



THE JOURNAL OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

No. 68

DECEMBER, 1962

EDITORIAL

Finance was a common editorial topic in the earlier days of the "Victorian." This ugly head has been glimpsed again. The summer "Victorian" was unusually big, and because of the increase in cost of production it did not even pay its way. Generally it can be expected to clear itself and even offset some of the loss accepted as inevitable on the Christmas issue. At Christmas we do not have the sales to visitors which bring in welcome cash on Grand Day. You know what this talk is leading up to. But you are wrong, and should not be so suspicious. We are not going to announce an increase in the price of the magazine—not now anyway. We repeat, however, that people in the School—we did not say boys only—ought to subscribe to the School magazine. Any boy who begins to work out how many comics he could buy for the price of a "Victorian" is not showing the right public spirit.

Admittedly this issue is thinner than the summer one; but we are not so broke that we cannot publish more short contributions from our readers if we could get them. There is not enough ambition to get into print. That is the second perennial moan. It must be added that there is a certain standard to be maintained. Even this term we have had to disappoint one or two aspirants; and as for those who are responsible for some routine reports, they should note what is said about West Highland ferries—see report of the A.C.F. camp.

Despite some inconveniences and overcrowding,

the short Christmas term has gone well enough. General Christison was the Visiting Commissioner, and Admiral Crombie has come in once or twice to see how we are getting on. They seem to have been satisfied that the School programme was being carried on efficiently in difficult circumstances. Everything has to come to an end, and we can console ourselves that some day there will be an end of excavation and installation and of the eternal mechanical noises that are the accompaniment to school work. Above all we want to see an end of the mud. The melting of November snow put the finishing touch to the state of the School grounds. The most heart-breaking job has belonged to the people who must try to keep the interior of the School clean. Nor must we forget the trials of boys who have to get their own shoes clean. Not that they do much to lighten their own work, especially those who are consumed with the passion for football at all hours. We offer our tribute to the administrative staff who have carried so many extra burdens in this period, and who have had to adapt their work to new conditions and to installations that had to be made to work at once with no time to test them properly first.

To all of you who actually read the "Victorian" we wish a very happy Christmas, and a very good New Year—getting really good in the month of April.



Lieutenant Colonel A. L. Fowler, M.C., M.A.
Headmaster of Queen Victoria School since September, 1957

GRAND DAY, 1962

The official forecast was that we would hold "some sort of Grand Day" at Cultybraggan. In fact, this Grand Day differed from normal in little but its setting. There were fewer visitors than usual, naturally enough, but the main ceremonies of the day were carried out in the accustomed fashion. As for weather, it was again one of those Grand Days when we think how lucky we are to get through without being soaked. Though the forecast offered us no hope, the rain stayed away for the afternoon.

Making his report at the prizegiving held in the Church of Scotland canteen, the Headmaster welcomed the visitors to their unusual surroundings. They might have noticed at the gate that the official name of the camp was No. 42 Week End Training Centre. He might say, and he was sure he could speak for the staff if not for the boys, that it had been a very long week-end. He wished to thank all the staff for remaining so cheerful and willing. But, he must hasten to add, Scottish Command had done everything to make life bearable, and in particular he wished to thank the Camp Commandant, Major Hutchison, for all his help.

Needless to say the motto for the period had been "Business as usual" and needless to say it had not really worked. It was difficult to calculate the number of "boy-hours" lost on bus journeys to and from Dunblane, where boys had to go for some lessons and for dental and medical attention. Speaking of work brought him to a point about which he had to be tactful. The results of the Scottish Leaving Certificate examinations had always before been available by Grand Day and had been a central point of his speech. Now that the examinations were held in May and results not known till August, perhaps he should feel pleased that Scotland was thus coming into line with schools south of the border. But he had counted it an advantage of Scottish education that boys knew their examination results before the end of the session and knew where they stood for qualifications. Now boys had to apply for jobs or University entrance without knowing whether they had the necessary qualifications. Personally he thought Scotland had lost something by the change, and he had lost the central topic of his speech. All he could say was that we had 25 boys entered for a total of 40 Highers and 117 "O" grade examinations.

Referring to events of the school year just finished, the Headmaster first expressed the sorrow felt for the deaths of two Commissioners in recent months. Lord Thomson and Colonel Buchanan were true friends of the School and had always given excellent advice and support. There were two examinations of which he could announce the results; 18 candidates out of 23 had passed the County Junior Secondary Certificate examination, a very satisfactory proportion, reflecting a general improvement in our Junior Secondary department. He could now assure parents of boys doing the Junior Secondary course that we

were giving them a sound mixture of technical and academic instruction aimed at getting them good apprenticeships, in the Services or with civilian firms. There had also been good results in the Promotion examination. Of the 39 boys who took it, 20 were graded as suitable for Senior Secondary education. This high percentage reflected credit on the Primary Seven teachers.

Turning to other activities, he alluded first to the success of the School Rugby XV, which had drawn two matches and won all the rest. Though we had been unable to hold the usual Relay Baton athletic meeting, we had a successful sports day at Cultybraggan and a close match with Rannoch. J. McKenzie was a competitor in the 13-15 class in the Scottish Schools Championships, reaching the final of the 880 yards and coming second in the Long Jump final. It could no longer be said that every boy in the School could swim a length of the baths, but only one or two could not. Moreover there were now 66 boys in the School holding Life Saving awards. As boys were not eligible to attempt these till they were 13 years old, that meant 66 out of a total of 108. There had been little cricket in the summer, but plenty of expeditions and bivouacking and canoeing. Tests for the higher series of the Duke of Edinburgh's awards would be held at A.C.F. camp. He could, however, report that John Ross had gained the Gold Award and been presented with it a fortnight before. Ross was now at Edinburgh University.

Next the Headmaster spoke about the boys who were leaving school. Three had been accepted for Universities, J. G. Kay, R. L. Bird, and N. Burrows. (In fact Burrows was later accepted for entry to Cranwell, and did not take up his provisional University place.) T. Gavigan had been accepted for the Dundee College of Art, and R. N. Roy for the Executive Grade of the Civil Service. It was not yet possible to give final figures of boys going into the Services, but three boys of the Junior Secondary stream had passed the R.A.F. apprentice examination and four other Junior Secondary pupils had been accepted for top trades by various Army Apprentice Schools. It was expected that of the 40 leavers at least 20 would be going directly into the Services. There was no compulsion for boys from the School to go into the Services and no pressure was put on them to do so. However, the Services were offering a more and more attractive career, and we felt that boys from the School who did join the Services had a flying start and almost without exception did extremely well. He wished success to all leavers mentioning particularly the Senior Monitor, Craig Walker.

In conclusion the Headmaster looked forward to the next Grand Day when visitors would be able to admire the new and reconstructed buildings. Throughout the negotiations for the new buildings, one man had particularly been looking after our interests. That was Mr Drew, until recently a Deputy Under Secretary at the War Office. Unfortunately this was his last appearance as a Commissioner of the School,

for he had now gone to the Home Office. The Headmaster thanked him for all his efforts as well as for coming that day to present the prizes.

In his address before presenting the prizes, Mr A. C. W. Drew congratulated all concerned on the work achieved at Cultybraggan. He might say he was surprised to find that a Grand Day was possible at all, and he hoped that on return to the new buildings all would find that their efforts and discomforts had been worth while. To the parents first, for without them there could be no pupils, he expressed his pleasure at seeing so many interested visitors present. To the prizewinners he offered his congratulations on having taken good advantage of the considerable facilities for education afforded by the School. But the prize system was not entirely satisfactory, for it did not recognise many deserving pupils who had made big efforts without being at the top. Two things, he thought, were more important than prizes or results in class. The first of these was learning to do your duty and knowing what your duty was. Certain people could work away at a job for years without ever knowing what their duty was, because they had not been put on the right track to start with. A good school could put people on the right track from boyhood. Speaking as a civilian, with no axe to grind, he declared that service in the Armed Forces particularly demanded this sense of one's duty, and he was pleased to hear of so many boys who were joining the Services. The second point was the keeping of interest. That was what prevented boredom and made you discover more. He himself recalled the boredom of geography lessons at school, especially those about glaciers. But in later years when he saw smooth rocks among heather he realised the effects of glaciation and that revived interest.

After the distribution of class and school subject prizes, there followed the familiar stately parade on the playing field. Lieutenant-General Sir William Turner, G.O.C. in C. Scottish Command was the Inspecting Officer. Speaking to the boys at the end of the parade, he congratulated them on maintaining their high standard of turnout and bearing. He was pleased, too, to see so many parents and friends gathered for the ceremony, for there was a modern tendency to leave the upbringing of children to teachers and schoolmasters. That was surely wrong. Parents, friends, and teachers all had their part to play in bringing up a child and building the child's character. To the leavers he spoke of the importance of service. Many careers were devoted to service, and he advised boys to join the voluntary services on which Britain still relied so much. There were two great virtues which could be acquired at school and carried into future life. These were courage and honesty. It should be remembered, too, that the key to success of any kind was hard work. In conclusion, General Turner expressed his congratulations to all concerned with the success of this Grand Day.

Lady Turner then presented to the winners those awards and trophies which are traditionally given

after the parade. A bouquet was presented to her by a junior boy. This year the honour belonged to G. Fox.

The usual displays followed, and in accordance with the custom now established, many boys not going on to school camps were able to start their long holiday immediately after the ceremonies. In this way parents, particularly those coming long distances and those who have young boys in the School, are able to escort their sons home.

Perhaps the most pleasing feature of Grand Day, Cultybraggan version, was that so many friends of the School did make the difficult journey needed to reach the camp. Among the many visitors, we shall, we hope, offend no other if we mention specially how glad we were to see the familiar figure of Admiral Cantlie. He retired last year from the Board of Commissioners because of ill-health, but still showed his indomitable interest in the School by making the journey to Cultybraggan for this occasion.

PRIZE LIST 1962

Class and subject prizes presented by Mr A. C. W. Drew, C.B., at the Prize-giving in the Church of Scotland Canteen Hut.

Primary School

Primary 6A—1 George Neill, 2 Alastair Greig and Michael McNaughton.

Primary 6B—1 John Robinson, 2 Gordon Hill.

Primary 7A—1 Jeffrey Wood, 2 John Lee, 3 Roderick McDougall.

Primary Art Prize—Colin Lannen.

Primary 7B—1 David Isitt, 2. Colin Robertson

Secondary School

IA—1 M. Hewgill, 2 R. Newman.

IB—1 D. Nealon, 2 J. I. McCorkle.

Metalwork Prize—D. Nealon.

IIA—1 A. Warwood, 2 J. Allen, 3 K. Smith.

IIB—1 W. Stewart, 2 D. V. Scott, 3 L. McKenzie.

Technical Drawing Prize—D. V. Scott.

IIIA—1 A. Kay, 2 M. Owens.

Intermediate Art Prize—M. Owens.

IIIB—1 J. McKenzie, 2 T. McLaughlin, 3 I. Wilkie.

Woodwork Prize—A. Murtagh.

IV—1 R. Smith, 2 W. Aitken.

Prize for Technical Subjects—S. Donaldson.

Technical Drawing—W. Scott.

V—1 P. Finlay.

Senior Art Prize—T. Gavigan.

VI—Dux of School—J. G. Kay.

Eric Drew Memorial French Prize—(Senior)—J. G. Kay, (Junior)—R. Newman.

Cranston Memorial Essay Prize—N. Burrows.

Headmaster's Prize for Reading in Chapel—N. Burrows.

County Junior Secondary Certificates

I. Aitchison, J. Brown, A. M. Cooper, D. Fraser, R. Kilcullen, J. McDonald, W. McFarquhar, J. McKenzie, T. McLaughlin, K. McMillan, R. MacRae, E. Mayo, R. Miller, A. Murtagh, A. Towns, J. Williamson, J. Wright.

Prizes and Trophies presented at Grand Day Parade by Lady Turner, wife of the Inspecting Officer.

