

# THE STRATHALLIAN

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## School Notes and Notices

LET us first wish all our readers, at home and abroad, a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The last term of 1936 has not been without considerable activity, though it has been of a quiet kind. The senior boys have been putting in some solid work, preparatory to the more strenuous times ahead next term with Leaving Certificate examinations. This work was to a certain degree interfered with by an outbreak of influenza, which, if mild in form, took its toll through the greater part of the term. Adverse weather conditions—and surely this term has been the hardest for many years—also played their part in putting a stop to outdoor activities during the last three weeks, and led to the cancellation of all rugby matches in December.

Nevertheless, these closing weeks saw great activity indoors. The Dramatic Society, with a large influx of young and untried members, after spending the early weeks developing latent talent, concentrated upon its end of term production, "The Fugitives," by Walter Hackett, a far more ambitious venture from a scenic point of view than usual. Ian Hay's "A Blank Cartridge" provided adequate contrast as a curtain raiser, and the Social Evening on Wednesday, December 15th, was greatly enjoyed.

Even more so was the lighter fare of the succeeding night, when, if noise was any criterion, the School "made whoopee." Special praise is due to Mr. Shaw, and other members of the Staff, whose assistance in organisation was invaluable; and also to Macdonald for his whole-hearted assumption of responsibility for the musical side of the programme, which was, perhaps, the most appreciated item by the youthful members of the audience. Mr. Shaw was at his brilliant best as compere, and it is with great pleasure that we reprint one or two of his popular efforts. They seem too good to be lost so soon.

The Debating Society also has been making quiet progress. They are fortunate in being again well served by the Secretary, Peacock having inherited I. Smith's genius for encouraging new speakers and providing interesting topics. The younger members are now feeling their feet, and while not entirely familiar with the finer points of debating, at least have the courage and the ability to express their opinions lucidly.

There has been only one lecture this term. This, "Mary at the Zoo," by Mr. Eric Hosking, on December 1st, was a distinct change from recent lectures, and, well within the understanding of even the youngest members, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Excellently illustrated with slides

depicting the fearlessness of the four year old Mary in handling some of the fiercer and often repulsive inhabitants of the Zoo. The lecture also unobtrusively brought home many interesting facts about the habits of many animals and the way Nature has fitted them to their environment.

Next term there are three lectures booked, or rather two lectures and a new innovation for Strath. The English Classical Players have been engaged to give a performance of Bernard Shaw's play, "Caesar and Cleopatra," which we feel will be of great interest to all, but particularly to those seniors with their English exam. ahead of them. This and the visit of Doctor Lulham take place in February, while Colonel Haddick's lecture on "The Make-Believe World" of the Cinema occurs during the first week in March.

From indoor activities we turn to outdoor ones, which do not make quite such universally pleasant recording. Good news it is that the new rugby pitch is all but completed, the question of drainage having been dealt with in the course of the term. The new cricket square above the rugby pitch is knitting well and should be a

welcome addition to the cricket amenities in the summer.

When we turn to the question of the School Rugby, however, the picture takes less rosy hues. We fully realise the difficulties of team building, but we cannot help feeling that only in the game against Melville College did we see anything like the best that is in the team; certainly it was the only game in which we crossed our opponents' line. The forwards are a hard-working set, and have actually contrived to hold their own—they have invariably finished strongly, which is a good sign. The halves have scarcely fulfilled expectations, and indeed it was not until Steel's advent to the scrum-half position that any attempt to open up the game was made. The three were the weak part of the team. The line had to be composed of four wing men, and while the speed was there, none could be found with the rugger sense or experience in the centre to make openings for the experienced wings, Macfarlane and N. Thomson. It is almost as difficult to make a wing man into a centre as it is to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear; but with the present dearth of inside men we can only trust that by continued practice Mr. Alty will achieve the task.

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## The School Concert

THE School Concert, held on the last night of term, was a hilarious affair, and following the tradition of recent years, was a somewhat sophisticated entertainment; perhaps a somewhat ambiguous term to use in this connection. It was essentially a boys' concert, for it was not until very late in the day that Mr. Shaw assumed full responsibility for its direction, and strove manfully to give variety to the programme.

But let us confess that we could not help feeling that, while granting that the boys obviously knew what their comrades wanted, there was a lack of balance about the programme. One could not help remarking upon the lack of musical items which would appeal to those with true musical tastes: the orchestra, as an orchestra, seems to have ceased to exist; and yet we know that musical talent remains available from last year's

members, and consequently deplore its absence. Where, too, were the duets for two pianos and the quartets which were so acceptable last year, and the violin solos? We had to be content with two solos, showing two moods of Tchaikowsky, admirably rendered by Hugh Scott, who proved himself as much a master of the classics as Grant is of jazz: W. Grant gave an admirable piano solo of "Rhapsody in Blue," while his brother played "Chapel in the Moonlight" as a violin solo. We trust that this side of the concert will be developed next year; for after all there are other things in life besides syncope.

We feel, too, that more singing of a formal character might find a place, particularly by the choir. Mr. Anguin had chosen well the pieces for the junior choir, but the rendering of Handel's "Now on land and sea descending" was somewhat

spiritless; and "A wet sheet and a flowing sea" did not get the robust treatment it deserved. Nerves told their tale here; but we would emphasise that only by public performance can this nervousness be overcome. A somewhat similar criticism must be levelled at the J1 stalwarts who gave a couple of French chansons; but here exception must be made in the case of G. Lowden Harrington and Clark, who sang with great gusto, more in keeping with the character of pirates than the majority of their comrades; but nothing but praise must go to their enthusiasm for the cause—next time they will not be so overcome by the occasion. Mr. Shaw, accompanied by Mr. Ward, gave three songs, "Song of Songs," "River, stay away from my Door" and "Little man you've had a busy day," together with a clever parody of the latter. He showed to greatest advantage in the second named, for it is songs of the Paul Robeson type that best suit his voice.

Here it is not unfitting to pay special tribute to the hard work put in by Mr. Shaw. He is a born compère, and we consider that he surpassed himself on this occasion. How the audience loved the parody already mentioned and his wickedly topical satires, notably "Changing the Time-table Round" and "Royal Splendour," to say nothing of some very pertinent limericks!

Another individual who had "had a busy day" was Macdonald, for it fell to his lot to fill up awkward moments between turns on the stage with his Glaswegians, either in leading community singing, or as a dance band combination. Mac. certainly had his orchestra well trained, but it was perhaps a mistake to challenge comparison with a professional orchestra. He and Grant would certainly compare very well, but the same could hardly be said of the other members. Their best numbers were "Hometown" and the medley of Signature Tunes. We were glad to note that Mac. had whipped his men into vocalising some of the numbers, with considerable success. The rendering of "They're Tough, mighty Tough in the West" had that slickness and precision of timing which we are accustomed to hear from 10.30 till 11.30 on the Regional programme.

Scroggie, assisted by Edmonds, Robinson and Sim, presented a little sketch, "The Buitman," which went with a most

commendable slickness. Scroggie's study of the speech, foibles and mannerisms of the gentleman who ministers to the pedal comforts of the School was amazingly good.

Less successful were the two "Chateau Bleu" episodes. Always excepting Mac. and his Glaswegians, these were poor and pointless. It is to be hoped that we have seen the last of the troupes of chorus "girls" recruited from the Grub-room. Only the mock apache dance by Macnaughton and Lewis relieved the monotony.

