dormitory of Wavell (Junior) House—Abercromby Dormitory.
House Championship Shield—Haig House.

G.C.E.

At the summer examination, 1961, for the General Certificate of Education of the Northern Universities (England) Joint Board, at the Ordinary Level, the following boys gained passes. Some of these boys had already obtained subject passes in 1960. Previous passes are shown in *italics*.

FORM 3A—W. A. R. Aitken, D. Keltie, J. A. McFadzen, P. W. Roy, R. I. Smith, D. J. Watson, J. Watters—All passed in English Language.

FORM 3B—I. McConnell—Technical Drawing.

FORM IV—P. R. C. Finlay—*English Language*, History, French, Mathematics. L. T. McGavin—*English Language*, French, Mathematics. M. R. Nixon—*English Language*, History, French, Mathematics.

REGIMENTAL PRIZES

The following awards were made for the session, 1960-61 :—

Seaforth Highlanders

Association Prize—C. C. Walker.

Association Club Prize—R. McKenzie.

Black Watch

Wauchope Prize—R. N. Roy.

Second Prize—I. Gray.

Gordon Highlanders

Whyte Prize—W. McFarquhar.

Royal Highland Fusiliers

G. Ross, M. Laughlan.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP 1960-61

We give below the results of the competition for last year's House Championship, which was not finished in time for our summer number. Details of points are given, to show how the championship is decided.

Awards

Swimming	Haig House
Boxing	Cunningham and Haig shared
Rugby	Haig
Shooting	Trenchard
Cross Country	Cunningham
Athletics	Cunningham
Cricket	Trenchard
Drill	Haig

House Championship—Haig House

Points	Cunningham	Haig	Trenchard
Swimming (9, 6, 3)	3	9	6
Boxing (9, 6, 3)	7½	7½	3
Rugby, Senior (6, 4, 2)	2	6	4
Rugby, Junior (3, 2, 1)	3	2	1
Shooting (9, 6, 3)	3	6	9
Cross Country, Senior (6, 4, 2)	6	4	2
Cross Country, Junior (3, 2, 1)	3	2	1
Rugby, 7-a-side Senior (3, 2, 1)	3	3	1
Rugby, 7-a-side Junior (1½, 1, ½)	1	1½	½
Squash (3, 2, 1)	3	2	1
Athletics (9, 6, 3)	9	6	3
Athletic Standards (9, 6, 3)	6	9	3
Cricket, Senior (6, 4, 2)	4	2	6
Cricket, Junior (3, 2, 1)	1	3	2
Drill (9, 6, 3)	6	9	3
Totals	59½	72	45½

OLD BOYS

We plan to provide news of old boys in the July issue of the "Victorian" as this is the one which Life Members of the Association receive. However, several old boys who have recently left School have written to us with news which we now pass on to our readers.

No. 23876196 A/T John Bell writes happily from the Army Apprentice School at Chepstow. He is playing with their Pipe Band, and at Chepstow with him are Kenneth Horne (now L/Cpl.), Andrew Dailly, Gerry Strachan, Roy Davis and one of the Johnstones, we are not sure which.

Roddy McKenzie is enjoying life at the R.A.M.C. Apprentice School. He writes that he hopes to take his Senior Certificate soon and go on to G.C.E. work. He is also a member of the School Drama Group.

Elsewhere in this issue, we print some news from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry, received from Major Hitchman. James Kilcullen has also written us a fairly long account, which we unfortunately cannot print in full. He has nothing but praise for the Battalion, but says it is quite tough for the first six weeks. He also talks of the exceptionally good food and good chances of eventual promotion.

Another letter we have received which pleases us very much is from young David Laughlan who, with his two brothers, is now at Greenbank Dairy Farm, Nr. Canberra, Australia. They are all very anxious to have letters from boys at the School. David says a car is essential in Australia as places are so far apart. He also says he has not so far seen a kangaroo.

We all saw several old boys at the Rugby Match reported elsewhere. Since then we have heard that George Thomson has passed his interview for the Executive Grade of the Civil Service. Certainly the first old boy to do so in recent years. Another old boy who has done well is Eddie Marshall who passed out fourth from Lawers Agricultural College, and is now farming near Glasgow.

Two, much older boys have written to us, Mr John R. S. Owens of the London Branch (father of Prefect Owens) and Mr Joe MacLeod of the Glasgow Branch. They have both recently been in hospital but fortunately are now fit again. They spoke in glowing terms of the visits they had from their fellow old boys and the kindnesses they received from them. This is very gratifying and it is hoped that this spirit of "sticking together," particularly in times of adversity, is typical of Old Victorians all over the world. Certainly such spirit was evident at the recently-held dinner dance of the Glasgow Branch of the Old Boys' Association, at which the Headmaster was a guest.

Since the above notes were written, we have news of Malcolm Arnett, who left School last term. He is now in the Radar and Electrical Wing of the R.A.F. Station at Locking, Somerset. Already he has had two flights of 40 minutes and an hour. If he does well, he has the chance of being selected to pay short visits to R.A.F. Stations abroad. John Hide is at Locking too.

THE INFANTRY JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION

We are glad to have the following account of the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion from Major Hitchman, who left us in July and is now on the staff of the Battalion.

"Last year the Battalion moved to Oswestry—for so long the home of the Gunners—from Plymouth, and the unit is expanding rapidly. An intake this year of more than 150 (the largest ever) has brought the number of Juniors to over 700, including about 100 Scots, and a further increase is planned next year. There are, after all, 54 line Regiments looking for a supply of prospective Senior N.C.O.'s and Warrant Officers.

Five boys from Q.V.S. are here at present—David Scully, John McColl, Michael McLeish, William Young and James Kilcullen. Thomas Melvin is coming here next term from Arborfield.

Scully has done very well. Apart from representing the Battalion at athletics (incidentally his time for the hundred yards in the Army championships was 10.7) and boxing, he is a Junior Sergeant and is to be promoted shortly to Junior C.S.M. There are only five of these among the 700. He writes: "It is a good life, and if you settle down you will get promotion quite soon here—and when you leave to join your Battalion if you are worth it. I am sure that if other boys from the School come down here, they will get on just as well as I have, if not better. I wish the School the best of luck in its Rugby matches."

The others have, in fact, settled down. W. Young is already in the Unit boxing team. He writes: "The camp is four miles from the Welsh border and a mile from Oswestry, where we have a Junior Leaders' Club. In the camp itself, we spend our time in weapon training, field craft, adventure training, drill, and physical training, but we always have Saturday and Sunday off. I think the food is very good, and altogether I like this kind of life. The Army is the best."

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to everyone at Q.V. We were all very pleased that the Commandant was able to visit us on November 16th."

THE SQUASH RACQUETS COURTS

The School has been very fortunate in that the Trust set up by Sir Hugh Fraser, Bt., the eminent Scottish industrialist has made a donation of £5,000 to our Commissioners' funds for the special purpose of paying for these two courts.

A plate is being put up in the courts to commemorate this magnificent gift. It is hoped that Sir Hugh Fraser may before long be able to find time to visit us to receive in person our thanks for what his Trust has done for the School on this occasion.

ARMY ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION, 1961

The Army Arts and Crafts Exhibition was held in London from the 7th to the 14th October, 1961. Once again Queen Victoria School did extremely well. T. Gavigan was awarded first prize for drawing and two second prizes, one for painting and another for pottery. A. Faulds won the first prize in the pottery section and M. McLean won second prize in the Woodwork and Carpentry section. The School once again won the Junior Units Shield. This is even more gratifying than usual for among our rivals were not only most of the Junior Units and Army Apprentice Schools, but also the Duke of York's School. The Shield is of course awarded for the general standard of exhibits and all boys who exhibited are heartily congratulated.

SOME EVENTS OF THE TERM

Several distinguished visitors have been to the School this term.

On 28th September Commander H. G. Julian, D.S.C., R.N., came and gave a most interesting film-show and talk about life in the Navy, and dealt with many questions from his boy audience.

On September 30th we had a visit from Miss B. Harvie Anderson, O.B.E., T.D., M.P., Member of Parliament for East Renfrewshire, who expressed a keen interest in the School.

On October 11th, the Visiting Commissioner for this term, Colonel E. P. Buchanan, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., inspected the School.

On November 2nd, the General Officer Commanding in Chief, Scottish Command, Lieutenant-General W. F. R. Turner, C.B., D.S.O. honoured us with a visit and made a tour and inspection of the School activities.

A party of 24 boys from the School, conducted by Mr Hughes, visited the works of the Carrongrove Paper Company on Friday, October 13th. Though the date was ominous, the outing was a great success. We must express our thanks to Mr Wallace the Director and Works Manager and to his staff for their hospitality, which included tea for the party.

When Stirling Albion Football Club celebrated the installation of their new flood-lighting with an evening match against Birmingham City on November 27th, the School Pipe Band was engaged to play to the spectators.

THE HALLOWE'EN PARTY

Some years ago a successful merger was carried out at Q.V.S. when Hallowe'en and Guy Fawkes' night were amalgamated into one festivity. In fact, the two occasions are now inseparably associated in the minds of a number of boys, who regard bonfires and fireworks as traditions of Hallowe'en.

This year the celebration actually took place on the night of 31st October, the true Hallowe'en date, for once, being the most convenient. Mr Morrow and staff provided the usual enormous tea, and the iced cakes produced, with hot soup, for supper after the bonfire proved too much for all but the biggest gluttons. In the messy and noisy proceedings which occupied the time between and supper, the following were declared winners :—

Apple Dooking (House Teams)—Trenchard.