Prince Philip Medal—J. McKenzie.
 Best Piper—R. N. Roy.
 Best Drummer and Bugler—R. Kilcullen.
 Best Bugler—R. D. Young.
 Best Drummer (London Old Victorians' Trophy)—J. Dempsey.
 Best Highland Dancer—D. J. McKue.
 Best Shot—C. C. Walker.
 Wavell Memorial Cup (for best boy in outdoor pursuits)—C. C. Walker.
 First Hundred Trophy (best A.C.F. Section)—Haig House.
 Grant Cup (champion dormitory in Wavell House)—Abercromby Dormitory.
 House Championship Shield—Cunningham House.
 The British Legion Jubilee prize, awarded to the best boy leaving to join the Services had to be held over until the results of applications were known. It has since been awarded to Monitor N. Burrows, now with R.A.F., Cranwell.

REGIMENTAL PRIZES 1962

The following boys have gained the awards made annually to the best boys of their regimental groups (fathers' regiments).

THE BLACK WATCH—McKenzie prize—R. N. Roy.
 Wauchope prize—R. Miller. Jock Stuart prize—A. Murtagh.

THE SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS (Association and Association Club prizes)—C. C. Walker, M. Armstrong, I. Donnelly.

THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS (White prize)—W. McFarquhar.

ROYAL HIGHLAND FUSILIERS—A. W. Stace.

TRADES COMPETITIONS

The annual competitions in piping, drumming and bugling, and Highland dancing took place too late in the term at Cultybraggan for the results to be included in our summer issue. They are printed below. Winners' medals and chanters for the two best junior pipers were presented by the Commandant at the Grand Day rehearsal parade. We are grateful

to Major General F. H. Richardson (Piping), Brigadier A. J. D. Clark (Dancing) and Colonel R. Linton (Drumming and Bugling) for their kindness in coming to Cultybraggan to judge these competitions.

Piping (Boyd Prizes)

Class A—Slow March—1 R. N. Roy, 2 L. McGavin, 3 I. Fraser. March—1 L. McGavin, 2 R. N. Roy, 3 I. Fraser.

Class B—Slow March—1 I. Fraser, 2 N. McConnell, 3 J. Wood. March—1 I. Fraser, 2 N. McConnell, 3 (equal) J. Wood and N. Clark.

Open—Strathspey and Reel—1 R. N. Roy, 2 I. Fraser, 3 L. McGavin.

Class C—Chanter Competition—1 D. Isitt, 2 J. Wood, 3 G. Slater.

Best Piper—Boy Pipe Major R. N. Roy.

Best Piper in Class B—I. Fraser.

Drums and Bugles

Class A—Drumming—1 J. Dempsey, 2 W. Aitken, 3 E. Thomson. Bugling—1 R. D. Young, 2 R. Kilcullen, 3 A. Richardson.

Class B—Drumming—1 A. Smith, 2 G. McManus, 3 R. Gill. Bugling—1 R. McKenzie, 2 F. Mitchell, 3 A. Stace.

Tenor Drumming—1 J. McDonald, 2 R. Kilcullen, 3 A. Stace.

Best Drummer and Bugler—R. Kilcullen.

Highland Dancing

Class A—Highland Fling—1 D. McKue, 2 A. Sinclair, 3 J. Watters. Sword Dance—1 J. Watters, 2 D. McKue, 3 J. Murray.

Class B—Highland Fling—1 J. Givins, 2 J. Lee, 3 J. Grigor. Sword Dance—1 J. Givins, 2 J. Lee, 3 D. Stewart.

Best Dancer—D. J. McKue.

Best Junior Dancer—J. A. Givins.

Best Progress—Juniors—N. Burns.

House Dancing Shield and Shaw Stewart Prizes for winning House Team—Cunningham House (D. McKue, J. Murray, D. Jagger, G. Cassells).

HOUSE AND DORMITORY COMPETITIONS 1961-62

The final event of the (Senior) House and (Junior) Dormitory Championships was the Drill Competition held on 4th July, too late for a report of it to be included in our summer issue. Major G.M.M.M. Howatt, M.C., Officer Commanding the Black Watch and Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Depot, kindly came to Cultybraggan to judge the competition.

The results were:—

Senior Houses—1 Cunningham, 2 Trenchard, 3 Haig.

Wavell House—1 Lynedoch, 2 Abercromby, 3 Moore.

Their victory in the House Competition consolidated Cunningham's position as champion House, already ensured by their lead in the previous events. Haig, four times winners in the six years since Houses were started, had the leanest of years, but got some late consolation by winning the First Hundred Trophy for the best A.C.F. section.

The Dormitory championship was closer. Abercromby went away with a big lead in the winter events, but Lynedoch nearly caught them by winning several events in a row. Their second in the Drill just enabled Abercromby to keep ahead and win the Grant Cup for the champion dormitory.

STAFF CHANGES

This term we welcome to the staff two new R.A.E.C. officers, Major G. W. Davies and Captain E. R. Sansom.

Major Davies, who takes over Haig House from Major Batchelor and takes the place of Captain Lees as a teacher of Science, is a Welshman from Cardiff. He was educated at Whitchurch Grammar School, at the Manchester College of Technology where he studied Mechanical Engineering, and at Cardiff University College where his course was in Mathematics and Physics. After working as a Design Engineer with the Shipbuilding Research and Development Association, he spent 2½ years in the Royal Engineers and then was transferred to the R.A.E.C. He has spent five years as a lecturer in the Physics Branch at the Royal Military College of Science, and three years in research there, publishing papers on "The Anisotropy of Resistivity of Carbon-loaded Polymers" and on "The Degradation of Polyisobutylene." They sound quite likely scientific words, and we have to trust that he is not pulling our leg. We do not, however, propose to invite any contributions to the "Victorian" on these topics. Major Davies tells us that he has given up the important sports "on account of old age," and is now concentrating on "the less energetic varieties," tennis, squash and snooker, in which he claims modestly to have won "minor tournaments." The truth is that he has been seeded No. 1 at tennis and squash in the R.A.E.C. and has a row of trophies for past successes.

Captain Sansom is teaching in the Primary School and assisting in Wavell House. He fills the vacancy for an R.A.E.C. captain created by the departure of Captain Lees. One cannot help thinking that the longitudinal measurements appropriate to this vacancy must have been under consideration when Captain Sansom was chosen. His home was in Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire. From the local grammar school at Wolverhampton he went to Keble College, Oxford, where he studied French and Latin, and then

to Norway to study Norwegian dialects at the University of Oslo. He joined the Army as a National Serviceman and served first as a Sergeant in Malaya, teaching the Malay language to officers and N.C.Os. In 1959 he returned to England and after Cadet training was commissioned in the R.A.E.C. He was posted to Germany as Education Officer to the Buffs and continued to serve with that regiment in Britain and Kenya. His home now is at East Dean, a village near Eastbourne. Captain Sansom plays tennis and "enjoys swimming." At Oxford he rowed for his College 1st VIII. Other interests are drama and music, and he says he "plays the cello with zest rather than expertise."

We hope that both these officers will have a happy stay in Queen Victoria School.

There is also a departure to be recorded. We are very sorry indeed to lose the services of Captain A. Smith, who is now finishing his period in the R.A.E.C. and will soon be taking up an appointment as Production Engineer with Ferranti's in Manchester. This is a happy omen for the National Productivity Year. His place here will be taken by a civilian master, Mr J. P. Urie, who joins us next term. Captain Smith has done excellent work at Q.V.S. and has had a great deal to do with the development of technical subjects in the School as well as the management of Haig House, to which he has been assistant housemaster. His canoeing expeditions were among the best features of life at Cultybraggan Camp and he has been a great helper with hobbies and sports. We shall miss his blunt manner and his unfailing helpfulness. To him and his wife, grass-widowed by Captain Smith's service here, we wish success and happiness.

SALVETE

We welcome to the School the following recruits, who joined us at the start of this School Year :—

- 2982 Aitkenhead, Gordon Clayton (Wavell)—R.A.S.C.
- 2983 Allan, John Arthur (Wavell)—Q.O.H.
- 2984 Barnes, James Forrester (Wavell)—R.A.O.C.
- 2985 Bonar, Edward Whitelaw (Cunningham)—Black Watch.
- 2986 Bonar, Roy Gordon (Wavell)—Black Watch.
- 2987 Bowlit, Kenneth Stuart (Wavell)—R.A.F.
- 2988 Brown, Peter David (Wavell)—R.A.
- 2989 Campbell, Robert Bruce (Wavell)—R.A.S.C.
- 2990 Cassells, Allan Morton (Wavell)—R.S.F.
- 2991 Cockburn, Kenneth Andrew (Wavell)—Royal Scots.
- 2992 Corrigan, Stephen (Wavell)—R.E.
- 2993 Craig, Ian (Wavell)—Seaforth Highlanders.
- 2994 Curl, Laurence Frederick (Cunningham)—R.A.C.
- 2995 Davies, Richard John (Wavell)—R.A.O.C.

- 2996 Dempsey, William Denholm (Wavell)—Royal Scots.
 2997 Docherty, Philip John (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 2998 Fenner, David Bruce (Wavell)—Black Watch.
 2999 Grant, Ronnie (Wavell)—Royal Navy.
 3000 Grey, Alan Stewart (Wavell)—Royal Scots.
 3001 Hamilton, Roderick Taylor (Wavell)—Black Watch.
 3002 Hill, Andrew John Munro (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
 3003 Hossack, James Ross (Wavell)—R.E.M.E.
 3004 Hutchison, Robert Stephen Andrew (Haig)—Royal Navy.
 3005 Kirkwood, Alan James (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 3006 Long, Robert (Wavell)—Cameronians.
 3007 McArthur, Robert Malcolm (Cunningham)—Seaforth Highlanders.
 3008 MacDonald, Angus Norman (Wavell)—Scots Guards.
 3009 McGinlay, John (Haig)—R.A.F. Regiment.
 3010 MacInnes, Duncan (Haig)—R.M.P.
 3011 Mackenzie, Ian James (Wavell)—R.A.O.C.
 3012 McKerron William Kenneth (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
 3013 McLaughlin, Michael (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 3014 Maclean, Donald Archibald (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 3015 McMillan, Andrew John (Wavell)—R.E.
 3016 Matheson, Charles Roderick (Wavell)—R.M.P.
 3017 Munro, Sanderson Wilson (Wavell)—Intelligence Corps.
 3018 Murdoch, Robert (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 3019 Murton, Brian Ronald (Wavell)—R.A.
 3020 Neill, Peter Angus Gardiner (Wavell)—R.A.C.
 3021 Pope, Stephen (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
 3022 Ramage, Ronald Drummond Gordon (Haig)—R.A.S.C.
 3023 Reid, Ian (Haig)—Black Watch.
 3024 Robertson, Allan (Wavell)—R.E.
 3025 Robertson, John Thomson (Wavell)—A. & S.H.
 3027 Robinson, Keith Lochhead (Wavell)—Cameronians.
 3028 Scott, William Black (Haig)—Royal Scots.
 3029 Smith, Victor Metcalfe (Cunningham)—R.A.S.C.
 3030 Stevenson, Robert Rennie (Wavell)—R.E.
 3031 Sutherland, Benjamin Mark (Wavell)—Cameronians.
 3032 White, Bill (Wavell)—Royal Navy.
 3033 Wood, Michael Conrad (Wavell)—R.A.F.
 3034 Wrenn, Derrick William (Wavell)—A.P.T.C.
 3035 MacIver, Donald (Wavell)—R.E.

VALETE

We wish the best of luck to the Victorians who are leaving us at the end of this term :—

Form V

M. W. GILLESPIE—Joined September, 1957. Trenchard House. Monitor of Wavell House.

A.C.F. Sergeant. Certificate A, Parts I and II. Life-saving, Award of Merit. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series. 1st XV, 1962. Scottish Certificate of Education Ordinary Grade English, French, Maths, Physics, Chemistry. To Welbeck College. Home address : 10 Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, Yorks.

Form IVB

J. MCKENZIE—Main details already published in summer "Victorian". Returned to School awaiting entry to R.A.F. Add to previous details :—Prefect in Wavell House. 1st XV. Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Silver Series.

D. S. FRASER—Joined September, 1958. Haig House. A.C.F. Certificate A, Parts I and II. Life-saving, Bronze Medallion. Assistant Librarian. Church Orderly. Junior Secondary Certificate. To Harrogate Army Apprentices School as Electronics Technician. Home address : 45 Christian Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh, 15.

T. B. McLAUGHLIN—Joined September, 1959. Cunningham House. A.C.F. Certificate A, Part I. Life-saving, Bronze Medallion. Junior Secondary Certificate. To Carlisle Army Apprentices School as Instrument Technician. Home address : c/o 11 Tarbert Place, Carlisle, Lanarkshire.

