

# THE STRATHALLIAN

THE MAGAZINE OF STRATHALLAN SCHOOL  
PERTHSHIRE

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VOLUME THREE

NUMBER THREE

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## Editorial

WITH Christmas and New Year at hand, and the good will of those seasons in the air, it is doubly pleasing for us to have to make an apology to loyal supporters of the "Strathallian." We believe it is the first time in the history of the magazine that such an apology has been necessary, and the only source of regret is that it has taken eight years for the apology to become necessary. We are aware that several contributions recently submitted have not yet been published; one or two being regrettably held over until, being of an extremely topical character, they can no longer be deemed suitable. To their authors, and to others who have

possibly been disappointed at the non-publication of their efforts, we can only promise that they shall see themselves in print at the earliest opportunity.

This happy state of affairs has been brought about in part by the greater responsibilities assumed by the Old Boys, who now regularly contribute four or more pages about themselves; and this is indeed highly gratifying since we are fully aware that these pages are for many readers the most interesting and first read.

Finally, in thanking our readers for past assistance and begging for their continued support, we would wish them all Success and Prosperity in 1936.

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## School Notes and Notices

IF the past term has been a wetter one than is usually experienced at Strath., it has drawn smoothly towards its close without serious epidemics or untoward incident, and ended in its usual festive spirit. Preparation for the Senior Cambridge exam. has kept the senior form fully occupied, but no junior class was sitting. The results of the seniors' efforts will be found elsewhere.

The term has witnessed the building of an annex to the Chemistry Laboratory for the use of First Year Medical Students; and this, enabling apparatus for various essential experiments to remain fitted up, will be of considerable assistance as a time-saver if nothing else. Further, four new

class-rooms are now nearing completion on the North side of the Tennis Courts and should be in use early in the New Year.

Two more hard Courts are to be constructed adjoining the present four; and further improvements have been made to the second Cricket pitch near the Sanatorium, the ground having been levelled right back to the wall to allow a further twenty or more yards to be added to the length of the boundary. The soil thus removed has enabled the terracing to the East of the House to be completed with very pleasing results.

The Workshop has been a hive of activity throughout the term. Now housed above the Changing Room, it has provided many

opportunities on Wednesday and Thursday nights for carpentry and handicrafts. The various exhibits in the Scout Patrol Competition were sure indications of the truth of the adage "Practice makes perfect."

There have been several table tennis matches in the course of the term. Apart from one of their two matches against the Grub Room, the Common Room (Leburn, Pringle, McColl and Hood) have won their matches very easily. The Grub Room have also had some big triumphs—their game against the Staff was remarkable for the hard hitting of both sides with no one playing careful, defensive shots. The Staff succeeded against the House Prefects and Subs. The standard of play has again proved high; the Staff can only claim to have taught their pupils the master strokes.

The various societies have also spent an active term. The Debating Society has felt rather badly the loss of its senior members last term, and even more the enforced absence from its meetings of several members of committee, including its chairman; but thanks to the amazing efforts of I. Smith, its new secretary, speakers have never been wanting, and some of them have proved real discoveries as far as forceful eloquence was concerned. We are not aware what Smith's methods are of inducing boys to make maiden speeches, but we hope that he will hand on the secret to his successors.

The provision of a room over the Changing Rooms for rehearsal purposes enabled Mr. Riley to sanction the Dramatic Society's annual production at Christmas instead of Easter, this arrangement proving most acceptable, particularly in view of the number of acting members who would be unavailable at the latter date owing to the demands of the Scottish Examinations. The record membership attained this term was reflected in their end-of-term play "The Sport of Kings" by Ian Hay, which, with a cast of sixteen, gave more than a dozen members a baptism of fire—and very

creditably they emerged from the ordeal; for the production proved one of the smoothest running, and certainly the most popular efforts of the Society to date. The general team work was excellent, and with a year's further experience, the newcomers should be real stars by next Christmas.

After last year's regrettable but unavoidable lapse, Mr. Knox was able to revive the School Concert on December 11th. By common consent it must be voted an outstanding success; and if noise forms any criterion, we should be justified in calling it a "howling" success. It is astonishing how little real music there seems to be in the boys' voices, and we can only hope that not too many of them went home with sore throats. A detailed account of the programme will be found on another page, but there is no doubt that the most appreciated items were Mr. Shaw's sketch, wherein certain members of the Staff found themselves most faithfully mirrored by their pupils; and the Staff play, which formed a most admirable contrast to the general hilarity of the rest of the evening.

Mr. F. S. Smythe was again at the School on October 21st, lecturing to us upon "A Tyrolean Journey" which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, even if the lecture lacked the same climax which we have come to associate with his Himalayan series. His laconic delivery did much to add to the enjoyment of the lecture, which, as usual, was superbly illustrated by slides of mountain and valley scenery. Mr. Smythe, in accepting our good wishes, promised to come and tell us of the 1936 Everest Expedition which he ventured to prophesy would be a successful one if the mountain was climbable by man. We were disappointed in our hopes of having Mr. Martin Lindsay to tell us of his trek across Greenland later in the term; but this proved only a postponed pleasure for he has arranged to visit us early in March. An admirable programme is thus available next term, beginning with the

Hon. Mrs. Victor Bruce's lecture "Flying alone round the World" on January 20th, and followed by Major M. C. Harrison upon his "Escapes as a Prisoner of War" on February 10th.

On the Rugger field the School has enjoyed a fair share of success, six games being lost out of twenty. The First XV has responded nobly to Mr. Alty's coaching, and, after a somewhat shaky start in away matches at Aberdeen, has played very good football indeed. Forrest has led his side well, and has been a constant source of inspiration in attack and defence. The strength lay perhaps more among the backs than of recent years, though this had been expected in view of their experience together last season; but the forwards have proved a virile set, who used their weight to advantage in the set scrums, and were seldom mastered in this phase even by bigger opponents; while several individuals have been constantly conspicuous in the loose and in defence. The Second XV has

only lost one game, and that only by a conversion, but they cannot be ranked as a great side because they lack thrust behind the scrum, the forwards being the best section of the team, and several of them are fully up to First team standard. The Third has not been defeated so far this season, and contains much promising if youthful material.

It is with very great regret that we have to report the departure of Mr. McCutcheon from the School to enter the Church. As Scoutmaster he has done much to raise the numbers and prestige of the 73rd Perthshire Troop, where the loss of his quiet influence will possibly be most felt. His popularity here, in the House as Housemaster, and with the Staff found ample testimony in the gifts to him of a camera, a writing desk, and an onyx desk stand respectively at the end of term. In bidding him "Goodbye and good luck in his new sphere" we would also welcome Mr. Wenham, his successor and fellow-graduate of Durham University.



The Workshop.

## The School Concert

THE hard labours of Mr. Knox and Mr. Shaw led at the end of term to the production of a concert of which the programme, by its variety and interest, made the sustaining of the attention of the audience absolutely inevitable. Attention was not, however, sustained by any forcing measures, but by the sheer delight produced in them by the differing items, dramatic, musical, serious, comical. Much more than in previous years something had been attempted and, as the whole audience felt at the conclusion of the programme, something really worth while had been done. A word of praise here to the audience: in previous years there has been cause for complaint of interruptions beyond the footlights, due mostly to lack of ability to attend or to concentrate; these interruptions were this year almost wholly absent.

After the National Anthem, the orchestra first dared invite criticism. Lack of numbers needed keenness to make atonement; this was at first in danger from nerves, and the piano had to do some measure of dominant work. Very soon enthusiasm awoke, and the untiring efforts of Mr. Knox earned their due reward. Yet the Pot-pourri of dance tunes, presented in two items, proved to contain a risk-lack of numbers—that made it difficult to hold a somewhat unmelodious audience to rhyme and rhythm. This was even more noticeable when Students' Songs were the order (or disorder) of the day in the second half of the programme, since there seemed a strange ignorance amongst the audience both of words and setting—on one occasion the "songmen" had reached the second verse whilst the orchestra was playing the chorus of the first—and this despite the use of the cine-screen. This latter was itself responsible for one error:

"With curly eyes and laughing hair."

In all this, the criticism is not levelled at the orchestra; when acting as "soloist" and not "accompanist," as in the two marches from "The Merchant of Venice," the performance reached a very high standard—confident, determined and melodious. The two-piano items (Mr. Ward, Mr. Knox, I. Smith and H. Rowan) succeeded in covering their deficiencies, if any, so well that they were a real pleasure. The "Nozze di Figaro" overture was fully endowed with the spirit of vigour and vivacity, to which Weber's "Invitation to the Dance" made a delightful contrast. Mr. Knox and I. Smith combined with happy results in a Grieg Dance. Greater confidence will make the violin work of W. Taylor more successful, but his rendering of a "Gavotte" by Gossec left little to be desired from the standpoint of his hearers. He showed more confidence when allied with J. Beatson and I. Smith in Haydn's Trio in D—the nature of which was a welcome variation from the lighter type of concert item. It was unfortunate that the School did not quickly realise the idea of "Sonia," into which Mr. Shaw put the pathos of Siberian exile. Once realisation had come, the song gained well deserved attention and applause. Mr. Shaw followed it with a lively contrast of "Underneath the Arches," into which the School did not hesitate to join.

