

THE STRATHALLIAN

THE MAGAZINE OF STRATHALLAN SCHOOL

VOLUME TWO

Number 1931

NUMBER TWO

Editorial

IT is with great pleasure that we begin the Editorial, for the first time in our career, with a word of thanks for, and congratulations upon, the support given to the magazine during the past term—and this during a term which is notorious for its many counter attractions and calls upon leisure hours.

While fully recognising the credit due to the contributors, we feel moved to congratulate the Editorial Board also upon the systematic way in which they faced the critical situation arising from the falling off of contributions last term. It set its house in order, and, reorganised, kept in closer touch with the School in general, both by personal endeavour and through the medium of class representatives. The appeal thus broadcast has had obvious beneficial results. It has become almost a matter of honour that each form shall have contributed to the current number of the magazine; and it is particularly pleasing to observe that several members of the Junior School, with this personal encouragement, are showing

considerable promise. Next term we hope to carry the campaign still further, making each bedroom in each House take a pride in individual representation.

So much for the present pupils. And what of the past? We would recommend a similar idea for consideration to all Old Boys. Why should they not seek to ensure every year in the School's history providing at least one contributor? If such a happy state of affairs could but materialise, the worries of the Editor would be over—though fresh worries might arise as to what should be left out. We on the Board, however, would willingly shoulder this new burden if only we knew that we had shaken off once and for all our present one.

In conclusion, we would like to thank D. Walker and J. T. Johnston for services rendered during their long association with the magazine, these being all the more meritorious in view of their many other duties which have necessarily taken up much of their time; and our best wishes follow them into their new sphere.

School Notes and Notices

IN many ways it has been an eventful term, though Sports Day and Commemoration Day were the only outstanding incidents. But with seven tennis courts in constant use in the evening, and cricket in full swing under the supervision of three experts, it may be imagined that leisure has been pleasantly spent; while prospects of Cambridge and other examinations have made it a busy one for work. Of even greater importance, we consider, is the fact that a start has been made in Staff v. School meetings, the School being successful in both tennis and cricket. It is hoped that they will become annual events.

Sports Day, June 3rd, was one of the worst in memory, for not only did rain fall in the closing stages as it did last year, but it was bitterly cold, and our sympathies were with the many parents and friends who graced the proceedings. Even so, we did not like to observe the absence of so many boys from the lawn. A lack of true School spirit seems evident when they could not summon up sufficient interest in the events to keep them there until the fate of their Houses and the individual championships had been decided. Our congratulations to S. McAllister and R. Macmath upon winning the Senior and Junior Championships respectively, and to Simpson House on retaining a half interest in the House Championship for the second year in succession despite the valiant effort of Freeland to rob them of the laurels.

Commemoration Day, on the other hand, was gloriously fine, and was universally voted an enormous success. The idea of utilising the function as a test of the School's prowess in all summer sports was a brilliant one, and from first to last the competition was amazingly keen. The School has every reason to be pleased with itself in gaining the victory in the first of the tournaments by four events to one, for the opposition was good, and in many cases it was only the superior training of the boys that gave them the victory. The Old Boys were good losers, but will be all out next year to turn the tables.

The cricket season was hardly as successful as was anticipated. This is partly attributable to the fact that not until late in the

term did hard pitches materialise. Indeed, the first team was singularly unfortunate in having eight of their fixtures cancelled, most of them on account of the weather, and four of them in succession during the first weeks of June. The responsibilities of captaincy seemed to lie heavily upon W. G. Leburn, and he lacked that steadiness which characterised his play last season. At the same time he was passing through that difficult transition stage reached by all cricketers when they seek to become forceful batsmen instead of concentrating entirely upon defence. The batting of the remainder of the team was on the whole good but somewhat inconsistent; but G. Dobson fully deserved his success in gaining the bat for the most improved player. The bowling at times appeared quite innocuous; but it must be remembered the wickets were frequently dead, offering no assistance whatever to the bowler.

As will be seen elsewhere, the Library has been fully utilised this term, the examination candidates working there with reference books at their elbow. Among mooted further improvements here is the provision of periodicals; but the difficulties of housing a reading room without interference with present arrangements has yet to be overcome.

It is with regret that we bid goodbye this term to Messrs. Sharman, Crawford and Marchant, who leave for pastures new. Each has done much for the School during his sojourn here, which fact the boys signalled with appropriate parting gifts. Mr. Marchant will be missed by the Scouts; Mr. Crawford in the House and on the rugby field; and Mr. Sharman, as music master, with his choir, orchestra and School concerts which have been a feature of recent Christmas terms. While bidding farewell to the old and wishing them the best of luck in the future, we extend a welcome to the new members of the staff, Messrs. Cole, Walker and Fletcher.

This term sees the departure also of the usual number of seniors, and to these, too, we wish every success. The Prefects leave *en masse*, and without wishing to particularise unnecessarily, we should like to congratulate D. Walker and D. S. Thomson,

who brought honour to the School by passing the Intermediate Examination of the London University Commerce Degree.

The School Captain for 1931-32 is A. Melville, who has the support of the following Prefects :

- J. A. Montgomerie, Vice-Captain and Captain of Simpson.
- C. L. Rich, Captain of Ruthven.
- N. Cuthbert, Captain of Freeland.
- G. D. Muir, Captain of Nicol.
- R. D. Paton.

The House Prefects are :

- J. Macmillan. G. Aitkenhead.
- W. Falconer. R. Smith.
- W. Waterston. S. Wright.

The Sub-Prefects are :

- B. Carlaw. A. Mackay.
- G. Watt. L. Fleming.
- W. Watt. D. Vost.

Captain of Swimming : W. Waterston.

LIBRARY REPORT, SUMMER, 1931

In spite of the fact that there has been a greater facility for outdoor recreation, the Library has continued to flourish, a surprising number of books having been borrowed. The new system, while not quite perfect, worked satisfactorily during the term, during the course of which its shortcomings were observed and efforts made to seek perfection for next term.

Numerically, the Library has been further enlarged during the term by several contributions of books, and the shelves are slowly, but surely, being filled.

The reference sections, to which a great deal of time and care has been devoted, are also being extended, every opportunity being seized to enlarge them. The greater part of the money collected during last term and this has been devoted to the science section. It has been of great assistance to those in the Senior School, particularly those working for examinations. The Library has been available every evening for boys desiring to do additional work, so that its influence is being felt considerably in all School work.

D. S. THOMSON,
for the Library Committee.

CHAPEL NOTES

Chapel services have been held during the evening on Sundays this term, Mr. Riley conducting the services. The most important event of the term, and one that causes great regret, is the loss of Mr. Sharman, who has worked so hard as organist and choirmaster during his eight years at the School that his place will be hard to fill ; for under his leadership the choir has gone beyond its Chapel duties to take a prominent part in the social life of the School. His absence will be keenly felt by all, particularly by the Chapel Committee.

With him the choir loses some of its best blood, for at least six of its senior members, D. Walker, J. T. Johnston, E. B. Mackay, R. Linton and W. Mitchell, are expected to be away when next term commences. We wish all of them the best of luck.

There has been no expenditure from the Chapel Fund since Christmas, and it now stands as follows :

Receipts	
To Balance from Xmas Term ...	£3 2 0
„ Easter and Summer Collections ...	45 6 6
	£48 8 6
Payments	
By Thimblerow Mission ...	£12 0 0
„ Allocations—	
To Sinking Fund ...	£11 6 7½
„ Improvement Fund ...	11 6 7½
	22 13 3
„ Balance for Charitable Allocations ...	13 15 3
	£48 8 6
Sinking Fund now stands at ...	£38 10 0
Chapel Improvement Fund now stands at ...	42 7 1

THE AGES OF MAN

(With apologies to Shakespeare and Pope.)

When just a babe he loved to play
With beads and rattles all the day;
Then later, bicycles he used,
With which his little shins he bruised.
As more years passed, he fell for curls
And took quiet walks with many girls;
Young widows next claimed his attention.
He knew a few, and liked the invention.
When he grew old he married money
And called her "Sweetie, ducky, honey";
And then, unmourned by ladies proud,
He died, a cipher in a crowd.

I. K. L. (Form S2).

Commemoration Day

THE outstanding event of the term was undoubtedly Commemoration Day, Saturday, June 27th, with its strenuous rivalry between Past and Present. The sun rose triumphantly, and the day was all that could be desired, hot but with a cool breeze blowing — so very different from the unfavourable weather with which Sports Day was blessed.

Despite the early start, some twenty-five Old Strathallians were present in the Chapel for the service. The hymns selected for the occasion this year were "Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven," "We love the place, O God," and "The King of Love my Shepherd is"; and the Bible reading was taken from Acts xxvi., of St. Paul's defence of his life before Agrippa. From this Mr. Riley in his address drew a parallelism in our own lives. His message was one of hope and encouragement, and one which could not fail to inspire all present.

During the service the number of Old Boys present had greatly increased, and during the afternoon previous records were beaten. So scattered were they that it was well nigh impossible to make an exact count, but old Old Boys and young Old Boys seemed everywhere, and sixty is a modest estimation of their numbers.

In the subsequent tournament the School triumphed by four events to one, two being drawn. Over thirty Old Boys took part in the various events, all of which were keenly contested. The School went ahead before tea, a good run by W. Buchanan in the second 220 yd. relay giving his team a substantial lead, which McAllister fully maintained. It was unfortunate that our rivals lost several yards in the change over at the third relay; otherwise the result may have been different.

While the cricket match was starting a cross country race was run round the grounds, ending with the stiff ascent from the station. The hill destroyed possibilities of a close finish, for it was a gruelling climb at the end of such a course. However, the School claimed first and third places through

Paton and Montgomerie respectively, D. Wilkie and G. F. Ritchie filling second and fourth positions.