Turnip Lanterns—*Bogle Type*—1 H. Paterson, 2 C. McLaughlin, 3 A. Faulds. *Fancy Type*—1 A. Murtagh, 2 W. Scott.

Tuckshop vouchers were presented to the winners by Mrs Finlaison. The firework display organised by Mr Bruce, and supplemented by unofficial assistance was carried through with only minor casualties.

THE OLD BOYS' RUGBY MATCH

School XV v. Old Boys' XV

Saturday, 14th October

After last year's 39-3 defeat, the Old Boys managed to muster for this occasion fifteen players, one reserve, and one press photographer smoking Russian cigarettes. At 14.59 hours, the average height of the Old Boys' XV was half-an-inch greater than that of the School team, and its weight greater by about a stone per body. At 15.00 hours, however, with the retarded arrival of Messrs. Fairbairn, Watson, and Veasey, the differences rose astronomically. Moreover, several of the players are now members of Rugby clubs or have had club experience since leaving school: Fitzpatrick and Scobie with Edinburgh Wanderers, Ray with London Scottish, Veasey with West of Scotland, and McGill with Clarkston XV. Wilkie is also said to play for some, unspecified, Rugby club. T. Miller plays regularly for a Soccer club, Hozier, and Ross and G. Thomson were obviously still in practice from their last year at School. So we had plenty of excuses for being beaten, if they were needed.

As last year, the Old Boys started off with great vigour, and were soon three points up from a try by McGill. A penalty goal by Miller put the School level, and the score at half-time was still three points each. The pundits on the touch-line were quite sure that the Old Boys were lagging and would never last the pace. They were wrong for once. After a try by Walker, the Old Boys got level again when Ross went over from a short penalty. Tries by Miller and McGavin gave the School victory by 12-6; and a

very creditable victory too, for the Old Boys played hard and well, to the end.

Our thanks are due to Brian Fitzpatrick for organising the Old Boys' team and to Major Jagger, who kindly refereed the match.

The Old Boys' Team with dates of leaving and home towns shown, was as follows :—

G. Thomson (Edinburgh, 1961); M. Thomson (Edinburgh, 1960); D. McNicol (Edinburgh, 1958); A. Bethune (Paisley, 1959); A. McGill (Glasgow, 1961); J. Docherty (Glasgow, 1958); T. Miller (Airdrie, 1961); D. Scobie (Edinburgh, 1958); J. Ross (Perth, 1961); D. Ray (London, 1959); R. Watson (Gleneagles, 1959); R. Veasey (Glasgow, 1958); J. Wilkie (Glasgow, 1961); J. Fairbairn (Rothesay, 1958); B. Fitzpatrick, Edinburgh, 1958).

CRICKET AND RUGBY ANNUAL DINNER, JUNE, 1961

At the end of the summer term of 1960 a very pleasant and informal dinner took place at the Fourways Restaurant, Dunblane.

It was the occasion of the annual Rugby and Cricket dinner, when the Captain of the First XV and of the First XI invited members of their respective teams, and masters responsible for these teams, to be their guests at dinner. This social evening is intended to foster the friendship associated with cricket and rugby, and to provide a pleasant memory for those members of the teams who are leaving School.

Hugh Miller, Captain of the First XV, and Craig Walker, Captain of the First XI, reviewed the season's achievements, and reminded their hearers of some of the outstanding events of the past year. John Ross, speaking on behalf of those who were leaving, said how sorry he was to be leaving the School, and promised, when he returned to the School as a member of the Former Pupils' XV, to give the then First XV as good and as close a game as possible. This promise was fully carried out when a Former Pupils' XV, including John Ross, visited the School in October and after one of the best games of Rugby Football seen on the School ground for many years, lost to the First XV by 12 points to 6.

R.E.H.

A WELL-KEPT SECRET

Few people have known that Queen Victoria School has for some years been housing a distinguished novelist. The secret can no longer be kept, for the latest novel by Mrs Fowler, the Headmaster's wife, has been chosen by the Book Society as their book of the month. Already before publication, this novel—the title is "A Handful of Time"—has been noticed in the national press, and an American firm has been astute enough to buy the rights to publish it in the

U.S.A. An incidental result of the interest aroused by Mrs Fowler's new novel is that the School porters have been mystified by telephone calls for "Miss Helen Foley." This is the pen-name of course. Any reader who is looking for Mrs Fowler's work should remember the pen-name, for it happens that there is another novelist with the name of Helen Fowler. It would be a pity to get the wrong books.

"A Handful of Time" is published in Britain by Hodder & Stoughton, who have already published "Helen Foley's" earlier works, "Between the Parties" and "The Traverse." Both of these were very favourably reviewed in the better newspapers—those found in the School library; but neither apparently made such an impression as "A Handful of Time." We congratulate Mrs Fowler. It is no mean distinction to earn the choice of the Book Society; and we hope the sales of her novel in Britain and America will be commensurate with the high opinions of the few who know. The credit for typing the manuscript goes to the Headmaster.

AVIEMORE CAMP, 1961

This year's annual camp at Aviemore marked the tenth occasion that a party of boys had spent a holiday in the Cairngorm Mountains. The idea was first conceived by Captain Ross in 1951, and since that time over two hundred boys have trekked across the High Plateau and scrambled up the boulder-strewn slopes which lead to the largest area of high ground in these Islands.

This year the party consisted of twenty-eight boys from the first and second year forms, accompanied by Mr and Mrs Le Maistre, Captain Lees, Mr Bruce, and Mr Girvan, a founder member of the camp who is renowned for his constant good humour and his capacity for producing limitless quantities of tea at every opportunity.

It was Mr and Mrs Le Maistre's first visit to the mountains and many thanks are due them for all the help which they gave.

The party arrived in glorious weather with blue sky and perfect visibility, but unfortunately this state of affairs did not last. During the night the patter of rain on the roof of the hut was the herald of the worst fortnight's weather which we had experienced in ten years. Low cloud, mist and rain greeted us every morning and such conditions made the conquest of the High Tops impossible for the first week. The expeditions was limited to the lower slopes and took the form of walks across the low plateau, where some free herds of deer were seen, and compass marches through the Rothiemurchus Forest. This is one of the last remaining old Caledonian forests and is always a place of interest abounding in wild life. This year we were fortunate enough to disturb a pair of capercaillie and the boys had an opportunity of seeing this rare bird at really close quarters.

The boys remained very cheerful in spite of the bad weather and the limitations it imposed upon

them. The activities round the hut were numerous and varied, ranging from boys sitting studiously over chess boards to half-naked warriors doing an endless war dance round a tree while the rain poured down in a steady stream from the mist bank hanging over Castle Hill. A small sect was formed under the leadership of certain members of 1A who took upon themselves to return to sun-worshipping, in order to entice the subject of their adoration from behind its misty shroud, but alas their efforts proved singularly unsuccessful.

Fortunately the last few days were a little clearer and although the sun still refused to shine the clouds lifted slightly and parties managed to reach the summits of Cairngorm, Ben MacDhui and Braeriach. The party which climbed Cairngorm had an excellent view of the race which is run up and down the mountain each year, and were able to shout encouragement from a very high vantage point. The mountain top was reached in very thick mist, this being the first experience that many of the boys had had of working on a compass-bearing across difficult country.

Possibly the most successful and enjoyable expedition was the climbing of Braeriach. This mountain had a crashed aeroplane near its summit which has attracted many parties of Queen Victoria School boys. The scattered remains were eagerly pounced upon. Twisted pipes, perspex and pieces of aluminium were wrenched off and stuffed into haversacks as mementos of this climb, but as the day wore on and the miles were covered the extra weight was felt and only a few pieces ever reached the Ski Hut.

The party reached the top with the cloud bank a few feet overhead and the High Plateau stretching away into the mists. Here is to be found twenty-five square miles of comparatively flat land all of which is over the 4,000 ft. contour line. It is a most perplexing place to navigate and it was with a sense of relief that we saw the Einich Cairn loom up out of the mist and the black gash of Loch Einich gave us our position. The descent which followed was very steep but offered a firm grip and was free from scree. We had a wonderful view of a herd of red deer from a distance and stumbled upon a doe and hind which bounded away only a few feet from us. The hike ended with a very steep heather-clad slope which rose for about one hundred feet from a river bed. Some of our number were a little tired by this time. James Miller, having eventually discarded a large wooden dagger which he had insisted on carrying everywhere, struggled to the top, peered over with relief and then in a flurry of heather and haversack rolled over the edge to the bottom.

Despite the weather conditions the campers enjoyed themselves and those who elected to go on the longer expeditions remained cheerful and enthusiastic even when drenched, tired and still many miles from a roaring fire and steaming "Mutton, Scotch-style."

Supposedly when one leaves camp after a wet stay the last morning is bright and sunny with a warm

breeze, clear tops and a blue sky which entices you to stay. This time, however, as the 'bus pulled away, it just rained.

N.C.B.

The following boys attended the camp :—

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE—J. Clarke, D. Cormack, M. Killey, L. McKenzie, D. McKue, R. Matheson, R. Miller, P. O'Connor, A. Richardson, K. Smith.

HAIG HOUSE—J. Allan, A. Doyle, J. Hay, A. Kay, W. Logue, J. McConaghy, J. Miller, W. Stewart, J. Wright.

TRENCHARD HOUSE—N. Donaldson, I. Johnston, N. McConnell, N. Menzies, T. Monaghan, D. Nix, S. Scott, J. Sharp, A. Warwood.