The amazing sleight-of-hand performances of Mons. Forbien (A. Forbes) kept everyone guessing. Whilst most understood the reason for the return of the egg to the first hat, few actually saw through the devices employed to force Bambino to join Poppa and Momma, but at the last moment the egg-become-hen failed to take its place in its "tumbril." The eloquence of the magician never failed, whereas Mme. Destina (D. Mackenzie) was grievously troubled by fogs and mists before her eyes. However, aided by the unscrupulous hints of her partner, she was able successfully to deal with all the problems presented to her clairvoyant skill.

The sprightliness of the maidens of the ballet was not undermined by their muscular strength and weight. It was to be regretted that Autumn forgot the reasons for the death of Summer and her own approaching fate. The falling leaves revealed to the audience the nearness of Winter, who accomplished an agile entry in superb fashion.

"The Long and Short of it" (Wallace and Irons)—when two fools indulged (as the programme said) in a bit of tomfoolery—presented us with variants of old gags in modernised dress. The presentation was witty, and the two exponents of repartee never stumbled at a cue, but kept up a running fire of topical comment, of which the point was never missed.

The tragedy presented by Mr. Shaw, "That's How They See Us," began better than it concluded. It is pleasant to think that so much attention has been paid to members of the Staff at any time, for much of the mimicry was very good indeed, particularly that of Gordon Harrington; but the lab. explosion of the last scene required too great feats of imagination for full appreciation. Those who saw themselves thus represented are grateful for the display of their more endearing faults; but the fact remained that the term "tragedy" was a complete misnomer.

The Staff play, "The Valiant," was a poignant drama, in one act, of the prelude to a hanging party in the Connecticut State Prison. It was essentially a play which appealed to the emotions, the drama, somewhat illogical in substance, being supplied more by the inter-play of speech and feeling between the characters than in the unfolding of an elaborate plot. So realistic were the actors that more than a few members of the audience found their own emotions roused to an unusually tense state; but the theme of the play was not altogether suitable as a production for the Strath. stage.

Mrs. Norton, as Josephine Paris, was obviously not a stage debutante, and we would suggest, that as far as Strath. is concerned, she has concealed her talent far too long. As the emotional young lady of eighteen, facing an unprecedented situation in her life, she looked and played the part to perfection. We liked her hesitant manner in meeting first Warden Holt and

then Dyke; we admired still more her dramatic outburst after bidding Dyke "Goodnight." She had carefully rehearsed the part, and seemed word perfect, an example which some amateur actors, not unknown to us, might well strive to copy. The play really centred round Mr. Norton in the character of Dyke, the "valiant" one, a murderer, not ashamed of his deed in killing a man "not fit to live," doing it "deliberately, intentionally and carefully." He acted as the real man of mystery, portraying, with great skill, ever changing pictures of idealism, cynicism and sophistication, coupled with a careless debonair manner, that one almost thought he had lost his own personality and acquired a new one in the form of Dyke. We were left guessing as to his real character, the few clues to his identity as the author saw fit to introduce, being depicted by Mr. Norton with just sufficient emphasis to make them noticeable. Warden Holt, played by Mr. Cole, hardly looked the part of a man of sixty, who had been in control of the prison for the last twenty-eight years. Nevertheless, his acting was of a high standard; he appeared quite at ease—perhaps too much so—and really to enjoy the rendering of his part. He had the difficult task of introducing the plot to the audience, in a dialogue with Father Daly, and the slow, meticulous manner in which this was done we especially admired. Mr. McCutcheon, in the person of Father Daly, had probably the most difficult task in the play. It is not easy to remain on the stage for comparatively long periods with little or nothing to say and yet act naturally the whole time. Yet Mr. McCutcheon achieved this, his naturally dignified bearing being enhanced by the clerical attire which he wore. His earnest manner of speaking was eminently suited to the part of a very worried prison chaplain—it perhaps being just a shade too precise. Mr. Waters, in the minor part of Dan, the warder, acted and looked the perfect policeman. His clipped "Y'Sir" will probably be the envy of some of the younger members of his audience for some time.

The play was presented by Mr. Norton, as usual, and we would thank both him and the members of the cast for the real enjoyment which it gave.

K. L. McC. and W. E. W.

## "The Sport of Kings"

ON Tuesday, December 10th, the Dramatic Society gave its annual Social Evening, the play being produced as usual by Mr. Norton.

For this term's production "The Sport of Kings," a comedy in three acts by Ian Hay, was selected. This play is concerned with a subject of topical interest, "punting" and the "Turf," and depicts in a humorous manner the adversities of a certain Mr. Purdie, a puritanical old gentleman, who allows his avarice to overrule his lifelong aversion to gambling. He unwisely indulges in a series of disastrous racing speculations; but, when all seems lost, his fortunes are retrieved through a lucky error on the part of his wife, and all ends well.

"The Sport of Kings" is a complete contrast with the tense drama, "Eight Bells," staged last year, being much lighter in tone. A typical modern comedy, it depends for its effectiveness mainly upon the delightful repartee, and the skill with which the many lively situations are presented.

From the very opening it was evident that the numerous members of the cast had thoroughly grasped these essentials, and throughout they entered into the spirit of this comedy of the turf with an alacrity and zest that delighted the audience. Algernon Sprigge (G. Harrington) and Sir Reginald Toothill, Bart. (N. McLeod) early revealed themselves as quite irresponsible individuals, sadly given over to betting upon the least pretext. The lively, carefree Algy made a delightful contrast with the pessimistic, disillusioned Toots, and when ranged later beside the decorous Mr. Purdie, they revelled in the situation. Both lived up to their parts all the time, and the caustic remarks of Sir Reginald were ever a delight to the audience. Algy was particularly at ease when explaining to Mr. Purdie the art of "punting" and only when confronted by Dulcie did he appear to be at a loss.

Mr. Norton filled the central rôle of the play as Mr. Purdie, a mean old autocrat

who rules his house with a rod of iron. He at once dropped into the part with his customary naturalness, and whether aggressive or humble, confident or puzzled, he was always Mr. Purdie in changing mood. Particularly happy were his simplicity in wordly matters, his attempts to conceal from his household his new addiction to horse racing, and his pomposity, skilfully emphasised by an effective use of pauses to give weight to his speech.

R. Johnston also made an excellent impression as Bates, the butler. Ever suave and dignified, it is only when he discovers his employer's guilty secret that he reveals himself in his true colours as a former bookmaker. The transformation was an excellent piece of acting, and the scene in which he initiated the fearful Mr. Purdie in the art of shouting the odds, "Six to four the field" was truly delicious.

The "lady" members of the cast were rather less successful, as one might expect. They were, however, all newcomers to the art of female impersonation, and with more experience will be able to let themselves go more. D. Hood as Katie Purdie was the most happy impersonation. Dulcie Primrose (R. Gjertsen) knew "her" part well, but would have done better if less restrained. Mrs. Purdie (R. Houston), after a nervous opening, created a good impression in the final scenes.

The domestic staff of the Purdie household: Lizzie (M. Gordon), Jane (J. Methven), the sturdy Cook (G. Knox), and the perky Albert (M. Paul), all fitted in well, and their awe of Mr. Purdie was well portrayed. A particular word of praise to Lizzie for her most realistic and frequent weeping. The blunt, matter of a fact Police Sergeant (J. Kelly), Panama Pete of Halifax (J. Ritchie) with a newly-acquired Yorkshire accent, C. Scroggie, the vociferous Mailboy, and the Barmaid (O. Stewart) did well all that was required of them. T. Macfarlane, the stage manager, called in almost at the last minute to

deputise for R. Peacock as Joe Purdie, took on a difficult task with credit.

The racy manner in which the whole play passed off, and the sustained interest of the audience are ample testimony of the thoroughness of the preparation. The dialogue was most successfully managed, and cues were taken up with the greatest promptitude, a prompter being scarcely required. The entrances and exits and the grouping of the many characters were equally effectively managed. The appropriate nature of the costumes and make-up, and the interesting stage properties, which included a dictaphone, all assisted to make "The Sport of Kings" one of Strath's most successful dramatic productions.

S. K.

### The Last Page!

He grovelled helplessly under the couch. Not there! Where could the villain have hidden them? He stealthily crossed the room and looked around. His eye lighted on a piece of white fluttering on the window ledge. He grabbed it and silently put it with the two pieces he had already recovered. Where could the other three bits be? He crossed into the lounge. A single square of white attracted his attention. He lifted the cushion, and retrieved a further precious portion. Next he passed into the bedroom. Reposing under the pillow he found still another square. Only one more piece now! Silently rejoicing, he renewed his search. Soon, however, he was silently cursing for the last piece frustrated his effort. It was now four o'clock, and he had been searching hours it seemed to him. Bathroom, bedroom, lounge, dining room, bedroom, bathroom. Where had he not looked? Ah! the kitchen! He entered quietly lest he should disturb the maid. He retrieved the last sheet of the morning paper his wife had been reading and withdrew silently to the lounge for a peaceful read.