The cricket match was left drawn, slightly in the Old Boys favour, for they piled up a formidable score on a perfect wicket, thanks to a sterling innings of 69 by Dunn; and, though after tea the School gained a temporary upper hand, G. Reid applied the closure with a score of 177 for 8 wkts. Against good bowling and smart fielding, the School collected 77 for the loss of 4 good wickets.

Meanwhile the Old Boys had gained their first success, claiming the tennis match by two matches to one, I. Brown and A. Morrison and A. Moodie and J. M. McGregor registering easy victories by reason of their fast driving, which kept their opponents on the run. Scott and Waldie were successful for the School.

The tug-of-war, of which the Old Boys had every reason to feel confident, proved the great surprise of the day. Out-weighted by a stone or more per man, the School sprang a surprise in the first pull, thanks to careful timing by Dobson. The second pull was a gruelling affair, the Old Boys being held up within a foot of victory, allowed to exhaust themselves in that position, and finally easily pulled in turn. This third victory gave the School a commanding lead, it now being necessary for the Old Boys to win both swimming events.

The School were fortunate to make this impossible, for it was only the good dive by Linton at the start of the relay race which enabled them to gain a two yards' start, which helped them to beat off the serious challenge by A. Moodie and W. C. Lambie and win by the touch.

The water polo match, played cleanly, but with a fine disregard of rules, ended in a draw of two goals each, Lambie discounting goals scored in each half for the School. So ended a truly great day. And we are sure that next year's meeting will be looked forward to by all, particularly by the Old Boys, who will be out for revenge.

Lanywa

ABOUT three hundred and fifty miles north of Rangoon on the west bank of the Irrawaddy is the Lanywa oil-field of the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company. Situated well in the dry zone, Lanywa presents a striking contrast with Rangoon. Luxurious growth of vivid green meets the eye everywhere in Rangoon, while for miles around stretch the flat green paddy fields of the Delta. Not so Lanywa—here the river on the west is bounded by a one-time plateau which the scorching suns and rains of generations have transformed into a maze of narrow hills and valleys. Through this plateau the Irrawaddy has cut a deep channel, leaving on the west a sheer wall about a hundred feet in height, now bisected and broken by countless water-courses. Except where there is a river or a stream, cultivation in this dry belt is impossible. Nothing but sombre brown is to be seen, against which stand out, here and there, the dull greens of the cactus and stunted shrubs.

The small native village of Lanywa, together with the company's offices, workshops and stores, lies in the bell mouth of a dry water-course, the Lanywa Chaung. The staff bungalows, built on the high ground, are scattered round the mouth of the chaung overlooking the river, which is over a mile wide here at high water. The staff is composed of drillers, engineers and two office people—about thirty in all.

The actual oil-wells are drilled on a huge sandbank which stretches out into the river, protected against high water and possible current by an enormous retaining wall nearly a mile in length.

Lanywa is cut off from the rest of the world by road. True, there is a bullock cart track to Pakokkee, a timber and government station about forty miles up the river, but this track is absolutely impassible for cars. To the west high land soon falls away into the valley of the Yaw, a tributary of the Irrawaddy, and beyond this valley one can travel for days through practically unknown country till the mighty Arrakan Yomas bar the way to India. To the south the maze of hills and valleys extends for miles, devoid of any road or even track.

As very little will grow in Lanywa, all foodstuffs have to be brought daily from

Chauk, the centre of the famous Singu oil-field, across the river from Lanywa. Here there is a large community with branches of several important Rangoon shops, and a club which boasts of a movie show once a week.

The office day commences about 5.30 a.m., when, attired in shorts and a tennis shirt, one has "chota hazen" consisting of tea and toast. Office commences at six. The clerks, twelve in number, are mostly Burmese, only one or two being Indians. Any outdoor work, such as inspecting native compounds, is best done early before the heat of the day. At 11 o'clock all the staff, engineers and general coolies knock off for breakfast. Drilling is continuous, and the drillers and their coolies work in shifts on a schedule of their own.

As may be expected, breakfast, after five hours of office work, is a heavy meal of two or three courses; thereafter sleep is the order of the day till 2 o'clock, when work recommences. This break of three hours is essential because of the tremendous heat, especially from February to June. During that period the temperature rises to 110 degrees daily. At this temperature the ironwork of one's bed becomes really too hot to hold, while cold water is too hot to wash one's hands in, far less bathe.

It pays to sleep, too, as my companion and I found one Sunday afternoon, when, deciding it was too hot for sleep, we adjourned to the lounge chairs. It cost us our entire stock of ginger beer, thirteen bottles, and two bottles of drinking water in a vain attempt to assuage our thirsts.

From 2 p.m. office continues till 5, or later if necessary. Often during the hot season sand storms blow up from the sandbanks, and in the office it seems as if someone is standing over you, sprinkling you and your work with finest sand. Happily the bungalows on the high ground seem to be out of the path of these storms and entirely escape them.

Exercise in Lanywa is limited to tennis, riding or walking. One enterprising engineer owned a speed-boat and spent all his spare time on the river; and that brings me to the Irrawaddy, which must be mentioned to complete a description of Lanywa.

Perhaps its primary importance as far as we are concerned is that it brings us food and links us up to the outside world. It supplies us with the only fresh fish we ever taste, a kind of mud-fish admittedly, but fresh. There is, too, a fine service of passenger, mail and cargo steamers plying between Prome and Mandalay, all of which call at Lanywa and keep us in touch with civilisation.

During the dry season its waters are daily covered with huge timber rafts which float past to the Rangoon saw-mills from the forests of Upper Burma. When the monsoon comes its surface is cut by native boats with their huge square sails. At this time the river sometimes becomes unkind, for a strong monsoon blowing straight up stream will cause waves four and five feet high, and thereby prevent our launch from crossing the river for supplies.

D. H. G. B.

REFLECTIONS

The world rolls on; will old Father Time not halt?

Each day that passes adds to our age, each fault

Adds one more wrinkle to our haggard faces.

We plod our way through Life with weary paces

To be o'erpowered; and still the world rolls by.

Where do we go? what have we done? and why?

What is the scheme in this, God's own creation?

Why do we live, and call ourselves God's nation?

All that we seem to crave's Eternal Life,
And for that end, we have entered into strife.

Darkness and mystery ever veil God's ways;
"Many are called but few are chosen,"

He says;
"Lord, is it I?" rises our agonised cry.

Yet still the world rolls on, but a passing whim

Wherein intertwine the paths of good and sin

Along which we, the players, act our parts,
Seeking to better the substance of our hearts.

G. D. M. (Form S5).

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Dramatic Society will resume its activities next term with every hope for a successful season. The Easter term social revealed plenty of fresh talent with which to replace the several established actors who, we regret to say, will have left before the new session begins. Thanks to stringent economies, the Society will be able to start the year with a reasonable credit balance, though some of this will be absorbed by the purchase of more canvas to facilitate the erection of more than one set during the course of the socials.

Below is the Expenditure and Income Account:

Expenditure	
To Mr. Riley for Canvas purchased, Dec., 1930	£6 13 0
„ Samuel French, Ltd.	2 10 0
„ Expenses of Social—	
Hire of Costumes	£1 5 0
Carriage on same	0 9 8
Grease Paint	0 1 9
Dressing of Wig	0 2 6
Cigarettes	0 7 6
Sundries	0 2 6
	2 8 11
„ Sundry Cheques and Postages	0 1 3
„ Balance, being—	
Balance at French's	£0 16 11
Cash at Bank	2 9 6
	3 6 5
	£14 19 7

Income	
By Balance, Dec., 1930, at Bank	£5 5 2
„ Balance, Dec., 1930, at French, Ltd.	0 6 11
	5 12 1
„ Subscriptions	6 0 0
„ Collection at Easter Social	3 7 6
	£14 19 7

V. LAUDERDALE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

STRATHALLIAN CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER, 1931.

The Annual Dinner of the Old Boys' Club will be held in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Gordon Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, 19th December, 1931. In view of the present need for private and national economy the Committee are endeavouring to reduce considerably the price of the dinner and it is hoped that, as a result of their efforts in this direction, the attendance will be in excess of last year's.

Full details will be embodied in a circular to be forwarded to all members of the Club who wish to be present and who write to Mr. D. O. Melrose (The Hirsell, Bridge of Weir).

Earthquake

JACOB MERRYMAN was shy and unobtrusive. He had hair the colour of dried hay, pale blue eyes, an ordinary nose, a large floppy mouth and a receding chin. It is said now-a-days that a receding chin is no indication of a weak character, but nevertheless, Merryman's character was weak.

Since he was a negative type of man, he positively quailed his way through life. He quailed before and he quailed after; before he met people and when he met people, and after he had met them. He even crossed the road to avoid dogs, for they always seemed to bark at him. He certainly quailed before Mrs. Montmorency Brown. And he hated scenes.

Mrs. Montmorency Brown, on the other hand, was grand and gracious. Her style was heroic, and her voice loud. She had a hundred and one different tones of voice at her command, and she used them all. They were all loud. She never wore dresses, but always robes. She swept hither and thither; and if there was one thing she enjoyed in life, it was a scene.

She went out to tea parties but always arrived late. "My dears," she might say, as she swept into the room—her "my dears" embraced the world—"My dears, there's been an earthquake!" The effect of this remark was always the same. Everyone present felt at once that there was about to be an earthquake, or, in other words, a scene. Mrs. Montmorency Brown presented majesty to everything with which she connected herself; and when she said there had been an earthquake, she merely meant that she had just had a row with someone.