PRIMARY CAMP

"We assembled at the School in preparation for our camp. Left behind were home and comforts and our thoughts were rather damp." (With apologies to John Brown's Body.) That was on the evening of 27th August and although the weather forecast was quite promising we kept thinking of all the rain that August had brought us. We tried to sleep and make the most of our last night on a luxurious mattress.

Tuesday morning brought the promised sunshine, and we were all eager to get away in the trucks, forgetting to make the most of the wash-hand basins and appreciate the well-cooked breakfast. On our arrival at Bridge of Gaur we began to unload the tents and supplies and carry them to our triangular site at the other end of the field. Finally the marquee and the store tent (Mr Williams' igloo) were erected, and we gladly consumed our packed lunches. When this short break was over, our own tents were sited by Mr Williams and we all did our best (some better than others) to put them up before Mr Bull and Drum-Major Morrison left us. Their help was greatly appreciated.

At our previous camp we had slept two to a bivouac, but this year we had the luxury of a four "160 pounders" with seven boys to each tent. Ian Fraser, Michael O'Connor, Pat Gilder and David Jagger were appointed tent leaders with the last-named acting as camp leader. Each tent was to dine at its own table in the marquee, and was to be responsible for cooking and carrying out various fatigues for two of the days during our stay at Bridge of Gaur. The first day's chores were coming to an end: pits had been dug, furniture arranged, kit distributed, duties, routines and discipline outlined. We now realised that there were a number of interesting trees near at hand and that our site was bounded on two sides by a burn deep enough in parts to dive in, and shallow enough to ford at one end. Schiehallion was somewhere due east of the camp, but it was now getting dark and the sun was descending over Rannoch Moor. We also realised that it had remained dry all day.

Before we bedded down for the night we were given

a cup of soup which was gratefully accepted by all of us. No one asked whether it was mushroom or tomato soup. It was hot, and it was wet, and everyone enjoyed it. A passage of scripture was read, an evening prayer, and we were asleep.

We were summoned from our sleep by the bugle call, and clad in a pair of shorts, with towel and soap, we washed unwillingly in the cold burn. Mr Williams tried to encourage some of us to take a swim. Captain Monteith was already fully dressed. Had he been for a swim earlier? We then made ready for breakfast, which O'Connor's party had prepared for us. We recognised the corn flakes and tinned milk, margarine and marmalade. We discovered after breakfast, from the notice pinned to the tree, that we had also had "bacon, beans and egg" as well as tea. Our cooking improved with experience. Andrew Watt and John Fraser improved more quickly than most and became very popular.

Many climbing expeditions were arranged and we all succeeded in running up Meall Chomraidh our near 1,552 ft. high neighbour. Sixteen finally attempted Schiehallion (3,547 ft.) and of these Irvine, Wills, Murray, Hewitt, Grigor, Heron, Stewart, O'Connor, Ian Fraser and Jagger, were successful—four more than in 1960. It was after this expedition that Forsyth and party—McKenzie, Watt, Smith and Jeffrey—decided to accept a lift back to camp, got lost in the busy maze of Rannoch and found themselves on the north side of the loch. Darkness came down suddenly, and there were no stars or even a moon to cheer them on. Fairies were seen and heard dancing on the loch side, boulders charged across the road and disappeared into the thick jungle, and witches were heard casting spells in the trees. Our five heroes sang songs and held each other's hands. Forsyth was heard to remark that this was the one time in his school life that he wished a master would appear round the corner. They were finally brought back to camp, to find that the other eleven members had been fed and were asleep between their warm blankets. Some learn their lesson the hard way.

Fishing was a popular pastime at which Ian Smith and Dodds were the most successful. We also swam in the burn when the sun was in the west. Many games were played, and "all-in-rugby" was in great demand. There were few rules but the offender was penalised by being thrown into the burn. Campbell, McDougall and Irvine loved throwing the offenders in, but there was an occasion when they forgot to let go, and Forsyth and John McMillan took them in with them.

Most of the evenings were concluded with a bonfire and a cup of soup or cocoa to warm us before returning to our tents. Everyone attempted a song of some kind, and even Mitchell made his debut. McLaughlin and Irvine were our star performers with Campbell's "Wha' would light be a Bobbie?" the most popular item. Kilgour and Cunningham were also difficult to stop once they got started.

Sunday was spent as a day of rest drying out after the storms of Friday and Saturday nights, when we

saw the bright lights and heard the thunderous applause. We sang our way through it, but one such experience was enough. Sunday afternoon was spent in the Braes of Rannoch Church, where we more than doubled the congregation.

On the Tuesday before we left we visited Pitlochry. On our way, we sang songs and we stopped at Queen's View. Shortly after our arrival we dined at the "White Tower" restaurant; it was certainly a change from camp cooking. After dinner we went down to the dam, and then just strolled around the town buying presents and souvenirs. On our way back we visited Blair Castle, the Pass of Killiecrankie, and the Soldier's Leap, returning via Struan and the famous falls.

On the last day before we left, Mrs Whitworth, on whose land we were camping, presented Jagger's tent with a grand collection of sweets for being the best tent. Boak received an equally exciting collection for being the most untidy boy at camp.

All of us at camp say thank you very much to Mr Williams, Captain Monteith and all who made this camp possible as well as most enjoyable.

D.J., P.G., M.O., I.F. (1A.)

SECONDARY HOBBIES REVIEW

Fashions in Hobbies tend to change and it may be of interest to record what is "in" and what is "out." Readers should note however that this article cannot be a faithful reflection of fashion because the lists are largely dictated by the interests (and capabilities) of members of the staff concerned. Thus for example the lack of large numbers in the Stamp Club does not show lack of interest on the part of the boys but lack of a successor to Major Hitchman.

This term there have been the following Hobbies—

Life Saving	Mr Reid and Senior Monitor	
	Walker	59
Boxing	Mr Williams	14
Choir	Mr Bruce	38
P.T. Class	Mr Reid	20
Photography	Capt. Lees	29
Art	Mr Le Maistre	35
Canoe Building*	Maj. Batchelor and Mr Finlay	17
Metalwork/Radio	Captain Smith	18
Angling	Mr Malkowski	15
Shooting	Major Wright and Capt. Russell	36
Science Club*	Mr Orr	14
Chess	Mr Hughes	15
Golf*	Capt. Petrie	20
First Aid	Miss McLaren	22
Stamps	Pref. Bird	8

*New this term.

The Shooting, Photography, Metalwork and Canoe Building classes were over-subscribed. On the other hand boxing classes are down from previous years. One interesting feature is the taking of two classes by

boys and another is that many hobbies are now carried out in spare time as well as at the usual 6-7 p.m. times. There is so far no sign of any activity in Drama this year. Perhaps the 1960 "Androcles and the Lion" and 1961 "H.M.S. Pinafore" performances have set what is considered to be an unattainable standard, or exhausted the staff!

The Primary School also has its hobbies though these seem to be very much in the nature of "directed activities." It is, however, worthy of note that the Boxing classes held by Mr Martin and Drum Major Morrison are both popular and enthusiastically attended.

A.L.F.

A.C.F.

Our annual A.C.F. Camps seem to attract good weather and this year at Kirkcudbright, except for the first day and second last day, weather conditions were perfect. This was a good camp, perhaps our best. Living conditions, cooking facilities and training areas were good. It was our first time on fresh rations and we had doubts as to how we would manage. Special praise must be given to our two chefs who produced first class meals in quality and quantity. The discipline of the cadets was excellent and under Sgts. A. D. Leitch and J. Ross, all tasks were promptly and pleasantly performed.

As the countryside was new to us we spent the first week on map-reading exercises and in compass marches, so that we became familiar with our surroundings. The local inhabitants soon accepted us and were most helpful. They lent us a rowing boat for the duration of the camp and the boys spent many happy hours on the river.

Visits were made to the Museum, the Milk Powder Factory and the Tank Testing Range. The latter was most interesting, and we spent a day climbing over a Centurion tank pushing buttons, pulling levers, turning wheels and raising and lowering the gun. We were all taken for a run on board this monster, which can only be described as similar to the Fair Ground Big Dipper but not half as comfortable.

The second week was devoted to preparing, briefing and taking part in the Expedition Section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. This was so well done that we have an open invitation from our farmer friends to return. They all expressed surprise that campers could leave a camp site and its surroundings exactly as they found it.

Boys attending camp were:—Sgts. A. D. Leitch, and J. A. Ross; Cpls. G. Thomson, D. Owens, H. Miller; L/Cpls. J. R. Fraser, C. C. Walker, P. R. C. Finlay, M. R. Nixon; Cadets G. Matthews, C. Brown, D. Keltie, K. Murray, J. Bell, C. Heron, M. MacLean, S. Marshall, G. Ross, I. McConnell, W. Young, P. Kay, J. McKenzie, A. Michael, M. Owens, D. Warwood, R. Clater, M. Smith, W. McFarquhar, J. Nimmo, D. Watson, T. O'Connor, M. Gillespie, K. Douglas, J. MacDonald, I. Wilkie and J. Matheson.

The training programme for 1961-62 is in full swing. The Corps has now 107 members, the largest number we have ever had. 20 have passed certificate A, Part II and are now either taking the Technical Certificates in Motor Electrics with Mr Orr, or helping to instruct other members of the Corps. 39 are working for Certificate A, Part II. The 48 newcomers have now passed the recruit stage and are working for Certificate A, Part I.