Form IIIB

M. H. KILLEY—Joined September, 1958. Cunningham House. A.C.F. Certificate A, Part I. Future employment not yet known. Home address : 35 Portland Place, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

N. A. MENZIES—Joined September, 1957. Trenchard House. A.C.F. Certificate A, Part I. Future employment not yet known. Home address : 22 Strathesk Place, Kirkhill, Penicuik, Midlothian.

THE SCOTTISH CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

The results of the Scottish Certificate examination, new style, were published during the summer holiday. The Lower grade finished in 1961. There is now an Ordinary grade examination, normally taken by boys in their fourth year secondary. They can also sit for this grade at a later stage if necessary, to get supplementary qualifications. Higher grade remains as before, and candidates who have narrowly failed for the Higher grade may be granted an Ordinary grade pass on performance at a Higher grade examination.

In order to show the complete group obtained by each boy, we are printing in brackets after the 1962 passes, the details of previous Higher and Lower passes obtained in 1961. Analysis and Dynamics are advanced mathematical subjects taken by boys who have already passed Higher Mathematics.

R. L. Bird—Higher History, Elementary Analysis,

Dynamics (English, Maths, Science. Lower French and Arithmetic).

N. Burrows—Higher History, Elementary Analysis, Dynamics (English, Maths and Science. Lower History. Arithmetic).

J. G. Kay—Higher French, Elementary Analysis, Dynamics (English History, Maths and Science).

R. N. Roy—Higher History (English, Maths, Science. Lower French, Arithmetic).

J. R. Fraser—Higher English. Lower Maths. (History, Science, Arithmetic).

T. D. Gavigan—Higher English (Art, Lower History, Maths and French).

L. T. McGavin—Higher English. Ordinary Arithmetic, Physics, Chemistry.

G. Matthews—Higher English, Maths. Ordinary Physics (Arithmetic).

D. R. Owens—Higher History, Science. Ordinary English, French (Lower Maths and Arithmetic).

P. R. C. Finlay—Higher English. Ordinary History, Arithmetic, Maths.

C. C. Walker—Ordinary Physics, Chemistry (Higher English and Maths. Lower Science. French and Arithmetic).

W. A. R. Aitken—Ordinary English, History, Arithmetic, Maths, French, Physics, and Chemistry.

M. J. Armstrong—Ordinary English, Modern Studies, Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mechanics, Technical Drawing, Woodwork.

H. R. Bowes—Ordinary English, Modern Studies, Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mechanics.

C. McK. Brown—Ordinary English, Arithmetic, Chemistry.

S. J. Donaldson—Ordinary Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mechanics, Technical Drawing, Woodwork.

K. M. Douglas—Ordinary English, Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mechanics, Technical Drawing, Woodwork.

M. W. Gillespie—Ordinary English, Arithmetic, Maths, French, Physics, Chemistry.

I. C. Gray—Ordinary Arithmetic, Technical Drawing, Woodwork.

D. T. Keltie—Ordinary English, History, Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry.

K. Murray—Ordinary English, Modern Studies, Arithmetic, Maths, Physics, Chemistry.

W. J. Scott—Ordinary English, Arithmetic, Maths, Art, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mechanics, Technical Drawing, Woodwork.

R. I. Smith—Ordinary English, History, Arithmetic, Maths, French, Physics, Chemistry.

D. J. Watson—Ordinary English, Arithmetic, Maths, French, Art.

J. Watters—Ordinary English, Modern Studies, Arithmetic, French.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARDS

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme continues to flourish, very properly in the School of which he is Patron. In the School year 1961-62, 32 boys entered for awards. The results were as follows :—

Gold Award, 3rd series : 3 entered, 3 passed.

Silver Award, 2nd series : 9 entered, 8 passed.

Bronze Award, 1st series : 20 entered, 15 passed.

The award winners were :—

Gold : C. C. Walker, W. Aitken, J. Watters.

Silver : C. Brown, S. Donaldson, J. McKenzie, D. Maxwell, K. Murray, M. Owens, W. Scott, D. Watson.

Bronze : J. Allan, A. M. Cooper, N. Donaldson, E. Gillespie, P. Kay, N. McConnell, L. McKenzie, K. McMillan, R. Miller, D. Nix, P. O'Connor, D. Robertson, W. Stewart, E. Thomson, A. Washington.

Some of these boys left School in summer, and for that reason do not appear among the candidates for the next series.

Twenty-nine boys, including 14 new entrants, are taking part in the scheme this year. They are :—

Gold Award candidates : S. Donaldson, P. Finlay, M. Gillespie, D. Maxwell, K. Murray, M. Owens, W. Scott, D. Watson.

Silver Award candidates : J. Allan, N. Donaldson, E. Gillespie, P. Kay, L. McKenzie, R. Miller, D. Robertson, W. Stewart.

Bronze Award candidates : A. Broughton, N. Clark, W. Logue, J. McCorkle, D. McKue, C. McLaughlin, T. Monaghan, R. Newman, H. Pater-son, D. Scott, A. Stace, B. Tiernan, M. Wills.

THE BALTIC CRUISE

Almost everyone connected with education in Scotland must by now know of the educational cruises organised by the British India Steam Navigation Company in the former troopships *Dunera* and *Devonia*. The objects of these cruises, in addition to the obvious practical one of keeping the ships earning money, are to spread international understanding by letting boys and girls actually see the people and living conditions in other countries, and to help to make sense of geography and current affairs lessons. The cruises are cheap, but not all that cheap. Some educational authorities subsidise part of the cost to their pupils, but if this is not done few parents would find themselves less out of pocket than about £50 for a fortnight's cruise for one child, counting in pocket money and all incidental expenses.

It was a pleasant surprise, therefore, when in the spring of 1962 the Chairman of the British India Steam Navigation Company wrote to invite the

School to send a party free on any of the cruises being run during the coming season. The demands of the School curriculum make it very difficult to spare boys from classes during term-time, but this year we were having a particularly long summer holiday owing to the building programme and this gave us a splendid chance to fit in a cruise to Stockholm, Leningrad and Copenhagen sailing from Grangemouth in mid-September and lasting a fortnight. The Company laid down no conditions as to who or how many should go. They merely said that they would welcome a party of boys from the School as they knew that they would be well-disciplined and well-behaved. We felt, however, that it would be some return for so handsome an offer if we took a party which could make some contribution to the success of the cruise, and it was decided to take the Pipes and Drums and some of the Highland Dancers. Difficulties over leaving boys, those going to join parents overseas and those not yet twelve, which is the minimum age for these cruises, complicated selection but, in the end, we collected a party of sixteen pipers and eight drummers, eked out by Dennis Owens and Eric Thomson who had in fact left school in July, and ten dancers. The Company normally allow only one leader to every twenty boys but the necessity for providing some nominal control of the party and the necessary technical advice made us ask, with some diffidence, if we could bring four leaders. This was immediately accepted and the Commandant, Pipe-Major Sanderson, Drum-Major Morrison and C.S.M. Mortimer all accompanied the party.

We joined the *Dunera* on the morning of 15 September, were given a special lunch on our own and then piped the rest of the passengers on board and by 3 p.m. the ship was sailing down the Forth. There were about 800 boys and girls on board, mostly from Scottish schools. The dormitories, down in the hold-space with boys forward and girls aft, were of many different sizes and most school parties had one to themselves. Because of all our kit and uniform we were given a good, large one called Baffin after the Arctic explorer. The leaders were accommodated in cabins. Feeding for the school parties was in a large cafeteria, but even then had to be in three sittings. The food was very good but the noise and jostling appeared to an outsider to be appalling. The grown-ups had it much more civilised. We fed in the dining saloon in two sessions with excellent food and very good Goanese waiters.

There was an early meeting of the ship's staff with party leaders to discuss organisation and discipline. It made at least one leader's blood run cold. The segregation of the sexes, loss of children overboard, arson and mayhem generally appeared to be major problems to be expected constantly. Luckily it did not work out that way. The leaders were organised into patrols who were each responsible for the good behaviour of an area of the ship in the evenings. The Commandant and Pipe-Major found themselves together on this duty more than once. For some

unstated reason, however, their duties seemed to become less arduous and at more convenient times as the voyage progressed until they were almost nominal. One real hazard was the constant broadcasting of quite important organisational information over a Tannoy system. This, to a leader who for thirty years had reckoned orderly duties to be something that other people did, was a considerable strain and at first led to many important conferences being missed. The cruise, however, progressed somehow notwithstanding.

There was much provision for education. Each school party was allotted a classroom for at least two periods a day. There were also excellent lectures and films given by the educational staff of the ship, and prizes were offered for the best log books kept and for essays on various aspects of the cruise. We also had our pipe, drum and dancing practice to do and there was a good deal of necessary administrative work in briefing for the next day's activities, issuing cash and so on. We did not do a great deal of class work and did not go in for the logbook and essay competitions, partly because of the wide range of age of our party, but the educational side of the cruise was certainly not ignored by us and everyone took a sensible interest in the excellent instruction provided by the ship's staff.

We passed the Bass Rock late on the first evening, had a pleasant warm and calm day crossing the North Sea and reached the entrance to the Kiel Canal at breakfast time next morning. The passage of the Canal took about five hours and was an unusual experience for service people most of whom are more accustomed to Port Said to Suez rather than Brunsbüttel to Kiel. There followed a spell of thirty-six hours in the Western Baltic and a run in the early morning up the Stockholm Fiord with its hundreds of islands, each with its holiday houses most of them now unoccupied because the summer was over. Stockholm is an extraordinary city, built on islands and with very many bridges. We were taken on a long bus tour including a visit to the famous warship *Vassar* which sunk in the seventeenth century on its maiden voyage, was raised intact last year and is now in a special indoor dock. We then had a very short time in which to explore Stockholm which we did in slightly over-regimented parties the management not yet being accustomed to the organisation of boys in foreign parts and being unnecessarily apprehensive of losing someone. We piped the ship out of Stockholm at about 4 p.m. on a cold evening after an all too short stay of which the chief impressions were of a clean and beautiful city and an extremely crowded large shop where one girl was trying to sell picture postcards to eight hundred cruisers, and where one's chivalry was severely strained by seeing schoolgirls from the *Dunera* brazenly joining the queue well ahead of their proper station.

The ship arrived at Leningrad early in the morning so that few of us saw the approaches to the port. When we came on deck we found ourselves berthed

in a dock area with few ships close by and nothing much going on. Soon however two bus-loads of Russian children, the reception committee, arrived and after some considerable delay a band, which may have been military but did not look it, was decanted from a lorry. Our Pipes and Drums disembarked to the quayside and the reception was on. The bands played alternately, the *Dunera's* Director of Studies and, presumably, Russian teachers made speeches and the proceedings were brought to an end by the Russian children advancing on the Pipes and Drums and presenting most of them with bouquets of flowers and bright red scarves. It is not possible to play the pipes whole holding a bouquet so the pipers returned on board and everyone else withdrew.

It was a cold, dull day and the bus tour on which we were taken round the sights gave most of us an impression of a drab, dull, dilapidated city with queues at every food shop, no private cars and rather ill-dressed depressed people in the streets. We saw the splendid new sports stadium and were then taken to the Hermitage museum where perhaps the most striking thing was not the magnificent galleries and wonderful exhibits but the great mass of people, including those who clearly came from every Asian country, who were thronging the rooms. We then went back to the ship. Later a party of Russian children came on board and took part in a concert of which the British side was, in all modesty, almost completely carried by the Queen Victoria School. When that was over a selected party, but including all of us, went off to the Palace of Soviet Culture, which was a sort of super youth club. Here the Pipes and Drums had plenty of space to march and counter-march in the main room and the Dancers danced the Argyll Broadsword. We got back to the ship about midnight.

Next day was fine, warm and sunny. The whole aspect of Leningrad and its people changed for the better. We went off again after breakfast to a Palace of Soviet Pioneers (every habitable building in Leningrad seemed to be the Palace of something or other) which was the headquarters in Leningrad of the Pioneers which is the only youth organisation in Russia. There were lots of Russian children there, mostly under fourteen years old, and much trouble was taken to show us round. An odd thing in all this excellent hospitality was that at no time were any of us offered anything to eat or drink. The Russians were quite certain that we wanted to see things and were not going to waste time on anything else. This differs from the British custom where food and drink is immediately produced, possibly to save the effort required by other means of entertainment, and scotches for ever the idea that this cruise took the form of a vodka and caviare crawl.