J. B.

### THE NIGHTMARE

"What have we first?", in eager tone  
He cried across the "Quard":  
"Why, nothing less," the reply came back,  
"Than three of Mr. Ward."

"O gee, o gosh!" he cried aloud.  
"O darn, o curse, o Lord,  
How shall I stand two hours on end  
Of no one else but Ward?"

"What have we done to merit this?",  
They cried across the sward.  
"We never seem to get a rest  
From that terror, Mr. Ward."

"What is it now?", he cried in hope  
At thirty minutes past;  
And nearly died when they replied  
"Another two like last."

Revived by fish and chips at lunch,  
He drew his trusty sword,  
And swore by all the gods he knew  
He'd kill that master Ward.

But now a call came loud and clear,  
And straight his heart sank lower,  
"I want your class immediately,  
I have you right till four."

"A day of Ward! It is too much;  
I cannot stand it longer!"  
But after tea with spirits raised  
He felt his heart grow stronger.

And so with lightsome heart and mind  
To prep. he did repair;  
But, oh, the shock! When he arrived  
He found Ward standing there.

"I'll take you now, just for an hour  
And polish off that stuff."  
And then at half-past seven he said,  
"I suppose you've had enough!"

"There's still some time to do your prep.  
I'll exempt you from the Physics."  
And so to prep. he did return  
And wrote these awful lyrics.

And so through all the length of days  
We struggle through this Hades  
And curse all day and curse all night  
At men like Archimedes.

But take no heed of this, my song;  
I really am a rat,  
And heed not what the lyric says—  
He's a darn fine man, for a' that.

**CHAPEL FUND BALANCE SHEET.****Receipts.**

To Collection of Summer, 1934 ...	£16	2	3
„ Collection of Xmas, 1934 ...	16	14	6
„ Collection of Easter, 1935 ...	15	3	3
„ Collection of Summer, 1935 ...	14	0	6
„ Collection of Xmas, 1935 ...	14	12	6
	£76	13	0

**Payments.**

By Thimblerow Mission—			
Xmas, 1934 ...	£20	0	0
Xmas, 1935 ...	25	9	0
			£45 9 0
„ Scripture Union ...	...	...	6 2 0
„ Allocations—			
To Sinking Fund	£12	11	0
To Improvement Fund			
Fund ...	12	11	0
			25 2 0
			£76 13 0

Sinking Fund now stands at £91 14/-.

Improvement Fund now stands at £63 17/6.

Negotiations are pending for the purchase of an American organ.

**Club Notices****ANNUAL RUGBY MATCH.**

The Annual Rugby Match, which was postponed, will be played at Forgandenny on Saturday, 7th March, 1936, at 2.30 p.m.

Any members desiring to play might please apply to one of the following gentlemen:—

W. Wills, 9 Montgomerie Terrace, Ayr.

T. Irvine, 3 Blythswood Avenue, Renfrew.

R. Lamont Paul, 67 St. Andrews Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow.

The Council trust that members will make every endeavour to attend the match and support the Club.

**MONDAY LUNCHEONS.**

The Monday Luncheons are now being held in Cranston's Tea Rooms Ltd. (Balcony), 15 Renfield Street, Glasgow, from 12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. Members are always sure of a hearty welcome.



The Skating Pond from the Cloakroom Door.



## The Dramatic Society

### Office-Bearers for 1935-6.

*President*—Mr. M. Norton.

*Chairman*—R. Johnston.

*Vice-Chairman*—G. Harrington.

*Secretary*—R. Houston.

*Treasurer*—J. Anderson.

*Committee*—J. Forrest, V. Mackay, R. Auld, G. Sharp, R. Peacock, J. Ritchie.

**F**OLLOWING the election of officers, the enrolment of members began, and it is pleasing to record that the number, seventy-five, constitutes a record for the society.

Meetings have been held each week, and after the usual trial readings of "The Man in the Bowler Hat," "The Dear Departed" and "The Grey Parrot" to try out new members, rehearsed readings have been given weekly except on the occasion of Mr. F. S. Smythe's lantern lecture on "A Tyrolean Journey," a much appreciated treat.

These readings included two new plays, "The Crimson Cocoon" by Ian Hay, and "Poor Old Sam" by F. Morton Howard, and a revival, for the first time since its production we believe, of "The Monkey's Paw" by W. W. Jacobs, which was a particular success and gave the audience a real thrill. More familiar favourites produced were "Peace and Comfort," "The Conversion of Nat Sturge," and "Snobs." These plays were produced by various members of the office-bearers, some of whom are showing considerable aptitude for this side of dramatic production.

Mr. Riley having consented to a dramatic performance this term instead of next when so many members would be occupied with exams., the Committee selected "The Sport of Kings" by Ian Hay for production on December 10th, weekly meetings being temporarily moved from Monday to Wednesday to facilitate rehearsal. A full report and criticism of the production will be found on another page, but a pleasing feature was the presence of seven newcomers to the Society in the cast, a happy omen for the future. We would gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Knox and his orchestra in filling the entreactes, and the sum of £1 15/2 collected for expenses.

R. A. HOUSTON, *Hon. Secy.*

## The Debating Society

*Chairman*—E. V. Mackay. *Secretary*—I. M. Smith.

*Committee*—J. Forrest, R. Johnston, R. Auld, W. G. Harrington, G. P. Sharp.

**T**HE first meeting of the term was attended by most of the society, and the officers for the session were elected. Suggestions for the future debates were extorted from the members, and before the meeting broke up it was decided that the first debate should be "That Mr. Hore-Belisha has earned his salt as Minister of Transport."

This motion, supported by Mr. G. Sharp and Mr. R. Auld, afforded ample scope for humorists, and when put to the vote the motion was carried, despite the opposition of Messrs. Harrington and Johnston, by 22 votes to 14.

"That the Talkies have a bad effect on Modern Youth" was slightly less successful, since the speakers did not quite get a grip of the subject, and, although the motion was carried by 19 votes to 6, eleven members remained unconvinced.

At the next meeting a series of two-minute impromptu debates were held, but they did not meet with the same success as those of the previous year, in spite of the wide range of subjects up for discussion.

"That Spectators are Spoiling Sport" evoked most response from the society, and was perhaps the most lively debate of the term. Particularly good was Mr. J. Strang, who, speaking with experience, made so convincing a speech that he needed little help from his fellow-speaker, and it was largely due to his efforts that a well-contested debate was drawn with 13 votes on each side.

The last debate of the term, "That the Pen is Mightier than the Sword" did not give much scope for argument, and the debate developed into a series of examples of how the sword had triumphed over the pen or vice-versa. The sword eventually triumphed by three votes.

All through the term the Society has been handicapped by having several of its senior members unavoidably absent, and during the second half of the term by having its meetings on the same night as the workshop, which proved a strong counter-attraction; but this is a mere temporary expedient and during the coming term the old night will be resumed with, it is hoped, a full turn-out of members.

I. M. SMITH, *Hon. Secy.*

# Strathallian Club.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT — 30th November, 1935.

### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for Year ending 30th November, 1935.

Income.			
£56 17 6	To Ordinary Subscriptions	£45 17 6	
2 6 6	„ Revenue from Capital per H. Riley	15 0 1	
0 0 0	„ Profit from Annual Dance, 1935	1 3 5	
0 0 0	„ Bank Interest	1 10 6	
	„ Deficit for year	61 8 1	
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		£124 19 7	

Expenditure.			
£38 4 0	By Cost of Magazines for 1934	£39 10 0	
	„ Cost of Magazines for 1935	41 9 0	
14 6 11	„ General Printing (including Circulars) and Stationery	8 6 9	
0 0 0	„ Printing Constitution	5 6 3	
5 18 6	„ Postage of Magazines and Circulars	3 10 5	
6 3 6	„ Deficit on Annual Dinner, 1934	4 4 11	
0 0 0	„ Premium on Chain of Office	0 7 6	
0 0 0	„ Honorarium to Secretary	15 15 0	
4 3 6	„ Bank Dues, Postages, Telephones, etc.	6 9 9	
<hr/>			
		£124 19 7	

### CAPITAL ACCOUNT as at 30th November, 1935.

#### Life Membership Subscriptions—

Received to 30th November, 1934	£675 0 0
Received during year from 22 new Life Members	107 12 0
	<hr/>
	£782 12 0

Less Payment out of Capital during year:—

Gift to School as authorised at Annual General Meeting, 1934	£18 15 0
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£763 17 0

#### Revenue and Expenditure Account—

Balance at 30th November, 1934	£78 15 2
Less Deficit for year to date	61 8 1
	<hr/>
	17 7 1
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	£781 4 1

#### Balance of Funds at date in hands of Trustees—

(a) £200 3% Conversion Stock	£199 11 0
(b) Post Office Savings Bank	£300 0 0
Added during year	134 15 5
	<hr/>
	434 15 5
(c) In Bank	76 14 4
	<hr/>
	£711 0 9
Cash in hands of Treasurer	70 3 4

£781 4 1

GLASGOW, 12th December, 1935.—Examined with the vouchers and found correct.