Major Stewart, who has been Commanding Officer of the Company since its formation, left us in October to take up the Headship of Abernethy Junior Secondary School, Nethybridge. He has worked hard as Commanding Officer and as a result our Corps is one of the best in Scotland. We wish him every success and happiness in his new post. Captain G. Reid, the last of the three founder members of our Corps is now Commanding Officer. Mr J. G. Finlay and Mr I. T. Williams have now filled the two vacancies caused by the resignations of Captain J. C. Ross and Major J. Stewart, and we are sure they will enjoy their work with us.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD, 1960-61

During the session 1960-61, the following boys gained the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at the stages shown.

FIRST SERIES—BRONZE AWARD

W. Anderson, M. Arnett, J. Bell, C. Brown, S. Donaldson, I. Gray, C. Heron, D. Johnstone, D. Keltie, J. McKenzie, M. McLean, S. Marshall, D. Maxwell, A. Michael, K. Murray, T. O'Connor, M. Owens, G. Ross, I. Savill, W. Scott, A. Sinclair, D. Warwood, D. Watson, T. Wilson, W. Young.

SECOND SERIES—SILVER AWARD

W. Aitken, P. Finlay, M. Gillespie, J. Watters.

THIRD SERIES—GOLD AWARD

J. Ross has been recommended for this award.

In October, 1960, 39 boys entered for the First Series. Of them 25 successfully completed the year and gained the award. One failed in the Pursuits section; two failed to pass the Fitness section; eleven withdrew, failing to stay the course for the year. Five started on the Second Series. One left School in mid-year, and the other four gained the award. Three boys started the Third Series. Two of these failed in the Pursuits section, leaving Ross to be recommended for the award.

In the present session, 1961-62, the following boys have entered:—

FIRST SERIES

J. Allan, T. Black, R. Clater, M. Cooper, N. Donaldson, E. Gillespie, I. Johnstone, P. Kay, R. Kilcullen, N. McConnell, L. McKenzie, D. McKue, K. McMillan, J. Miller, R. Miller, T. Monaghan, D. Nix, P. O'Connor, D. Robertson, W. Stewart, E. Thomson, A. Washington.

SECOND SERIES

C. Brown, S. Donaldson, D. Johnstone, D. Keltie, J. McKenzie, D. Maxwell, K. Murray, M. Owens, I. Savill, W. Scott, D. Watson.

THIRD SERIES

W. Aitken, P. Finlay, H. Miller, C. Walker, J. Watters.

CHANGES I HAVE SEEN DURING THE PAST EIGHT YEARS

I started my first year at Queen Victoria School on the 3rd September, 1953. The changes in life here during this period have been so many that I shall be able to mention comparatively few.

In 1953 there were four Companies, 'A', 'B' and 'D' being the senior ones and 'C' the junior. All boys coming into the School went to 'C' Company, and left for one of the others after a period of anything from one term to a year. A few stayed a little longer to help the next year's new boys settle in. Each Company had a Company Commander, who was a Captain, and a C.S.M. Housemasters have now replaced the Company Commanders and House Matrons do more or less the same jobs as the C.S.M.'s, if in a somewhat more motherly fashion.

Turning to dress, I find that the appearance of the Queen Victoria School boy has not changed greatly. There are, however, a few details which separate the dress of 8 years ago from that of today. Blue woollen jerseys have been replaced by corduroy jerkins of the same colour, and the blue serge shorts have given way to corduroy ones. One interesting minor point is that each Company had its own particular colour; 'A' blue, 'B' yellow, 'C' red, and 'D' green, and all boys wore flashes of one of these colours according to their Companies. Until 1955 khaki jacket and kilt constituted No. 1 dress, and as such were worn on all important parades including Grand Day. Scarlet tunics were reintroduced in 1955. Before 1957 Good Conduct Stripes were given to those deserving them and were sewn on the left sleeve. Boys were paid 2d. per month for each stripe, and, though this does not sound much, after 6 years, a shilling a month extra pocket money for not being caught was not to be grumbled at. There were no raincoats then, and when necessary everyone wore an Inverness Cape.

The appearance of the School itself has also changed. Externally the main building has altered little, but inside there is a difference. In the dormitories the wooden planked floors have, for the past six or seven years, been covered with linoleum. Since that time the floors have been much cleaner, but the "bed-irons" are not kept as straight as before, without the straight cracks between the boards to serve as guides. The dining-hall, also, is far from the same as before. Heavy faded pictures used to adorn the dusty walls, and the animal heads that were also there might put a boy off his stew.

In one respect the small boys of today would much prefer the swimming pool of the old days—the newts and tadpoles that then swam with us are no longer there. The year after I came the whole School was repainted. Unfortunately hardly any of the effects of this work remain, and the paintwork is not one of the best features of the School.

There have been a few new creations altogether. The four prefabricated class-rooms, including the Art Room and New Laboratory, were only being started in 1953. Other new buildings that have sprung up are the A.C.F. Hut, the Technical Drawing Room, the Miniature Shooting Range and the Squash Courts. Where the latter is now, there used to be numerous raspberry canes.

School routine and organisation have changed a great deal since I first came. Reveille was blown by the Duty Bugler at 6.45 a.m. The Buglers, by the way, were not dressed in ordinary everyday School clothes but in khaki jacket and glengarry. The dormitories were tidied and swept before and not after breakfast, and the blankets on the beds were folded every day except Saturdays and Sundays. At meals most of the food was served by the people in charge of the tables. There were no side-plates, cups and saucers, or glasses; one's sole utensils were a knife, fork, and spoon and a tin mug with most of the enamel chipped off. School times have not changed much at all. At the 11 o'clock break, however, there was a parade every day, when the four Companies marched round the square giving the "eyes right" as they passed the Commandant, who always attended. In my first year there was a 1st XI football team, chosen from the Senior School, as well as a Rugby Team. As there was no A.C.F. contingent, the boys had more time to devote to both games. The time after tea, which is now put aside for hobbies, was not usually filled in 1953, and the boys were free until Prep. Of the latter there was only one hour per night, four nights per week. Primary 5, of the last of which I was a member, were not made to work during Prep, but were allowed to go to the Swimming Pool. After supper the Duty Bugler used to remain as such until 9 o'clock when, after blowing "quarter dress" and "five minutes," he would sound "lights out."

Until 1956 the boys in authority were Monitors, Sergeants, and numerous Corporals and Lance-Corporals. There was one Monitor in charge of each Company and under him were two Sergeants and a few one and two-strippers. Monitors and Sergeants were easily recognisable, for they wore khaki jackets, to the sleeves of which were attached the badges or stripes of rank.

Since 1953, methods of punishment have changed perhaps more than anything else. Today Monitors and Prefects give 25 lines which must be done within 48 hours. This imposition is indeed very small compared to some of the tedious and sometimes brutal penalties of "the Good Old Days." Every boy used to have a "name-plate." This was a thick wooden plate that hung above each bed and which bore the name of the donor engraved on a plaque of brass.

Boys were often made to clean all such articles in the dormitory, or to hold one in each hand for certain periods of time. Another punishment was "defaulters": the culprit was made to stand still in the Central Hall facing the clock for anything up to three hours. Besides these formal fatigues there were a number even more cruel, administered with straps, hard shoes, sticks, and brushes.

For all these changes, and I have mentioned only a few, many aspects of the School life remain the same: the windows still rattle; the pipes still bang; the big chimney still belches smoke; the second step on the fifth flight on the north wing is still loose; the new boys are still told to find "the key to the big square"; the Senior Monitor still marches the School into meals; boys still wipe the tables in the same peculiar manner; the tea still tastes the same; and it still rains every games day.

Had I waited until next year to write this article, I should have found it very difficult, for greater changes, I am sure, are to occur in the near future. Most of the changes I have seen have been for the better. I hope that someone writing a similar article to this, eight years hence, will be able to make the same assertions.

N. Burrows, (VI)

RUDE RHYMES

I think that boys who play at bools
Are rather silly little fools.
But those who spend their time at conkers
Are absolutely raving bonkers.

* * * * *

The clansmen in the ancient wars
Went charging in with horrid roars;
But not so horrid as the screams
Of masters coaching Rugby teams.

* * * * *

The foolish boy who puffs an odd
Half-cigarette behind the trees
Will soon repose beneath the sod,
Laid low by every known disease.
But masters, by the grace of God,
Are quite immune to all of these.

* * * * *

For Rugby games I find it best
To wear two jerseys and a vest;
And when the wind is really snell,
I wear my shirt and pants as well.

* * * * *

The Army is the life for me;
But I won't sweat at drill or judo;
I'll be a Captain at Q.V.
And supervise the games of Ludo.

SPELLING IN THE SCHOOL

Pupils at Queen Victoria School are no better at spelling than they are anywhere else. Even members of the staff sometimes make mistakes. For bad spelling of ordinary words, the first prize is divided between the two pupils who described an article of furniture as a "chesterdraws."

Boys' names often suffer. Two brothers in the School have the name of Johnston, and another pair are called Johnstone. Nobody ever knows which are which, except themselves. Another name which will not always be spelt correctly is Morrice. Besides the old type of Morrice, there is a Morrice Minor, and this term we have a Morrice Mini-Minor as well. The three who suffered most were the Laughlan brothers. On notices and in lists they were regularly turned into Laughlins. In the end they gave up, and went off to start a new life in Australia.

The names of the dormitories are prominently displayed over the entrances. Most of them are remembered correctly. But not Abercromby and Lynedoch. They are always being written as "Abercrombie" and "Lyndoch." It should be known that both, like other dormitories, are called after famous Scottish warriors. Sir Ralph Abercromby was born in Clackmannanshire. He served in the Seven Years' War against revolutionary France, and in the West Indies and Holland. He died from a musket-ball wound received at Aboukir Bay. Lynedoch (1748-1843) was the son of a Perthshire laird. He fought the French in Spain and the Low Countries and was made a Baron in 1814. I hope these details will help people to get the spelling right.