The topical number, "A Staff-room Interlude" fell a long way below the usual standard. We have had in the past a number of born mimics—Gordon Harrington for example—but the race seems to be dying out. Just now and again Macalister conveyed the illusion that he was Mr. Alty; Kelly admirably succeeded in capturing the mannerisms of Mr. Shaw, but failed to reproduce the voice; Leburn made an effective Mr. Duncan, and N. Thomson was excellent as the fleeting apparition; but Macfarlane was almost completely inaudible, and the whole sketch lacked snap. Cues were taken up too slowly by the principals, though Milroy, Scott, Gordon and Stewart as the boys were effective enough in their own personages.

In marked contrast was the Staff contribution, a one-act play by J. J. Bell, "Thread o' Scarlet," which must be voted as their finest effort so far. It was a flawless performance, for not only was every member of the cast word perfect and prompt in the taking up of cues, but every word that was spoken was audible to the back of the hall. Under such circumstances it would be invidious to single out any member of the cast for individual praise: we can do no more than record that Messrs. Alty, Lewis, Langstaff, Roy and Norton were excellent in their respective parts, and to congratulate all concerned on the choice and production of the play.

In conclusion, we would express our regret that many of the younger boys are unfamiliar with the School Song, but we feel that we may safely leave it in the hands of the proper authorities to see that this defect is remedied in the near future.

R. O. C. and M. N.

## The Eleventh Annual Dinner

THE eleventh annual Dinner was held on Saturday the 18th December in St. Enoch Station Hotel, Glasgow.

That the dinner was a great success was admitted on all sides and many members came from really distant parts. Perhaps



The Top Table at the Annual Dinner.

[By courtesy of "The Bulletin."]

Prior to the dinner there was the usual annual meeting, a report of which will be found elsewhere. In spite of the very difficult weather conditions which undoubtedly kept away many Strathallians, especially from the east and west coasts where many roads were snowbound and fog added to the difficulties of transport, there was an excellent turnout; in fact there was every reason to believe that the efforts of the dinner committee would have been rewarded with an attendance exceeding the hundred mark had these difficult weather conditions not prevailed. It is to be hoped that this goal will be reached next year when the School is to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary.

the one who made the longest journey was Mr. Roddy Morrison who had just arrived home from Shanghai.

The Business Meeting was very well attended; in fact, there was an overflow into the corridors where progress of the business was passed down by word of mouth, forming a kind of running interruption of the pow-wows taking place all round. There were one or two little Cambridge groups comparing notes with their old school fellows who had come down from other universities; others which quite well could have been dated 1922, 1926, and so on.

The dining room itself was very tastefully

decorated, and the arrangement of the tables in the form of an open rectangle helped to stimulate a real "get together" feeling. After the preliminary ordeal of facing the camera, the dinner was allowed to proceed, and a most casual observer would have been struck by the animated conversations taking place on all sides.

Mr. Lambie, the President, proposed the toast of "The King," and Mr. Norman Ledingham of Kilmacolm, in proposing the toast of "The School" with which he coupled the name of Mr. Riley, reminded his hearers of the beauty of its surroundings which were full of historical interest. He referred to the many great improvements that had already been carried out at Forgandenny, and made it quite clear that the present day generation of schoolboys up at Strathallan were having a very much better time than those of his day and even they enjoyed themselves too.

Mr. Riley, in reply, thanked Mr. Ledingham for his kind remarks and good wishes and proceeded to give the gathering an account of the developments up at Forgandenny. He stressed the fact that the School was becoming more widely known, not only through athletics and scholarship to the public at large, but in an academic and professional sense to the universities and public bodies, many of which now send their calendars, circulars and intimations to Strathallan School as a matter of routine. During the year several business houses hitherto without a Strathallan connection had approached the School with a view to the recruitment of boys to their staff. County sporting organisations governing rugger, cricket and tennis now circularise the School hoping to obtain members of the School clubs for their county sides, and some of the banks and international finance houses had placed the School upon their list from which they invite applications for

vacancies. These facts, Mr. Riley held, provided concrete evidence not only of the widening influence of the School's reputation but of the very definite progress of the School itself.

Captain Graham, who is the manager of the Empire Exhibition to be held in Glasgow this year, was the guest of honour and to him fell the duty of proposing the toast of "The Strathallian Club," in which he introduced incidentally a little geography and mathematics, much to the amusement of the gathering at large, perhaps causing a little embarrassment to certain members of the School staff present at the Dinner. Captain Graham pointed out that there was an organisation which controlled exhibitions and that the one to be held in Glasgow was not a world exhibition for Britain was not entitled to hold an exhibition of that character for several years, but that it was an Empire Exhibition, quite a different matter, and it was in this connection that he indulged in geography and very much mixed and cleverly humorous mathematics to bring home to the gathering the extent of our far flung Empire. It was an easy step then to point out the widespread nature of the Club membership and the value of a central organisation enabling members not only to stick together but to provide an ease of intercourse and exchange of ideas, and also to afford a very real assistance to one another. Before he closed, Captain Graham gave an indication of the immensity of the work in providing for the erection and functioning of buildings and works of all kinds which go to make up what is known as Glasgow Exhibition, and he very kindly offered to provide an opportunity for members of the Club on a certain date to be fixed later to be shown over the Exhibition in the process of its construction. "It is an education in itself," declared Captain Graham, and the applause which greeted his remark

showed that the gathering had at least some realisation of its meaning.

Mr. Lambie, in his reply to the toast of "The Club," thanked Captain Graham not only for the kind invitation which he had extended to the members to visit the Exhibition, but for his address and good wishes for the success of the Strathallian Club. Mr. Lambie then went into details, pointing out that the Club was rapidly extending its membership and that its finances were in a very sound condition. He made an appeal for a large attendance on Commemoration Day; the last time, he pointed out that they had only just scrambled home against the School in their contest for the Melrose Cup. He asked for better support against the School at rugby, "a match we lost which we might easily have won had those who could play offered their services. We have got to pick our team from those who send in applications to take part in the game. It is the only businesslike way of doing things, but it fills us with something like chagrin when Mr. Riley can turn round and say to us, as he did on the occasion of the last match, that he could have picked a side from those members on the touchline which would have given the School a good hammering."

Then followed really a humorous speech when Mr. Leburn proposed the toast of "Our Guests." He twitted Captain Graham about the exhibition and then he turned to Provost McGregor of Renfrew and made very clever play on the "City of Renfrew, noted for its ferry and the village of Glasgow." "'Let Glasgow Flourish,' the City's motto, is in the nature of a prayer from that 'village' to the Royal Burgh of Renfrew," declared Mr. Leburn. That was the real origin of the City's motto and he gave as his authority for that statement Provost McGregor himself. He then related one or two incidents during his visit to a recent Paris exhibition with Mr. Riley which drew from the gathering roars of laughter all round. It was not so much what he said as the nature of the implied suggestions and the imperturbable and grave-faced manner in which he unfolded

the sequence of events which caused the whole gathering to rock with laughter.

Ex-Provost McGregor of Renfrew, who is the father of an Old Strathallian, Mr. Ian McGregor, paid a very high compliment to Mr. Leburn on one of the "best after dinner speeches I have ever heard," a remark which was loudly applauded. He thanked the gathering for their invitation to the guests in whose name he was replying, and in the course of his remarks made it quite clear that in years gone by Renfrew really was an important place. He became reminiscent and told one or two good stories which caused merriment all round, and finally in the name of the guests wished the Club success and prosperity.

Mr. Lambie then thanked all members of the Council and members of the Club for the support which they had given him during his year and he invested Mr. Bogie as President with the usual invocation of good wishes from the founder and with his own personal wishes for the success of the Club under Mr. Bogie's presidency.

The new President was received with loud cheers and nothing less than mounting the table would satisfy the gathering. In the course of a brief speech in which he thanked the gathering for his election, he asked for the assistance of every member to make Commemoration Day, Old Boys' Rugby Day, and especially the next Annual Dinner, each an overwhelming success.