Apart from his normal timidity, Jacob Merryman had an additional reason for quailing before Mrs. Montmorency Brown; for he went in supreme fear that she would one day request him to marry her. Jacob was not all fool, and he knew his Mrs. Montmorency Brown.

There came a time when Mrs. Brown's resources were lower than suited her, and

there was every prospect that they would remain so. There was obviously only one way of remedying the situation, and that was for her to marry again, and to marry someone rich.

Jacob Merryman was exceptionally wealthy.

So when Mrs. Montmorency Brown began to look around her, and her eye lighted upon Jacob, Jacob quailed and gave himself up for lost.

There was a tea party, given by a certain lady of fashion, at which some thirty guests were present, including a number of gentlemen whose chins did not recede. Jacob, however, as a bachelor of means, was also there. His heart quailed when he heard his hostess remark that "Our dear Mrs. Montmorency Brown is a little late to-day." He knew the omen, and wisely preserved a graceful silence during the ensuing conversation upon Mrs. Brown.

Then at last she arrived. She wore red velvet. But she was one of those people who could get away with red velvet for an afternoon tea.

"My dears," she boomed. "There's been an earthquake. . . OH!"

The "Oh" was gargantuan, and was occasioned because her eye had caught that of Jacob, and with the action had come an idea. Jacob saw and trembled.

For a few moments the conversation was general and loud, Mrs. Brown's tones rising above all others. Then there was a pause, during which Mrs. Brown delivered her ultimatum.

"Jacob Merryman," she said, "you are going to marry me . . ."

"Yes, Mrs. Brown," he replied weakly.

"Don't interrupt me, you idiot, I was going to add that you must first find me a suitable husband."

Now, Jacob Merryman, as you may have guessed, was a parson.

Venice by Night

TO most people the thought of Venice conjures up visions of sunny skies and gondolas floating over glistening waters; but in reality Venice is a most uncomfortable place to be in during the day. True, the waters do shine in the sun, but anything like a close observation reveals the remains of dead and rotting vegetables and all the offal and refuse from the houses floating in them. Every conceivable smell lingers in the air, rendering a walk abroad most unpleasant. The dirty waters lap insidiously against the slime-covered sides of the canals, the sun beats down pitilessly, making one tired and listless, the incessant babble of many languages tires the ears, and one sighs with relief on entering the hotel.

But Venice by night, when the moon shines, is one of the most beautiful places in the world. From a boat the minarets and towers are silhouetted against the dark blue background of the sky; while the moonlight in the water dances and ripples in a fascinating way. A gondola silently passes into the light and is held for an instant, before the low, long sweep of the gondolier guides it once more into the blackness. The rows of lights twinkle in their thousands from the cafés, from which the breeze wafts the strains of music.

In the Plaza San Marco the Italian crowds jostle and push their way along, enjoying the sights and fun like school children. The cafés are crowded with tourists, sipping their beer and watching the passing throng. All types are here: the gay Italian officer in his gay uniform sauntering along with two fair Italian girls clinging lovingly to either arm; a Fascist workman with his black shirt sitting drinking his red wine; and a family party with some six or seven children all chattering at once. The eternal kaleidoscope goes on, people of every nation enjoying the cool air of a Venetian night.

St. Mark's Cathedral and the Doge's Palace are shrouded in the gloom, hiding within them visions of past glories. In the canals the gondolas flit here and there like dark ghosts, their little brass lanterns twinkling in the darkness. They glide past the ancient deserted palaces of the Venice of centuries ago, under the Bridge of Sighs

and between the dark walls of the Doge's Palace and the Prison, the tomb of many a hapless prisoner. On they go into the broad canal which passes under the Bridge of the Rialto, now lit up brightly, past gondolas laden with fruit ready for the morrow's market, and so on up a little, narrow and dark water-way to the doors of the hotel. And so to bed.

A. M. (Form S4).

A MAGIC HOUR

The night was dark, the wood was still,
A pale moon shone behind the hill;
A large black pool, with rushes green,
Could faintly by the moon be seen.

* * *

Then something stirred beside the rushes,
A whispered rustle, and the bushes
Bent back to show a tiny fellow
Dressed head to foot in red and yellow.

* * *

He stopped and gazed in proud disdain
At me. I asked him who he was. Again
He stared; bell-like his answer rang
From the pool's margin as he sang:

* * *

"I am the king of Fairyland,
And head a merry pixie band:
And all who serve beneath my sway
Do as I bid without delay."

* * *

"We dance a roundel every night
By the pool, in pale moonlight.
My fairy queen there dines with me
On honey from the bumble bee."

* * *

A slight wind wafted through the wood,
It fanned the grass where Oberon stood;
His tiny coat of red and gold
Showed up his figure clear and bold.

* * *

I looked again, and rubbed my eyes,
And gazed and gazed in mute surprise;
No figure dressed in red and gold
Might my wondering eyes behold.

* * *

A streak of dawn showed o'er the hill,
The dark wood was no longer still;
A bird above burst into song,
Shattered the spell with carol song.

J. F. (Form J1).

A Visit to the Somme Battlefields

THE contingent of Scottish Cadets disembarked at Calais as dusk descended on the harbour, and, boarding the train, were soon speeding on towards Arras, which was to be the centre for the tour of the battlefields. Here they were billeted in the Caserne Shram.

Each day had its special programme. Albert, so heavily shelled during the war, was visited, and throughout the district round the town the ground was pitted with shell-holes, now overgrown with weeds, and rusted debris lay all around. The quiet which pervaded the air over the plain was almost eerie; and strange were the emotions stirred at seeing large heaps of shell cases, rifles, barbed wire and other relics of fighting laid up against the sides of the houses of the hamlets. All this had been turned up by the peasant as he ploughed the land in an effort to hide the ravages of war, which lay like a mask over the earth, with the mantle of agriculture.

Close by is the tragic Delville Wood, where the South African Memorial stands above the gaunt, broken and blackened trunks of trees which rear their metal-laden limbs to the sky above a thick tangle of brambles, so dense as effectively to hide many grim secrets.

Of the numerous other memorials dotted over the countryside, Newfoundland Park is perhaps the best example, as it is merely a large piece of land left untouched since hostilities ceased. In the centre of the park is a large bronze replica of a caribou, standing on a rock, in the sides of which are mural tablets. Eager searches for souvenirs in this area resulted in the discovery of all kinds of objects from bullets to large shell cases.

At Thiepval a memorial is being constructed to the memory of 7,400 British soldiers who fell on the Somme front. It takes the form of a triumphal arch standing on an immense platform of concrete, and the names of the fallen are being engraved on the stone of the memorial. More curious as a memorial is the Tank Memorial, which, made out of stone, is surrounded by driving chains and guns taken from the tanks that took part in the battle.

It is very easy, at dusk, as the sun sets over the barren grounds now wreathed in

mist, to let the imagination call up again visions of the terrible fight. Here many of Australia's sons found graves in the mud. Indeed, on no part of the front was there so much carnage. Cemeteries sprang up like towns, to enclose officer and man side by side, frequently separated by an "unknown soldier." The setting sun silhouettes rows and rows of grave-stones, neatly kept and separated by well trimmed grass paths. Against the crimson sky stands out a stone cross on a pedestal, and adorned with a large bronze sword. Then darkness falls and blots out all, but the memory of the Somme battlefield is already burned into the brain.

J. W. D. (Form J1).

IF

(With apologies to Mr. Rudyard Kipling.)

If I can do quite right when all about me
Are doing wrong and blaming it on me;
If I can get the chap that came and pipped
me,

And put me in detention after tea;
If I could get the man that hit me sorely
When working out geometry in vain,
I'd leave him lying on the ground so poorly
He wouldn't even feel the burning pain.

If I could only find some way of smoking
And not be pipped by interfering folk—
If I could only give that man a choking
That got me into trouble o'er a smoke—
If I could break all bounds, and rook the
village

Of all the sweets the shops there have to sell;
If I could even find a way to pillage
The tuckshop's storeroom, I'd rook that as
well.

If I could only disobey all orders,
Or break the laws the school has made of
yore,

I should not then be far off from the borders
Of being kicked out through the school front
door:

But, if in school hours I'm inclined to work-
ing,

I shall the black cloud hanging o'er me rend;
All will be mine then only for the taking,
And—which is more—I'll be a Pre., my
friend.

Anagada Ho!

IT was 8 o'clock on a glorious West Indian night when we set sail from Tortola with a view to spending a week at Anagada. The older members of the party slept on deck, while we went below to a stuffy cabin, where sleep was hard to woo, since the sea was rough and took its toll on some of the party.

Early in the morning we were aroused by the excited cries of the native crew, and going on deck, we saw, far astern, the rising sun gleam on the scales of a large fish as it leapt frantically from the white-capped sea in an endeavour to break the line, with which, after a struggle, the natives managed to land it. It lay on the deck, gasping for breath, and staring with its large eyes at its captors. The natives, who had caught three similar fish during the night, were in high spirits.

Our attention was soon distracted from the fish, however, for the approach to Anagada is dangerous, and when we were two miles away, we became absorbed in the handling of the boat. A native in the prow shouted to the helmsman, "Hard a starboard, 'bout ship!" Over went the helm in a trice, and the sloop answered quickly. The boom whizzed overhead, and we were off again on a fresh course. We were apparently in a maze of coral reefs. Indeed, Anagada is reef-bound, and it is only navigable to sailors who are really conversant with the coast. Time and again we seemed to miss lumps of coral by a matter of inches as we swerved to avoid a further lump ahead. The lookout in the bow gave his directions quickly but calmly, and the man at the helm, one of the best sailors in the Virgin Islands, followed them without a mistake.