House names are not often spelt wrongly, not Cunningham and Trenchard anyway. But we still see letters addressed to "Haigh House." Let it be known that this House is called after Field Marshal Lord Haig, the British commander in World War I, and not after the acid-bath murderer.

A YOKEL'S POEM

I'm going to write a little poem.
They think I'm daft, but I will show 'em.
I will not bring in fancy words,
Or chestnut trees or singing birds.
I'll only tell you what I do ;
I think that it will interest you.
I do not do no work at a'
But make our cow a bed of straw.
Our Daisy be the best of cows ;
We sit and milk her while she chows.
When harvest comes, I'm in my prime,
I don't do nothing all the time.
The other workers toil and fret ;
It makes me tired to see them sweat.
So I just lie behind a stack,
And spend the morning on my back.
I've finished all I have to say,
I'll try again another day.

J. Hay (3A).

Q.V.S. IN THE 1920s

The first number of the "Victorian" magazine was published in the summer of 1923, when 500 copies were printed. There is in the School one set of bound volumes of the "Victorian," covering the years 1923-1954. Unfortunately, because there is only one set, we dare not make them available in the library for the whole School to handle and read. Since 1954, however, we have duplicate copies of every number of the "Victorian," and when at the end of this year, the next set is ready for binding, there will be two copies of the bound volume, one for official preservation and one to go into the School library.

The first volume, 1923-1930 contains a mass of material which is of interest to anyone associated with the School. There is too much that we should like to reprint here. Below we give a selection of items gathered from magazines of the 1920s.

The second number contained a brief outline of the history of the School. The idea of building a school in Scotland to commemorate the services of our soldiers and sailors who fell in the South African War was first mooted in 1901, and in 1902, when the Empire was mourning Queen Victoria, it was decided that the new school should serve the dual purpose of commemorating those who fell in the South African War and of being a memorial to the late Queen. "As a matter of fact" says the writer, "the building was not commenced till 1906, and it was not till 1908 that the School was officially opened by His Majesty, King Edward VII." Perhaps, when all is done, this lag will compare not too unfavourably with the progress of our present re-building scheme. We celebrated our Jubilee in 1958 ; but it is interesting to note that the first batch of boys did not enter the School till the summer of 1909. The total entry was 84 strong, of whom two were transferred from our English equivalent, The Duke of York's School, and two from the Royal Hibernian School, the service school in Ireland. The latter school was disbanded after the first World War. Some of the trophies now presented annually at Q.V.S. came from there when the school was closed. Our present Administrative Officer, Major Acres, is an old boy of the Royal Hibernian School. A series of articles in later numbers of the "Victorian" contains some amusing reminiscences of the early days of Q.V.S.. We hope to refer to these in subsequent numbers. The distinction of being No. 1 on the School register belongs to T. W. Gibbon, whose date of entry was June 6th, 1909.

From the first number we note that Rugby as a School game was introduced in 1922, and that in 1923, the Pipe Band played at an International Match at Inverleith. Of interest to those who took part in "H.M.S. Pinafore" is that in December, 1922, "the School gave performances of the Comic Opera 'The Pirates of Penzance.' With very few exceptions, the School provided the entire cast and choruses." In 1961 we had so far progressed that there were no exceptions.

Golf figures quite largely in the early "Victorians."

"We have pleasure in recording that two members of our staff, Messrs. Bourne and Currie, have succeeded in doing a hole on the New Dunblane Golf Course in one." Within present memory only Major Hitchman has emulated their feat. Also, those boys who are now swinging golf clubs under the tuition of Captain Petrie may like to know that in 1925 it was recorded: "The new nine-hole chipping course in the School grounds is very popular, and is crowded each play-time."

The distribution of class prizes was first "made a function" in 1924. At the end the boys "stood to sing the School song." Incidentally, there seem to have been three different School songs at different periods in the School's history. The Sir Robert Cranston memorial essay prize was instituted in the same year. In the second number, we read that Latin has been introduced, replacing French in the curriculum. In the 1920s the School had its own Leaving Certificate, taken by boys of 14 or 15 years old. There was also a certificate of proficiency in swimming, and in 1925 it is recorded that 75 per cent of the boys in the School held the certificate. In 1926 there was published a statistical compliment to the effectiveness of physical education in the School. Impressively headed, "The Improvement of Physique by Scientific Training," it records in the form of a graph the average weights at ages from 10 to 16 of:

- (i) All boys in Glasgow schools, graded according to their housing conditions, A, B, C and D, D being the worst.
- (ii) All boys in the Higher Grade School with the highest average in Glasgow.
- (iii) The standard average laid down by the Anthropometric Committee.
- (iv) Boys of Queen Victoria School.

Guess the result. Yes, the boys of Q.V.S. are represented in a line that mounts steeply to the top, all others falling below the standard weights, while Q.V.S. rises well above it. It might be interesting to add another line for the boys of Q.V.S. today. The Q.V.S. averages then were as follows:

10—67 lbs.	13— 83 lbs.	16—124 lbs.
11—73 lbs.	14— 97 lbs.	
12—77 lbs.	15—113 lbs.	

These figures are not guaranteed to be 100 per cent accurate, for the graph is marked off only in tens of lbs. but they are near enough.

Consideration of space forbids us to take these extracts further. There is plenty to keep future Editors of the "Victorian" going, if they care to search the old volumes.

THE OLD BATHS

The luxury of the School swimming baths today can best be appreciated by those who knew the same baths before the redecoration and re-fitting took place. As I was here before that time, I can recall the state into which the baths had then fallen.

The changing-rooms looked like apartments in a derelict castle such as one sees in a horror film. Instead of a ceiling, we had grimy rafters, containing beetles and picturesque cobwebs often covered with unfortunate flies. In the Spring we were entertained, by the chirps of new-born birds. To go to the baths, we had to wear leather shoes, sports kit, and Inverness capes; but one would be lucky to leave with all that one had brought, for the storage space was very scanty and kit was soon jumbled. Besides the heavy iron benches on which we could put our clothes, there were some rusty hooks, used only as a last resort. Nor were there any wall-mirrors.

Before entering the main area, we had to put our feet into a tub containing a red disinfectant. I used to wonder if that was to rid us of the dirt collected before we entered the baths or of that acquired from the changing-room floor. After leaving the tub, we ran to the lavatories, this being a rule but not always a necessity, and then jumped in to swim beside the frogs and newts. Occasionally a bird would fly round the pool and leave through the hole in the centre of the roof. At the end opposite the entrance there was a rotted wooden ladder, used only if one had failed to get out of the water by other routes.

On the right, looking towards the far end, there was a painted post marking the record for the plunge. A favourite pastime was to try to beat the plunge record set up by some former pupil whose name was then obscure and now forgotten. Next to the diving-board was a support for a spring-board; the board had disappeared before I came to the School and has not been seen since.

I hope I have not made my readers think that only the boys of today have enjoyed themselves in the baths. We all spent many happy hours there, even if conditions were rougher. Perhaps I have exaggerated them. My memory may be at fault.

D. R. Owens, (V)

DRUM NOTES

Since the close of last session, the Drum Corps has been altered slightly. J. Clarke comes in to take the place of Terry O'Connor, M. Owens replaces Johnny Bell on the Bass Drum, and A. Michael takes over the coveted post of Drum Major from Rodney Maxwell. We wish these new boys every success.

Drum Major Morrison has succeeded in teaching us a very tricky beating for "The Black Bear," and is at the moment attempting to drum into us an even harder beating for "Australian Ladies." Although we shall not be on any engagements this term, we are sending out several buglers to the usual places on Armistice Sunday to blow "Last Post."

I am sure that I am speaking for every member of the Drum Corps when I say that we are very grateful for all the assistance that Drum Major Morrison has given us over the past year. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the Drummers and Buglers, to wish him a Happy Christmas, and a not oo merry New Year.

W. Aitken.

PIPING NOTES

The emphasis in piping throughout this term has been laid, not so much on the progress of the boys already in the band, as on that of the boys who have joined the Secondary School without the ability to take a place in the band. This situation has arisen partly because of a lack of experience in the Primary School, several boys having joined the School at a stage later than Primary 6.

By the end of the School year it is expected that eight senior pipers will have left. To ensure that these places can be filled next year, a greater effort must be made at the present time by the non-band pipers in the Secondary School. They have now an extra hour's practice on Thursdays, as well as Trades periods on Mondays and Fridays and music periods throughout the week. Moreover they now receive attention all the time, for when the band practises, they are under the instruction of the Boy Pipe Major. Those in this class are :— J. Jeffrey, Oliver, Black, I. Johnston, A. Brown, Broughton, Irvine, Wilson, Hewgill, King, Nealon, C. McLaughlin and Wills. After only a term, the general improvement is quite noticeable, and already several of the boys can play more than fifteen tunes.

On Armistice Sunday, Pipe Major Sanderson played "The Flowers of the Forest" in the School Chapel. R. N. Roy, N. Burrows and H. Miller went in the morning to the Depot of the 7th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders at Falkirk and in the afternoon to the Cenotaph in Dunblane.

This term, the "Black Bear" was played for the first time and is now coupled with "The Back of Benachie." By popular request, "The Piper's Polka" has been learned, and the retreat "The Banks of Allan Water" re-introduced. Before the end of term it is hoped that the "Cameron Quickstep" and the retreat "Lochanside" will be played.