After the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the closing of the formal proceedings, groups still lingered for a considerable time—really and truly can it be said—for old times' sake.

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### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF LONDON.

We congratulate Mr. Charlie MacLay, who was Gold Medallist in Surgery at Glasgow, in gaining his Primary Fellowship examination. Mr. MacLay, who is lecturing at the University of London on Physiology, is a B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. of Glasgow University.

## The New President

OUR President this year is Mr. David J. Bogie, and the Club are to be congratulated on their choice.

Mr. Bogie went to Strathallan during the first days at Forgandenny, and while



President D. J. Bogie.

he did not excel in the sports field to any extent—he was a very small boy for his years—he showed early promise in the classroom.

Choosing accountancy as his profession, he at once distinguished himself, and at an early age qualified as a C.A. and graduated B.Com. at Edinburgh University, taking many honour certificates en route. Some years ago he was made a partner of the well-known firm, Messrs. Graham, Smart & Annan, C.A., of Edinburgh and London, and we were pleased to note that he was one of the expert witnesses for the Crown in a recent important fraud case that came before the High Court.

Besides carrying on as a practising chartered accountant, Mr. Bogie finds time

to lecture on "Accountancy and Business Method" at Edinburgh University, and also assists a member of the examining board in assessing the examination work of budding Scottish C.A.'s. He has taken a great interest in these students' activities and was President of the Edinburgh C.A. Students' Society and is Hon. Editor of "Transactions," a book published annually by that society.

Mr. Riley has shown his confidence in our new President's ability and judgment by nominating him as one of the School's trustees, who will have important responsibilities under the School's new constitution.

But we must not regard Mr. Bogie as one ignoring the sporting side of life. For many years he was a keen tennis player and was secretary of the North of Forth Tennis Championships, and he has played the leading part in amateur theatrical productions. He now devotes his spare time to golf, swimming, fishing, shooting and flying, and is a Lieut. in the 51st Highland Divisional Signals.

We realise, therefore, that Mr. Bogie leads an exceptionally active life, and in him we have a President of wide interests and experience. We look forward with confidence to a successful year for the Club under his presidency.

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### INTERNATIONAL CAP AND UNIVERSITY HONOUR FOR STRATHALLIAN.

It is with very great pleasure that we note that Mr. J. G. S. Forrest has been awarded his International Cap for Scotland in their match against Wales. He has been chosen to play on the wing, which is not his usual place, and this in itself is a testimony to his versatility. Further, Mr. Forrest has been elected by the Cambridge University Rugby Club as secretary for the ensuing year. We congratulate Mr. Forrest most heartily.

## The Dramatic Society Social

AT the end of term the Dramatic Society's entertainment took the form of two plays—a curtain raiser, "A Blank Cartridge," by Ian Hay, and a three-act drama, "The Fugitives," by Walter Hackett.

The scene of the former was laid in a Scottish mansion, recently purchased by an Englishman and would be Scottish laird, who was impatient to try his hand at the local shooting. The atmosphere of the play was one calculated to appeal to a Scottish cast and audience; but somehow it did not "get over." G. Carrie, as Robbie, looked the typical Highland gamekeeper: his mannerisms were excellent, but his witticisms were lost in the tangles of his beard! Consequently, the audience was left to guess much of what he was saying. T. Macfarlane, as the Englishman Smithson, started well, but later lost his poise and spoke so hurriedly that he, too, was difficult to follow. R. Peacock, as Farquhar, was more convincing, and was the envy of all from the moment he lit his cigarette. J. Scott, as Hilda, did quite well in a part which gave "her" little opportunity: her make-up was one of the masterpieces of the evening. H. Lowden (Elsbeth) gave a good initial performance, but shared the common failing of talking too fast, and further, spoke most of his lines to the stage floor. Altogether this play, which had great potentialities, was unconvincing: the audience was bewildered throughout at the subtleties of the plot and dialogue, while the humour was not sufficiently brought out to make it what it was intended to be—a farce.

"The Fugitives" was a much more ambitious production. Again the plot was difficult. I suggest that next year the Society choose a play not quite so involved as this, of cross purposes. An audience composed of fifty per cent. juveniles cannot follow easily the subtle changes and inferences of a play of this calibre. At the same time the slickness with which the play was put across, and the promptness with which cues were taken up by all concerned was most commendable, and reflected intensive rehearsal.

The "star" of the play was unquestionably J. Kelly as Captain Bowden. His make-up and acting of the part of a

garrulous old skipper was perfect: his every wink, nod and word was greeted with a storm of applause. One could almost smell the sea when he and his mate, Bert (K. Jack) were together.

Mr. Norton, as Tracy Eagan, had the most difficult part he has yet played at Strath.: he performed it in his own inimitable way. He had an admirable foil in N. Thomson, who after his perfect performance as the waiter in last year's production, must have been an automatic choice for a somewhat similar part this year. By now he must rank as one of Strath.'s best-hated villains! His character portrayal was so convincing that one felt almost sorry for him when ultimately thwarted by The Woman, a part by which K. Grant added a further triumph to his last year's performance. C. Turner (Rosa) showed considerable advance, and played the part of a mercurial waitress, crossed in love, with real Spanish fire. M. Gordon (Mrs. Beaumont) and J. Scott (Dolores) had more difficult roles, but came through the ordeal with colours flying. Cabana (V. Lowden) and Delmar (N. McLeod) looked the part of airmen in their smart uniforms, but they were scarcely so convincing in their acting: one felt that Delmar, having regard to the amount of whisky he consumed, would inevitably have talked a little more thickly, even incoherently, and be a little less steady on his feet.

Mr. Norton, in his brief speech at the close of the evening, rightly paid tribute to the work of the stage managers. The properties used looked remarkably well, and the speed with which the stage was transformed between the acts spoke volumes for the enterprise of F. Anderson, E. Nicolson, D. Hood and O. Stewart. Macdonald and his music-makers also deserve a bouquet for bridging these intervals: they received an acclamation from the School.

Again the plays made clear the indebtedness of the Society to Mr. Norton. Only work—and very hard work at that—could have resulted in such a really good evening's entertainment. The Society and School showed most emphatically in their cheers at the end how much they appreciated all he had done, L. P. W.



## The Production of a Newspaper

FEW people can have bought a "Penny Daily" without giving a thought to the tremendous work and amazing organisation entailed in its creation.

The production of a "National" daily paper, *i.e.*, one that circulates throughout the country, is one of the most interesting processes, and many who are fortunate enough to see the actual printing and all that leads up to it may well call it "one of the wonders of the world."

The first stage is the arrival of the news. This is obtained from various sources, chief among which are news agencies, special correspondents and reporters. Most of the larger newspapers are connected by private wire with some or all of the agencies, which transmit their own news over these wires, usually in Morse code. In the news room are many very clever machines for receiving these messages and translating them, if necessary, from Morse code to ordinary type. Also in this department are machines called Teleprinters (widely used by the Post Office for the sending of telegrams) which are like large typewriters, but worked electrically. These are connected by ordinary telephone wires with similar machines in branch offices all over the country, and while a man types out some news in, say, Newcastle, the same message is automatically typed out by the Teleprinter in the newsroom in London. The typed sheets of news received in this department are then passed on to the editorial department.

The special correspondents all over the world gather their news by enquiry or interview, and telephone or telegraph it direct to the editorial department. Reporters are sent out to get special information as required, and telephone or bring it back personally to this department. Special articles and other contributions are, naturally, prepared beforehand where possible.