Our party had special permission to leave the Pioneers early and we went off with our very nice In-Tourist guide to spend an hour shopping in the Nevski Prospekt. There was almost nothing to buy at the prices that we could pay but we did manage to

have a good look at a big book-shop. We then had to hurry back to the ship for an early lunch before going off to give the full Murrayfield treatment with the Pipes and Drums to two football matches between Scottish Schoolboys XIs sponsored by Mr. Tam Dalyell, M.P., and Russian youth clubs. The Russians hardly made it an all-ticket occasion but the stands slowly filled up and those of us for whom one hundred and eighty consecutive minutes of boys' association football tended to pall had plenty of opportunity to watch a cheerful, good humoured crowd of Russian men and boys taking an afternoon's leisure. The ship sailed that evening but before it did so we turned out the Pipes and Drums on the quay, the Russians produced their band and children and the whole arrival ceremony took place again but in reverse, less the bouquets.

Thus ended our visit behind the Iron Curtain. There had been so much fuss about visas and identity cards for Russia that we had expected much police bother. There was in fact almost none. Boys were allowed to take cameras ashore and to photograph anything, being only warned that individual strangers did not like to be photographed, which goes for this country, too. Two boys lost their landing cards and we feared trouble at the gangway, but the dock police allowed them to be vouched for and they were allowed on and off without any trouble.

Once we had left Leningrad we had our noses pointed home and there was a marked lightening of the pressure of serious activity. Our Highland Dancers gave an exhibition on deck which was very well received. A ship is not however a good place in which to do Highland Dancing. The spectators are either too close or too far away and in consequence our dancers unfortunately did not get as many opportunities as did the Pipes and Drums. After two whole days sailing down the Baltic we arrived at Copenhagen about 11 p.m. in the evening. No dormitory-passengers were allowed ashore that night but some of the more determined leaders went straight off to see the night life of Copenhagen which was, by all accounts, a trifle expensive and disappointing. Next morning everyone disembarked and we were taken by a bus through a series of very prosperous looking seaside villages to Helsingør, the Hamlet castle of Elsinore, and spent a full hour going over the building. We then returned to the ship by a different and more inland route through the Danish farmlands. After lunch our party went on shore again in small independent parties to buy presents in the very good shops of Copenhagen. Freed of the, probably unnecessary, dread felt in Leningrad of straying into some forbidden place and confident that everyone would behave sensibly there was no more need for control and supervision in Copenhagen than there would be in Edinburgh.

It had been broadcast on the Danish radio that our Pipes and Drums would beat Retreat on the Lange-linne, the long quayside embankment of Copenhagen

alongside which the ship was moored. Despite a cold evening a good number of people turned out to watch and everything went off very well. As soon as Retreat was over the ship sailed and by bedtime we were through the Kattegat and headed for home. There had been all sorts of competitions held in the ship during the voyage. The most important was the best dormitory competition and it was soon decided that as the only party from a boarding school we were so good as to be *hors de concours*. The Captain therefore gave us the prize and gave another one to the school who could come closest to us. We also won the deck hockey tournament, McGavin won the table-tennis competition and we made a clean sweep (Isitt, Fraser and McDougall) in the fancy dress competition (female impersonator section). There were many good individual performances that there is no space to record—how Dennis Owens became a ship's prefect and how Tiernan the Twist dominated the dances for example—but our party certainly did enough to make a considerable impact on the voyage as a whole.

Finally, early on 28 July, the ship berthed again at Grangemouth where the Pipes and Drums played for the disembarkation of the passengers and the cruise was over. It really was a most memorable experience made particularly satisfactory to the leaders of our party by the sensible behaviour and creditable bearing of all our boys. Everyone who took part is certainly most grateful to the British India Company and to Captain Baker, his staff and ship's company in the M.V. *Dunera* for a very happy voyage.

AVIEMORE CAMP, 1962

Since we had heard that at these camps so much depended on the weather, we wondered, as we packed our kit on the evening of Grand Day with a steady drizzle pattering on the Cultybraggan tin roofs and nothing but swirling mists where the hills should be—we wondered whether we had done the right thing in volunteering. However, it was too late now. We had put our names down and paid our cash and that was that.

Thursday morning dawned and as our 'bus sped deeper into the Highlands, it became obvious that our fears were unfounded. As the hills became higher and the glens deeper, so the sun shone more brightly and the air became clearer. This time, for the twelfth annual Aviemore camp, the weather was going to be fine.

As we approached the Ski Hut, we also realised that our mental picture of a little shelter, half buried in snow, was a long way off the mark. Here was a bunkhouse as comfortable and picturesque as any this side of Laramie and situated in a wonderful spot between the green Rothiemurchus Forest, through which we had just travelled, and the great mass of the

Cairngorms looming up before us. As Wilson so expressively put it, "It looks neat."

We, who had come for the first time, now began to feel a little inferior in the face of statements like, "We didn't have a gas stove like this, when we first came here twelve years ago" (Mr Girvan); or, "To-morrow, we'll nip up to Lurcher's Craggs if the mists hold off" (Mr Bruce). Even Captain Lees and Logue who had at least done the trip last year could settle every problem by beginning, "Now, last year we..." However after a day or two and a few miles up and down, we all felt we were old-timers at the game and we, too, spoke casually of the awesome thousand foot sheer drop of Creag-an-Leth-Choin as "Lurcher's Craggs." And when a passing French student or Oxford don happened to look in to ask if they were on the right road for Braemar, we would tell them to go round the next hill and straight through the Lairig Ghru, as nonchalantly as if we were directing them to the No. 11 'bus stop.

During the first week when the weather was at its best, we accomplished most of the climbs and expeditions of past camps—Braeriach, Ben MacDhui, Loch an Eilean and swimming in Loch Morlich. On Day Seven began a new venture—overnight camping expeditions to Loch Einich. Mr Bruce, with the first nine boys and festooned about with pots and pans like presents on a Christmas tree, clanked off to blaze the trail. They had no sooner left than gale force winds sprang up and that night as we lay listening to the roof of the Ski Hut lifting and creaking, we wondered how the little pup tents and their occupants were faring. However they were relieved the following day by Major Wright's party and seemed little worse for their experience. Although the wind had now dropped a little, it was now the turn of the rain. In our imagination we had seen ourselves sitting round a sizzling stew on the balmy shores of the loch but how wrong we were! Meals, which, with one tiny stove, took four times as long as meals should, had to be timed to coincide with the lulls in the rain squalls. The cook had only one eye for the pot; the other was glued to the towering cliffs at the far end of the loch over which the rain clouds would pour. The laggards who did not respond at once to "Come and get it," would find that food which left the pot reasonably hot finished up congealed and rain-spattered by the time they reached the shelter of their own hut. However, we survived and it was left to Captain Lees and his party to strike camp on the last day and stagger homewards, heavily laden across the shoulder of Braeriach in the face of driving rain to arrive finally, squelching and steamy, at the Ski Hut. The funny thing is that, if not on the next day, certainly on the day after that, we would have done it all again—if someone had been foolish enough to suggest it.

What are our other memories? That eventful night which started off with Clark kneeling on a fish-hook in bed (amazing, isn't it) and having to go to Aviemore in pyjamas to have it extracted by the local practi-

tioner who was renowned for removing fish-hooks, though not necessarily from boys' knees. As soon as that episode had been concluded, the local policeman rang us up to tell us that a family was missing on Ben MacDhui and would we form a search party at first light to go as far as the Sinclair Bothy. Messrs Bruce and Lees, duly awakened by Mr Girvan and his teapot, set off at 4 a.m. to do their bit. We all felt that at last we had been accepted as men of the hills although our joy was somewhat subdued when the B.B.C. next day, announcing the safe recovery of the family, listed the various search parties but omitted mention of our own heroic team.

Other things which stick in our memory are Aitkenhead's blister—the biggest and best of the camp—which he acquired on the first day and nourished till the last; Forsyth as the surprising but undisputed wood-cutting champion; Wilson's incessant chatter on the march even at times when the rest of us had hardly sufficient breath to make the summit; Cobb, exhausted on the last mile home but summoning up his last reserves of strength to fight off the winged monsters of Rothiemurchus Forest (I believe they call them flies in those parts); and finally, our *compo* rations which provided us with a daily supply of chocolate and gum drops—I am sure that the Army recruiting figures will see a noticeable upward trend in six years' time for this reason alone.

When the time came for us to leave, the sun shone brightly and the air was clear and keen. We all felt much better for our stay.

The following boys attended:

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE—D. Jagger, M. Wills, S. Cobb, P. Gilder, D. Clark, C. McLaughlin, B. McLaughlin, M. O'Connor.

HAIG HOUSE—M. Forsyth, J. Fraser, R. Irvine, A. Aitkenhead, T. Bonar, A. Brown, W. Logue, H. Paterson, J. Oliver, M. Scoggins, B. Tiernan, R. Wilson.

TRENCHARD HOUSE—N. Clark, M. Hewgill, A. King, A. Morrice, R. Newman, I. Smith, J. H. Watters, I. Fraser.

J. W.

PRIMARY CAMP

As Captain Petrie was in charge of the Primary Camp this year, it is not surprising that a site near to St. Andrews was chosen. A farmer at Kingsbarns, Mr Turnbull, kindly allowed us to use one of his fields on the very edge of the sea.

The success of a camp in such an exposed spot depends largely upon the weather, and considering what this summer was like we were lucky. We had several fine days and saw the sun at least twice, though a constant cold wind discouraged bathing.

Cooking was in the capable hands of Drum Major Morrison who proved himself a talented chef. He managed to introduce some variety to the somewhat

monotonous diet provided by "*compo*" rations, and most of the notorious gourmets in the party, such as Fingland and Leitch, seemed well satisfied with the fare provided. Campbell, however, decided to supplement his rations with such delicacies as shrimps and crabs culled from the rock pools and cooked over a driftwood fire in an old tin.

After a few days spent exploring the immediate neighbourhood of the camp, came the highlight of the week, a day in St. Andrews itself. In the morning we visited the Castle and the Cathedral and then had lunch at the Victoria Cafe. Afterwards we went to the beach where the donkeys were a popular attraction and MacKenzie, Fox and Cunningham, among others, gave an entertaining display of equestrianism. Byres, too, clearly has a future as a jockey, but we nearly lost him when his donkey tried to carry him away into the sea. Feeling that a day in St. Andrews would hardly be complete without a round of golf, we spent the rest of the afternoon on the putting green.

After this, Kingsbarns inevitably seemed a little dull, especially as the weather began to deteriorate until, on our last night but one, the camp was jeopardised by a fierce storm. Luckily the tents had been erected with the expert assistance of Mr Cowe and Mr Glass; so they stood firm despite the strong wind.

Most of us managed to survive the rigours of camp life without any unpleasant consequences, but two of our party were not so lucky. Captain Petrie had to go into hospital with a stomach complaint, and David Sample followed him with a suspected appendicitis. We were sorry to lose them both.

The party at camp consisted of: Captain Petrie, Captain Frost, Drum Major Morrison, K. Boyne, N. Byres, J. Campbell, D. Crombie, P. Craggs, G. Cunningham, D. Dodds, D. Fingland, G. Fox, R. Gault, J. Givins, I. Graham, A. Greig, J. Grigor, L. Heron, G. Hill, J. Johnston, G. B. Johnstone, J. Learmonth, S. Leitch, A. Mackenzie, R. Mackenzie, A. McKean, J. McPhail, D. Milne, F. Mitchell, D. Parker, I. Roe, D. Sample, G. Scott, G. Slater and D. Stewart.

ARMY CADET FORCE

The following are the cadet promotions for 1962-63:—

C.S.M.—P. R. C. Finlay; C.Q.M.S.—C. Brown, *Cunningham Platoon*: Sgt.—H. Bowes; Cpls.—W. Aitken, K. Murray; L/Cpls.—A. Faulds, J. McKenzie, D. A. Maxwell, M. J. Owens.

Haig Platoon: Sgt.—M. W. Gillespie; Cpls.—M. Armstrong, W. Scott; L/Cpls.—D. Watson, P. Kay, A. Stace, R. Smith.