At the end of this term we are losing Prefect Nixon who is going to Wellbeck College. We wish him good luck and hope that he will continue his piping.

The following is a list of the boys who now play in the band : Pipe Major R. N. Roy, N. Burrows, H. Miller, D. Owens, L. McGavin, P. Finlay, M. Nixon, P. W. Roy, K. Murray, K. Douglas, R. MacRae, R. Miller, D. Robertson, N. McConnell, J. Miller, J. Sharp, N. Clark, I. Fraser

Drum Major A. Michael, W. Aitken, M. Owens, J. McDonald, R. Kilcullen, A. Stace, E. Thomson, A. Richardson, H. Paterson, P. O'Connor, J. Clarke.
R.N.R.

HIGHLAND DANCING

The reader might think that a lack of engagements would engender a lack of interest in one's dancing. Not so with Mr Mortimer's pupils. Though the techniques of delving and of barrow-wheeling have sometimes taken the attention of certain dancers away from the study of their own techniques, we

have practised steadily and successfully every Monday and Friday. Eight boys have now learned the Sailor's Hornpipe in addition to the regular dances, and can perform eight steps of this dance. Our numbers were reduced this term, and some of our former dancers are now removed to other occupations. But there are still 19 Secondary boys doing Highland Dancing, including 6 of the Third Year and upwards. At the time of writing Mr Mortimer's competition has still to take place. We understand that it will be held later in November. This extra bit of competition, arranged by our enthusiastic instructor, adds interest and incentive to our efforts.

To Mr Mortimer, and all Highland Dancers of Queen Victoria School, we wish a good Christmas and a very happy New Year.
J.R.F.

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE NOTES

HOUSEMASTER : Mr N. C. Bruce.

ASSISTANT HOUSEMASTER : Captain M. E. Lees.

HOUSE MATRON : Miss M. Chalmers.

MONITOR : N. Burrows.

PREFECTS : D. R. Owens, P. R. C. Finlay.

This term ten boys joined the House from Wavell and one boy was new to the School. All have now settled down to the routine.

There have been only two House competitions so far this term : swimming and rugby. After leading for most of the way in the swimming, we were extremely disappointed at coming third after a most exciting finish. Many of the boys, however, swam very well, in particular A. Faulds, who was senior champion, R. Bowes, S. Robertson, L. McKenzie, B. McLaughlin and J. Murray.

Our Rugby 1st XV has so far played only one game, in which we beat Haig in a very hard-fought match. This year we had a poor 2nd XV, and despite great efforts by L. McKenzie, we lost to both Haig and Trenchard. We are looking forward confidently to the Boxing finals, which are being held next week.

This term the House has been in very good health. Of the few who did have to spend a few days in Hospital all were there for minor ailments. This high standard, I am sure, is due to the good work of Miss Chalmers.

The number of transistor radios brought back to the House this year has surpassed any previous figure. On the whole, they have not been misused, and the owners have had some consideration for others nearby. A few unfortunates have been caught playing them after "lights out" and taken the consequences.

At the end of this term we shall be losing P. W. Roy, C. Heron, R. Tait and D. P. Johnstone who are leaving the School. We wish them the best of luck and thank them for their help in House activities during their lives here.

In general this term has run very smoothly under Mr Bruce's guidance. We hope that next term will

Installation of the Governor of Edinburgh Castle

Q.V.S. REPRESENTED BY A CONTINGENT COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN LEES

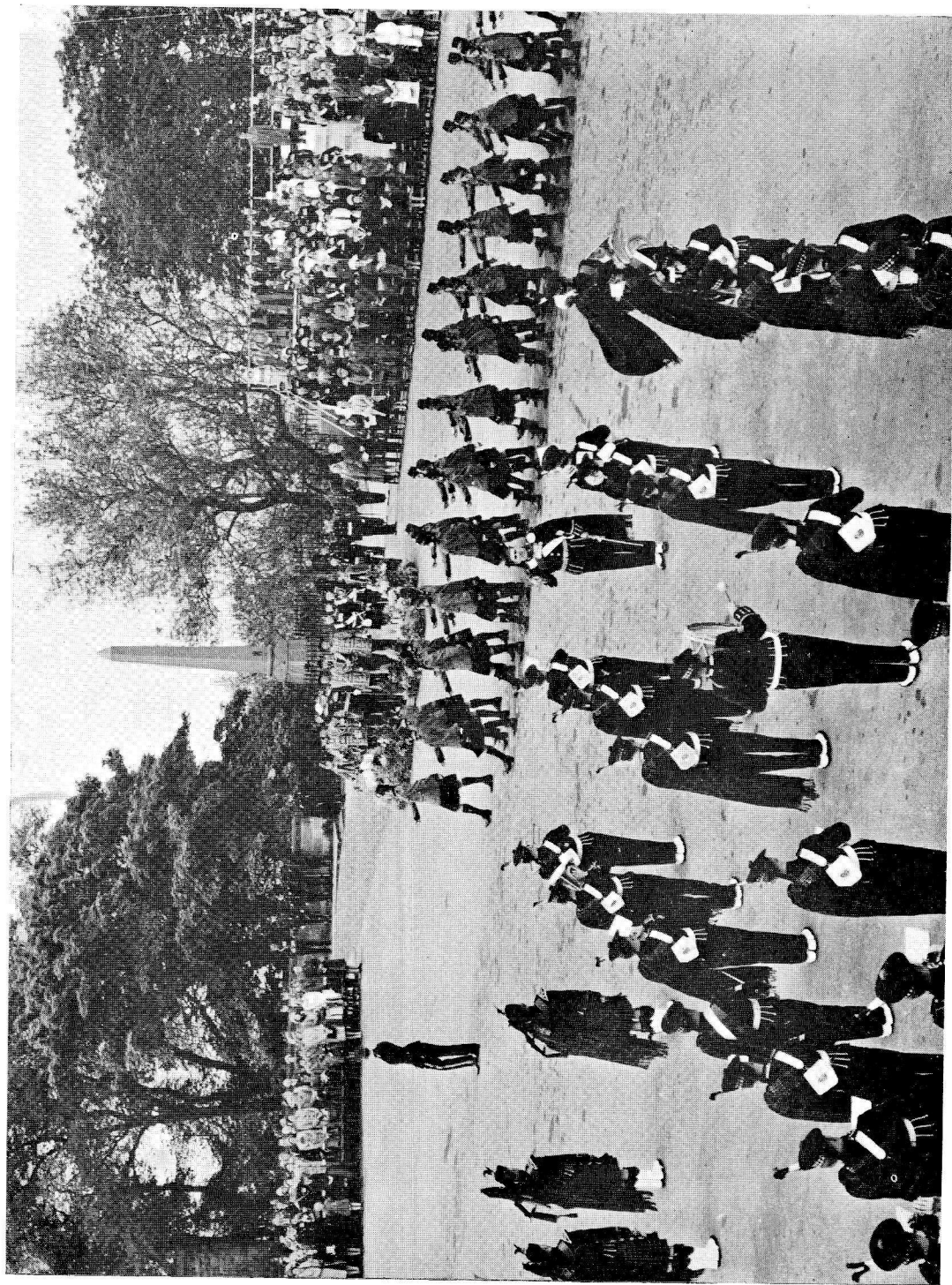


Photo by Courtesy of the Scottish Daily Express

see everybody coming back ready to take part in all House activities and keep the House happy and trouble-free.

RUGBY TEAMS

1st XV—R. Tait, K. Murray, M. Nixon, N. Burrows, D. Johnstone, P. Finlay, D. Maxwell, C. Heron, T. Gavigan, M. Cooper, R. Bowes, J. McKenzie, W. Aitken, P. Roy, M. Owens.

2nd XV from—D. Cormack, P. O'Connor, S. Robertson, D. Jagger, C. McLaughlin, D. Marshall, M. Wills, J. Brough, L. McKenzie, S. Cobb, R. Matheson, J. Clarke, I. Cockburn, B. McLaughlin, J. Tait, P. Gilder, D. McKue. N.B.

HAIG HOUSE NOTES

HOUSEMASTER : Major R. E. Batchelor.

ASSISTANT HOUSEMASTER : Captain A. Smith.

HOUSE MATRON : Miss I. Johnston.

MONITOR : R. N. Roy.

PREFECTS : J. G. Kay, C. Brown.

We returned to School this term hoping for an enjoyable and successful year. If we win the House Championship this year, we can complete a hat trick. Old boys of the House might be interested to know that although last term we won the Drill Competition for the first time in six years, "Wavell" was mistakenly given on the trophy by the engraver. This error has been corrected.

Several new faces have appeared in the House this term. From Wavell House came thirteen boys : S. Wilson, J. L. Fraser, A. Broughton, P. Tait, T. Bonar, J. Welsh, P. Kerr, A. Brown, M. Hill, M. Forsyth, M. Adams, R. Irvine and G. Cassells. We have also three boys who have just joined the School : A. Aitkenhead, J. Flynn and M. Scoggins. All have settled down well, even becoming used to climbing three flights of steps instead of one to reach the dormitories.

One evening before Mr Stewart left, we invited him over to the House. We had asked Mr Brown to choose a present and at an informal ceremony in the Clyde dormitory the boys gave him a light-weight golf bag and several balls as a farewell present. His new school, he said, is nearly on a golf course.

We now have more free time and at the beginning of term we bought four chess sets, two sets of draughts, four table tennis bats and a supply of balls, all of which are in constant use. Major Batchelor also brought up some of his books and magazines. Our tennis table was mended and J. Oliver provided a new net. Table tennis is such a popular game that many boys use the Matron's small folding table when the other is in use. The whole House took part in a table-tennis tournament in which the semi-finalists were R. N. Roy, J. Wright, D. Robertson and J. Brown. Several of the younger boys enjoy passing their time playing football in the corridor with dusters tied together with garter flashes. A game frowned upon by the Housemaster.