Photographs play an important part in newspapers, and these are obtained from agencies and staff photographers, who send their pictures to the art and photo department. The heads here decide, in connection with the editorial department, which photographs are to be included in a particular issue, and what size each must be. The photographs are then enlarged or reduced to the allotted size and are printed in relief by a special process on metal composition plates. If a newspaper photograph is carefully examined, it will be seen to be made up of dots of various sizes. This is the only method by which it is possible to vary the shades; otherwise, in the actual printing of the newspaper only two distinct colours, black and white, could be obtained. Of all the processes in the photographic department, perhaps the method of reception of photos by wireless or ordinary telephone is the most interesting. The apparatus is, of course, very intricate and defies adequate description in non-technical language.

The editorial department, as the name implies, examines all the news items, decides what will be included, and how it must be set up or arranged. Although the news arrives uncensored, to-day, unfortunately, the "popular" newspapers are inclined to vary or alter it according to their political inclinations. Having been sub-edited and appropriate headlines allotted, each item of news is then handed to the composing department to be set up in type.

This department, what might be termed the second stage of production, consists partly of linotype machines, each of which has a keyboard similar to that of a typewriter, but instead of printing on paper, it drops the letters of each word required in the form of metal dies, into a kind of trough. Automatically the words of each line are spaced and form themselves into

the exact width of a column of a newspaper. As each line is completed, molten metal is poured into the trough by pressing a lever, thus taking a complete casting of the line. Each letter or die is then automatically returned to its own pigeon hole at the back of the machine in readiness for use in casting a following line. As each "story" is "set up" in this way, the castings of each line are handed to the "case-hands" who set them in a "frame" or "case," the size of a page of the newspaper. A "case" is made up for each page and contains also the photoplates and advertisement blocks received from the respective departments. At this point rough proofs are taken of each page and examined for mistakes. When the "cases" for each page are thus completed and passed as correct, "flongs," which are sheets of special composition resembling cardboard, are then pressed into each "case"; the result of this is that the contents of each page is engraved upon a "flong." The reason for this is that semi-circular castings which fit on the rollers of the rotary printing presses have to be made. To this end the "flongs" are then passed on to the third stage, the foundry department.

Here, the main equipment are large machines for smelting and taking castings of the "flongs." The metal used is composed mainly of lead for its low melting point, but contains other ingredients for the hardening process. The "flong," being flexible, is placed in a semi-circular trough into which the metal is run, allowed to cool, set, and then removed. The process is speeded up by a cold water jacket surrounding the mould. Each "flong" is dealt with in this way until castings or "plates" for each page of the newspaper have been prepared. These "plates" are then cut and trimmed of all foreign particles of metal and put on conveyors to the machine or press room, where the printing, or fourth stage, takes place.

The modern newspaper printing press is a huge complicated machine, occupying two floors of the building. The lower floor is used for the huge paper reels, containing, roughly, five miles of paper and weighing half a ton each, which are slung in moveable cradles, so that when the machine is running and the paper on one reel comes

towards its end, a new reel can be swung into position without actually stopping the running of the machine. The paper is led to the floor above and passes over rollers on which the foundry "plates" have been fixed. These rollers run in contact with inking rollers underneath, and a clever device keeps the amount of ink supplied to each roller constant and insufficient to cause blotting. The paper, having passed over the rollers necessary to print one page, both back and front, is led over a late news or stop press roller, through folders, cutters and counters, and finally emerges from the machine in a row, the last copy of each "quire" being set partially sideways. Newspapers are sold, usually, by the "quire," which amount to twenty-six or twenty-seven copies according to arrangements.

From the reel to the finished newspaper, this whole process is performed by one complete machine "unit." Each "unit" is capable of printing up to as many as 100,000 copies per hour, and is driven by electric motors and operated very simply by means of switches. Although these machine units are capable of such a tremendous output, time is an important factor, and high speeds are apt to cause breakages in the paper as it goes through the machine; therefore as many units are employed, running at a slower speed, as will produce a whole edition in about twenty minutes.

The newspapers pass from the machine room on conveyors to the publishing department, where they are counted out into required numbers, parcelled, addressed and placed in motor vans for conveyance to railway stations, to be rushed by train to newsagents throughout the country.

One final phase in the production of a newspaper needs some mention, and though it is mentioned last, it is by no means least in importance. This is the work of the advertising department, whose main duty is to obtain advertisements and arrange their layout in the paper. Without the revenue that accrues from these, it would be impossible to supply newspapers at anything like their present price. Thus advertisers, apart from informing readers of the goods they have for sale, render also a very definite service to the public.

M. B. S.

## Sports Notes

### RUGBY.

T. Macfarlane (Captain) and R. Peacock (Vice-Captain) were the only old Caps; but there were a number of others in the back division who had had experience of First Team games. The forwards appeared to be the chief problem, but they soon settled down into a moderately good pack, whereas the three-quarter line was a constant source of worry. There was a lack of good centres, and many experiments were made. Steel, H. Thomson, A. Watt, Binnie, Macfarlane and S. Scott were all tried in turn. Steel eventually moved to scrum half because Macnaughton failed to reproduce last season's form, and there he played well and improved as time went on. His partner, Anderson, proved to be the chief scorer, but this was due to his ability to drop goals. He is rather slow and overdoes a negative kind of kicking. The three-quarter line eventually was composed of four wingers — a sorry state of affairs. As a result we crossed our opponents' line in only one game, that against Melville college, when the threes did show real combination. The defence, however, was sound, and Macfarlane and N. Thomson excelled in this respect.

In the forwards the outstanding players were Carrie and Peacock. The latter was not quite so brilliant as he was last year, but was untiring in his efforts and led the pack well. Kelly was the best of the others, but he was unfortunately out of the game for some matches. Macdonald played some good games; and Jack, in spite of his lack of inches, was good, and filled the position of hooker with satisfaction.

Stewart gained his place at full back and soon settled down to playing a sound game in a position new to him.

The result, on the whole, cannot be said to have been very satisfactory:—P. 9, W. 3, L. 6, D. 0; Pts. for, 42; Pts. against, 72.

**Strathallan v. Aberdeen G.S.**, played at Aberdeen on Saturday, October 2nd.

The School was somewhat unfortunate to be ten points down at half-time in their opening game. The home side gained an early score by means of a drop goal, but the visitors were having a fair share of the

play, and N. Thomson was unlucky when he knocked on in trying to pick up the ball for a certain try, having made a fine dribble right down to the line. An unconverted try by the home left three-quarter, who beat at least six of the opposition in his run, and a penalty goal completed the scoring in the first half. Aberdeen showed a definite superiority in the second half, gradually wearing down the School defence. Play, indeed, was rarely out of the School half, but success in the tight at critical moments, coupled with a dour defence and covering work, restricted the scoring to another try and a penalty goal.

The forwards were overplayed by a fitter pack, and were never in the picture in the line-outs and loose scrums; in the set scrums play was satisfactory. The halves, though handicapped by the indifferent forward play, were slow and did not make full use of the opportunities provided. As a result, the three-quarters never had a real attacking movement. Scott, at full back, played a sound game and showed signs of developing with more experience. Peacock tried hard to rally his forwards and played a good game himself; of the others, Milroy, converted from his position as full back, was most prominent.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Aberdeen G.S., 16 pts.

**Strathallan v. Melville College**, played at Forgandenny on Saturday, October 9th.

The backs were re-arranged for this game, Steel moving to stand-off half and Watt coming in at centre. The team got off the mark well with an early score by Steel, which H. Thomson converted. The visitors replied with an unconverted try by the left wing three, who showed a fine turn of speed. Strath. came back to the attack, Watt making an opening for Macfarlane to score at the corner. In the second half the School was well on top, and N. Thomson scored two good tries by following up two kicks ahead. Towards the end Macalister forced his way over. H. Thomson converted one of these tries.