Trenchard Platoon : Sgt.—G. Matthews ; Cpls.—K. Douglas, L. McGavin, S. Donaldson ; L/Cpls.—J. Watters, T. A. G. Milne, D. Keltie, D. Warwood, M. Smith, A. Michael.

Training this year started with our strength at 105 cadets. Among this number there are 40 recruits, who have now passed the Recruits' Test, and are training for Certificate A, Part I. The 30 cadets who passed Certificate A, Part I last year are now training for Part II, and 26 who passed Certificate A, Part II are divided into groups as instructors and are taking Driving Lessons and Wireless training. The latter two subjects are taught by the local branch of the Fife and Forfar T.A.

Annual Camp

This year, with 58 cadets, 4 officers and 2 sergeant majors we returned to the T.A. Drill Hall, Oban, for our annual camp. Three years ago we had our camp there and at that time we had two sunny days and twelve wet ones. Anyone with experience of Oban rain will know what wet weather in that part of the country can be. This year, even to the surprise of the inhabitants of Oban, the weather was magnificent; we had two wet days and twelve warm sunny ones.

We travelled on Friday, 13th July, and in spite of the date arrived safe and sound. Our first Saturday was spent in settling in, with leave being granted for the afternoon and evening while the officers took to the mountains to view camping sites and routes. This they did on Sunday afternoon as well, after we had attended morning service at the Old Parish Kirk, where we received a very warm welcome. They remembered our lusty singing of three years ago and had actually enjoyed it !

On Monday the Corps was divided into two Companies, "A" and "B" and they set out on their separate exercises in the morning. "A" Company sailed on the local ferry for the island of Kerrera with all their equipment loaded on man-pack carriers. Under the supervision of Lieut. I. T. Williams, they carried out various exercises for the next three days and two nights. The exercises were designed to teach them how to look after themselves while living in an isolated part of the country. They had to bivouac, cook and map read ; learn how to pack up all their kit at short notice and move to a new camp ; learn wireless procedure and maintain contact with Headquarters in Oban ; and, most important, learn the procedure to be followed if one of their party was injured. Lieut. Williams was capably assisted by Cadet C.S.M. N. Burrows, Cadet Sgt. C. C. Walker, Cadet Sgt. J. Kay and Cadet Cpl. D. Owens.

"B" Company took to the mountains and practised map reading and compass exercises. They were accompanied by Major G. Reid and Lieut. J. Finlay. The four sections were led by Cadet C.Q.M.S. R. N. Roy, Cadet Sgt. P. R. C. Finlay, Cpl. C. Brown and L/Cpl. W. Scott. A remark by one of the officers, "Do all hills in Argyllshire go upwards?" may give you an idea of the type of country covered. We were

very happy at the end of each day to be met by Captain A. N. Jamieson and his friend, the three-ton truck.

On Wednesday "A" Coy. returned from Kerrera, and "B" Coy. were ferried over to the islands and into the only two days of rain we were to have for the whole of the camp. Lieut. Finlay and his Coy. have no very pleasant memories of Kerrera. The rain they could bear, but the procrastination of the West Highland Ferryman was beyond human forbearance.

Meanwhile "A" Coy., accompanied by Lieut. Williams, scorched along the hill routes covered by "B" Coy. on Monday and Tuesday.

Saturday and Sunday were spent at the Drill Hall, Oban, recovering and preparing for the second week of exercises. On Sunday morning we attended service at the Old Parish Kirk. Among the congregation were a large number of deaf and dumb people, and they had the service translated into the deaf and dumb sign language by their own minister. This was most interesting, and the minister was immediately recognised by the boys as the padre who does this work on T.V.

On Sunday night of the second week, training began with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition candidates setting out on a 16 mile leg of their route through the mountains, making use of the compass at night. Much to the relief of Major Reid and Lieut. Finlay, they checked in at their first camping site dead on time and had settled down by 1 a.m. Base camps were set up on Monday at Kilmore, Loch Scamadale and Loch Avich with C.S.M. Burrows and Cadet Sgts. Finlay and Kay in charge. From those camps Duke of Edinburgh's Silver and Bronze Award expeditions started on Monday and Tuesday, and the Gold Award boys checked in at a different camp each evening. The remaining cadets were detailed for duties by the N.C.O. in charge. Cadet C.S.M. Burrows felt so cut off from the outside world that he wanted his daily newspaper, and four volunteers decided to help him out. After they had to hike 8 miles to buy the paper and 8 miles back, their days for volunteering abruptly ended. Captain Jamieson and the three-ton truck had to part company. The truck broke down, but faithful to the end, it was within half a mile of the only inn within a radius of fifteen miles. Both were towed into the inn yard, the truck to await the recovery vehicle from Command Workshops and Captain Jamieson to await the jeep from Oban. Exercises and expeditions finished on Thursday morning, and we all returned to Oban to clean up and repair equipment.

Thursday afternoon was free for those with money left to buy presents, and in the evening we started packing up for an early start for home on Friday morning.

We were fortunate enough to obtain a replacement for our three-ton truck through Major T. Jagger,

adjutant of the Stirling T.A. He lent us a one-ton truck. R.S.M. G. Lowdon and C.S.M. J. Mortimer are to be congratulated on managing to pack a three-ton load into a one-ton truck. Granted it looked like a tinker's removal, well bound with string and rope, but all the kit was secure and well packed.

Our camps always attract visitors, and this year was no exception. Brigadier Buckley arrived on the first Monday and was most helpful. He made sure we had everything we wanted. Next came Captain J. C. Ross, ex-training officer Q.V.S., A.C.F., now O.C. cadets in Harris. Then we had a visit from two Majors, one from the Royal Engineers accompanied by another from the French Army who, to use his own words was "Last week in Oran; this week in Oban." He gave us first-hand news of the fighting in Algiers. When they had left, an R.A.E.C. Major from Highland District called in. The County Commandant, Lieut.-Colonel Rowan-Hamilton visited the boys in the hills and enjoyed a sandwich lunch with the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award boys. General Lang and his A.D.C. were our last callers. They too visited the boys in the hills but were luckier than the County Commandant as we had early lunch at the Drill Hall. The General was surprised when told that the lunch was made from Compo and had to visit Mr Walker to congratulate him on an excellent meal. It should be noted that this was not a special meal prepared for the General; it was the normal daily miracle performed on the compo. ration by Mr Walker.

The following attended Camp :—

C.S.M.—N. Burrows; C.Q.M.S.—N. Roy;

Sgts.—P. Finlay, J. Kay, C. C. Walker.

Cpls.—C. Brown, K. Douglas, D. Owens, W. Scott,

L/Cpls.—W. Aitken, M. Armstrong, R. Bird, S. Donaldson, K. Murray, D. Watson, J. Watters.

Cadets—J. Allan, T. Black, J. Brown, I. Cockburn, D. Coulter, A. Cooper, N. Donaldson, D. Fraser, E. Gillespie, J. Hay, I. Johnston, A. Kay, P. Kay, I. Lorimer, J. Matheson, R. Matheson, D. Maxwell, N. Menzies, R. J. Miller, T. A. G. Milne, N. McConnell, J. McDonald, I. McGregor, J. McKenzie, L. McKenzie, T. McLaughlin, K. McMillan, T. Monaghan, J. C. Morrice, D. Nix, J. Nimmo, P. K. O'Connor, M. J. Owens, A. Richardson, D. C. K. Robertson, W. Stewart, J. Sharp, E. Thomson, A. Towns, A. Washington, A. Warwood, D. Warwood.

SCHOOL v. OLD VICTORIANS

The third annual Rugby match between the School XV and an Old Victorians' XV was played on Saturday, 13th October. This was again a most enjoyable occasion. This year the Old Boys were able to put out a stronger side, and the School team was clearly weaker than the highly successful side of

last season. Comparing the two teams as they came to the field, and remembering that the School had been back for just a week before the match, one could have little hope of another School victory. In fact the game turned out remarkably even, though it must be admitted that the School side never looked like scoring till well into the second half.

We print below an account of the game, from the Old Boys' point of view this time. This has one noticeable omission, due to the writer's modesty, which we have to repair. Robert Anderson, back from national service in Africa was the captain and "veteran" of the team, and he dominated the play behind the Old Boys' scrum. It was a good day for captains. One lost count of the number of times that Matthews rescued the School team and sent the Old Boys back by his precise fielding and long kicking into touch.

Our Old Boy correspondent writes as follows :—

"After the Old Boys had got over the shock of being able to field a full fifteen, they started the game with an outward show of great gusto and looked set to take about twenty points off the School XV. However, the boys stood up creditably to a heavier pack, and at half time, despite some fiery bursts by Fitzpatrick from the line-outs, succeeded in holding the Old Victorians—several of whom were evidently in urgent need of wind and energy.

In the second half it was surprising that the Old Boys scored at all, since all the deficiencies in fitness and lack of practice and skill, which in the first half had been somewhat jauntily overlooked, now became painfully evident in the side. However, Fitzpatrick bundled his way over for a try. Shortly afterwards, though G. Thomson, the Old Boys' scrum half had gone off temporarily with cramp, Bethune scored with men over. Ross converted to make the score 8-0 and that ended the scoring. There followed a series of raids by the School threequarters. The Old Boys were on their last legs. (Big Robin Watson was seen passing the ball, from a lineout, while on his knees.) The School made all the running at the end, but amazingly could not score, even with Matthews coming in from full back repeatedly to make the extra man. It was a relief when no side was blown.

For the Old Boys, Fitzpatrick was very lively together with John Ross at hooker, Jack Fairbairn led the pack well and it was astonishing that he was able to raise a gallop, seeing that he had just come off night duty pounding a beat in Glasgow.

Matthews played a sterling game at full back for the School. The team looks as though it should do quite well in school fixtures this season. There appears a certain lack of real thrust at half-back, but the pack in the loose, is really splendid at times and the two wing forwards in particular will give trouble to a few half-backs this year. All in all, a spirited and enjoyable game."

Result : Old Victorians, 8 ; School, 0.

Teams—

Old Victorians : D. McLennan ; M. Thomson, G. Ferrier, A. Bethune, A. McGill ; R. Anderson, G. Thomson ; B. Fitzpatrick, J. Fairbairn, R. Bird, R. Watson, R. Veasey, R. Chessar, J. Ross, J. Kay. Reserve, M. Watt.

School : G. Matthews ; D. Robertson, K. Murray, L. McGavin, M. Gillespie ; P. Finlay, D. Maxwell ; S. Donaldson, K. Douglas, C. Brown, D. Watson, J. Watters, H. R. Bowes, J. McKenzie, M. Armstrong,

Referee : Mr W. H. Stevenson (Stirling County Rugby Club).

THE HALLOWE'EN PARTY

He stuffs and swills and stuffs again.

Alexander Pope.

According to our correspondents, Wednesday was a good day for the annual combined Hallowe'en-Guy Fawkes night party, this being the day of the least popular tea menu. It also seems that the glory of showing the best turnip lantern or of grabbing the most apples from a tub and the satisfaction of burning somebody to death and making a lot of noise about it rank far below the pleasures of the table. One reporter (we have many in our pay) speaks of "faces pressed against the glass doors of the dining-room" long before the meal was served and of mouths "drooling" outside as the maids went about the work of preparing the tables. Another has noted the anxious mutter of gluttons memorising the contents of their tables lest there should be any disadvantageous exchanges. One reporter is so carried away that he speaks of "savage fights" breaking out among the junior boys as they struggle for leading places in the line. We do not regard him as a reliable observer, but he clearly has a future in journalism. This passion for food is most regrettable ; and it is clearly all the fault of Mr Morrow and his staff who spare no effort to put temptation in the way of our unfortunate pupils. Clearly too it is the duty of the "Victorian" to take a strong stand against this sort of thing. For next year's Hallowe'en tea we propose that fish in batter with some peas should be the only delicacy provided, and we are confident that our policy will have the overwhelming support of our readers.

The following won prizes :

Bogle-type Lanterns—1 J. Moore, 2 S. Scott, 3 P. Kay.

Fancy Lanterns—1 A. Sinclair, 2 I. Cockburn.

Apple Dooking—Trenchard House.