Indeed, a mistake on his part would have been fatal, for the channels through which we passed were very narrow, and our speed was not lessened. The voyage is a very thrilling affair. One moment we would be dashing straight for a reef and impact seemed unavoidable; we would shut our eyes and wait for the shock; a curt direction from the lookout, a quick lurch of the boat as the helmsman answered, and we were through into safety again with inches to spare.

Late in the morning we were through the reef and had dropped anchor about a mile

from the shore. The beach shelves very gently, and the boat in which we were rowed land-wards grounded a good two hundred yards from the sands. To these we were carried by the sailors.

The highest point on the island is only about thirty feet above sea level. It is a typical coral island, and its inhabitants are extremely greedy. Their houses are filled with good wines and European furniture which they have procured from the many ships which are wrecked upon the reef. The skeletons of these ships are still to be seen all round the island. One only, the "Annie S. Anderson," a large schooner which was thrown right inside the reef during a storm nearly ten years ago and could not be re-floated, remains intact. The natives plundered her and claimed large sums as salvage. Some years ago great rejoicing was caused in the island by the sight of a large Dutch schooner wrecked on the reef. For once expectations were disappointed, for when the natives crowded on to her, they discovered her cargo consisted of ancient, dry bones.

W. C. R. (Form S1).

BLUEBELLS

Sweet and heavy hung the scent
Upon the slumbering air,
Lulled by the droning music lent
By the bees that haunted there.

Into the mist of purple blue,
Deep within the shady wood
New-robed by Spring, the sun plunged
through
To dapple where the bluebells sweet,

Their bells aglow with elfin light,
Blue, green and purple, burnt
Like Will-o'-wisps to lure at night
The traveller late returned.

With shouts of gladness, unafraid,
Wandering knee-deep in the cloud,
A red-cheeked throng of children played,
Bending where the bluebells bowed;

Plucked the nodding heads at pleasure,
White-stalked bunches there they made;
But little recked how in just measure
They, too, like the flow'rs must fade.

More Terribly Serious Thoughts— on Choosing a Career.

THE examinations are over; the results are out. By some queer freak of fortune, incomprehensible alike to master and successful pupil, there is his name in print. It is inadvisable to enquire too closely as to how this occurred: examiners, even as Homer, may nod. A nod being as good as a wink, the attention should now be given to the question of choosing a career. Truly, a weighty problem, and one that grows even heavier should the wrong career be chosen. In therefore submitting for consideration a resumé of the openings afforded by the several professions, we feel we are doing something of national importance.

The best method to adopt is to study carefully the relative positions of one's relations. Having decided which is the most prosperous, you suggest to the fortunate uncle selected that he is not looking well, that you are confident that his business responsibilities are slowly but surely transforming him into a shadow, that these responsibilities could easily be lightened by your able assistance. After this brilliant opening, the rest is easy. We recognise your pleasant and persuasive personality—so will your unfortunate victim, and to stem your flow of eloquence, and to spare you from the modest blush that must needs illuminate your countenance at the recital of your many virtues and accomplishments, you are quickly appointed to your desired position. In return you are provided with a munificent salary and a well designed mantlepiece where the weary feet may be parked from noon till one p.m. and from three-thirty to four, while a letter or two is dictated to one of your bevy of fair typists.

Unfortunately, this manner of choosing a career is fast falling out of favour, for modern conditions demand that a man shall be qualified to take up a position. Be warned, therefore, to consider what qualifications you possess before applying for a post. Consider well what your position will demand of you.

No better example than that of the banker can be found. This is a most misleading profession. The banker is a particular type of railway engine use for the assistance of heavy locomotives up steep inclines. While this is obviously an extremely useful occupation, it is apt to become monotonous, for steep inclines necessitating bankers are few and far between and promotion is therefore slow.

A less important kind of banker is the man who manages a bank. This, too, is misleading. In the first place, though so much depends upon the personal charm of the manager, he is not allowed to keep all the money his fascinating ways may lure within his gates. The unfairness of this is obvious at once to one appreciating how much depends on the way an overdraft is refused. The manager is very carefully guarded, but this task does occasionally fall to his task; and it is his first business to realise how vital to his client is the whole question, and indeed, the lesser ones, as to whether it shall be paid off in ten years or twenty years, and whether it will be delivered in plain vans.

Another exciting career for boys is that of the stockbroker. Until recently the stockbrokers did not work on Saturdays: the return to the six working days a week has robbed the profession of much of its former glamour. In the Stock Exchange a kind of zoo is housed, bulls and bears predominating. No one need apply therefore who has no experience with animals, and toreadors are given preference, since one of the newcomer's first tasks is to master these beasts. After this, his work mainly consists of talking to his fellows about his garden, the red-haired one in the front row, third from the right, and how he did the long seventh in one. This is what is known as "On 'Change," for ringing the changes on these topics has for long been the only change known to the stockbroker. Occasionally someone may offer some stocks (or forget-me-nots, or bluebells—it all depends upon the season), but as no one takes much

notice, it seems all rather a waste of time. Recent political events have quite upset the easy-going way in which the stockbroker made money—as he is doubtful how he has made it himself lately, we cannot divulge his secret—it is advisable to hesitate before plunging into this obviously unsettled profession.

The scholastic profession, too, is one to be wary of entering, for schoolmasters, like poets, are born, not made, and unless you possess the patience of Job, years of misery await you. Moreover, a rich schoolmaster is a contradiction in terms. More profitable and far more aristocratic is the police force, to which degreed men and many of the nobility are flocking. This is entirely due to the recent intensive study of the works of Mr. Edgar Wallace; but it is our duty to warn intending candidates for this profession that all the glamour is not gold. Mr. Wallace has neglected altogether the hum-drum of the life. Policemen work in what are called beats: the hours of a schoolmaster also might appropriately have been so called, but now-a-days the cane plays an ever decreasing part in our education. Other qualifications for the police force are a friendly cook and large feet. The latter are absolutely essential for the hazardous undertaking of point duty, for they effectively form large islands and so split the traffic effectively.

Accountancy and insurance have much to recommend them. The former appeals strongly to those with a mathematical bias, but since it is other people's money that you keep account of, this is not essential. Accountants are frequently called in now-a-days because the various Chancellors of the Exchequer have made income tax returns so difficult to complete that they are beyond the comprehension of the mere man. The whole idea of accountancy is to make people believe they have a larger credit balance than they really have. This enables the accountant to send in a large bill with reasonable hopes of seeing it paid.

The only qualification for Insurance, on the other hand, is an infinite capacity for taking coffee. When you wish to meet a friend in the insurance business, the last place you search for him is at his office. All the cafés and bars for a mile or more around

should be tried first. One of the chief drawbacks to having a friend in this line of business is that having met him, he will take advantage of you, having lulled you into dull forgetfulness with copious draughts of some beverage, and try to convince you of the necessity of your paying him so much per annum in order to provide a large sum for your funeral expenses. His argument is that your relatives will thus fully appreciate your generosity, which, incidentally, the payment of the premiums prevented you from showing during your lifetime.

If you feel that examinations are but minor incidents in life, you may favour the law. A snag encountered in this profession is the unconscionable long time it is sometimes necessary to wait after qualifying before being called to the Bar. Many lawyers go there of their own accord; some remain teetotallers all their lives. When he is called to the Bar, the man is said to be "briefed." This is an admirable example of British humour, because thereafter his sole object is to prolong all cases with which he may be connected as long as possible. A distinct advantage is that the barrister is not paid by results. If, however, he succeeds in securing the acquittal of several successive rogues, he acquires a reputation and soon becomes a judge. In this capacity he is assured that his feeblest shaft of wit will be greeted with roars of laughter that even George Robey or Leslie Henson might envy.

A dentist, too, must pass examinations, but his is an odious profession from all points of view. The view generally seen is the inside of the mouth. Before science caused civilisation to progress, there were no dentists: we used our teeth instead of cleaned them, and kept them instead of bought them. We fully realise the advantages of having the teeth filled with gold: stranded, penniless, while on a motor or hiking tour, the fillings may be left as legal tender at the nearest railway station. Mr. Snowden seems to have forgotten this source of hitherto untapped wealth in the country. Dentists are universally liars: in this way they ultimately qualify for Hell, where, in charge of the various torture chambers, his war cry can be heard above the hiss of the furnaces and the cries of the damned, "Now this is not going to hurt you." It is not generally

known that the heraldic device of their union is a forcep rampant over a drill *noir couchant*.

Finally, the medical profession needs consideration. This is the most exclusive of professions, and the examinations to pass correspondingly difficult; but the rewards are full compensation for the effort expended. Most important is the cultivation of what is called "the bedside manner." This, most difficult of acquisition, covers a multitude of sins. It is quite immaterial whether a doctor diagnoses a cold or a cancer, providing he can impress his patient that he is in safe hands. It is ever a doctor's business to save life: dead men pay no bills. At the same time the very name of his "practice" is enough to reveal how precarious a doctor's income may be. As he rises in his profession, he does less and charges more. He is known as "Mister" instead of "Doctor," and his "rooms" become "chambers." How true is that ancient limerick:—

A doctor, a next-the-skin-flannelist,
Complained of his pay on the panel-list;
But he grumbles no more
Now the plate on his door
Bears the lucrative lure, Psycho-analyst.

SONNET

Much have I loved the leafy Warwick lanes
That wind along the low and pleasant hills,
Past little woods, where, in God's natural
fanies,
The bluebell bows its head, and daffodils,
A-dancing, greet the golden day with gold:
And I have loved to watch the roses climb
With honeysuckle round some cot-eaves old;
And dream amid the dales that know not
Time.