The team as a whole showed greatly improved form, the forwards providing the backs with many opportunities from both set and loose scrums. In the line-out, however, we seldom gained possession, for here the tall visiting eight excelled. In spite of his lack of weight and height, Jack was often prominent, his dribbling being particularly good. Kelly was untiring in his efforts, and Peacock was always on the ball. With a better service from the scrum, the backs showed more thrust, N. Thomson making some good runs on the wing. The chief faults were weak defence in the centre and uncertain handling. Steel was good as an individual but was rather slow in opening up the game.

Result: Strathallan, 19 pts.; Melville College, 3 pts.

**Strathallan v. Robert Gordon's College,**  
played at Forgardenny on Saturday,  
October 16th.

Two changes had to be made for this game. Anderson took his place at stand-off half and J. T. Paton deputised for Kelly in the pack. The game must have been one of the poorest seen for many years. The form of the School was too bad to be true. The visitors were not good, being young and inexperienced, but they deserved to win because they introduced more variety into their game. Strath. played a negative sort of game, and showed no idea of constructive play. Macnaughton and Anderson were poor, and their one aim seemed to be to kick the ball into touch as soon as possible, and consequently the three-quarters did not get a single chance to attack. Scott, at full back, made frequent mistakes, and it was fortunate that Gordon's only took advantage of one of them to score a converted try.

The forwards were outplayed, but provided the backs with enough opportunities to win the game. Peacock, Macdonald, Macalister and Carrie were the best of the pack.

Result: Strathallan, nil; R. Gordon's College, 5 pts.

**Strathallan v. Cupar,** played at Forgardenny on Tuesday, October 19th.

Cupar brought up a strong team, with heavy forwards and fast and clever backs.

The game was of a higher standard than the previous one, but most of the good play came from the visitors, whose backs were vastly superior and gave the School what should have been an object lesson in three-quarter play. The home backs were poor. Macnaughton gave the worst display of all, and seemed quite at a loss to know what to do with the ball. This handicapped Anderson and the three-quarters; but does not altogether exonerate them from blame, since their defence was very weak.

There were, however, two pleasing features of the game from the School's point of view. Stewart was a distinct success at full back, and on his form solved one of the problems in team building. In addition, the forwards were really good, and towards the end of the game completely outplayed their heavier opponents. Jack hooked well, and Peacock, Carrie and Macdonald played excellent games. Cupar scored two goals, two tries and a penalty goal.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Cupar, 19 pts.

**Strathallan v. Surgeons' Hall A.C.** Played  
at Forgardenny on Wednesday, October  
27th.

After the previous poor displays, changes among the backs were inevitable. Macfarlane moved into the centre, Scott taking his position on the wing; and Steel displaced Macnaughton at scrum half. The forwards were strengthened by Kelly's return. The first half was uninteresting, although there were early scores. Anderson gave the School the lead with a dropped goal; but almost immediately the visitors were awarded a penalty, and the ball, rebounding from the post, was snapped up by a forward who went over for an unconverted try. In the second half play was scrappy for some time, but in the last fifteen minutes Strath. was well on top, but could not push home the advantage, and during this period of pressure the visitors scored from a break away to take the lead.

The backs showed their capabilities, but also their limitations, since while they looked dangerous when in possession, they were unable to finish off their efforts with tries. The greatest improvement was at the base of the scrum, where Steel played well and got the ball away cleanly, as well

as made some good individual efforts; but Anderson was slow in his movements and in opening up the game. The centres, too, were not free from blame, since they tried to break through by using brute force instead of subtlety. The forwards played their usual sound game.

Result: Strathallan, 4 pts.; Surgeons' Hall, 6 pts.

**Strathallan v. Dunfermline H.S.**, played at Forgandenny on Saturday, October 30th.

Further experiments were made with the three-quarters in this game, Binnie being brought into the centre, and H. Thomson moving on to the wing. The ground was in a bad condition and was very heavy; as a result play was mostly confined to the forwards. The packs were evenly matched, with the School just a little better than the visitors. All the forwards worked hard, and it was difficult to pick out an outstanding player. Steel and Anderson combined well, and their handling was good considering the greasy nature of the ball. Stewart was safe at full back under most trying circumstances. The three-quarters wasted enough chances to warrant criticism.

There was no scoring in the first half, and there looked little possibility of any other result than a draw, when Anderson dropped a good goal after some half dozen unsuccessful attempts.

Result: Strathallan, 4 pts.; Dunfermline H.S., nil.

**Strathallan v. Edinburgh Medicals**, played at Forgandenny on Wednesday, November 3rd.

The School fielded an unchanged team; but the visitors were bigger, and the heavy state of the ground was in their favour. The School pack, however, held their own against their heavier opponents; but the Medicals showed distinct superiority in back play, where they were faster, cleverer and more certain in their handling than the School. Binnie proved that he was too slow both in defence and attack, and his man was able to run round him easily. He reduced the speed of the line as a whole, and the School threes never looked dangerous.

The Medicals scored two tries in each half, and two of them were converted. Anderson failed to score his customary goal, and the School left the field pointless.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Edinburgh Medicals, 16 pts.

**Strathallan v. Old Strathallians**, played at Forgandenny on Saturday, November 6th.

Watt returned to the side, playing on the wing, while H. Thomson moved in to Binnie's position. Donaldson came into the pack for Milroy, who was injured. The Old Boys did not field a strong side; and the fact that we were unable to cross their line revealed the dreadful weakness of the School backs in attack. The scoring was made up of a penalty goal by H. Thomson and two dropped goals by Anderson. The School forwards played below their usual standard, and showed no better combination than the scratch F.P. pack; but they played their customary hard game and gained a fair share of the ball. Steel played well at the base of the scrum, and Anderson opened up the game better, but still delayed his passes. Macfarlane and H. Thomson showed more thrust and did break through at times, but the final pass was either lacking or went astray. On the run of the play we were worthy winners and deserved to have at least one try; but it seems that spectators must wait a little (?) longer for that.

Result: Strathallan, 11 pts.; Old Strathallians, nil.

**Strathallan v. Allan Glen's School**, to have been played in Glasgow on Saturday, November 13th, was scratched owing to the hard state of the ground.

**Strathallan v. Heriot's School**, played at Edinburgh on Saturday, November 20th.

Owing to the unsatisfactory displays of the three-quarters, L. Scott was introduced again into the side, this time at centre, H. Thomson moving on to the wing, where his displays have been more creditable. Milroy returned to the pack.

The game developed into a battle between the home attack and the School defence, since the School had very few opportunities

in attack. In the first half Heriot's did not seem to have settled down, and faulty handling, combined with some fine tackling, kept them from scoring until just before half time. Anderson had previously dropped a good goal, so that half time came with the School a point in front. Afterwards, however, Heriot's gradually asserted their superiority and made better use of the opportunities provided by the forwards, and bursts through the centre saw two goals scored in addition to a dropped goal.

Macfarlane put in some heroic defensive work, and N. Thomson was very sound. Steel was nippy at the base of the scrum and frequently worried his opposite number with his spoiling tactics. Stewart,

on the other hand, was not up to his usual form and was frequently caught out of position. The other backs were moderate but had bad lapses. In the set scrums, Jack gained possession at times, but the ball was sticking, and the slow heeling hampered the backs. In the loose the forwards indulged in some good relief rushes, in which Carrie was outstanding. Peacock, Milroy and Brown were also prominent.

Result: Strathallan, 4 pts.; Heriot's School, 17 pts.

**Strathallan v. Glasgow Academy**, to have been played at Glasgow on Saturday, December 11th, was cancelled owing to snow.