Mrs Finlaison presented the prizes. Mrs Orr, Mrs Robertson, and Mrs Wright judged the lanterns. R.S.M. Lowdon was responsible for the water on the floor. The bonfire and fireworks display were in the hands of that well-known pyrotechnician, Mr N. C. Bruce. There were no casualties.

HOBBIES

Though space is restricted meantime, the hobbies that fill most boys' time between tea and prep. have continued to flourish. Not having the swimming-bath is a big disadvantage ; but life-saving has been kept going on the basis of land-drill.

The following activities are going on :—

Life-Saving	....	Mr Reid.
(Land Drill only so far)		
Boxing	....	Q.M.S.I. D. Byrne, A.P.T.C. and Mr D. Mortimer.
Gymnastics	....	Mr Reid.
Squash	....	Major Davies.
Shooting	....	Major Wright, Captain Petrie, Captain Smith.
Golf	....	Captain Petrie.
Science Club	....	Mr Orr.
First Aid	....	Miss McLaren.
Fly Tying	....	Mr Malkowski.
Art	....	Mr Le Maistre.
Woodwork and		
Canoe Club	....	Mr Finlay.
Metalwork	....	Captain Smith.
Chess	....	Mr Hughes.
French Circle	....	Mr Malkowski.
Choir	....	Mr Bruce and Captain Frost.
Drama	....	Captain Frost.
In addition Primary Hobbies consist of :—		
Choir	....	Mr Bruce.
Stamp Club	....	Captain Sansom.
Boxing	....	Mr Martin and Mr Williams.
Indoor Games	....	Mr Hughes and Mr Robertson.
Model Making	....	Captain Sansom.
Science Club	....	Mr Orr.

On Wednesday nights the Primary boys are all attending an educational film show, with Mr Jamieson as projectionist, and from time to time this is also being shown on Wednesday afternoons to boys in the Secondary school who are not in the A.C.F., the projectionists being R.A.E.C. Captains.

OLD VICTORIANS IN THE SERVICES

As old boys do not get copies of the December issue of the "Victorian" I shall only give news of those old boys whom most of us remember and about whom I have heard recently.

The most recent letter was from Colin Stewart, now a Junior L/Cpl. at the Junior Tradesman's Regt. A.C.C. As he says he has his foot on the first rung of the ladder ; though he is having his problems as a leader. John Bell wrote recently from the A.A.S. at Chepstowe. He tells us that John Horne and Jerry Strachan have left the School and that Malcolm Cooper has just arrived. James Johnstone is the Pipe Major of the Band there. Bell himself is in the

School First XV and recently played against the A.A.S. at Carlisle where he met Graham Scott and John McDonald. Another letter writer is Christopher Hedges from the A.A.S. at Harrogate. He hopes to be posted shortly to the Far East as a L/Cpl. in the Royal Signals. We also hear that William Young is in the Boxing Team of the Juniors Leaders Regt. at Oswestry where David Scully is a boy C.S.M. and where there are several Old Victorians including James Kilcullen, Michael McLeish and John McColl.

Rodney Maxwell wrote from Welbeck College where he is now in the 1st XV and the 1st XI for Cricket as well as being in the Fencing, Boxing and Swimming teams. He is also Drum Major of the Corps of Drums. He tells us that Michael Nixon is in the Pipe Band and is settling in very well. They are looking forward to having Murdoch Gillespie with them.

Since writing these notes we have had word from the Army Information Office that Thomas Hughes, who left us in July, has now been enlisted into the Army and is going to the Junior Leaders Battalion, R.A.S.C. at Norton Manor Camp in Taunton, Somerset.

Also the Commandant has had a long and cheerful letter from Neil Burrows at Cranwell. Not surprisingly he has found it rather strange at first to revert to the humble position of a "crow" and have to stand and watch the Church Parade, as well as being liable to a charge for such offences as not buttoning up a suit hanging in his wardrobe. He was unlucky enough to have an appendix operation during the holiday and to have that followed by an "adhesion" which has kept him out of all games and P.T. for most of the term. Naturally he is looking forward to next term when he will have a room of his own and will start flying instruction. But he is clearly very happy. He says, in conclusion, "I have no regrets, even when I receive letters from the remainder of the latest 'Old Boys' telling me about their progress, and scorning" (that horrible word again) "R.A.F. pay."

THE ROYAL HIBERNIAN SCHOOL

The Commandant has received a letter from Mr Frank H. Hawkins, formerly of the Corps of Army Schoolmasters and the R.A.E.C., quoting items from old numbers of the magazine of the Royal Hibernian School and giving many details of the school's history. Mr Hawkins attended the Royal Hibernian School as a pupil and was a master there in the last years of the school's existence, from 1919 to 1923. This was the oldest of the three schools for the sons of service men, which were in being all together only for the period between the opening of Queen Victoria School in 1908 and the final disbandment of the Hibernian School in 1924. The Hibernian School was first opened in 1769, and the Duke of York's Royal Military School, its English counterpart, in 1801. It

was over a century later before Scotland had a similar school. In 1922, when the British forces were withdrawn from Ireland, the Royal Hibernian School left its ancient site in Phoenix Park, Dublin, and was moved to a temporary home at Somerset Barracks, Shorncliffe. No new boys were admitted after that time, and when the school numbers had run down to 200, the remaining boys were transferred to the sister school at Dover, the Duke of York's School.

Unfortunately Mr Hawkins' letter cannot, for the usual reasons of space and expense, be printed in full. It contains some fascinating details about the boys' life and curriculum in the earlier days of the school. It seems possible, too, that it was a visit to the Hibernian School in 1900, which confirmed in Queen Victoria's mind her idea of getting a similar school established in Scotland.

With his letter Mr Hawkins enclosed a typewritten resumé of the history of the Hibernian School. Like many other famous schools it was founded largely for charitable reasons. There was poverty and misery among the families of soldiers who had been ordered abroad. In those days the state did not provide. It was primarily to relieve the distress of soldiers' dependants that the school was established, by public subscription, by a grant from the Irish Parliament, and by the King's own donation of a site. In fact the school was originally called a "Hospital." The meaning of the word has changed since then. Similarly the Duke of York's School was originally called the "Royal Military Asylum"—another instance of change of meaning. The new Hibernian School had both boys and girls, and it was more of an "industrial establishment" than a military school, for the pupils' occupations consisted largely of "remunerative industries": gardening, tree-planting, net-making, and, for the girls, spinning, weaving and lace-making. The only subject in which the pupils' knowledge was tested was Scripture. Things changed later. In 1845, by which time the school was no longer dependent on the charity of the public, but was maintained by Parliament, a committee set up to investigate its organisation made a report which led to wide reforms. Besides commenting adversely on the quality of the staff and of the educational equipment, this report noted that "boys were kept standing throughout the instruction period." But then instruction occupied only 1½ hours of the day. In consequence, a Headmaster, Mr Henry Gibbons, was appointed and held his post for 46 years, becoming a great figure in the history of the school. Incidentally, in the early part of the 19th century, the school was maintaining 600 children in food and clothing at an average cost of £10 per year. By the time of the first world war, the Royal Hibernian School had become a first-rate military school. 1,250 of its old boys served in that war, and these included a winner of the Victoria Cross, Corporal F. J. Edwards.

Though its original charter declared the school to be established "in perpetuity," the political changes which followed the first world war brought it to an

inevitable end. Queen Victoria School may be counted among its legatees, both in the sense that some of the Hibernian trophies now stand on our shelves for competition among our boys, and we can well imagine, because the impression made on the Queen by the Hibernians of 1900 contributed substantially to her resolve that Scotland should have a school of the same kind.

MEN AT WORK

With the roar of an overstrained engine a bulldozer slices great chunks out of the square. Asphalt which has not long been put down is cracked and torn by the overwhelming pressure of the bulldozer. By the ton, earth and asphalt are loaded onto trucks and taken away to be dumped. Monotonously the bulldozer surges back and forth reducing the once admired square to a heap of worthless rubble. Masons chip away at the bricks which are going into the laying of a drain in front of the School. All day long they work with their hammers and chisels, while the less experienced of their number are employed in chipping off stray lumps of set concrete.

The concrete-mixer never rests. From morning till evening the barrel revolves churning out its load of cement. As soon as the refill is ready it is trundled away to the far end of the square, where the bricklayers are still at work. Slowly the pile of cement bags dwindles; the sand disappears into the mixer's gaping mouth, to emerge five minutes later as cement. Out and in like ants after a heavy dinner, the workmen wander aimlessly, so it seems, with their hands in their pockets. Lorries appear, dump their loads and disappear down the South drive to the main Perth road.

There is another hive of activity behind the older part of the School. Here the heating pipes are being laid. Trenches, lined with bricks, have been gouged along Coronation Avenue, which leads to the hospital in the southern part of the School grounds. Non-stop, all day long, the roar of oxy-acetylene torches welding the pipes together echoes out of the new building. Slowly the pipes creep towards their destination.

Pervading all is the smell, a mixture of paint and diesel fumes. The painters on the new building, coating the wood with stain and gloss paint, work in the shadow of the dense cloud of fumes belched out by the bulldozer, and by the air compressor.

As night falls the shapes blur in the twilight; noises become sharper and louder. The rear of the School is lit up by the violet glow of the oxy-acetylene welder. A cheerful glow of burning cement sacks makes the windows reflect the light. The hammering slackens, and the glow of the welder is suddenly extinguished. The fire dies, and as the embers are scattered by the breeze, a quietness descends, and work finishes for another day.

C.McK.B., Form IV.

JUNIOR SECTION

For Primary Boys only

A Bed-time Story

Once upon a time there was a wicked old Giant and he lived on the back stairs of Queen Victoria School. Every day he would snatch a little boy, beat his brains out against the wall, and swallow him in one gulp. Sometimes when he was too lazy to do that, he dropped them head first down the lift-shaft and picked up the pieces at the bottom. For his Sunday dinner he always had a "Moore Dormitory Pie," in which he put three boys, one sweeping brush, seven old blankets, and one bed-iron. He washed the pie down with a gallon of rat's blood. The Commandant and the Headmaster were quite worried about the Giant, but the Old Boys said he was a School Tradition. The number of boys in the School was going down rapidly because he ate so many. That is why we still refer to the number of boys in the School as the Ration Strength. The Giant went too far one day when he made a sandwich of two Matrons and a thin boy from Abercromby Dormitory. There is a School Order which says, "Under no circumstances will anyone make a meat sand-wich." The Headmaster was very angry about it. One night a brave Prefect was walking down the dormitory when the Giant crept in for a snack. The Prefect woke up all the boys and they charged the Giant and pushed him down the shaft to his death. Everyone lived happily ever after, except the Pioneer who had to clean up the mess at the bottom of the lift-shaft.

Well, boys, I'm afraid I must go now, for it is time you went to sleep. Good-night and sweet dreams. I always go down the front stairs myself.

J. H., IIIA

FOOTBALL ON THE SQUARES

This description is compounded from the observations and reports of Form 3A. An interpreter has been employed on some obscure passages, to render in standard English the compost (see Oxford Dictionary for the precise meaning of this word) of school jargon, slang, and out-of-date American idiom in which many members of the Form communicate with each other.

Not long before we went to Cultybraggan, football on the big square was legalised. The area was large enough to accommodate more than one game at a time, and as a result some confusion arose between the different matches in progress. No goal was allowed which was scored with the ball from another game.

When we came back, the situation was quite different. Footballers now had the choice of two pitches. The new tarmac square laid between the swimming-bath and the outside class-rooms seemed to have been specially designed for football, on a

small scale. Its boundaries were clearly defined, and precisely across the middle ran a gutter which formed a half-way line. This site has one great advantage. It enables boys who have classes outside the main building to snatch every interval for games of football, which can go on till the master is reported to be in sight. Apart from its restricted size, the other disadvantage is that the roof of the swimming bath makes a trap for balls, which lodge in the gutter. Wild play can also send the ball into the wood or endanger a class-room window.