(Sgd.) WILLIAM M. SHANKS, C.A. }  
 (Sgd.) J. CALLUM McGEACHY, C.A. } Auditors.

(Sgd.) J. B. MAITLAND COWAN,  
 Hon. Treasurer.

## The Annual Dinner

THE Ninth Annual Dinner of the Club was held on Saturday the 21st of December, 1935, in the North British Station Hotel, Glasgow. There was an excellent turn-out of members and Sir David Allan Hay, O.B.E., J.P., C.A., was the guest of honour. After the Annual Business Meeting to which a very satisfactory financial statement was submitted, the President, Mr. Sam Dow, took the chair, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. There was the usual toast list and Dr. Lumsden, who is an ear, throat and nose specialist on the teaching staff in Edinburgh, proposed the toast of "The School." He became reminiscent and took his listeners back to the very early days of Strathallan in Bridge of Allan. He told his listeners that he had visited Forgandenny and had seen all the amenities which had been provided for Strathallians to-day, not only in the beauty of the environment but in the fields of sport and social activities generally. He told the story of Strath.'s early days with five or six houses scattered about the hill at Bridge of Allan, some nearly a mile apart and the games field at least half a mile away from the nearest house, and on top of this there came the war with restrictions of all kinds, sugar rations, meat cards, rice for dinner in place of potatoes. But there was one point where he issued a challenging note to Strathallians of the present day. He pointed out that for three years in succession in the Cambridge University and Scottish University examinations involving well over one hundred candidates, there had not been a single failure. He claimed that on the games fields even in its earliest days, Strathallan had laid down a foundation of prowess and sportsmanship which he knew flourished so well up at Forgandenny to-day. He became reminiscent in dealing with the success of Old Boys who had passed through the school before 1920 and he declared that as he scanned the list it would make quite a respectable contribution, considering the size of the school, to Who's Who; and in closing he paid a great tribute to Mr. Riley.

Mr. Ward replied, and after expressing his sympathy with Mr. Riley in his bereavement, conveyed to the gathering Mr. Riley's regrets at his absence from the

Annual Dinner, which he knew the latter regarded as one of the main bonds of union between himself and his former pupils. Deputising for Mr. Riley, Mr. Ward then briefly touched upon some of the main points in a year of real progress at Strath.—an increase in the number of pupils, the construction of new rugby changing rooms—already in use—new class rooms in the course of construction, and the usual satisfactory results in the University examinations. He reminded the Old Boys of the rebirth of the School rugby team, and warned them that on Commemoration Day the School was determined to hand them back the "wooden spoon." He concluded on a more personal note, mentioning the thirteen very happy years spent at Strath., during which he had enjoyed the friendship of Mr. Riley and the Strathallians themselves.

Sir David Allan Hay, O.B.E., J.P., C.A., then proposed the toast of "The Club." The note of his witty speech was struck when, with reference to the dinner itself, he said he had been forcibly reminded of Shakespeare's immortal lines: "Lay on Macduff, and damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'" and with sly shafts at Mr. Ward and logarithms, and at the Club upon its singing of the School song, he quickly put his hearers in a good humour. In expressing his pleasure at being among them, he said that from what he had heard and seen he could not but regret that he had not had the privilege of meeting Mr. Riley, the man behind it all. Nevertheless, he could testify that all was well with Strathallan. He knew the President of their Club intimately—how intimately they might gather from the fact that he had pushed him in a perambulator—and he had watched his development through his schooldays with an interest and pleasure only surpassed by that with which he beheld him at that moment—in a deservedly honoured position among them. Further, it said much for that early training that Mr. Sam Dow had, in the persons of Jim and Alastair, two younger brothers who were thoroughly unspoilt. He then reminded his listeners that it was at school that they had learnt to love and appreciate the best things in life—the beauty of nature, the best in literature and music,

and, above all, real friendship; for at school the "old friends" who were the "best friends" were made, as the gathering that evening bore ample testimony.

Mr. Sam Dow replied on behalf of the Club, and, after thanking Sir Allan Hay for his speech and the kind things said of him personally, he reported the progress of the Club during 1935, which, on its increased membership alone, must be adjudged excellent. He entertained no doubt of its continued progress in the years following; but he made an impassioned plea to the younger members in the Club that they should press for a more active interest, since upon them must ultimately rest the Club's well-being.

The toast of "The Guests" was next proposed by Mr. R. D. Paton, who, in welcoming them to the Club Dinner, particularly intimated the honour Sir Allan Hay, in view of his eminence in Glasgow,

had conferred upon the Club by his presence.

Mr. T. W. Wolstencroft, M.A., LL.B., replying, said he suspected a conspiracy in enticing him to speak since he had two young boys whom Strathallians probably thought should be at Strath. during the course of the next few years. He was promising nothing [*laughter*] but he had been impressed by what he had heard of their School and hoped some time in the near future to visit it himself and meet that wonderful person, Mr. Riley, and renew acquaintances with Mr. Ward.

The toast of "Absent Friends" was proposed by Mr. W. Wills, who mentioned that from his experience abroad he was confident that the spirit of comradeship, such as was fostered at Strath., would assume increasing importance in cementing together the nations; it was the spirit upon which a League of Nations might truly flourish.



The Chapel.

## The World Jamboree

ON the 23rd October, 1934, when the Scottish contingent of seven Boy Scouts left Edinburgh on their way to the Australian Jamboree, it was a pleasant surprise for two Strathallians to meet as members of this small contingent, these two old boys being A.S.M. Wm. Falconer and myself.

The Scottish and English sections, together with representatives from Wales, Ireland and Canada, joined at the Scout Headquarters in London, travelling thereafter as one contingent—the United Kingdom. After a farewell dinner in the Metropolis, the following morning we set out from Waterloo on the boat train, where we were bombarded by press photographers. We embarked at Southampton and, having negotiated the angry Bay of Biscay, found our sea legs on entering the Mediterranean.

Our first stop was Malta, where we were conducted to Villa Bologna, the home of the Governor, Lord Strickland, and he did everything possible to show us hospitality and make our brief visit interesting. From the Governor's Palace we were allowed to witness the Beating of the Retreat. Before going back to the *Jarvis Bay*, the liner on which we made our outward voyage, we were taken on board and escorted over *H.M.S. Queen Elizabeth*, which was anchored, along with other warships, in the harbour.

Our first experience of the East was at Port Said. A more unusual lot of people could hardly be found anywhere. Everybody seemed to have something to sell, and at about ten times its value. We were greeted with, "Meester Macpherson, you buy, eight bob very cheap." No response. Again, "Meester Macpherson, you buy, three bob." Still no response. Eventually, after following us the length of the street, in exasperation one of us would say, "Give you one bob," and the cheerful vendor capitulated with, "One bob! A' richt, Harry

Lauder." This sort of entertainment went on all the time in the streets of Port Said.

We, however, felt hot and dusty, and were glad to retire to the headquarters of the Greek Scouts, where provision was made for bathing; gladly we got into bathing costumes and lay in comfort in the tepid water of the Nile. British Scouts of Port Said then took us in hand and showed us the sights.

Slowly we sailed through Egypt's night into the Suez Canal. Flat, barren wastes of sand to right and left, and with our searchlights in the bows we managed to pick our way to Suez and the open sea again. We suffered a good deal from the heat, but eventually, without incident, except such entertainment as was provided on board, we arrived at what everyone agreed was our most interesting port of call, Colombo. Ceylon, "the Pearl of the Indian Ocean," received us with open arms. The company broke up into several sections.

It was my privilege to join the company led by J.P. Obeyesekere, Maha Mudliya, who motored us to his estate. We shall never forget the time we spent in Ceylon. Our host took us to his rubber plantation, where he made his troop of elephants perform for our special benefit. They pulled up trees by the root. We rode on their backs, we had them posing in all sorts of comical ways for the camera, and saw them enjoying a bathe. The slow, efficient way in which they do their work was entrancing to watch. After we had visited a native school, we joined in a farewell sing-song. I have said that we were sorry to leave Malta, but we were even more sorry to say *au revoir* to Ceylon. It was with anticipation that we paid our second visit on the return journey, when we motored from Colombo, over the hills to Kandy. This time we saw over a tea plantation.

Leaving Colombo, the heat again troubled us, and we lay on deck wearing nothing much more than pith helmets. As *Jarvis Bay* neared the Western Australian coast, we found conditions a bit more comfortable, and eventually came to life in real good earnest. We entered with gusto into the fun of fancy dress balls, farewell dinners, and all the carnival which goes to make pleasure cruising so popular. The company of Scouts, now augmented by the Indian contingent, which had joined us at Colombo, did not spare themselves in helping at games and concerts.