## Scout Notes

THIS term the spirit of keenness noted last term in these notes among the younger members of the Troop has been well maintained: it has shown practical form in the numerous new gadgets and devices which are gradually taking form in the Patrol Corners in the Hut. The Court of Honour decided that in view of the many demands made elsewhere upon Patrol Leaders and Senior Scouts, the judging and presentation of trophies should be postponed until the end of the Easter term. It is, therefore, impossible at the time of writing to say precisely how the completed corners are going to look. Some patrols—particularly the Seals and Otters—are making very far-reaching changes which should greatly improve their prospects in the inter-Patrol Competition. The Seals have made an innovation in the form of a totem pole, which is in the process of being carved and is to be set up outside the hut.

This term we welcomed a visit from the District Commissioner (Major A. Baillie). He came unexpectedly one Saturday morning and found the Troop busily engaged in 1st and 2nd Class Cooking. He gave many helpful hints, examined the hut,

and expressed himself very satisfied with all he saw.

At the beginning of the term we were glad to hear that Mr. Lewis belonged to the Cambridge University Rover Scout Crew. Whenever his House duties permitted, he has assisted us in many ways, taking tests and classes. In view of the swollen numbers of the Troop at present, his assistance is very, very welcome. We extend to him and to all other members of the Staff who have helped the Troop this term our grateful thanks.

The programme this term has aimed at completing as many 1st Class Tests as possible, with a view to increasing the number of First Class Scouts in the Troop. All the 1st Class Tests—except Signalling and the Journey—have been held; and most of those who took part in them passed, but it is to be regretted that more did not avail themselves of the opportunity of attempting them.

Nearly twenty new members joined us this term, many of them from other Troops; we extend to them a hearty welcome. Six Tenderfeet passed their tests; but owing to the inclement weather their investiture has been held over till the Spring term.

L. P. W.

## Strathallian Club

Telephone: Central 794.  
Telegrams: "Defence."

Hon. President - H. RILEY, Esq.  
President - D. J. BOGIE, Esq.  
Vice-President - ROBERT BARR, jun., Esq.



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

Trustees:  
D. J. BOGIE, Esq., C.A., and H. RILEY, Esq.  
Auditors:  
J. C. McGEACHY, C.A., and  
W. M. SHANKS, C.A.

Minute of Eleventh Annual General Meeting held within St. Enoch Station Hotel, Glasgow, on Saturday, 18th December, 1937, at 6.15 p.m.  
President—W. A. C. Lambie, Esq.

THE Minute of the Tenth Annual General Meeting, dated 19th December, 1936, was read and approved.

The Treasurer submitted the Financial Statement for the year ended 30th November, 1937, which was duly approved.

The Treasurer was authorised to remit to the Trustees £94 6s. 6d. for investment.

The Chairman intimated that applications for membership had been received from 36 gentlemen (25 Life and 11 Ordinary). The meeting duly admitted these gentlemen as Members of the Club.

The Chairman then gave a summary of the year's activities of the Club.

The Chairman intimated that the Office-Bearers for 1938 and three Members of Council required to be elected. The following were elected:—

Hon. President: H. Riley, Esq.  
President: D. J. Bogie, Esq.  
Vice-President: Robert Barr, jun., Esq.  
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:  
J. B. Maitland Cowan, Esq.

Auditors:  
Messrs. J. C. MacGeachy, C.A., and  
Wm. M. Shanks, C.A.

Members of Council  
(retiring 1940):  
Messrs. Archibald Barr,  
James Findlay,  
W. J. Steel.

The Chairman moved that the Secretary be granted an honorarium of £15 15s., and the meeting duly approved.

The Chairman intimated that the Fifth Annual Dance would be held in the Burlington House, Glasgow, on 4th February, 1938, and that circulars would be sent out in due course re same.

The Secretary intimated that the following Motions had been received:—

- (1) *By the Council*:—That the Ordinary Membership subscription be increased from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per annum.
- (2) *By Mr. Robert Barr, jun., seconded by Mr. Samuel Dow*:—That the Life Membership fee be increased, so that the annual interest therefrom covers the expense per annum of such Member.

The Motions were duly moved and seconded.

After discussion, a vote was taken, when the first Motion was carried by a two-thirds majority. The second Motion was defeated, having failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority, in terms of the Constitution.

The Chairman intimated that a new supply of Life Membership Certificates had been obtained, and that the Council were of opinion that same should be duly impressed with a Club Seal. Mr. Riley had offered to donate to the Club a Seal, to which the Council had agreed. The Chairman thanked Mr. Riley for his generous offer.

Mr. D. J. Bogie moved that the Tie be altered so as to be more suitable for business wear as, in his opinion, the colouring was rather bright. Mr. George B. Smith moved that the Tie be not altered. A vote was taken, the majority being in favour of retaining the present Tie.

The Chairman intimated that Mr. Riley had donated medals to the Club for the past Presidents, and at a recent meeting of Council it had been agreed to present Mr. Riley with the first medal. The Chairman then presented the medal to Mr. Riley.

The Chairman asked Mr. Riley to present the past Presidents with their medals, which he graciously did.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

## Old Boys' News

MANY generations of Strathallians will hear with very deep regret of the passing of Mr. Bonthrone of Falkland, the father of Messrs. Alec and Gaston Bonthrone. For many years he brought up a cricket eleven to play the School, and winning or losing he always had a cheery smile and a few words of encouragement for members of the School Eleven when they went out to bat. Very few realised that Mr. Bonthrone who was so human and so genial, was a man occupying some of the highest public positions in the Kingdom of Fife, and when the last honours were paid to him there were representatives from practically every public body. We record our deepest sympathy with the bereaved.

School life has its funny side and O.S. will probably smile when they read the following incidents that occurred last term.

Most of us remember that at School we had slang terms which we applied to all and sundry from the Headmaster right down to the house cat, some of which in after days when we come to think over them were most appropriate and many of them very amusing. An order was passed up to one of the serving tables the other day which completely nonplussed the master in charge when he was asked for a "large skinny rice." It was only after consultation with one of the boys that he was able to supply the demand, for he felt someone was trying to pull his leg or very politely to say bad things about the rice pudding, and neither was the case. We had another very amusing incident this last term when the Headmaster came across two members of the Grub Room who were out by themselves on the Sunday afternoon walk. It had been raining heavily the whole of the previous day and these two hopefuls were stretched out full length on the wet ground on the roadside. There was the usual "ticking off", together with warnings about chills, rheumatism and pneumonia, which were gravely listened to but thoroughly laughed at immediately the Headmaster had departed. Three days

later one of the two paid a visit to the Nurse's surgery with the story that he thought he had strained his back at rugby, but unfortunately for him someone else had been there first and had warned the Nurse that either or both of the two might be complaining. We think the Doctor must have been drawn into this conspiracy for he duly ordered a mustard plaster to be applied in the form of a kind of rearguard action. The victim's classmates got to know about it and we are afraid he had to put up with a considerable amount of good-natured chaff over and above anything else. If ever he joins the territorials there will be one part of military strategy with which he will be able to claim full acquaintance—ditches and rearguard actions.

The housemasters' patrol round the house is not infrequently relieved by humorous episodes, and one that occurred quite recently can certainly be described as being rather funny. It was in the morning before the bell, in one of the kiddies' dormitories from which rather unusual noises were emanating. As the master opened the door a very unusual scene unfolded itself—one boy was stood on the chest of drawers; two others were rolled in a bundle with bedclothes; another one was peeping out from underneath a bed and, of course, as the master walked in they were simply petrified. At last a voice in rather injured tones came from the top of the chest of drawers, "Please, sir, we're only playing pirates." After a moment's hesitation the master, bending down to pick up a slipper, shouted "Righto! I'll be the British navy." In a twinkling those kiddies had sized up the situation and betrayed an excellent knowledge of British history, for long before the guns could be trained upon them they were safely tucked between the bedclothes. The British navy had been late again.