But they are far, and all their simple charm,
Cowed by the rugged strength of northern
sights:
The hills are crumbling crags, the woods are
dark,
Dank with the rotting needles, and the lonely
farm
Is grey and chill, as if the art of Nature
fights
A losing battle with what would be stark.

M. N.

O.S. COMMITTEE MAN'S WEDDING

Mr. Sam Dow was married to Miss Margaret Cameron at St. Ninian's Church, Glasgow, on the 23rd September. There was a large turnout of Strathallians, many of whom acted in an official capacity. The wedding breakfast at the Grosvenor Restaurant, Glasgow, was attended by over 200 guests. There were several speeches of congratulations and Mr. Sam Dow made suitable reply on behalf of himself and his wife.

At the end of the ceremonial, he was carried shoulder-high to a waiting cab, with a piper seated alongside the old driver. The floating streamers and balloons attracted quite a crowd, which became considerably larger when the piper commenced to perform.

It is not fitting to refer to such a universally popular person as the groomsman as Mr. James F. Dow, but rather to state simply that "Jumbo" was best man.

An attempt has been made to describe the bride's dress and no doubt a society writer would be very successful. Unfortunately, our society reporter is away on holiday and we have not been able to find anyone competent to deputise!

We do not know what happened to the cab and the piper, but Mr. and Mrs. Dow have been heard of motoring in the South of England.

All Strathallians will wish them health, wealth, happiness and prosperity.

Here they are:



Sports Notes

CRICKET

CRICKET at Strath. this season has been only moderately successful, the First XI. somewhat belying the promise of last season. It soon became evident that the bowling, despite the return of three of last season's attack, was weaker than usual; though possibly this weakness was more apparent because the perfectly prepared pitches gave the bowlers little assistance. Certainly neither Lindsay or Forsyth seemed nearly so effective as last season.

But all the blame cannot be laid on the bowlers, for the batsmen failed badly on one or two occasions to live up to reputation, and undoubtedly the School's two defeats, by Dollar Academy and Morrison's Academy, must be attributed more to the batsmen than the bowlers. The failures in these two matches are further instances of the glorious uncertainty of the game, though unfortunately they spoil a long record of unbroken success against School sides.

The fielding also was scarcely up to the usual standard at the beginning of the term, but changes in the team later went far to remedy this weakness. Fine examples of this phase of the game were set by Leburn, the captain, D. S. Thomson and J. T. Johnston.

An innovation this season, which we trust will become an annual event, was a match against the Staff. The School gained a fairly comfortable victory, though for their large score of 243 for 9 wkts. they were largely indebted to weakness in fielding on the part of the Masters, who, besides dropping catches, were singularly generous in adding to Mr. Extra's total. In reply, they put on 137, Mr. Atkin being the bulwark of his side with a score of 81.

Competition for places in both first and second teams has been exceedingly keen, fifteen players finding a place in the first team, and eighteen being given a trial in the second. This wealth of promising young players is no doubt due to the system by which all boys have an opportunity of coaching at the nets, and augurs well for the future.

Team Criticism

W. G. **LEBURN** is a stylish and steady batsman with a good variety of strokes, being especially strong on the leg side. He is also a fine fielder, and as captain he has been excellent, getting the most out of his side. 1st XI. Colours 1930-31.

J. T. **JOHNSTON**, the vice-captain, has considerably improved as a batsman, and although he does not possess many scoring strokes, he is strong on the off and has a good defence. Apart from a slight lapse at the end of the term, his fielding has been consistently good.

T. A. N. **FORSYTH** has proved one of the chief run-getters, and his services were missed during his absence at the middle of the term. He is a dashing batsman and scores freely all round the wicket, though a better selection of the ball to hit would considerably lengthen his life at the wicket. On occasion he has proved a dangerous bowler, but he has not met with the same success as last year. 1st XI. Colours 1930 and 1931.

R. **LINDSAY**, the School's best bowler, has borne the brunt of the attack throughout the season. He maintains a good length while getting variety into his balls. He has been equally successful with the bat, having now developed a sound defence. In the field he has been consistently safe and made some brilliant catches. 1st XI. Colours 1930 and 1931.

D. S. **THOMSON** is a very stylish batsman with a good variety of strokes, but being especially strong on the off. He bowls exceedingly well and keeps a consistently good length. He is an excellent fielder in any position, and has done fine work in the slips. With his ability and enthusiasm he should go far. 1st XI. Colours 1931.

G. M. **DOBSON** is left-handed, and as the opening batsman has proved his worth. He is much improved, has a sound defence and possesses a full knowledge of the strokes. He has occupied the position of wicket-keeper with success, but must learn to take the ball more with his hands and less with his pads.

G. AITKEHEAD has proved a useful medium-paced bowler, though somewhat erratic in length. He should attempt to get variety into his bowling, making the ball break from the leg. He is still very weak in batting, but his fielding at mid-on has been a feature of the games.

A. SHANKS has been of great value to the side, being a useful change bowler, a reliable bat, and an extremely safe fielder on the boundary. As a batsman he should try to improve his defence.

J. W. MACMILLAN, brought into the side towards the close of the season, has fully justified his inclusion. He has a very sound defence, but should attempt to cultivate more scoring shots. He has been conspicuous for his brilliant work at point.

R. T. SMITH is the team's fast bowler, who, towards the end of the season, proved exceedingly dangerous on hard wickets. He is a promising bat, but needs to be more alert in the field.

J. SHAW earned his promotion by his good batting with the second, but has had little opportunity of showing his ability. He is a sound, if rather slow-scoring, batsman, but, with enterprise, should develop into a really useful player. His fielding, as a whole, has been good.

W. W. WATT has failed to justify expectations as a batsman, although, it must be said, he has been singularly unfortunate. His chief fault lies in the fact that he does not use his feet to advantage. He should give a better account of himself next season if he can recover his old confidence.

W. C. ROY, H. SHANKS and W. JACK have also played for the first eleven, but weakness in the field led to their displacement. The first named is a promising bat and bowler; Shanks, a good bat; and Jack, an experienced bat who failed to live up to last season's promise until after his relegation to the second eleven.

1st XI.: Played 11, won 4, drawn 5, lost 2.

Average runs per wicket: For, 13.2; against, 13.3.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	Innings.	No. times not out.	High Score.	Runs.	Average.
Leburn, W. G.	- 11	3	48*	189	23.6
Forsyth, T. A. N.	- 6	0	49	138	23
Thomson, D. S.	- 11	2	34	140	15.6
Johnston, J. T.	- 8	2	28	85	14.2
Dobson, G.	- 9	0	27	117	13
Lindsay, R.	- 8	1	30	72	10.3
Watt, W. W.	- 7	0	9	24	3.4
Aitkenhead, G.	- 6	0	4	4	.7
Roy, W.	- 5	4	13*	27	27
Shanks, A.	- 3	1	28	37	18.5
Macmillan, W.	- 2	1	14*	18	18
Smith, R.	- 2	1	9*	9	9
Jack, W.	- 4	1	11*	14	4.6
Shanks, H.	- 4	0	9	16	4
Shaw, J.	- 2	0	1	1	.5

*Signifies not out.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wkts.	Avr. runs per wkt.
Forsyth, T. A. N.	55	20	92	10	9.2
Thomson, D. S.	107.3	26	243	23	10.56
Aitkenhead, G.	69	24	158	12	13.17
Lindsay, R.	169	49	432	31	13.93

R. Smith took 3 wkts. for 52, A. Shanks 2 for 56, and G. Leburn 1 for 28.

Strathallan v. George Heriot's School.
Played at Forgandenny, May 2nd.

The side fielded for the first game was something of an experimental nature, since only two days' practice had been possible. Winning the toss, the School sent in their visitors on a soft wicket. They claimed their first success with the score at 25, and though two other wickets fell without material addition, by stolid batting the score reached 47 for the fourth wicket. Then came a good stand that added 81 runs, compiled by somewhat unenterprising cricket, for at the total of 128 for 5 wickets, the result of three and a quarter hours' batting against very weak bowling, Heriot's applied the closure. Of the School bowlers only Lindsay seemed able to keep anything like a good length.

Left with only an hour and a quarter to bat, Strath. at first went all out for the runs; and for a time it looked as if they might get them, for 50 was passed at the end of half an hour, thanks to good hitting

by Leburn and Forsyth. At 72, however, Forsyth was dismissed for 24, and with the bowling much improved, hopes of victory faded. Watt scored only a single; and then Leburn and Thomson played out time, their scores being 48 and 7 respectively.

Result: Strathallan, 84 for 2 wkts.; George Heriot's, 125 for 5 (declared).

Strathallan v. Dollar Academy. Played at Forgandenny on May 9th.

Leburn won the toss and elected to field. The Academy, after an early set-back, scored fairly easily, and the score reached 99 for the third wicket. Three wickets then fell in rapid succession, but the tail wagged to some purpose and the score reached 154 before the last wicket fell. The home bowling was again poor, Lindsay claiming five victims for 46. The fielding, too, still left much to be desired, though it was an improvement upon the previous week.

Strath. batting was extremely disappointing: indeed no side at Strath. for many years has made such a poor exhibition against such moderate bowling. True, many of the team were playing their first innings, but that does not fully account for the fact that so many were out to the simplest of balls. At 23 Leburn was dismissed for 6, and at 38 Forsyth left after a good 27. Watt was the only other batsman to show any promise, and the School could only muster 56 in reply to the visitors' total.

Result: Dollar Academy, 154; Strathallan School, 56.

Strathallan v. Robert Gordon's College. Played at Forgandenny on May 16th.