At last we set foot in Fremantle and up the Swan River to Perth, the capital of the State. There we took lunch with the Western Australian Scouts' Association, and were conducted on a sight-seeing tour of the city and district.

Our next stop was Adelaide. Sir William Dugan, the State Governor, welcomed us, and we were entertained by the Lord Mayor to a civic reception, and taken to see the places of interest.

At length we came to Melbourne, where the floods—which you will remember reading about—were at their height, and we had to lie off in Port Phillip Bay for a day and a half, amidst mist and driftwood, before we managed to get up the River Yarra to the docks. Arriving at Melbourne, we had a civic reception in the Town Hall by the Lord Mayor.

A few days after leaving Melbourne we came to the furthest point in our travels—Sydney, N.S.W. Here, we were met by Sir Kelso King, the chairman of the N.S.W. Scouts. We attended the State Theatre as guests, and were sorry, owing to other engagements, to have to refuse invitations of other theatres. Space will not permit of a detailed description of our stay in Sydney district. We had thrilling experiences as surf bathers on some of Sydney's surf beaches, which extend for miles. By train we got to Mount Victoria, and from there motored to the Jenolan Caves, where two days were spent. The marvels of these strange rock formations fascinated us. Nothing that I could say here could describe their wild beauty and wealth of colouring. Coming back by Katoomba and Blue Mountain Sights, we spent a day at Pennant Hills Scout Training Camp. Returning to Sydney, we

made a tour of various public works. Trips in the area included the Hawkesbury River, Manly and National Park of New South Wales, Canulla. On Friday, 14th December, we laid a wreath on the Cenotaph at Sydney, after which the Lord Mayor welcomed us at the Town Hall, where thousands of people were gathered for a community singing broadcast. On our arrival they cheered us, and the Lord Mayor delivered a speech of welcome into the microphone, to which Admiral Collins, our leader, replied.

Our next stop was the Federal capital, Canberra, where the Governor-General, Sir Isaac Isaacs, made us welcome; we visited the Government House, and had refreshments at the residence of the Governor-General. From Canberra we proceeded to Wagga Wagga, and were conducted over an experimental farm; here again we shook hands with the Lord Mayor.

We again had a welcome from the Lord Mayor at Aukbury, who took us in cars to see the surrounding country. A most interesting feature of this run was the racecourse, where the Dutch air liner, in the England—Australia air race, was successfully landed at about 4 a.m. Seeing the air liner in difficulties, a swift and well organised massing of motor cars, with headlights shining in towards a safe landing place, probably saved the liner from disaster. We also saw the Hume reservoir, which, when completed, will be the largest in the world. Across the Australian Alps we came to the Chalet at Mount Buffalo, National Park, Victoria, 5643 feet up. The road rises 3000 feet in 18 miles. Here we were supplied with horses, and after a strenuous day's riding, including many thrills and close shaves, we were glad to take our suppers off the mantelpiece.

Our next big stop was Rutherglen, where we were shown over Burgoyne's vineries and distillery. We also went to a gold mine. Then we came to Corrowa, where another friendly Lord Mayor had a reception prepared for us, stopping at Yarawonga and Benalla, seeing sheep stations mostly.

We now came to Frankston, some 21 miles outside Melbourne—the site of the great World Jamboree.

The Chief Scout, accompanied by Lady Baden-Powell, along with their two daughters, attended at the functions, and frequently visited the camps. We had Scouts from Canada, South Africa, India, New Zealand, U.S.A., Portugal, Belgium, Hungary, France, Fiji, Malay States, China, Japan, Ceylon, not forgetting the large number of Australians.

After the Jamboree we had a week or so at our disposal; those of us who had friends or relations in Melbourne went to stay with them, but there was no lack of hospitality. During that week I had the opportunity of exploring Melbourne. It was amusing to go into a news theatre and see some of our Scout friends, sometimes ourselves, on the screen. Movietone and other companies were continually filming some part of our camp operations. Melbourne has many beautiful buildings, all of which were flood-lit in connection with the centenary celebrations. It is a city of broad streets, very modern in all its customs. I can only say that I found the people most kind, and was allowed to see a good deal of the commercial side of the city's activities. I had also an opportunity of visiting Ballarat and Philip Island. The latter is intensely interesting on account of the many strange animals to be seen there. There were Kaola bears, seals, penguins, mutton birds, opossum, wallaby, not to mention sharks and snakes.

At various places during the tour we saw kangaroos, black swans, emus, parrots, kookaburra, magpies, snakes and lizards; we even witnessed a plague of grasshoppers.

As we went from place to place we met people who claimed relations in the Old Country. Some sent messages, or made enquiries, but it was impossible to keep everyone in mind in spite of copious notes.

Little remains to be said about the voyage home; it resembled the voyage out, so far as the boat was concerned, but Lord Mayors and receptions did not enter into the picture. We did, however, have a farewell-to-Australia reception at the invitation of the Lord Mayor of Fremantle. Our last and final treat was a motor run from Suez to visit the Pyramids and Cairo, where one of the many interesting things we saw were the relics of Tutun-kamen's Tomb.

HARRY ALLEN.

## THE CHARGE OF THE STRATH. FORWARDS

(With apologies to Alfred, Lord Tennyson).

Half a yard, half a yard,  
Half a yard onwards,  
Straight for the Dollar goal  
Went the Strath. forwards.

"Forward, and with you, Strath."  
Along that muddy path,  
Straight for the Dollar goal  
Went the Strath. forwards.

"Forward, Strathallan pack!"  
Was there a man drew back?  
None; for each fellow knew  
Duty lay onwards.  
There's not to stand and grin,  
There's not to just give in,  
There's but to fight and win.  
Straight for the Dollar goal  
Went the Strath. forwards.

Dollar men to left of them,  
Dollar men to right of them,  
Dollar men in front of them,  
Giving them High School!  
Covered with mud and sweat,  
Boldly they strove and yet,  
Frustrating each attack,  
Dollar were sore beset  
By the Strath. forwards.

It was a forwards' game;  
Smuggling the ball, they came,  
Calling each other's name,  
Right to the line they broke,  
While the School cheered them.  
There on the line they heeled  
Out to a waiting field  
Of Strath. three-quarters.  
The ball flashed, Dollar reeled;  
Someone had scored for Strath.  
But not, not the Strath. forwards.

T. M. D.

## Sports Notes

### RUGBY

THERE were five "Caps" remaining from last season's side, namely Forrest, the captain, I. Wood, R. Houston, G. P. Sharp and J. Strang. At first there was considerable difficulty in arranging the back division, a trial being given to D. Watt and Houston in the three line, but the latter's moving into centre only made a fresh problem for the full back position. Eventually D. Murray returned to School and, resuming his old position in the centre, completed a three line which remained unaltered for the rest of the term, Houston becoming the last line of defence.

Strang and Johnston at half did not combine too well for a while, but towards half term set up a good understanding, thereby providing opportunities for the threes.

The forwards have been good individually, but at times there has been a lack of co-operation in their efforts. On a few occasions they have been beaten by a lighter pack. They have, however, played vigorously and more than held their own against heavier and more experienced forwards. I. Wood was leading the pack and set them a good example, while Sharp and Auld played consistently well. There was keen competition for the last few places in the pack; and in addition to the eight, Mackenzie, Wallace, Donaldson and Tod played in the 1st XV upon occasion.

Forrest has been the outstanding player, and his presence on the field has meant as much as the excellence of his play, as was proved by the team's second half recovery against Dollar as a contrast with the first half display when Forrest was off the field through injury.

Generally the team seems to play better on a dry day; but although, when weather conditions made open play difficult, the attack was not so good, the defence was always sound, as is apparent from the fact that the team has never been overwhelmed by its opponents.

The Fifteen which eventually became representative was:—R. Houston, T. Macfarlane, J. G. Forrest, D. Murray, E. V. Mackay; R. Johnston, J. Strang; I. Wood, G. P. Sharp, R. Auld, J. Peden, D. Hall, R. Peacock, W. Steven, A. Forbes.

Summary of term's results:—

P. 11, W. 5, L. 5, D. 1; Points for, 132; Points against, 87.

**Strathallan v. W. C. Roy's XV**, played at Forgardenny on September 30th.

Strath. opened the season against a strong scratch XV, thirteen of whom had figured prominently in past School teams, and though defeated, played very well against more experienced players. The School gained an equal share of the ball from the scrummages, but the heeling was slow, this naturally handicapping the three-quarters. The visitors, on the other hand, were able to take the ball when going full speed. The forwards, although not working together as a pack, were good individually in dribbling and defensive play. The defensive work of the three-quarters was also excellent, but they did not show up to advantage as an attacking force. The School took the lead in the first half when Johnston kicked a good penalty goal, but the visitors drew level with a similar score. In the second half Strang, taking advantage of his opponent's mistake, went over for an unconverted try to restore the lead. It was soon lost, however, for the visitors went over twice in quick succession, and though Strath. attacked strongly towards the close, no further scoring resulted.

Result: Strathallan, 6 pts.; W. C. Roy's XV, 9 pts.