Mr. David Fulton, of Glasgow, who recently obtained his Civil Engineers' Preliminary examination at School, is now serving his apprenticeship and continuing his studies at the Technical College.



Mr. W. Snodgrass, who has been doing part of his practical work with Metro-Vickers in Manchester, is now back in Glasgow carrying on his B.Sc. studies. At present he is playing hockey regularly for Bridge of Weir, and he seems to be one of the "first fruits" of our attempts to develop hockey as a school game. We notice two other Strathallians, Messrs. R. A. Wilson and D. Fulton, figuring in one of the Rutherglen sides; we think it was the 2nd. As time goes on, more and more boys will come out from School accomplished hockey players, for the game is taken up with great enthusiasm amongst the younger boys and as they grow older they do not in any way lose their keenness, although, of course, rugger always takes first place.

There was an excellent turnout of Old Boys for the rugger match with the School, and it was hardly possible to park any further cars in front of the cloakroom entrance. There were several members who had not been up to School for over ten years, and more often than usual there were animated pow wows taking place at various places in the house and grounds. The new Schoolrooms and Laboratories and Workshop were very favourably commented upon, but it was the new Bathroom that brought forth the loudest words of praise. Two or three of the more enthusiastic rugger players went over the new rugger ground which is nearing completion and were critical of the efficiency of the drainage, a point which the School authorities are keeping well in mind. Generally the plan that has been adopted has been to lay the turf like a cricket ground, putting down only two or three main drains, so that after careful observation throughout the whole winter a scheme of drainage may be drawn up as a result of practical experience of conditions as they are likely to be during the rugger season. When this has been completed, there is little doubt that the playing pitch will rank as one of the finest in Scottish schools. After the match several of the younger members of the Club stayed behind for the talkie show during the evening, which apart from male voices being recorded in rather a low register was pronounced to be a success, and about eight members

stayed overnight at hotels in the district and returned on Sunday to make a more minute inspection and to renew acquaintances with some of their friends at School. Before the game, when there was a general kick about in front of the posts, many of the present pupils looked with wide-open eyes as Messrs. Lambie, Reid, and one or two others were dropping goals from all sorts of angles in effortless fashion, although one or two of the older ones remarked that one member of the Club, perhaps the most famous of our goal kickers, "can still pick up the ball with one hand but he hasn't put a single one over this time." The result of the game was eleven points to nil in favour of the School. Two dropped goals and a penalty goal made up the points, and although the School fully deserved to win, yet everyone felt that had the Club been stronger behind the scrum the result might have been different for never in the history of these games did the Club forwards supply their backs more regularly with the ball.

Mr. James Diack, who is living at Esher in Surrey, is still with Messrs. Balfour, Williamson & Company of Gracechurch Street, London, where he has been for the last eight years. Mr. Diack is now concerned chiefly with the buying side of this business which, in view of the firm's very large export trade to America, must afford a valuable experience as well as call for a shouldering of a considerable amount of responsibility. Many Strathallians joined this firm, including Messrs. Mount, Campbell, Bonthron, Nimmo, Douglas, Motion, and Tony Reid, and all except the latter, who is still at Lima in Peru, have branched out into other walks of life. Mr. Willie Mount is now the director-owner of the Essex Crackers Ltd., which has its premises in Dagenham, Essex, and from what we hear the business seems to be flourishing. Mr. Campbell is with Pullars of Perth as a technical expert, while Mr. A. Bonthron is now in charge of three factories in the Fife district turning out malt. On his father's death he found it necessary to relinquish his appointment with the India Tyre Co. Ltd. Mr. Nimmo is engaged in the theatrical profession, while Mr. Norman Douglas has taken up

insurance with the General Accident Company in Perth. Mr. Jimmy Motion, who was trained in the timber department of this old established firm and who occupied a very responsible position with Messrs. Flattau Dick & Company of London, unfortunately passed away, while his brother Willie, who was trained chiefly in the grain department, has now developed a considerable business of his own in Chile. How true "Man proposes, God disposes," for these paths outwards from a common centre could have hardly been more divergent.

Not all fellows who have had the privilege of playing in 1st XI matches at School have had the opportunity of realising how grand English village cricket can be. Mr. Diack made this discovery when playing for one of the "wandering" London teams visiting the villages on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. "Grand cricket and not taken too seriously" is his verdict, "and you will be surprised to know that I have now developed as a bowler and only on odd occasions do I manage to collect twenty odd runs or so." Things were rather the other way about at School, since Mr. Diack was one of the opening batsmen and only rarely was called upon to bowl.

Many of the London rugger clubs claim Strathallians amongst their members, and it is only just recently that it has been brought to our notice that the Finchley club contains three O.S.'s who took a prominent part in the 1st XV matches at School. They are Messrs. E. Sinclair, Constable and A. Melville.

Mr. Willie McLaughlin of Victoria Park, Londonderry, who was taking a course of veterinary surgery at the Royal Dick College, has now returned to Londonderry, where, owing to the death of one of the partners in his father's business, his services are now required. His veterinary experience should come in very valuable, since in Northern Ireland the Government exercise a close supervision over all those engaged in the pork and bacon industry. Very few O.S. find their way into Ulster except on holiday, and Mr. McLaughlin

tells us that he came across Mr. Hamish Mason and his fiancée, "a most charming young lady." He deplores the fact that he is unable to get hold of the results of the School games, and he recalls the pride which he felt at the School's effort to break the Heriot's ground record two seasons ago, where he says "everyone agreed that we took the honours in that game." Certainly we shall have to do something to ensure that School games receive a wider publicity.

Mr. Denis Hays, who writes from Jacey Buildings, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, tells us that he is now stationed at Dunlop's headquarters and has been there for nearly three years. He recalls that it is now fifteen years since he left Strathallan. He has been on the sales side of Dunlopillo Cushioning, with which most of us are familiar, and in April last he was appointed manager of the department. Naturally, he is very proud of the product and of the way in which its uses in life are expanding. "Running the department is hard work, but grand fun and very interesting and, of course, with a new product like this, full of possibilities." When a fellow discovers that hard work is grand fun he has made an epoch-making discovery. It is strange how small the world really is, for Mr. Hays is sharing a flat with an old Dundee High School boy who knows quite a number of Strathallians from Dundee and district; Messrs. W. Scott, J. Carmichael and D. Smith, and a few others, are numbered amongst his acquaintances. If any of these gentlemen are really curious, Mr. Hays would very much welcome a letter from them, and would enlighten them as to their mutual friend's identity.

Strathallians of 1922-27 will remember Mr. Cyril L. Thomson of Wormit, Fifeshire, as one of themselves. Mr. Thomson, now a Life Member of the Old Boys' Club, looks back with great interest to these old days seemingly so far distant, and envies the present generation of schoolboys, particularly their fine grubroom comparing so favourably by contrast to the one he used to live in himself eleven years ago. Since leaving School, Mr. Thomson has studied the science of optics in detail and has qualified with the necessary certificates as

a consulting optician. He is now senior partner of the firm of Messrs. Lennie & Thomson of Dundee, an old established firm of opticians in the Dundee neighbourhood. In business circles in that city he is becoming increasingly well known, and for the last two years has been the youngest member of the Dundee Rotary Club. Nevertheless, the "youngest member" entertained his fellow Rotarians recently with a paper entitled "The Story of a Pair of Spectacles," the lecture everywhere being much appreciated. We wish him every success in his business career.