On the big square the playing area was halved by the work on the new building. The high hoarding separating the building site from the football pitch not only made a natural stop but modified the technique of the game. Crafty players could now adopt the indoor-football trick studied on television and kick the ball at an angle against the hoarding, to run past an opponent and recover it on the other side of him. But then balls were sometimes kicked over the division, and time was lost in regaining them from the chaos on the other side. On the opposite side, the hedge makes a boundary, but here again precious time is lost in extricating the ball or in going round the hedge and down the drive to get it back. There are numerous hazards. At one end are the chapel windows and at the other the windows of the School building, to restrain the shots at goal. Cars are parked alongside the hedge, and lorries may be driven across the pitch while play is in progress. It is infuriating to a serious footballer to find a car parked in the goalmouth or, as sometimes happens, in the middle of the pitch. Jerkins need no longer be used as goal-posts, for the building work provides an ample supply of suitable material: old buckets, bricks, sections of drain-pipe. But these are liable to be left about the pitch too, and can easily put a sudden end to a promising movement.

However, this pitch does allow for one well-defined match to go on. Breaking into English, one reporter says that the games "do not come under the jurisdiction of the Football Association." Sides are not big, and selection of players is made not by a committee but generally by the owner of the ball. Mere merit will not get a player into the game if in the previous week he has refused a sweet to the selector. Discussion is permitted, and may go on so long that the break ends before play has commenced. The latest development in big-square football is the removal of the hoarding. As a result, there is nothing between the playing area and the building site. Along that side the footballer may be seen guiding a ball round or over planks, pipes, tins, shovels, wheelbarrows, bricks, gravel heaps, and bits of broken paving.

The future of the game is in doubt, and appears to depend largely on what is done next by the contractor, whose employees, many of them, are no less devoted to square football than the schoolboys. Matches have taken place between boys and workmen. Here

our reports conflict. One says that a handful of workmen can still beat a mob of boys, and another that the boys win, by superior fitness and numbers. This disagreement probably reflects only the normal uncertainty about the score in square games. One prophet is so bold as to predict that football will soon be out of fashion and will be replaced by the game of Five Stones. He weakens his case by admitting that he has never been interested enough to watch a game of Five Stones to the end and has no idea how the game is won or lost. Another prophet says that football will have to come to an end anyway because the rate of expenditure of balls is greater than the rate of supply. We do not believe either prophecy. Football seems unlikely to die out. But we feel that square football is the kind of game that ought to be played with a square ball.

A VISIT TO BERLIN

During the last summer holidays I was fortunate enough to spend three weeks in Berlin where I soon resolved to find out as much as I could about that fascinating city. As my mother is a Berliner, going to places was no difficulty, and after a week or so I found that I could find my way around quite proficiently.

West Berlin is an excellent example of a thriving city, with superb shops bursting with goods, private cars speeding along the streets in never-ending streams, and happy, prosperous inhabitants. All along the Kurfurstendamm are small luxury shops (not unlike those in the Rue de Rivoli in Paris) and countless cafés, restaurants and cinemas. The Kurfurstendamm is in fact the most fashionable street in West Berlin. At the bottom of this famous thoroughfare is the Kaiser Wilhelms Gedachtnes-Kirche, a bombed-out church, giving an ominous reminder of the Second World War. To the east is the spacious Tiergarten, the Hyde Park of Berlin, incorporating the world-famous zoo. I saw a photograph of the zoo as it was in 1945, and it is amazing how quickly it has been rebuilt. Animals of all kinds are to be found, and they are housed in light, airy buildings. A walk around the zoo grounds, apart from looking at the animals, is well worth an afternoon, so big is it. Altogether, West Berlin is a bustling, lively city.

East Berlin presents a very different picture. Opposite the Western sector, the streets are filthy, and completely desolate. Hardly a private car is to be seen, although occasionally one may see two or three parked at a street corner. In the main what vehicles there are belong to tradesmen or are antiquated 'buses and trams, and "Volkspolizei" and military vehicles. The Unten den Linden, the one-time fashionable street of Berlin, is well-nigh in the same condition as it was in 1945. The buildings, many of which are still in a bombed-out condition, look grey and shabby.

As for the shops, any self-respecting shopkeeper in Britain would be horrified by them. Almost empty of goods, the quality of which is very poor, they present a most depressing scene. What East Berliners I did see appeared sullen and cowed. All around were the Volkspolizei (People's Police).

As I was on my journey home in a train speeding across East Germany I thought of the things I had seen and done. I remembered the Olympic stadium in Charlottenburg, with the Nazi eagle significantly removed from the Presidential box, the Siegesaulle, a memorial to the Prussian victory over France in 1870, the huge zoo and the gaunt Brandenburg Gate, an emblem of the once-mighty German Empire. I also recalled many enjoyable walks at night along the Kurfurstendamm, and the many glasses of 'Pils' drunk at a corner Kneipe. It had been a most enjoyable and informative stay in the meeting point of East and West.

M. J. H. O., IV

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

Monitor: P. R. C. FINLAY

Prefects: H. R. BOWES, K. MURRAY

So as to prevent a long-standing tradition in the writing of House Notes from dying out, I must not fail to mention the arrivals to the House in this the first term of another School year. The boys who have come up from Wavell House to join us are: Burns, N., Grigor, J., Lee, J., Leitch, S., McKenzie, R., Owens, K., Slater, G., Smith, A., Wilmott, J., Cunningham, G., Heron, L., Isitt, D., and Stainthorpe, D. New boys to the School and to Cunningham House are: Bonar, E., Curl, L., Smith, V., and McArthur, R. The other new face that is seen so much around the House this term is that of the Rev. A. N. Jamieson, the School's resident Presbyterian Chaplain, who has taken on the not entirely enviable role of Housemaster. To him we extend a warm welcome, and we hope the House will continue to flourish under his management.

These changes in the House's complement come at a time when it also takes on a new look. With the new building still reaching its final stages of construction, the boys of Wavell House have had to be accommodated in the old building, which has been renovated to allow room only for the boys of the Senior School. This problem has been partially solved by the use of two-tier bunks. Nevertheless the House has been split up and the dormitory of first and second year boys has had to use washing facilities meant only for half its number. The third and fourth year boys of all Houses have been grouped together in one dormitory. Although this arrangement solves the problem of housing the Primary School, it does not lend itself to House unity, which is essential if one is to think in terms of Houses and has to foster House spirit. The splitting up of the House also means that

the work of Miss Chalmers, our House Matron, has been considerably increased for she now has to deal with hose, towels, etc., on two storeys instead of one. These disadvantages of having Wavell House boys in the building will end in February when they will move out to the new building and everything will straighten itself out again. Luckily, there are many well-planned innovations that will remain with us. Perhaps the greatest of these luxuries are the four baths that have been installed on each floor. There is a host of improvements and I do not propose to list them one by one in these notes.

We go now from indoors to outdoors, where Cunningham has been excelling itself in the House competitions. As you read in the last edition of the "Victorian" we had (even before winning the Drill Competition) won the House Championship because of victories in both the standards and athletics competitions. So far this term we have had an entry of forty-one out of fifty-four for boxing, and after the preliminary bouts we have seventeen semi-finalists fighting for twelve finals. Only one set of House Rugby games has been played to date, our 1st XV beating Haig 26 - 6; four goals and two tries, to two tries. We hope to continue the success against Trenchard.

We pulled our roots out from Dunblane, only to pull them out from Cultybraggan, and in February we are to plant them afresh with the new House arrangements that will come into operation. After that, I hope, we shall be able to settle down for good and be able to give our undivided attention to school activities. It remains for me now only to wish the Rev. A. Jamieson and his family, Miss Chalmers, the boys of Cunningham House, and all our readers a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year.

P. R. F.

HAIG HOUSE

Monitor: C. MCK. BROWN

Prefects: M. J. ARMSTRONG, W. J. SCOTT

This year we have, besides the normal arrivals from Wavell House, six new boys: R. Hutchison, J. McGinlay, D. McInnes, R. Ramage, I. Reid and W. B. Scott. At the same time we have a new Housemaster, Major Davies, who is well on his way to becoming familiar with the many strange faces which were presented to him at the beginning of term.

After the trials of Cultybraggan, it is a luxury to be able to live, sleep, eat and work in comparative warmth and luxury. During this term the boys have been sleeping in two-tier beds. At first the novelty was enjoyed by all. However as the term wore on, these beds came to be regarded as an inconvenience in the Victorian's life. They are taller than a number of the smaller members of the House. As a result it is a Herculean task to make their beds in the morning, and then to manoeuvre them into the required

straight line. But this task is achieved, and the normal menial tasks can get under way.

During the last few weeks, plastic models have again come into their own. Captain Smith, our Assistant Housemaster, is constantly going into Stirling to buy models of all makes, sizes and descriptions.

Unfortunately we lost our first House Rugby match. Just after half-time D. Robertson was injured and had to leave the field. Though the other side also lost a man a few minutes later, we were unable to hold our ground. Our two unconverted tries were scored by H. Paterson and C. Brown.

As is usual Miss Johnstone has been kept busy with minor ailments, and without her, many small services which are taken for granted would be sadly missed, and the House would cease to function so smoothly. If you wonder why your son's neck is a shade cleaner than usual at the end of term, you should know that it is due to Miss Johnstone's vigorous scrubbing of any half-washed culprit.

As the term draws to a close and excitement of home-going starts to build to its climax, I should like to take this chance of thanking Major Davies, Captain Smith and Miss Johnstone for their valiant efforts, and wishing them, on behalf of the House, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

C. M. B.

TRENCHARD HOUSE

Senior Monitor: G. MATTHEWS

Prefects: L. T. MCGAVIN, K. M. DOUGLAS

After the holidays a new group of boys joined us from Wavell House: J. Corrigan, P. Craggs, M. Cuthbert, J. Dempsey, D. Fingland, J. Givins, R. Hewitt, R. McDougall, S. McMillan, J. McPhail, D. Milne, J. Moore, A. Watt. Because of these new arrivals, and the unusual surroundings, it has taken some time for everyone to settle, but now all are accustomed to the change. The lack of dormitory space has made "bunking" necessary and the House is split into two parts which are on the top and bottom floors of opposite wings. This hindrance at first affected and upset the laundry system, but time and patience have resulted in efficiency.

With alterations being made to the swimming baths, the inter-House competition has been postponed until next term. Boxing and Rugby are still to be completed. The elimination bouts of the boxing have been fought, and the finals are drawing near. Although our entries were reasonable, I think the best that we can hope for is second place to Cunningham. At the time of writing, two out of the three sets of Rugby matches have been played. We have met with mixed success in that our 2nd XV won one of their matches

(v. Haig) 29 - 0 and narrowly lost a hard fought game with Cunningham (8 - 12). Our first XV have played against Haig and won by 16 points to 9. As Cunningham also beat Haig, though by a bigger margin, our clash with them is expected to be an exciting one, with our main hopes lying on the fitness and form of Prefects McGavin and Donaldson. Everyone is looking forward to this match with great optimism.

These inter-House competitions almost take us to the end of the term, at which time Monitor M. W. Gillespie leaves us to go to Welbeck College, thus joining Rodney Maxwell and Michael Nixon. From what we hear in a couple of letters from Rodney Maxwell, we are sure that Monitor Gillespie is going to be happy.

Ending on this cheerful note, I wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year.

G. M.

WAVELL HOUSE

Monitor: M. W. GILLESPIE

Prefects: W. A. R. AITKEN, S. J. DONALDSON,

J. MCKENZIE, D. J. WATSON

We begin by welcoming to Wavell House Mr Bruce and Mr Williams as Housemaster and Assistant Housemaster respectively, and all the new boys who joined us at the beginning of the term. They came to us from many parts of the world, bringing bleached hair and sun-tans which caused envy among those subjected to our cooler climate.

This season, the 1st XI football team has regained some of its former glory under the captainship of R. Gill, having lost only one match since the beginning of the season. A certain amount of their success can be attributed to I. Sneddon, with ten goals to his credit from six matches. Already there are four new boys who have shown their worth as footballers in the team: S. Pope, K. Robinson, I. Craig and R. Murdoch. Unfortunately, this talent cannot be realised in inter-dormitory competitions as, owing to cramped conditions, we have not been properly divided into separate dormitories. However, primary school leagues in both football and cross-country are currently in operation, providing an incentive to better sport for teams and individuals respectively.

Besides affecting sport, the limited dormitory space has affected cleanliness and tidiness. Also, smaller boys find it necessary to use their agility and knowledge of gymnastics in making the top halves of double-bunk beds. Mrs MacRae, our Housematron, has managed well despite these obvious drawbacks.

House hobbies are now in full swing, and every night of the week boys are either boxing in the gymnasium, assembling plastic models, singing in the choir, stamp collecting or conducting experiments in the Science laboratory.