**Strathallan v. Aberdeen G.S.**, played at Aberdeen on October 5th.

The conditions were anything but ideal for this game since the ground was wet and very heavy. The School side never seemed to settle down as a team, and for the most part were quite unable to handle the slippery ball. Indeed, after their creditable performance in the opening match, the display was disappointing. The forwards had the advantage in size and weight but failed to make full use of this advantage. A few individuals stood out in a poor pack, where the heeling was poor and slow. Strang's handling was uncertain and so it is unfair to criticise Johnston and the three-quarters for their ineffectiveness. All except



Forrest, however, lacked pace and penetrating power. Houston played a sound game in the last line and cannot be blamed for any of the tries. The home side scored twice in the first half, and once after the interval, but only the first was converted. These tries were for the most part due to the greater pace of their wing three-quarters.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Aberdeen G.S., 11 pts.

**Strathallan v. Edinburgh Institution,**  
played at Forgandenny on October 12th.

The School showed a welcome improvement in this game, and showed the difference in value between individual brilliance and team work. The forwards played well together and were well on top in the set and loose scrums, while the heel-ing showed a marked improvement. The defence of the backs was never put to a real test; but it was again sound. Their handling was generally good, and the few passes that went astray may be attributed to the fact that Houston was slightly injured in the first half. Forrest was the outstanding figure in the three line and scored three excellent tries as well as making two others. The understanding between the halves, Johnston and Strang, was not perfect, but improving with the practice. Mackie had practically nothing to do at full back. The score thirty-one—nil in our favour sufficiently indicated our superiority at all points. Tries were scored by Forrest (3), Houston (2), Wood and Macfarlane. Johnston converted three and Houston dropped a neat goal.

Result: Strathallan, 31 pts.; Edinburgh Institution, nil.

**Strathallan v. Robert Gordon's College,**  
played at Aberdeen on October 19th.

In this game Murray made his first appearance of the season, his return solving the problem of the School back division, Houston resuming his normal place as full back. Again conditions at Aberdeen were all against good rugby. The ground was under water, and a strong wind was blowing down the field. Winning the toss, the School elected to take advantage of the wind (and played towards the deep end). The actual play requires little comment, since it was confined more or less to

the forwards. When the game was opened out, the visiting backs showed the greater skill in handling the ball and seemed to be the more dangerous combination. The defence was good throughout, and the forwards gave a good display against a heavier pack, but on a day when quick following up would have been invaluable, they failed in this respect. Strang and Johnston showed increased understanding, and Houston was sound at full back. Peacock scored the School's only try after dribbling the ball over the line. The home side scored a converted try in a similar way and also scored from a penalty for a scrum infringement.

Result: Strathallan, 3 pts.; R. Gordon's College, 8 pts.

**Strathallan v. Dollar Academy,** played at Dollar on October 26th.

This game was played on a heavy ground between two evenly matched teams. A certain amount of high spiritedness was shown throughout. A significant fact about the game was the contrast of the School side in the two halves of the game. After being eleven points down, the team rallied magnificently and turned imminent defeat into victory. The indifferent display of the first half can only be attributed to the fact that Forrest, the captain, was injured and had to go off for attention. The Dollar eleven points were the result of carelessness upon the School's part, a penalty for a scrum infringement and hesitation in defence which resulted in a try. The other try, this time converted, came when Strang threw out a reckless pass to Houston which went astray, and an opponent won the race for the touch-down. Peden opened the School's account by breaking through from a line-out; then Forrest dropped a goal, and near the end Peacock scored from a pass from Strang who stole away on the blind side of a five-yard scrum. Johnston converted with a really excellent kick from the touchline. From this point till the final whistle the School continued to hold the upper hand.

Among the forwards who maintained the improved standard of play, Wood was prominent, while Auld hooked very successfully. Forrest played under difficulties, and his determination was an inspiring example to his side. Houston has played better games, since he waited for the ball to bounce too often. The rest of

the backs were sound without being brilliant.

Result: Strathallan, 12 pts.; Dollar Academy, 11 pts.

#### **Strathallan v. Dunfermline High School,** played at Forgandenny on 2nd Nov.

In this game Steven returned to the side after a long absence, the side being otherwise unchanged. Throughout the game the School did all the attacking, and in the second half the superiority was so marked that Houston, tired of being a spectator at full back, frequently came up into the three line, and scored three tries. Even when he was thus caught out of position, the visitors failed to press home the advantage. There was little difference in the weight of the packs, but Strath. completely outplayed the visiting eight, and, with the ball coming back quickly, the three-quarters were provided with innumerable opportunities. These were not wasted, since the handling, running and movements of the outsides were almost perfect. Although all played well, Forrest deserves a special word of praise since he scored four times. Strang at last showed us what he can do, for his passes from the base of the scrum were excellent and well timed, and he broke away several times to draw an extra man. Among the forwards Wood, Steven and Auld were prominent. The tries were scored by Forrest (4), Houston (3), and Mackay; six were converted by Johnston from easy positions, and the same player also kicked a good penalty goal.

Result: Strathallan, 39 pts.; Dunfermline H.S. nil.

#### **Strathallan v. G. B. Smith's XV,** played at Forgandenny on 6th November.

In this game the School opposed a strong scratch fifteen, which included several of the St. Andrew's University side. The play was fast throughout, and many fine movements were produced by both sides. We held our own for the greater part of the game; but in the end the superior speed and greater experience of the visitors enabled them to win, a win which was the more creditable since the efficiency of the side was impaired by injury to two players. The School twice took the lead by means of penalty goals kicked by Johnston only for unconverted tries to put the visitors on terms. Actually we failed to pierce the defence, for the only other score was a clever dropped goal by Johnston, the

visitors scoring three times in the second half, one try being converted.

Result: Strathallan, 10 pts.; G. B. Smith's XV, 17 pts.

#### **Strathallan v. Edinburgh University Medicals,** played at Forgandenny on November 9th.

After a frosty night the sun thawed the ground and turned the pitch into a mass of mud, so that the conditions were not ideal for an open game. Nevertheless both teams made attempts to make the game interesting, and under the circumstances the poor handling can be excused. Again the School played vigorously against heavier opponents and were superior as a team, although the visitors were handicapped by having to play with fourteen men most of the game. The mistakes and sound defence on both sides confined the scoring to one try each; but Johnston, by converting Forrest's try, enabled the School to gain the victory.

Result: Strathallan, 5 pts.; Edinburgh University Medicals, 3 pts.

#### **Strathallan v. Allan Glen's School,** played in Glasgow on November 16th.

After the heavy rain during the week, the ground was very heavy, and, as in previous games, did not seem to suit Strath. While the ball was dry, the School opened out the game and scored two quick tries through Forrest and Mackay, to gain an encouraging lead despite Johnston's failure with the kicks. Subsequently, Allan Glen's confined the game to the forwards and forced the School to play them at their own game. In this they were successful, as much due to poorness of play by our pack as in the superiority of the home eight in size and weight. It would have paid to open out the game at all costs since the School backs were obviously the more penetrative force. As it was, the ball came out to them slowly, and they had few real chances. The forwards were sound individually, Wood, Auld, Peacock and Sharp being prominent in forward rushes; but they packed too high and allowed the opposing forwards to break through too often from the line out. The defence was sound as a whole, but hesitation allowed the home side to score two snap tries and drop a goal.

Result: Strathallan, 6 pts.; Allan Glen's School, 14 pts.

**Strathallan v. Heriot's School**, played at Edinburgh on 23rd November.

There were two changes in the forwards for this game, Wallace and Mackenzie taking the place of Wood and Peden. The playing conditions being much better than those experienced for the last few games, the game was opened out to a greater extent. The result, a draw, was very satisfactory; and it was said that the Strath XV was the best that had faced Heriot's this season. Forrest scored a try early in the game, after running round his own man and the opposing wing three-quarter; and this lead was only wiped out by a penalty goal for a scrum infringement late in the second half. Towards the end Forrest was unlucky not to score again, when he was tackled just short of the line after a splendid run. The visiting backs handled well and ran strongly, and showed such a splendid defence that Heriot's were forced to gain ground by repeated kicking. The forwards played well together and heeled the ball as often as the home pack; but they were beaten continually in the line-out, and so the backs did not receive so many opportunities as Heriot's. Sharp, Auld and Peacock were prominent in a pack which lacked nothing in vigour. Forrest was the outstanding player in a good three-quarter line, and Houston was again safe at full back.

Result: Strathallan, 3 pts.; Heriot's School, 3 pts.

**Strathallan v. W. Smith's XV**, played at Forgandenny on 4th December.

Wood and Peden were back in the side, but owing to Johnston's injury, F. Anderson took his place at stand-off half. Unfortunately, some of the visiting side failed to arrive, and six of the 2nd XV deputised, namely, W. and J. Anderson, Frost, Mackenzie, Donaldson and D. Watt. They all performed creditably, and the Anderson brothers were frequently prominent in forward rushes. An appreciation of their worth was shown by the remark, "You must have a strong second team."