Again winning the toss, Strath. went out to bat, and though Leburn was bowled with the fourth ball, Dobson and Forsyth made a good recovery. At 66 Dobson left, having scored 20; and at 88 Forsyth was unlucky to be out one short of his half century, which included five sixes and three fours. The remainder of the batsmen continued to play well. Thomson 26, Lindsay 30, Johnson 28 and Jack 11 (not out) were the chief contributors in the total of 189, a very creditable score in view of the visitors' good attack.

The School attack soon had the visitors on the defensive, but all efforts to wear down the bowlers proved vain. The last wicket partnership proved the best, a stubborn resistance of nearly three quarters of an hour yielding 22 runs and bringing the total to 64. Lindsay claimed five wickets for 19 runs, Aitkenhead three for 13.

Result: Strathallan, 189; Robert Gordon's College, 64.

Strathallan v. Dan Stewart's College. Played at Forgandenny on May 18th.

Though Leburn lost the toss for the first time, Strath. were sent in to bat, and Stewart's quickly got rid of Dobson and Leburn, the score then being only 9. Forsyth and Thomson, however, batted steadily, but just before lunch the former was dismissed for 19. Lunch came with Thomson at 25, which he took to 34 before being sent back to the pavilion. Watt, Lindsay and Johnston all batted well for 8, 13 and 14 respectively; but the player who showed most promise was Roy, who collected 13. The remaining batsmen failed to score, the innings closing for 112.

The visitors found the bowling of Lindsay and Forsyth far too much for them, and, with the exception of Leseur, who was credited with 18, offered little resistance, the whole side being out for a mere 38, a total which might well have been far less had all chances been accepted in the field. Lindsay captured half the wickets for 14 runs, while Forsyth had four for 16.

Result: Strathallan, 112; Dan Stewart's College, 38.

Strathallan v. Auchterarder. Played at Forgandenny on May 20th.

Winning the toss, Strath. batted first, and Leburn and Dobson gave the side a fair start, 32 being on the board when the latter was out l.b.w. for 9. The start was late, and it was essential to get the runs quickly. Therefore, following the dismissal of Leburn (18) and Forsyth (11), the remaining batsmen concentrated on attack, and only Johnston succeeded in reaching double figures. The total was 89 when the last wicket fell.

Left with just over an hour to play, Auchterarder made little effort to get the

runs. Their first wicket yielded 22 runs, but for the addition of a single two more wickets were taken, and for a while it looked as if Strath. might snatch a victory. Any such hopes were soon dispelled by the next partnership of stubborn defence, and when stumps were drawn the visitors were 47 for four wickets.

Result : Strathallan, 89; Auchterarder, 47 for 4 wkts.

Morrison's Academy v. Strathallan. Played at Crieff on May 30th.

Morrison's batted first, and wickets fell at regular intervals till the score was 72 for six. Aitkenhead was giving the batsmen considerable trouble, though he was not getting the wickets. At this stage, however, Hunter and McQueen became associated, and both treated the bowling with contempt. At 101 Aitkenhead at last bowled McQueen, but Hunter continued to score freely with agricultural shots; till at 139 for 8 wickets the side declared, Hunter being unbeaten with 53 to his credit. Aitkenhead was the most successful bowler, his three wickets costing only 17 runs.

Strath.'s innings was a disastrous repetition of the Dollar match. The bowling was of a fairly good length, but orthodox strokes would have prevailed against it. The early batsmen, fighting the clock, failed through seeking to score off balls which demanded considerable respect. Dobson played a steady innings for 21 and Thomson gathered 15; the remaining batsmen, instead of concentrating on defence as the position demanded, went out to strokes which would have disgraced the merest novice. As a result, the whole side were out for 67, and Morrison's claimed their first victory for many years.

Result : Morrison's Academy, 138 for 8 wkts. (declared); Strathallan, 67.

Strathallan v. Luncarty. Played at Forgardenny on June 16th.

In this evening match the visitors won the toss and went in to bat. Of the early batsmen only C. Fraser offered any real opposition, and he played well for a good 54 before being caught by A. Shanks off Thomson. With the score at 107 for six

wickets the visitors declared, leaving the School an hour and a quarter in which to make the runs.

Leburn and Dobson opened, and the score mounted slowly, both batsmen being content to punish the few loose balls sent down; indeed, the bowling was of too good a length to be treated lightly. At 41 Dobson was bowled after contributing 27, and Leburn and Thomson took the score to 61 before stumps were drawn, the former carrying out his bat for 30, the latter for 4.

Result : Strathallan, 61 for 1 wkt.; Luncarty, 107 for 6 wkts. (innings declared).

Auchterarder v. Strathallan. Played at Auchterarder on June 23rd.

Losing the toss, the School was sent in to bat on a poor wicket. Disaster soon befell them, for Dobson left at 3, and Thomson at 9. Leburn and Johnston carried the score to 24 before the latter was dismissed for 12. The remaining batsmen could only collect 11 runs between them, and when Leburn was caught, eighth wicket, for 17, collected almost entirely in singles, the innings soon closed for 46.

The home side opened indifferently, but their opening batsman played an invaluable innings of 26, and was chiefly responsible for carrying the score to 44 for five wickets. Then Dobson smartly caught him behind the stumps; and a remarkable change came over the game. The games at Auchterarder are always sensational, and this proved no exception. While Lindsay bowled maidens at the one end, Thomson trundled out the remaining batsmen without addition, and came through the innings with the fine analysis of seven wickets for 19.

Result : Strathallan, 46; Auchterarder, 44.

Strathallan v. Harry B. Rowan's XI. Played at Forgardenny on June 24th.

It was a glorious day, and the wicket was in perfect condition, Vickerstaff being congratulated by many of the visitors on preparing the best wicket they had played on during the season. J. L. Brodie and F. S. McGuire, both Scottish caps, opened the innings, and though the latter was dismissed for 12, the former gave an admirable display,

particularly of late cutting, before being beaten by Shanks for 43 with the score at 77. J. S. Kilpatrick and C. D. Stuart were associated in a fine partnership which yielded 84 runs before the latter was beaten by Smith for 38. Kilpatrick went on to make 79. Smith bowled exceedingly well during the closing stages, claiming three wickets for 26. Thomson also deserves praise for the fine way he kept on pegging away, his fifteen overs yielding only 50 runs for one wicket.

The School opened badly, Leburn being bowled without scoring, but Dobson and Thomson took the score to 42 before the latter was caught for a fine 18. Soon afterwards Dobson was caught with the score at 56. He had scored 27 by steady play which revealed an excellent defence. Lindsay and Johnston played out time, the score being 71 for three wickets, the latter being 4, the former 15.

Result : Strathallan, 71 for 3 wkts. ; Harry B. Rowan's XI., 190 for 5 wkts. (innings declared).

Strathallan v. Old Strathallians. Played at Forgandenny on June 27th.

This game, played on Commemoration Day, was one of the best Past v. Present games of recent years. The School won the toss, but elected to field, and Smith opened the bowling against I. MacEwen and G. Moncur. The score was 21 when the latter was unfortunate in breaking his wicket for a good 18. R. Dunn then gave one of his characteristic displays of hard hitting, during which he made 69 before being caught by Macmillan. J. F. Dow offered a stubborn resistance while scoring 20, while W. A. C. Lambie, by way of contrast, rapidly compiled 22, to include two characteristic sixes. At 177 for eight wickets the Old Boys declared, with I. Henderson and R. Balfour together, the former batting stylishly for 10.

Time was too short for a victory to be possible, but Leburn and Dobson set about the task well, punishing loose balls severely. At 29, however, Dobson was caught for a good 11; and with a single to his credit and the score at 30 Thomson was well caught at point by R. Grant. Leburn was the next to go, for 20. Johnson and Macmillan then

played out time, and when stumps were drawn the former was credited with 13, the latter with 14.

Result : Strathallan, 77 for 4 wkts. ; Old Strathallians, 177 for 8 wkts. (innings declared).

Strathallan v. Forgandenny. Played at the School.

The visitors batted first, and were soon in difficulties. Lindsay claimed the first wicket at 11, Thomson the second at 19. Three further successes greeted the bowlers at 22, and two more at 28. The tail wagged to some purpose and the score reached 56 before Thomson captured the last wicket. He and Lindsay had bowled unchanged, the latter claiming four wickets for 21, the former five for 23.

Leburn and Shanks opened the School innings, and 50 runs were on the board before the latter was caught for 28. Thomson saw the game won, and then indulged in a little hitting to garner 23. When stumps were drawn the score was 105 for two, Leburn being not out 37.

Result : Strathallan, 105 for 2 wkts. ; Forgandenny, 56.

Second Eleven

The second team have had a moderately successful season, although the loss of the captain, S. R. Wright, was felt at the beginning of the term. In all, seven matches were played, of which three were won, three drawn and one lost.

The team was beaten at Dollar by a small margin, but effaced this the following week by a five-wicket victory over Dundee High School 1st XI. Against Gordon's College the School won comfortably by 146 runs, while Glasgow High School were beaten by eight wickets. The total runs for the side were 666 as against 474; the average runs per wicket being 12.6 compared with the opponents' 7.9.

Batting and bowling has been very consistent throughout the season, but the fielding at times has been rather weak. W. Jack, J. Shaw and H. Shanks head the batting averages with 49.5, 36 and 24 respectively. N. Gillanders was the most successful bowler, claiming 20 wickets for 119 runs;

R. Smith being second with 15 wickets for 105 runs.

Second eleven caps were awarded to W. C. Roy, N. Gillanders, H. Shanks, I. Lawson and G. K. Chalmers.