The maintenance and replacement of squash racquets is now a House concern. Each House was given two racquets and told that it must raise its own money for repairs. Since racquets are frequently broken (ours lasted only a week), we have decided to charge sixpence a week to everybody who intends to play squash regularly.

Three competitions which count towards the House Championship are held in the Christmas term. We gained second place to Trenchard in the Swimming Gala in one of the closest finishes possible. Before the last event, the mass relay, we were equal on points but in spite of three determined last lengths from I. Gray, M. Armstrong and H. Miller, we just lost the race and the Gala. In the individual swimming, R. N. Roy, H. Miller and M. Armstrong gained runners-up medals. Our 1st Rugby XV was disappointing, losing both games, although having as much of the play as our opponents. Mention must be given to our third-year boys who, in spite of their small size, played their hardest against boys several stones heavier. Our 2nd XV, on the other hand, had a fine win of 30-3 in their only game so far, even without their Captain, D. Robertson. The boxing finals have not yet been held. We are unfortunate in that H. Miller (attached to Wavell) and W. Anderson, could not be matched and that D. Robertson and J. Miller were unfit to box in the preliminary rounds.

At the Hallowe'en Party this year H. Paterson, with some last-minute help from C. Brown and D. Watson, won the "bogle-type" tumshie competition and W. Scott gained second place in the "fancy-type" competition. Our apple-dooking team of J. Kay, M. Armstrong, D. Watson, W. Scott, W. Anderson and D. Robertson, finished third (out of four) in the inter-house competition. M. Armstrong was top scorer with eighteen apples.

As usual Miss Johnstone has been kept busy throughout the term with cuts and bruises. Incidentally, most parents who receive birthday cards can be thankful to Miss Johnstone, for it is she who takes the trouble to go to the village to buy them. Also, in one week she bought eighteen yo-yos for the boys. Four boys this term have been affected by injury. D. Robertson got fluid in the knee, E. Mayo broke his arm, J. Miller broke his thumb, and D. Fraser underwent an operation on his eye. We are glad to see that all are nearly fit again.

One boy from the House, W. Anderson, is leaving School this term. He intends to join the Junior Leaders' Bn. at Oswestry. We wish him the best of luck in his chosen career.

The following is a list of the boys who played in our rugby fifteens :

1st XV—I. Wilkie, A. Stace, H. Miller, M. Armstrong, D. Watson, R. N. Roy, W. Scott, J. G. Kay, A. Kay, P. Kay, J. R. Fraser, I. Gray, C. Brown, W. Anderson, J. Hay and I. McGregor.

2nd XV—A. Washington, M. Scoggins, W. Stewart, W. Logue, T. Bonar, J. Allan, J. Miller, A. Broughton, B. Tiernan, R. Irvine, W. Scott, A. Sinclair, R. Jeffrey, M. Forsyth and H. Paterson.

TRENCHARD HOUSE NOTES

HOUSEMASTER : Major J. Wright.
 ASSISTANT HOUSEMASTER : Captain A. Petrie.
 HOUSE MATRON : Mrs Stewart.
 HOUSE MONITOR : C. C. Walker.
 HOUSE PREFECTS : G. Matthews, R. Bird, L. McGavin.

First, we welcome all those who joined at the beginning of the term, especially our new Housemaster, Major Wright, under whom we hope to have a cheerful and successful year. From the Primary School came twelve boys, along with three other boys who joined the School at the start of this term. These recruits are J. Dunlop from Achnamara, Argyll, P. Evans from Oswestry, Shropshire and R. Newman from Minden, Germany. By now these fifteen have settled down into the routine of Senior School life.

During the term there has been very little illness, apart from minor ailments, in the House. One of our Prefects, however, M. Gillespie (attached to Wavell House) has suffered a broken bone in his wrist, and this injury sustained near the start of term has prevented his taking part in any of the House activities.

So far only one competition, the Swimming Gala, has been completely "run-off." At the start we were not very hopeful, for, apart from one boy in one race, we were not represented in the senior group. After some fine swimming and a thrilling finish, in which we had two first places and two second places in four relays, we eventually won, but by a very small margin. During the swimming three of our boys put in excellent performances. J. Watters was Open Champion winning the Fish, and R. Newman won the Junior Championship, with J. McCorkle the Runner-up.

In the Rugby, both the Junior and Senior teams have played one match each, winning their games against, Cunningham and Haig respectively. Should our Senior team beat Cunningham Seniors in the forthcoming match, we shall win the Rugby Shield. Thus both teams (if Cunningham win, they win the Shield) are tense with excitement and are looking forward to the match.

As well as the Rugby next week, the Boxing Finals are being fought out. Naturally, as we have a fair share of the finalists, we are hoping that we will come out on top.

Though the Junior boys left their dinky toys and the like in Wavell House, they brought with them the craze, which is having a renewed popularity after a lapse of several years, of playing with yo-yos. This pastime has been enthusiastically taken up throughout the whole School, and several masters have been seen trying to acquire the knack of working them.

At the end of the term we say good-bye to I. Savill, who hooked very well in the House Rugby, and we wish him all the best in his chosen career.

In closing, the whole House joins with me in thanking our Matron and Housemaster for all their work, and we wish them and all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

HOUSE RUGBY TEAMS :

1st XV—C. Walker, G. Matthews, R. Bird, L. McGavin, K. Douglas, I. Savill, S. Donaldson, J. Watters, D. Keltie, K. McMillan, R. Kilcullen, A. Michael, J. McDonald, A. Murtagh, D. Warwood.

2nd XV—N. McConnell, E. Gillespie, D. Nealon, J. Watters, I. Smith, M. Smith, R. Newman, I. Johnston, J. Morrice, C. Stevenson, N. Donaldson, A. Morrice, J. Sycamore, T. Monaghan, N. Clark, T. Sharp.
 C.C.W.

WAVELL HOUSE

HOUSEMASTER : Mr V. H. LeMaistre.
 ASSISTANT HOUSEMASTER : Mr W. Malkowski.
 MATRON : Mrs MacRae.
 MONITOR : H. Miller.
 PREFECTS : T. D. Gavigan, M. R. Nixon, M. W. Gillespie.

The start of this School year saw new faces in Wavell House. Mr LeMaistre succeeded Major Batchelor as Housemaster, while H. Miller arrived as Monitor, and of last year's House prefects only T. D. Gavigan remained with us. At the end of this term we lose M. R. Nixon, who goes to Welbeck. We wish him every success.

A new notice-board, the envy of the Senior Houses, appeared outside the House office soon after the term began. Its design is copyright. Applications to be sent in triplicate to Wavell House.

In the Inter-dormitory swimming competition, Moore collected every prize available to them. They won the competition, while J. Dempsey, our House Captain, won the Major Championship, and S. Grant the Minor.

Changes in the School time-table made it impossible for us to compete in the West Perthshire Primary Football League. The first team, however, have played last year's league champions and present league leaders, St. Ninian's, and the result was a 4-2 win for us. Bridge of Allan School is the only other to have played against our XI. The result was a 2-2 draw and a 3-2 win for us. It is worth mentioning that our latest arrivals to the School provided the 1st XI with six "natural" football players, and our non-participation in the League is much regretted.

For football practice, the House is divided into six teams : Eagles, Huskies, Leopards, Lions, Panthers, and Tigers, playing in a league. Huskies are at present leading in this league, at the end of the first leg. Only one game has been played in the inter-dormitory championship. It was won by Lynedoch, who beat Moore 4-2.

We congratulate Terence Gavigan, our senior prefect, on his success in the Army Arts and Crafts Exhibition in London. His entries won one first and two second prizes, a remarkable achievement.

We must express our thanks to Mrs LeMaistre, and to our House Matron, Mrs MacRae, for their work and interest in the House during this term. H.M.

RUGBY NOTES

This term the 1st XV record is as follows—Played 11, won 10, drawn 1, lost 0. Points for 188; against 15. Everyone who has played for the 1st XV can be justly proud of these figures, particularly as 6 of the



15 points against were scored by a strong Old Boys' side and the School line has been crossed only twice by other schools. With all of last year's heavy-weights missing from the pack, and D. Owens on the touch line, prospects for the season could not be considered promising. However, though conceding height and weight, the scrum have been fit and mobile and have regularly gained the ball for their three-quarters from the loose. H. Miller and C. Walker, in the centre have produced a most attractive brand of attacking Rugby, and they have been supported by a steady improvement among the other backs. The only problem has been to fill the left-wing three-quarter's place, which has been occupied with indifferent success by several players.

The 2nd XV have had only three games to date, and have not had the chance to blend into a workmanlike team. Our numbers are too small to permit the development of a 2nd XV, most of whom are playing on other days as members of the Under 14½, or 3rd Year side.

The 3rd Year Team, under the captaincy of J. McKenzie, has met with mixed fortunes. Form has been quite good at home, but most disappointing away, and unfortunately the team has at times been depleted by the requirements of the 1st and 2nd XVs. The most improved player is W. Anderson, who has used his height to advantage in the line-outs and been very mobile in the loose. The scrum-half position has been particularly hard to fill, but D. Maxwell has now settled in it and shows promise.

The following boys have represented the School in the above teams during this term.