The start was delayed, and the ground was gradually becoming hard, due to the frost; but this did not prevent the game being keen and hard. The visitors took a long time to settle down, and the School quickly gained a comfortable lead of 17

points, which was held till half-time. One of the tries was scored immediately after the kick-off, when Forrest backed up a kick ahead and beat all the opponents by his speed. After the interval the School was handicapped by Peacock's shoulder injury, which reduced the pack to seven, and the visitors, with a plentiful supply of the ball, scored eleven points without reply.

Undoubtedly the most pleasing feature of the game was F. Anderson's display, since, apart from Forrest, he was the outstanding player among the backs. Strang's passes from the base of the scrum were excellent, and the halves quickly set up an amazing understanding with one another. The forwards played well together, Auld and Wood being prominent individually, and gave their outsides a good share of the ball. The School's tries were scored by Forrest (2), Auld and Strang, while Wood converted one of the tries and kicked a penalty goal.

Result: Strathallan, 17 pts.; W. Smith's XV, 11 pts.

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## SECOND FIFTEEN.

The Second Team lacks the attacking powers of the Senior XV behind the scrum; but two qualities have gone to make a successful first half of the season: a hard-working pack, and a particularly dogged defence; for even their defeat at the hand of Dollar Academy was only by a goal to a try. Of the forwards, Mackenzie, Wallace and W. and J. Anderson have been most conspicuous, but all have more than pulled their weight, all too often against much heavier opponents. Despite several experiments, the three line has rarely got moving properly, though service from the scrum can scarcely be blamed for this. It must be frankly admitted that the real defect is lack of speed, and this accounts for the fact that though Aberdeen G. S., Gordon's College, Stirling H. S. and Morgan's Academy (twice) have had to bow the knee, the victories have been narrow. At the same time there are some highly promising members among the outsides, notably F. Anderson, A. Milroy, E. Watt and G. Scott, whose progress, since all will be available at least one further season, will be watched with interest.

### FIVES.

The arrangement of morning halves enabled Fives to be played at least one day a week, and while many made the most of the opportunities, several found rugger practice and work in the evenings a regrettable inconvenience. A Fives league was started, however, with very encouraging results, for not only has the competition brought to light many good doubles players, but has also given pairs an opportunity of establishing a partnership. Mackie and Harrington, last year's first string, justified themselves by heading the senior division with nine wins out of nine, scoring 135 points to 25. Frost and Innes ran them a close second with a single defeat, and 130 points against 46, followed in turn by R. Houston and D. Murray.

In the junior section competition was even keener, for three pairs tied with one defeat each, but D. McColl and P. Methven were placed top with a two point advantage over A. Turner and G. Garrie, who in turn held a six point lead over W. Pringle and J. Shanks.

W. G. H.

### SWIMMING.

Little polo has been played this term, the chief concern being to try out talent to replace Dishington, Carswell and, above all, J. Smith, who have left since last term. A pleasing feature to report is the number of boys gaining their swimming badges early in the term, sixteen being successful, and some of them registering excellent times for the four lengths. The successful competitors were F. Anderson, G. Wilson, H. Thomson, A. Hood, G. Sharp, M. Paul, J. Milne, D. Fulton, J. Fulton, W. Pringle, H. Buchanan, P. McGlade, C. Scroggie, R. Gillanders, M. Binnie, J. Peden.

J. G. S. F.

## 73rd Perthshire Scout Troop

THE return from camp saw the Troop almost immediately ready to begin the term's programme. The number of new recruits, and of Scouts joining us from other troops, increased the 73rd to the record number of 80 members. To meet this increase, the old Hawk patrol was revived and put under the leadership of W. Anderson, previously 2nd of the Lions. The new patrol took over the corner recently vacated by the Rattlesnakes.

A succession of fine Saturdays made possible the completion of many outdoor tasks, *e.g.*, 2nd Class fire lighting and cooking, whilst in the earlier weeks several wide games were enjoyed—chiefly by the younger members of the Troop. Within the hut there has been a constant activity, which—coupled with the work put in at the workshop each Thursday night—has resulted at the end of the term in a once more completely reorganised arrangement of corners. The three-ply wood and paint industries have been well supported, and the hut as a whole has a very satisfactory appearance. The Owl patrol, under H. Frost, was judged by Mr. Ward and Mr. Norton to have accomplished the best corner—their success was in part due to their ability to profit from the owl designs left us last term by Mr. Crichton on his visit from Scottish H.Q. The willingness of Mr. Waters to help in varied types of handicraft gave to A. Hood of the Rattlesnakes the opportunity to learn the art of leatherwork and so earn the cup for the best individual exhibit.

There has been a measure of solid badge work done. Apart from the unusually high number of Tenderfoot recruits to be trained and tested, the most gratifying feature of this work has been the large

proportion of younger scouts who have completed their 2nd Class Badge. The S.M. was responsible for a large class in 2nd Class Ambulance, whilst the A.S.M. went ahead with the signalling. Although these two proved in many ways the most difficult of the tasks, the Scout Pace proved a constant source of hope deferred, until repeated attempts gained success. Several of the older members of the Troop have forged ahead with their 1st Class and badge work. Our good friend, Mr. Mackie, came out from Perth on November 30th to test for 1st Class Signalling and Ambulance, Ambulance badge, and the theory of the Camper badge—for all of which classes had been held during the term. All those in for the tests were successful. As a result of these, and of the 1st Class cooking and journeys done by members of the Troop in camp, the roll of King's Scouts has been further increased by D. Fulton, N. Smith (who has also earned the distinction of the Bushman's Thong), D. McColl, H. B. Rowan and W. Anderson.

There was a very gratifying display of individual work in the inter-patrol competition. The opportunities afforded by the workshop have been well used, in carpentry, leatherwork, and basketry. There was an interesting model and plan of a camp-site; and in all this work there has been an improvement in style and finish.

The completion of the term's competitions, badge work, corner and individual work has resulted in the award of the Trophy to the Owl patrol under H. Frost. Very close behind were the Rattlesnakes under N. Smith. The Lions (D. Fulton) and the Hawks (W. Anderson) tied for third place. The shield which is awarded to the most improved patrol goes this term to the Hawks, whose performance in working to third position from their start as a new patrol is very meritorious. Each member of the patrol has some responsibility for this.

Mr. Riley made the presentation to the winning patrols on Saturday, December 7th. After the presentation the recruits were invested; we welcome them to the brotherhood of Scouts, wishing them good Scouting.

To the Troop I myself wish long years of good Scouting, which is not simply a matter of an hour's cheerfulness every Saturday morning, but involves the duty of keeping the promise and law. It is a worthy ambition that each Scout should work forward to gain the 1st Class and King's Scout badge—and where possible, the Bushman's Thong—because a high standard of efficiency is always desirable, and low ideals are never worth while. At the same time each should remember that the wearing of the badges is not the end-all of Scouting. Two ambitions remain open to every Scout. One of these is so to understand and to enjoy his own scouting that he naturally leads others to join; the other is to aim so to develop that he may in time himself become an A.S.M. or S.M. and so continue to help the movement on. One more reminder—the promise once taken, see that its traditions are maintained; on you rests its success. For my own part, as S.M. of the Troop for just over three years, I have many debts of gratitude; first to those three captains of the School, A. A. Mackay, I. McBride and V. Mackay, who, successively as A.S.M., have lightened many tasks and made possible the smooth running of the Troop. Those who in succession have been Troop Leader and Patrol Leader, have all played their part efficiently and loyally. I shall always remember with great pleasure the time spent with the Troop—both in the term and in camp (which again I commend to those who have never yet been there). To my successor, Mr. L. P. Wenham, I give my heartiest wishes for the same gladness that I have had, and for a period of successful leadership.

K. L. McC.

# Strathallian Club

Telephone: Central 794.  
Telegrams: "Defence."

Hon. President - H. RILEY, Esq.  
President - GEORGE B. SMITH, Esq.  
Vice-President - W. A. C. LAMBIE, Esq.



Secretary and Treasurer:  
J. B. MAITLAND COWAN, Esq., Solicitor,  
30 George Square, Glasgow, C.2.

Trustees: D. J. BOGIE and H. RILEY,

Auditors:  
J. C. McGEACHY, C.A., and  
W. M. SHANKS, C.A.

## CLUB COUNCIL.

### Council retiring 1936.

R. R. Fraser.  
J. Lusk.  
D. O. Melrose.

### Council retiring 1937.

D. J. Bogie.  
R. D. Paton.  
N. G. Reid.

### Council retiring 1938.

T. Irvine.  
R. Lamont Paul.  
W. Wills.

### Editorial Board.

R. R. Fraser.  
D. O. Melrose.  
W. Wills.

### Dance Committee.

N. Guthrie Reid, *Convener*.  
A. F. Reid.  
W. Wills.

### Dinner Committee.

R. D. Paton, *Convener*.  
T. Irvine.  
R. Lamont Paul.

### Sports Committee.

W. Wills, *Convener*.  
T. Irvine.  
R. Lamont Paul.

Minute of Ninth Annual General Meeting held in the North British Station Hotel, Glasgow, on Saturday, 21st December, 1935, at 6.30 p.m.