House Matches

The house matches were, as usual, keenly contested. Simpson House did well to dismiss Ruthven for 85, but this proved too many when Simpson batted. D. Thomson, for the losers, took seven wickets for 38 and followed this with a sound 22; but he and A. Fleming (19) were the only members of the side to reach double figures. Nicol found Forsyth much too good for them and were all out for 49, of which Lindsay scored 28. Forsyth took eight wickets for 10 runs and then scored 29 of Freeland's total of 52 for two wickets.

The final game saw some prolific scoring. Ruthven batted first, and having put on 131 for the first wicket, eventually declared at 250 for five wickets. Leburn 56, Dobson 70, A. Shanks 32, R. Smith 28 and G. Watt 30 were the chief contributors. Free-land opened badly, two wickets falling for 21, but Forsyth and Gillanders improved matters, the score being 104 for five. Unfortunately the tail did not wag, and the innings closed for 128, thus leaving Ruthven holders of the Melville Cup. Gillanders scored 48, Forsyth 39.

TENNIS NOTES

This term tennis has come into a prominence never before enjoyed at Strath., a prominence which was made possible by the full utilisation of the hard courts and three grass ones. Everyone, as far as the inclement weather would permit, had at least one night's tennis per week.

The tournaments were started about half term, a set being played in the preliminary rounds. W. McLachlan and B. Smith in the Junior event, and N. Cuthbert and I. Scott in the Senior, qualified for the finals, which were played off at the end of term. McLachlan won the Junior title after a hard fight in the first set; and Cuthbert was

successful in the Senior event by two straight sets.

A start has been made this term to obtain regular matches, but bad weather and examinations, and other nuisances, prevented full sides turning out in any match. Against the Old Boys, with a side weakened by the counter demands of cricket, the School lost by two games to one. An arranged match with Kirkcaldy had to be cancelled owing to bad weather, as too did the original fixture against the Masters. Two matches of this game were played later, and in each the School was victorious by two straight sets.

The representative School team was I. Scott and W. G. Leburn, N. Cuthbert and D. S. Thomson, and J. Waldie and A. Melville.

Next year we hope to see a revival of this year's fixtures, and some additional ones also, so that tennis will form an important sphere of School activities.

E. B. McK.

SWIMMING NOTES

The Summer term, as usual, saw greater activity in the pond. A few games of polo were played, but unfortunately many aspirants have failed to master the art of throwing the ball. However, we hope the School will one day be able to put out a really strong seven.

The pond has been in use before morning prep., and many are swimming every day instead of only twice a week as hitherto. This has naturally had its effects on the standard of swimming, as was shown in the championships, the 150 yards in the Senior final being accomplished in something less than two minutes ten seconds.

On Commemoration Day the School swam against the Old Boys, and a good race resulted in a narrow victory for the former, who hung on to a slender lead gained on the first relay to win by the touch. The School team was Johnston, Linton, R., Gillanders and Reid. In the polo match which followed there were times when one doubted if many of the players knew exactly what they were trying to do. However, the School twice took the lead through goals

by Reid and Johnston, only for Lambie to put the Old Boys on terms.

On Monday, 6th July, the preliminary heats of the championships were decided, Reid, Linton, R., and Hosie qualifying for the final in the Senior contest; while Wilson, P., Beveridge, D., Clarke, D., and Ritchie, W., won their way into the last round of the Junior event.

The finals on the following Thursday were closely contested. The Junior race resolved itself into a duel between Wilson and Ritchie, which the former ultimately won by a narrow margin, Ritchie being forced to be content with being runner-up for the second year in succession. In the Senior race the finalists swam well together for four lengths, at which distance Reid, hitherto last, drew slightly in front to win by a little more than a yard from Hosie. It was a fitting result, for both winner and runner-up had been in constant training and practice over the distance, a noteworthy fact, for we believe this is the first occasion that serious training for the event has been indulged in.

The Junior house relay was won by Simpson House, Ruthven being second; while Freeland won the Senior after a stiff tussle with Ruthven.

The tests for swimming badges were unavoidably postponed at the end of the term. It is, however, anticipated that the tests will be held at the beginning of next term.

J. T. J.

RUGBY PROSPECTS

The question of rugby captain was held in abeyance this term, some uncertainty prevailing as to who would be available next term. At present we can count on three forwards and three backs returning who were in last season's 1st XV. This should be a good nucleus for team-building, particularly as the 2nd XV. will be able to supply eight or nine further "possibles."

At the same time it is to be feared that the forwards will be considerably lighter than last year's eight, and remembering the yeoman service rendered by those stalwarts last season, it is impossible to overestimate the importance of heavy forwards; while the backs, while strong in defence, seem rather slower than in recent years.

There is such wealth of material among the younger members of the School, however, that the building up of second and third fifteens should only be difficult because of the number of aspirants. Indeed, one may say that the future of Strath. rugby has seldom been so bright as at the present time; and whatever the coming season may bring forth, and we have every hope that the young and thrustful sides will cover themselves with glory, during the following two years at least we should produce some of the finest fifteens in the School's history.

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day, Wednesday, June 3rd, was favoured with miserable weather, cold and raining before the final events took place. It might have been worse, but not much. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that no records were broken. W. Buchanan, on his heats day form, looked a certain record-breaker in the long jump, but unfortunately he injured himself and was unable to do himself justice on the afternoon.

The championships were keenly contested, W. Buchanan, N. Forsyth and S. McAllister running neck and neck, the last named gaining the Victor Ludorum Cup with 18 pts., Forsyth being runner up with 16. The Allan Anderson Cup was won by R. Macmath with 14 pts. Even more exciting was the house championship, which very soon became a struggle between Simpson and Freeland. The latter began the day with 15 pts. in arrears, and had only gained two on their rivals when the interval arrived. When the house relay began Freeland had reduced the lead to five. They won the race, and went five ahead, since Nicol beat Simpson out of second place by inches. This brought Freeland's total up to 88. They were not represented in the final of the tug-of-war, and everything depended upon Simpson's ability to beat Ruthven, which from size and weight they seemed quite capable of doing. Ruthven, however, elected to complete the work begun by Nicol, and the unexpected happened, thanks to fine timing by Dobson for the Ruthven team. Simpson were beaten and had to be content with a

joint holding of the Championship Cup for a second year in succession.

The prizes were presented by W. D. Guthrie, Esq., of Jesmond, and as the parent of three sons who had passed through the School and successfully established themselves in the world, he was able to speak highly of Strathallan, and was warm in his appreciation of Mr. Riley, with whom he had been acquainted since the foundation of the School.

Results in Brief

OPEN EVENTS.

100 yds.—1, S. McAllister; 2, W. Waterston.
 220 yds.—1, S. McAllister; 2, W. Buchanan.
 440 yds.—1, N. Forsyth; 2, S. McAllister.
 880 yds.—1, N. Forsyth; 2, R. Paton.
 100 yds. Hurdles—1, T. McAllister; 2, W. Roy.
 High Jump—1, W. Buchanan; 2, T. Forsyth.
 Long Jump—1, W. Buchanan; 2, W. Waterston.
 Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, L. Fleming; 2, T. Forsyth.

UNDER 16.

100 yds.—1, W. McLachlan; 2, R. Macmath.
 220 yds.—1, R. Macmath; 2, J. Cooper, senr.
 440 yds.—1, R. Macmath; 2, R. Buchanan.
 880 yds.—1, R. Macmath; 2, R. Buchanan.
 100 yds. Hurdles—1, H. Shanks; 2, A. Mackay.
 High Jump—1, P. Wilson; 2, G. Chalmers.
 Long Jump—1, R. Buchanan; 2, W. McLachlan.

UNDER 14.

100 yds.—1, R. Kirkland; 2, S. Carswell.
 220 yds.—1, R. Kirkland; 2, V. Mackay.
 High Jump—1, R. Kirkland; 2, S. Carswell.
 Long Jump—1, R. Kirkland; 2, S. Carswell.

OTHER EVENTS.

75 yds. (under 12)—1, R. Grant; 2, W. Leburn.
 Three-legged Race—1, H. Shanks and A. Fleming; 2, A. Dow and L. Smith.
 Obstacle Race—1, G. Pettigrew; 2, G. Balfour.
 House Relay—1, Freeland; 2, Nicol; 3, Simpson; 4, Ruthven.
 House Tug-of-War—1, Ruthven; 2, Simpson.

Scout Notes

WE are glad to welcome a sufficient number of new Scouts this term to necessitate the formation of a new Patrol. We have again been unlucky with the weather, but in spite of this we have had an interesting and varied term's work. The P.L.s have shown considerable initiative, and, on the strength of their many other School activities, are to be warmly commended for their work.

On Tuesday, 1st July, Mr. Mackie, the Badge Secretary of the Local Association, paid us a special visit in order to examine the P.L.s Mackay and Dunlop for their First Class. They were both successful, and we congratulate them. Perhaps by the end of next term there will be more First Class Scouts in the Troop.

About 46 members of the Troop were present for the field day, and in spite of the rain they all appeared to have enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

There has been no Patrol competition during this term, but it will be resumed during the Winter terms.

We are sorry to lose Bruce Mackay, and wish him every success in the future. He has been a great asset to the Troop, loyal, hard-working and consistent in his interest, and has set an example worth following.

The Troop has suffered a very considerable loss in the departure of Mr. Marchant, the G.S.M. Those of us who knew him well realise what an illimitable fund of good will and patience he possesses where Scouting is concerned. The principles underlying the Scout movement are principles which guided him in all his dealings with the Troop. Deep down he lives Scouting; one cannot say more. The good wishes of the whole Troop follow him wherever he goes.