During the course of this school year Wavell House will be moving into the new block. When this happens it will become virtually independent of the rest of the School, and will no longer require the services of the senior boys who have been House Prefects in Wavell.

M. W. G.

PIPE NOTES

At the end of last term we had the misfortune to lose three of our best players: Pipe-Major R. N. Roy, Monitor N. Burrows and R. MacRae. Nevertheless sixteen players turned out for the *Dunera* cruise during the holidays. One new member, David Isitt, joined the company for this excursion.

This cruise proved to be a most enjoyable one. We visited Sweden, Russia and Denmark, playing either on entering or on leaving the harbours. At Leningrad we received an exceptionally warm welcome, most members of the band being presented with bunches of flowers and assorted souvenirs. On our first night in Leningrad we played at a dance hall in the city where, though the inhabitants had probably never heard the sound of the pipes before, we were received with great appreciation and enthusiasm. In the other two countries we were not required to play, though we did play on board as the ship was leaving harbour. We also played on board ship several times for the amusement of our fellow passengers who, though more accustomed to our music, showed a good deal of appreciation. On the 28th September the cruise came to an end, and we docked at Grangemouth, where we played all the passengers ashore. So ended a most enjoyable trip.

On our return to School this term we have increased in numbers again, welcoming new members in G. Fox, A. Brown, R. Irvine and A. King, but have lost an experienced player in D. R. Owens, who left after the *Dunera* cruise. This term has been a quiet one. On Armistice Sunday, however, three pipers, L. McGavin, P. Finlay and D. Robertson, went to Falkirk, and another two, K. Douglas and K. Murray, to Denny to play the laments at the Remembrance Services there. Those and a similar representation at Dunblane have been the only engagements this term. The term ends on the 20th December for the Christmas holidays, and so we close in the traditional manner, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

L. T. M.

DRUM NOTES

At the beginning of this term there were considerable changes in the personnel of the pipe-band drummers. In the tenor drumming section, James McDonald and Robert Kilcullen left, and Alfred Stace and Iain Smith took their places. In the side-drumming section, Joseph Dempsey and Michael

O'Connor took over from Hamish Paterson and Eric Thomson.

We returned from the "*Dunera*" feeling very grateful to the British India Steam Navigation Company for giving us the chance to go on a Baltic Cruise. Everyone enjoyed himself throughout the cruise, especially in Copenhagen, where we had the opportunity of beating retreat on the pier. Although we did not have a full Corps of Drums during the cruise, our drumming and bugling was up to the required standard.

Our activities this term have been rather limited. As usual buglers were sent out on Armistice Sunday to blow the "Last Post" and "Reveille" at various places: Blackford, Doune, Callander and Dunblane.

As we had no further engagements, we have had the opportunity to do more table practice. Consequently, we have learnt two new beatings: a four-part 6/8 for "Bonawe Highlanders" and a four-part Strathspey. We are also in the process of "setting" a Reel.

During next term we shall be playing at Murrayfield twice. Also, we shall be playing at the official opening of the new block, which, we hope, will be completed sometime during March or April.

I should like to take this opportunity to wish Drum Major and Mrs Morrison, and all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

W.A.

HIGHLAND DANCING

There have been two engagements for the dancers this term. The first was at Gleneagles Hotel where the team of eight dancers was enthusiastically welcomed. The second engagement was for one team of four dancers at Killin, and there too we were well received.

The standard of dancing in the School has continued to improve, thanks to Mr Mortimer. He has given up two of his free evenings each week this term to coach alternately two senior teams. These teams therefore will have a greater elasticity of programme and will be able to occupy the audience's attention for a greater length of time. Their progress should set a standard for the rest of the boys, encouraging them to try even harder. If they do so, even greater improvements will follow.

J.W.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

There was furious work for the few days between our regaining of access to the library room and the return of the School. Chiefly by the aid of local unskilled labour (the Owens brothers and David Jagger) we got the main portion of the library transported from storage in the Art Room and the section from Cultybraggan unpacked and sorted, and the

whole lot put somehow on shelves, before the reading public got back to School. Then the professionals and their apprentices took over and soon had the books in their proper sections and the library in normal order. Books were being issued within 48 hours.

The main task of the term has been checking all the fiction. We feared that after the term of free access at Cultybraggan and of traffic through the library, there might be abnormal losses. Some books have vanished, but not many, and if past experience is a guide, most of these will reappear as inexplicably as they went away. Still we wonder who those people are who take and return the books for which we are hunting. In particular, who borrowed the novel, "Traitor's Gate" early in 1961, without any record of the loan, kept it till we had written it off our stock as irretrievably lost in December, 1961, kept it another 10 months just to be sure, and then slipped it back to the shelves a few weeks ago? If he is a reader of the "Victorian" let him consider the time spent searching for that book and the nuisance of having to re-enter it on our records.

Despite counter-attractions out of doors at Cultybraggan, we made just under 1,000 issues to boys there. This term we are busy again. A good boost to our statistics has been given by the arrival of J. McGinlay in the School. Within 8 weeks from the start of the term he is now reading his 38th book from the library, and therefore displaces A. Kay from the position of champion book-worm.

Welcome accessions to our shelves are three new sets of encyclopaedias issued by the War Office: Chambers's, Everyman's, and the Oxford Junior. We also received a set of the Children's Encyclopaedia, which has been allocated to Wavell House.

Of last year's librarians we still have M. Gillespie, D. Keltie, and R. Smith of Form V, D. Fraser of IVB, and D. Marshall of 3A. Gillespie and Fraser are leaving us this term, and the other two seniors are beginning to think of Higher Certificate examinations. So a bigger share of work may soon fall to the novices recruited this term: J. Brough, D. Cormack, K. Smith, M. Smith of 3A, and J. Sycamore of 3B.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1st XV

It must be admitted that the standard of 1st XV Rugby has gone down this year. We started a month late; we lost seven members of last year's side; we have been upset by injuries; and there has been a lack of reserves fit to step into the side. Even with these excuses, the drop has been too big. There has not been enough enthusiasm or physical fitness in the team, and the lack of competition for places has tended to cause complacency. In matches played so far there has been some weakness in the co-ordination between forwards and three-quarters, partly due to

the necessity of experimentation, and to the changing of positions required to cover absence by injury, there being no supply of reserves to fill the places.

The table summarising the results gives a depressing picture, but the actual matches produced some encouraging performances. The school team fought hard against a mobile and experienced team of Old Boys—who were by no means so unfit as their reporter suggests. There was a good win at Dollar against a heavy side; and L. McGavin's fine solo try at Glenalmond was the first against them this season. The biggest blow to the side has been the loss of G. Matthews who fractured a wrist in the match at Glenalmond. Then M. Gillespie got a similar fracture at Fettes, where we were also without J. Watters.

The following boys have played for the 1st XV—number of appearances in brackets:

G. Matthews (Captain) (4); P. Finlay (Vice-Captain), L. McGavin, M. Armstrong, C. Brown, S. Donaldson, H. R. Bowes, M. Gillespie, K. Douglas, J. McKenzie, D. Robertson (all 5 each); K. Murray, J. Watters, A. Stace (4 each); D. Maxwell, D. Watson (3 each); L. McKenzie, E. Gillespie, W. Scott (1 each).

2nd XV and Third Year

As usual we cannot really field a 2nd XV proper, and even the 3rd year has to supply members for the 1st XV.

The following have appeared in these sides:

L. McKenzie, E. Gillespie, J. Allan, N. Donaldson, N. McConnell, D. V. Scott, H. Paterson, A. Washington, T. B. McLaughlin, R. McArthur, J. Morrice, A. Kay, W. Stewart, M. Owens, W. Aitken, D. Keltie, P. Kay, M. Smith, R. Miller, A. Sinclair, D. Cormack, T. Monaghan, D. Warwood.

2nd Year XV

What with the late start and the early snow, we have got to the House match stage before there has been time to consolidate a school 2nd year team. There are some good little players and some useful big boys, but we have not yet got a strong, fast player in the centre round whom attacks can be built up. I. Smith has had to try this role and is improving in it, though he has not so far shown the initial speed that is needed.

In the first of our only two matches to date, against a Morrison's team not, one felt, as strong as they put against us last year, the Q.V.S. side was rather disappointing. There was too much hanging back and some wicked waste of short penalty kicks. We lost 10-3 at home. In the other match, against Fettes away, there was a big improvement: strong forward rushes and some good handling and backing up. With two tries by Forsyth, we won 6-0. This is always a good match. The Fettes side is probably a month or two younger than ours on average, but has obviously more experience in it. Among our backs

Newman was the best, and he made some excellent runs for the line. The big forwards, especially Broughton and Forsyth did plenty of work; and the three small forwards B. McLaughlin, Jagger and Watters played well as always. The team against Fettes was as follows:

J. Tait; R. Newman, D. Nealon, I. Smith, C. McLaughlin; S. Robertson, M. Wills; A. Broughton, D. Jagger (Captain), R. Irvine, M. Forsyth, A. Morrice, B. McLaughlin, S. Cobb, J. H. Watters.

If the weather lets us get some Easter term Rugby, there may still be changes in this side, which has not passed out of the experimental stage. Some other players are on the edge: T. Sharp, P. Gilder and P. Tait; and if I. Fraser could develop the standard of the rest of his Rugby to that of his speciality, the drop kick, he would be a star. There are likely to be some positional changes, in the effort to get backs going. So the reserves can have hopes. There are still openings for determined young men.

1st Year

There have been no matches for the first year boys and little time to get them into shape. We hope to report their progress in the next number.

Representative Matches

G. Matthews and P. Finlay were chosen to play in the Midland District Schools trial match at Cupar. G. Matthews was travelling reserve for the Midland District School's XV against Glasgow District.

Results to date :—

		P	W	D	L	Points	
						F	A
1st XV	....	6	1	0	5	13	68
'A' and 2nd XV	....	2	1	0	1	17	31
3rd Year XV	....	4	0	1	3	15	53
2nd Year XV	....	3	2	0	1	35	10

SQUASH NOTES

Once again, we present you with the winter term's squash notes, now a regular feature of the "Victorian." There have been some changes in the administrative side of this sport. Major Davies, who was here once before for a brief period, has returned and has consented to take charge of squash in the School. A notable figure himself in the squash circles of the Army, he is this year the number one seed in the R.A.E.C. Squash Tournament in which he is due to take part at the time of writing. Aiding him

in the observance of rules and in the settlement of disputes is the Squash Captain P. R. C. Finlay. There is also a Squash Club comprising sixteen members which meets twice weekly on Mondays and Fridays during the hobbies periods. This Squash Club is eventually intended to find the best sixteen players amongst the boys, so that they may have the benefit of Major Davies' tuition. Apart from the introduction of a new batch of squash players from the third form, no other changes of importance have been made.

Though it was a pity to see many good players leave last term, already there are new up-and-coming exponents of the game. At present the older boys with their year or more of experience are naturally the more skilled, but the members of the third form, the new-comers to squash, are not to be outdone. They have shown their determination and persistence to rise to the top of the tree by the high replacement rate of racquets and balls.

In a report such as this, a few names must be included. However, before I fill up the "Victorian" with names, I should like to explain the system of Squash Ladders. Here there are two, of thirty boys and masters in the First Ladder, and of thirty in the Second comprising the players from the third form and the "remainder" of other forms eligible for play. It is possible to attain a higher position in a Squash Ladder by challenging and playing one of the two persons directly above the challenger. Obviously a person who rises, say twelve places, must be a fairly proficient player and deserves recognition in these notes. In the First Ladder, there are K. Douglas who has risen 10 places and Captain A. N. Petrie who has risen 14. In the Second Ladder, those players who have made considerable advances are D. Robertson 15 places, A. Washington 13 places, R. Miller 11 places and N. McConnell 9 places. In the Second Ladder therefore, the best prospect for the future seems to be D. Robertson, though the best players are not always those who have made the greatest advances. The highest number of places risen is, however, beaten by the highest number of places dropped. This credit goes to the IVB leaver who started this term in the 8th position and is at present in the No. 24 slot.

There remains only one more piece of information to give, that we are hoping to play a match or two, against Dollar Academy next February, and possibly against other schools later. Major Davies, P. R. C. Finlay and I join to say, according to this term's tradition, "We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year!"

R.I.S. (*Hon. Secretary*).