Presiding—Samuel Dow, Esq., President.

THE Minute of the Eighth Annual General Meeting, dated 22nd December, 1934, was read and approved.

The Chairman intimated that Mr. Riley was unfortunately unable to be present on account of a family bereavement. Mr. Guthrie Reid moved, on behalf of the Club, that an expression of sympathy be minuted and an excerpt thereof sent to Mr. Riley, to which the meeting unanimously agreed.

The Chairman then gave a summary of the year's activities, mentioning *inter alia* the Annual Dance, the Rugby Match, Commemoration Day and the Monday Luncheons.

The Treasurer submitted a Financial Statement for the year ended 30th November, 1935, of which the meeting unanimously approved. The Treasurer was instructed to send £40 3s. 4d. to the Trustees for investment.

The Chairman intimated that 19 new Life Members and 13 new Ordinary Members had joined during the year. A list of the names was on the wall, and he asked the meeting to confirm them as members. The meeting unanimously agreed.

The Chairman then stated that the office-bearers for 1936 required to be elected. The following were appointed:—

*Hon. President:* H. Riley, Esq.  
*President:* George B. Smith, Esq.  
*Vice-President:* W. A. C. Lambie, Esq.  
*Secretary and Treasurer:*  
J. B. Maitland Cowan, Esq.

### Council

(Members of Council to retire 1938):

Messrs. T. Irvine.  
R. Lamont Paul.  
W. Wills.

### Auditors:

Messrs. J. Callum McGeachy, C.A., and  
W. M. Shanks, C.A.

Mr. R. D. Paton moved that the Secretary be granted the same honorarium as the previous year, namely, £15 15s., and the meeting unanimously approved.

The Chairman then asked the meeting to fix the date of the Tenth Annual Meeting and Dinner. He suggested 19th December, 1936, to which date the meeting agreed.

A member suggested that the Dinner should be held outside Glasgow next year, and the Chairman stated that this would have the consideration of the Council.

The Chairman further intimated that the Third Annual Dance would be held on 31st January, in the Burlington House, from 8 p.m. to 1.30 a.m., the price of the ticket being 7/6.

The Secretary submitted a new design for the Club Tie, incorporating the Crest. He informed the meeting that if the Crest was incorporated the design would be registered, and thus ensure that it could not be copied by other Clubs. The meeting agreed to adopt the new design.

No further business being forthcoming, Mr. D. J. Bogie moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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### Old Boys' News

**W**E congratulate Mr. George B. Smith of Dundee, who is our President this year, and we wish him every success in presiding over the destinies of the Club in 1936. In our next issue we hope to publish his photograph and a cameo of his career.

We congratulate Mr. Stuart Ferguson who is with the Imperial Chemical Company in India on passing his examination in Higher Urdu before the Civil and Military Committee. Mr. Jack Ferguson, his brother, is a salesman with Caribonum Ltd., Glasgow, working the northern area of that city.

We had a very interesting visitor to this country, Mr. Jack Cameron (Wee Tanky), who is home on leave from the Philippine Islands, where he is employed by a firm of British agents representing financial, shipping and insurance interests. He told us of another chance meeting of two Strathallians, himself and Mr. Norman Wotherspoon, in the British Club at Manila. Recognition was mutual and the usual long confabulation and exchange of notes and experiences followed which lapsed into a discussion of old times at Strath. Before he left, Mr. Cameron was married at Brompton, London. We offer to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron the Club's best wishes. His present address is the British Club, Manila.

Another visitor from far-off parts visited one of the Monday luncheons. Mr. Willie Motion, who is farming in Southern Chile, came home for a short leave and paid a round of calls. His relation of his experiences in Southern Chile, where he combines his work as a farmer with that of a magistrate and sheriff was followed with great interest. Evidently things are improving considerably in Chile for money is now being released from the country, and Mr. Motion informs us that trade is beginning to flow again more easily through the usual channels.

From another continent we have a visitor who is still home on leave, Mr. Walter Hird from Tanganyika. If Mr. Hird finds that business is going to take him to Glasgow we would be glad if he would arrange, if at all possible, to be there on a Monday and come up to the lunch at Cranston's at one o'clock. He will certainly find a warm welcome awaiting him from many of his contemporaries.

Mr. Willie Anderson, who was home from the oilfields at Rawalpindi, Northern India, has now returned to Rangoon where he is retained at the firm's headquarters in the meantime. Like many other visitors who have been absent from Forgandenny for several years, Mr. Anderson expressed surprise and pleasure at the improvements in the school and its surroundings.

Mr. Gaston Bonthron, who is with Steel Brothers at Rangoon, is now back in that city. He spent part of his holiday touring the Continent by car. He came back an enthusiast for Continental touring.

We hear that an engagement has been announced of Mr. R. Paton, of West Kilbride, to Miss Mary Grant, of Hillhead, Glasgow.

We have a line from Mr. Leonard Fraser from County Antrim in Northern Ireland, informing us that his new address is Hillcrest, Antrim. Mr. Fraser is engaged in the linen trade on the commercial side.

We hope that members will do their best to turn out and support the Club in its game with the School on March 7th. The School side appears to be strong this year and, while we are not apprehensive, it is realised that we shall have to treat them with the greatest respect, for a side that can draw with Heriot's, Edinburgh, where the home team has a long unbroken succession of victories, must at least be considered as one above the ordinary. We

shall be glad of your moral support at Forgandenny.

We have received notice from Messrs. Pitman of the publication of a work by an old Strathallian, Mr. H. Rissik. It is on Mercury Arc Current Converters and has received most favourable notice from the technical press. Mr. Rissik is a recognised authority on this subject and we trust that his book will have a wide circulation in electrical engineering circles.

### From our St. Andrews University Correspondent.

There is very little 'varsity news to record this term for as far as examinations are concerned it is rather a blank. One of the newcomers this term, Mr. Herbert E. Walker, has certainly no reason to feel dissatisfied with his first term in university life. He has taken his Botany and Zoology in the first Medical Professional and has secured his place in the University golf team which this year is considered to be really very good. There was quite a considerable amount of interest in the two Strathallians, Mr. Neil Gillanders, and the old Scottish internationalist, Mr. George Ritchie, who took part in the rugger trials. Neither reached the final trials at Murrayfield, but both played very sound games, and Mr. Ritchie figured in the North XV against the All-Blacks and had a very good match.

### From our Edinburgh University Correspondent.

Since my last set of notes there has been little of real interest in the way of examination results, although two of the senior Strathallians here secured hospital appointments. Dr. J. B. Ross has gone to Southend, near London, while Dr. Ian Chalmers is in one of the residences at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. In the September pass-list in Chemistry it was interesting to note that a Strathallian, Mr. J. Breckenridge, took first place—just one more to the many laurels that have been gained by those who have had an early lab. training at Strath. Mr. James Grossett, who is in his fourth year of the LL.B. course, was successful in Philosophy, and Mr. J. W. Drummond took his Physics in the first professional in Medicine. We were all very pleased at the choice of Mr. Jack Breckenridge as centre three-quarter for the South of Scotland, and some of the

Edinburgh critics held him to be the best three-quarter afield. He certainly played an excellent game. The Strath. students here were all delighted that Dr. Lumsden, a member of the teaching staff, was chosen to propose the toast of The School, and those of us who have known him as a member of the same hostel are quite certain that he will have done the job well.

### From our Glasgow University Correspondent.

I am afraid there is a paucity of news which would be acceptable for publication in the magazine. On the rugger field most Strathallians are taking part in one or other of the rugger sides—Mr. W. B. McKenna with the First XV, Messrs. W. Harrington, Ian Scott and A. Fleming in the Second 'Varsity side, with Messrs. W. S. Linton and W. Campbell in one of the minor XV's. In the September results I was glad to note that Mr. Finlay P. Murdoch graduated M.A., and presumably he will now be carrying on with his study for a Chartered Accountant. We had the usual excitement at the time of the election, in which several Strathallians took a by no means inconsiderable part.

### From our Cambridge University Correspondent.

Strathallians here are taking a full measure of their part in college sports, and while there is no one reaching the standard of a blue yet, many are putting up quite good performances. Mr. J. A. Montgomerie, who has been playing for the University side at ice hockey, has been on tour with the 'varsity Eskimoos in Switzerland, playing goal. On two occasions he has played for the University at lacrosse, a game which has a very large Canadian following here. Mr. W. Watt, who is taking his Part Two in the Law Tripos, plays regularly in St. John's College golf team, while Mr. James Smith plays for this college at water polo, which is considered to be one of the strongest college sides this year. Another law student, Mr. A. Carswell, has taken up water polo and has occasionally represented his college, playing goal. We hear that there are three or four more fellows coming up from School after the summer and they are assured of a very hearty welcome and introductions into the intricacies of Cambridge routine.