1st XV—Numbers of appearances for the XV are shown in brackets after each name. † indicates Old Colours, all re-awarded this term. * indicates Colours awarded this term. † H. Miller (11), † G. Matthews (11), † C. Walker (11), † N. Burrows (11), * P. W. Roy (10), * R. N. Roy (11), * L. McGavin (11), * P. Finlay (11), * J. Kay (11), R. L. Bird (11), J. R. Fraser (7), M. J. Armstrong (11), T. D. Gavigan (11), C. Brown (10), R. Bowes (7), M. R. Nixon (7), and M. Gillespie, S. Donaldson and K. Murray (1 each).

2nd XV—K. Douglas, W. Anderson. I. L. Savill, D. Maxwell, R. Tait, W. Scott, C. Heron, J. McKenzie, D. P. Johnstone, A. Stace, R. MacRae, J. Watters, W. Aitken, D. Watson, I. Gray, A. M. Cooper, D. Keltie.

3rd Year XV—In addition to a number of the 3rd

Year boys shown above as having played in matches for the 2nd XV, the following have appeared in the 3rd Year team—P. Kay, W. McFarquhar, M. Owens, I. Wilkie, R. Kilcullen, J. Wright, K. McMillan, T. McLaughlin, E. Thomson, R. Miller, I. Aitchison, D. Warwood, A. Michael, A. Faulds.

In 2nd Year Rugby, this is a vintage year. There are certainly 12 forwards who would be sure of team places in the normal year, and though we have sometimes been outweighed, the pack, led with great dash by L. McKenzie, have been very active and aggressive, and have always got the better of their opponents in loose play. Injuries to the captain and outstanding three-quarter in attack, D. Robertson, and to J. Miller, a real natural Rugby player and an excellent scrum-half, have greatly weakened the back division in the last few matches, and spoilt our hopes of an unbeaten season. The one defeat, when Morrison's Academy avenged their earlier beating, brought no discredit. By converting two of their three tries, from under the posts, they got a single point advantage over our four unconverted tries, and a thrilling match ended with our forwards battling desperately on the Morrison's line. The forwards have all done so well that it seems unfair to mention special names; but it may be said that A. Sinclair is probably the most improved player in the scrum, as M. Smith has been behind it. 22 different boys have appeared in this team for at least one match against other schools. They are—J. Allan, M. Smith, D. Robertson, J. Miller, N. McConnell, W. Stewart, D. Cormack, W. Logue, L. McKenzie, E. Gillespie, B. Tiernan, A. Sinclair, A. Washington, H. Paterson, D. Scott, T. Monaghan, J. Morrice, I. Johnston, J. Jeffrey, J. Oliver, C. Stevenson, P. O'Connor.

1st Year Rugby

This is the learners' section, and they have settled down this year to play reasonable Rugby much earlier than expected. The forwards, led by A. W. Morrice, play hard, but are slow to understand that they must all share the work, and the glory that comes from working together. As hooker, Jagger shows good promise, and although he lacks weight and height, his determination to gain possession makes him a formidable opponent. Other forwards who have played in matches this term are J. H. Watters, M. Forsyth, R. Irvine, S. Cobb, A. Broughton, N. Clark.

The scrum-half, M. Wills, and the stand-off and captain, R. Newman have served the backs well. Most of the tries have been scored by the backs who have been happy to throw the ball about and work together as a group. The backs who have played in the team are M. Scoggins, S. Robertson, I. Smith, C. McLaughlin, B. McLaughlin, and D. Nealon.

Team records (up to November 30th)

		P	W	L	D	F	Points A
1st XV		11	10	0	1	188	15
2nd XV		3	0	2	1	8	50
3rd Year XV		9	4	5	0	81	143
2nd Year XV		7	6	1	0	126	27
1st Year XV		2	2	0	0	74	0

SWIMMING GALA

A most successful and exciting Swimming Gala was held in the School baths on Thursday, 9th November. This is an occasion which some members of staff profess to regard with dread because of the accompanying din in a confined space and the liberal distribution of water among the spectators. This year the partisans restrained themselves very well,



and no one could grumble at the release of enthusiasm which greeted a most exciting finish to the House Competition. The group of ladies who took the seats near the starting end got more than their share of the water, for the ground-sheets provided were not big enough to protect both heads and stockings. By an unwary change of defence, they managed to get both showered at different times.

After lagging behind in the individual events, Trenchard House, with a solid block of good swimmers, came up to catch the leaders when the relays were swum, and then got in front at the time that matters by a victory in the very last event, the House mass relay race. The results are shown below. It should be noted that there were no fewer than 472 entries for the various events. It took plenty of preliminary heats to reduce the finalists to 4 per event.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

2 lengths back stroke—1 J. Watters (T), 2 R. N. Roy (H), 3 T. Gavigan (C).

4 lengths breast stroke—1 H. Miller (H), 2 N. Burrows (C), 3 K. Douglas (T).

4 lengths free style—1 J. Watters (T), 2 R. N. Roy (H), 3 H. Miller (H).

Diving—1 J. Watters (T), 2 G. Matthews (T), 3 K. Douglas (T).

Under-water Swimming—1 J. Kay (H), 2 T. Gavigan (C), 3 N. Burrows (C).

Champion—J. Watters (T) 9 points ; Runners-up—H. Miller (H) and R. N. Roy (H) 4 points.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

2 lengths back stroke—1 M. Armstrong (H), 2 R. Tait (C), 3 S. Robertson (C).

2 lengths breast stroke—1 A. Faulds (C), 2 I. Gray (H), 3 K. Murray (C).

4 lengths free style—1 M. Armstrong (H), 2 R. Bowes (C), 3 I. Wilkie (H).

Diving—1 T. McLaughlin (C), 2 A. Faulds (C), 3 D. Cormack (C).

Under-water Swimming—1 A. Faulds (C), 2 P. Kay (H), 3 S. Robertson (C).

Champion—A. Faulds (C) 8 points ; Runner-up—M. Armstrong (H) 6 points.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

2 lengths back stroke—1 R. Newman (T), 2 P. Gilder (C), 3 S. Cobb (C).

2 lengths breast stroke—1 R. Newman (T), 2 R. Wilson (H), 3 D. Nealon (T).

2 lengths free style—1 A. Broughton (H), 2 R. Newman (T), 3 T. Bonar (H).

Diving—1 J. McCorkle (T), 2 R. Newman (T), 3 B. McLaughlin (C).

Under-water swimming—1 J. L. Fraser (H), 2 J. Murray (C), 3 J. McCorkle (T).

Champion—R. Newman (T) 10 points ; Runner-up—J. McCorkle (T) 4 points.

MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

1 length back stroke—1 J. Dempsey (M), 2 K. Boyne (L), 3 D. Fingland (M).

2 lengths breast stroke—1 S. McMillan (M), 2 J. Dempsey (M), 3 P. Craggs (M).

2 lengths free style—1 J. Dempsey (M), 2 G. Cunningham (A), 3 D. Isitt (A).

Diving—1 J. Dempsey (M), 2 G. Cunningham (A), 3 J. Grigor (A).

Champion—J. Dempsey (M), 11 points ; Runner-up—J. Grigor (A).

MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP

1 length back stroke—1 D. Stewart (A), 2 B. Nicol (A), 3 D. Dodds (L).

1 length breast stroke—1 S. Grant (M), 2 I. Graham (L), 3 J. Givins (M).

1 length free style—1 G. Neill (L), 2 D. Stewart (A), 3 S. Grant (M).

Diving—1 S. Grant (M), 2 equal A. Morrison (L) and D. Parker (M).

Champion—S. Grant (M) 7 points ; Runner-up—D. Stewart (A) 5 points.

RELAY RACES (4 x 1 length)

Junior—1 Haig, 2 Trenchard, 3 Cunningham.

Senior—1 Cunningham, 2 Trenchard, 3 Haig.

Open—1 Trenchard, 2 Haig, 3 Cunningham.

Major—1 Abercromby, 2 Moore, 3 Lynedoch.

Minor—1 Moore, 2 Abercromby, 3 Lynedoch.
Mass relay (12 x 1 length)—1 Trenchard, 2 Haig, 3 Cunningham.

House Championship—1 Trenchard 58 points, 2 Haig 55 points, 3 Cunningham 49 points.

Dormitory Championship—1 Moore 40½ points, 2 Abercromby 28 points, 3 Lynedoch 15½ points.

R.L.S.S. Awards

The Life-Saving class has now grown so big that it has to be spread over two evenings per week. This year the number of candidates for the various awards of the Royal Life-Saving Society are as follows :— Award of Merit, 7 ; Instructor's Certificate, 3 ; Scholar-Instructor's Certificate, 10 ; Bronze Cross, 6 ; Bronze Medallion, 12 ; Intermediate Certificate, 35.

SQUASH RACQUETS

This term we have more than twice the number of boys playing the game that we had last year. Large numbers of newcomers have naturally brought their own problems, and the first seven or eight weeks were spent in solving some of these. The breakage rate of the School racquets, at one time, reached alarming

proportions as novices tried to dig up the floor and knock lumps from the walls.

After half-term, competitive play began, and two leagues were selected with thirty people in each, the actual league positions being initially determined by a draw. Already great changes have taken place in the junior league as certain boys proved themselves to be very promising squash players. This league competition will continue until March, when the House competitions take place.

It is more than twelve months since our courts were opened and we realise that the greatest inducement to better playing is open competition. It is easy to become self-satisfied, having no yardstick for comparison, and we would welcome any opportunity to play against other schools.

A final note to parents of boys in the third year or above. If you are uncertain of what to give your son for Christmas, may we suggest a squash racquet.

M.E.L.