* * *

The Troop camp was held at Glen Auldyn, Ramsey, I.O.M., from Saturday, 29th

August, till Friday, 11th September. There were twenty-one Scouts at the camp.

“ Sunday. No church, as tired after journey. Roast beef for dinner.” (More roast than beef !)

“ Tuesday. Up early, as going round the island by car and bus. Breakfast. Bus and car came 10.30. We left at 11.0. Went to Peel and saw Peel Castle. Very interesting. Went to Rushden Abbey. Stopped, but it had begun to rain, so we went on. Passed through Castletown and saw the famous castle Stopped at Port Erin and saw the hatchery and aquarium. S.M. and one of the P.L.s had their fortunes told”

“ . . . arrived at camp, some of us wet to the skin. Trenches were dug. The rain continued, so S.M. handed round quinine pills, and everyone felt the better of it. All went to sleep hoping it would be fine tomorrow.”

At Peel some of the Troop created a furore by invading the beach and commandeering all available donkeys and one animal vaguely reminiscent of a mule. “ George ” made a picture precariously bouncing and unevenly swaying from side to side on the mule, and his pink legs and dazzling green stockings lent a nice dash of local colour.

Madam Nobuko, the fortune-teller, told S.M. and his P.L. that “ you boys will have your joke ! ” and solemnly warned S.M. against the attentions of a dark maiden whom he would meet before the end of this year !

“ Wednesday. All-round tidy up. Began to pour again”

“ Thursday. Absolutely pouring. Fly tent leaked, and all the store of dry wood was soaked. Fire impossible in such rain. Bread, butter and milk were handed round, and those who had small stoves were given bacon to make for themselves”

“ Friday. Rain stopped. Good wind. Wood absolutely soaked” Got local people to cook our food. Much appreciated. Good work put in by some of the campers during the afternoon in the matter of fires,

etc. “ Tea at night was of fish and soup. Had an eightsome reel in the dark.”

On the Thursday S.M. was absent with one or two others to meet a late arrival, and on his return to camp was met by one of the smallest Scouts incoherent with excitement. He had been taught to run an intruding drop of water down the side of the tent, so that it should pass harmlessly to the ground. S.M. asked him what was the matter, and : “ Well,” he screamed, “ you said I was to do like this with a drop of water ” — here he scratched the ether — “ and there were five drops, so I spread out my hand and ran them all down together ! ” and, it may be added, flooded the tent.

We were amused to hear of the Scout who on the third day at camp asked “ when we got our money back ? ” “ What for ? ” someone enquired, and the reply was : “ For the food we don't eat.” This same Scout was not deemed to be eating enough, and after a time was duly ordered to deal suitably with a largish plate of meat and vegetables. S.M. was astounded to observe that he had his kit-bag fully packed—this several days before breaking camp—with the knife, fork and plate carefully placed at the very bottom.

One day another of the smallest campers came flying triumphantly into the camp with a small trout clutched in his hand. It appeared, later, that the fish had previously been wounded with a stick by another member of the Troop, and so was conveniently doped for the young angler.

“ Sunday. Local A.S.M. came to arrange with us about the T.T. . . .”

“ Monday. Had breakfast, and then got ready to go to Douglas” Two Scouts visited a friend in Douglas Mental Hospital. They got out, and joined the rest of us for tea. “ Arrived back about 7.30. Had a meal, and then camp fire. A.S.M. Caine was there ”—with one or two of his Troop.

“ Wednesday. Camp was tidied up and really looked clean. . . . At night some of Ramsey Scouts came out and gave us a Morse exhibition, with lights. All went

to bed early, as to-morrow was another T.T. . . ."

"Friday. Orderlies up at 5.30. Camp broken, and all tidied up by 8.30 . . ."

We enjoyed seeing "Fairy" standing in the middle of the site and cracking a home-made whip as hard as he could, in the true Wild West style. But we think the cream of situations was when we saw "Ghandi" placidly seated on the ground with a 7-lb. jam jar in front of him. This jam jar was

being used as an improvised wasp-trap, and round his head and all about him there buzzed hundreds of wasps, as he gently flapped at them with a large bread-knife. Suddenly one of the wasps alighted neatly on the top edge of the jar. "Ghandi" looks quickly round him. He picks up a handy tent mallet. He raises it slowly. He strikes—crash! The wasp buzzes away, and the jar is smashed to atoms . . . He gets up slowly and walks away, looking neither to the right nor to the left.

"O.S." Notes

I HAVE had several letters from Old Boys during the last few days with reference to the propriety of holding our Annual Dinner this year, in view of the economic circumstances.

Opinions have been conflicting, and I am publishing a letter received from the Dundee Local Secretary, which seems to indicate a middle course between postponing the dinners and carrying on as usual.

The matter has been carefully considered by the Committee and it has been decided to hold the Dinner in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Gordon Street, Glasgow, on Saturday the 19th December. It is hoped that the cost of the ticket will not exceed 8/6, and this represents a saving of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %. Although the price of the ticket has been reduced, it is not intended that the function shall in any way suffer and the Dinner Committee have asked me to urge all members to make every possible effort to be present. To their appeal I add my own exhortation and ask members to make this a record "turnout."

Mr. A. C. Davidson, of Coupar Angus, has returned home from Rawal Pindi, where he was with Messrs. Steel Bros. In common with other firms, they have been busy with the "axe," owing to the financial stringency. Mr. Davidson has had no difficulty in finding a billet with another firm overseas. He is to be stationed at Hamilton, in the Bermudas; certainly a change for the better as far as climate goes.

Mr. "Chick" Brand made a call a few weeks ago, and he was very doleful over the cancellation of many of his contracts up in the North of Scotland. There is no doubt that we are all getting it just now.

Mr. Gordon Walls, who is with the India Tyre and Rubber Company at their Birmingham Depot, paid a flying visit north, and is, we believe, now "on the road" in the Birmingham district.

Mr. Sandy Cruickshank, who is doing exceedingly well with the Sun Life of Canada, has one or two interesting propositions for Income Tax payers with cash to spare. I am afraid there are not many of us who will be interested in these days, but I can certainly say that the propositions are workable and profitable.

Mr. James Diack, who is with Balfour Williamson & Co., paid a call at School during the summer holidays. He is very anxious to get his chance out in South America, though the present depression makes this opportunity appear as far off as ever.

We regret to hear that Mr. James Motion, of Flattau, Dick, has been seriously ill, and is at present confined to his room at his home at West Kilbride. All Strathallians will join in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Two old University "Blues," Mr. T. S. Roxburgh, with his friend, Mr. Hay Robertson, who played for Edinburgh

University against the School several years ago, paid a business call during the holidays. In spite of this, we played a good deal of that match over again. Those who were present at the match will never forget two brilliant tries by "Fizzy" MacFadzen, which were converted, making Strath. 10 pts. up within the first few minutes.

The annual Rugby match between Old Boys and the School will take place on Saturday the 5th December, and the arrangements are in the hands of Mr. N. G. Reid, Lochside, Bearsden, who will be glad to hear from all those desirous of playing in the game. It would be a great convenience to Mr. Reid if early application were made.

Old Boys who have sat at the writer's table will appreciate the humorous situations which have arisen during this economic crisis. One young hopeful, aged 11, has already imbibed a sound knowledge of economics. After listening to explanations given at various times over a period of two or three days, he turned round and summed up the whole situation thus: "Please sir," he said, "I expect it means that our two-penny bars will cost more, or they will start making them smaller." This particular individual is eventually going into business and he will make good!

The same boy, in the early days of the crisis, remarked, when Britain had gone off the gold standard, "Please, sir, if Britain goes bang, which of the nations will take her place as boss of the world?" France was the country which was suggested to him, and he was silent for a few moments, until his British spirit burst forth: "I'm afraid, sir, there'll be another war!"

Mr. Ian Huie, C.A., has secured an appointment in Alexandria and we understand that he is leaving almost immediately. He will take with him the very best wishes of Strathallians everywhere, especially those resident in Glasgow, amongst whom he counted many friends.

When the writer was last in London, he was informed that Mr. George Chivers had taken up an appointment in the City and no doubt by now he will have renewed his acquaintance with our London Secretary, Mr. Clive Montgomery, a contemporary of his at school. I believe he is with Messrs.

Matthews, Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Ship and Insurance Brokers, who seem to have many branches of activity in various parts of the world.

We heard the other day that Mr. Stephen Brand, C.A., Joint Auditor of the Club, has been taken into partnership with his firm and we believe this is also the case with Mr. Alexander Thomson, B.Sc. The Club's congratulations to you both.

All Strathallians will be delighted to see Mr. T. M. Hart awarded his Cricket "blue" at Oxford and we are all very proud of his "double."

THE EDITOR OF THE *Strathallian*.

Dear Sir,—I would like to bring to the notice of your readers, especially those who do not live in Glasgow, a point raised in one of the speeches given at the Dinner in Glasgow on December 20th, 1930.

This was to the effect that Branch Dinners held in the various parts of the country, had a great deal to do with the small attendance at the Annual Dinner in Glasgow. This statement is, in my opinion, entirely incorrect.

While admitting that a few members do believe that one appearance per year at a Strathallian function is enough, I really do think the majority of members would, if it were at all possible, turn up in Glasgow for the Dinner.

This year, in view of the economic state of the country, I believe the Branch Dinners are to be cancelled, and I appeal to every Secretary of Branch Clubs to make a special effort to take as many through to Glasgow as possible.

Means of conveyance to and from Glasgow can easily be obtained, and I would welcome inquiries, so that a large party may be formed to travel from this district.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE B. SMITH.

Dunearn, E. Newport,
Fife, 26/9/31.