Strathallians of the same period will also remember Mr. Ian Christie of Glasgow. Owing to business reasons, Mr. Christie's visits to Forgandenny neighbourhood since leaving School have been somewhat few, but he retains his old interest in the School and as a member of the Strathallian Club is able sometimes to renew old friendships at the annual dinner. Mr. Christie is now a fully qualified chartered accountant, and is employed in that capacity by the well known Glasgow firm of Messrs. George Stark & Sons (1934) Ltd., owners of the Grove Park Paper Mills. Strathallians will be very interested to know that Mr. Christie, in company with so many others, has left the company of the "bachelor" young bloods, this desertion having taken place over two years ago, and we congratulate Mr. Christie on being the father of two baby girls, the younger of the two having just been born in December, 1937.

It isn't often that we find Mr. George Balfour's name in the headlines with regard to rugger, although he generally is considered as being one of the best forwards in the Jedforest and Edinburgh University sides. But in the game between the 'varsity and Durham Mr. Balfour converted both tries and kicked a penalty goal; this will not surprise those who played with him in the School 2nd XV, where he was the recognised place kicker.

Another Strathallian is leaving for abroad practically immediately. He is Mr. George Aitkenhead, who is employed by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. He is

going to Colombo for his bank and no doubt there he will come in contact with Mr. Willie Thomson and Mr. W. D. Morrison. Any help these gentlemen are able to give him will undoubtedly be very much appreciated. The bank's rugger side has done very well this year under the captaincy of Mr. Aitkenhead, and we believe that in their match with the National Bank of India there would be two brothers from Strathallan on opposing sides in spite of the fact that Mr. Bobby Aitkenhead, who plays for the latter bank, is not really a member of its staff. He, along with Mr. Jack Beatson, is in the London office of Messrs. Steel Brothers.

We had a most interesting hour's chat at lunch with Mr. Bryden Scott who is a chartered accountant on the audit staff in the "Daily Mail" offices. Mr. Scott is most interested in the managerial side of the newspaper which appears to be a very complicated business indeed calling for the highest executive qualities. There are two or three Strathallians who have attained to positions of this nature and perhaps they may care to write to Mr. Scott, whose address is 68 Empire Court, Northend Road, Wembley.

It was with great regret that we were not able to arrange a date suitable for all concerned for a dinner in London. Mr. Riley was unable to offer a choice of more than two or three dates, and each of these was found to be unsuitable to some or other of the London members, but it is hoped that another attempt will be made during the Easter vacation to carry out this idea—perhaps this time with complete success.

Judging by the nature of the cheers in the stand at Myreside, Edinburgh, during the match between Watsonians and the unofficial trial side, it is quite evident that there were many Strathallians present. We had three players in the side, Messrs. Forrest, Gillanders and Mackenzie, each of whom played a good game. The loudest cheers which came from all parts of the ground were given when Mr. Forrest scored what could really be called a dazzling try. Mr. Gillanders got over the line with the ball after beating the Internationalist Dryden and seemed a

certain scorer but, unfortunately, it was knocked out of his hand when he had crossed the line, and shouts of "Hard luck, Aggy," showed the presence of many who must have known him at school.

Another of our rugby stars visited Raeburn Place, where the London Scottish were playing against Edinburgh Academicals. Mr. R. W. Dunn scored a great try, leaving the whole defence spread-eagled. Indeed, he actually walked under the post to place the ball down.

We have very great pleasure in recording the success of Mr. Charlie McLay in passing the Primary Fellowship Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. Those who know this examination realise that it is an excellent achievement for one who is qualifying in what must be the minimum time allowed after taking the first medical degree.

We have an interesting letter from Mr. John Balfour, who is out in the Argentine, farming. He met Mr. Harry Forbes, who used to reside in Aberdeenshire, and he, too, is farming in that Republic, about ninety miles away from the Balfours. The English cricket team which is touring the Argentine has arranged to play a match against Mr. Balfour's club, and it will be interesting to hear how he fares against really first-class bowling. Mr. Balfour has had one or two good scores, but those of his generation will realise that it is not politic to remind him of a certain match against Aberdeen Grammar School when the Colt XI were all out for five on that occasion.

Not many of the universities and colleges in Britain are so considerate towards schools as the Royal Dick Veterinary College of Edinburgh, who send us a very polite and welcome intimation that Mr. Gordon Reay, of Montrose, has passed the Fourth Professional examination in the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. We offer our congratulations to Mr. Reay.

Selectors of the Scottish Schoolboys' side are now beginning to wake up. This body has intimate connections with the London Scottish side, where Messrs. R. W. Dunn and J. G. S. Forrest have figured as centre three-quarters. These people have asked

for likely members of the School XV to be put forward for consideration for the unofficial schoolboys' international game—a step in the right direction for all concerned.

Many London Strathallians will be pleased to hear that Mr. C. E. L. Anderson has been appointed office manager and accountant in one of the Trust Companies in London. His office is situated in New Broad Street, London, E.C.

We had news of Mr. Stevenson, of Kilmarnock, the other day, which informs us that he has taken an appointment with Messrs. McLure & McIntosh, the hosiery people, in Glasgow. His friend, Mr. Douglas Gardner, who was with Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Kilmarnock, the famous water engineers, is now completing his training at the technical college in Glasgow.

Mr. Millen Farrell, who is serving his time as an engineer upon one of the liners belonging to the White Star Company, has arrived in this country from China.

We hear that Mr. Jack Miller, of Glasgow, has returned to the West Coast of Africa on behalf of his firm, the Unilever Company.

Mr. John Ballantyne, who is with the L.M.S. Railway Company, is now relieving the railway agent at Troon Harbour. He has had a very wide experience of railway work for one so young, and in the course of his duties while acting as stationmaster at Neilston, he came across Mr. Jackie Crawford, who is serving an apprenticeship as an engineer with the L.M.S. Railway Company at St. Rollox.

Mr. Willie Falconer is engaged in his father's business, manufacturing soaps, oils and compounds, and is at present acting as traveller in the Glasgow district. His firm supplied the lubricating material for the launching of the Queen Mary—about twenty-five tons in all—and we seem to remember that when the newspapers were giving an account of the great size of the ship, they stated that between 200 and 250 tons of this material were used to allow it to run from the slipway into the river. We have often wondered what the division factor should be to be applied to

newspaper statements which pass as true. According to this, it is somewhere in the region of ten. So now you know.

It is a considerable time since we had any news of Mr. Alastair Montgomerie, who was taking Economics and Law at Cambridge and who captained the Cambridge Eskimo Ice Hockey team, but we have it on good authority that he is now with his father's firm, the Bermaline people, learning the practical side of the business.

Mr. Bertie Lindsay, of Perth, who is studying to be a chartered accountant, is now with Messrs. Mann, Judd & Gordon, of Glasgow. On one occasion when out auditing one of his firm's clients' books, two people at least received a pleasant surprise—Mr. Willie Falconer was receiving the auditors!

Once or twice we have been asked about the two brothers Wilson from Dalry. Mr. Adam Wilson is now assisting his father in the management of their timber business, while Mr. Findlay Wilson, the younger brother, is with one of the large stock-broking firms in Glasgow.

Brown's Nautical Almanac figures in the lives of several Old Strathallians, and it may interest them to know that this very valuable book is produced in Glasgow by the firm with which Mr. Ingram Brown is intimately connected. We believe that Mr. Ruthven Brown, his younger brother, is engaged with one of the large Glasgow advertising agencies.

Mr. Neil Gillanders, who figured in the Scotland side during the first half of the final rugby trial game at Murrayfield, must have felt great embarrassment when he was called upon to take the field after the injury to Dryden, the international wing three-quarter. Owing to the latter's injury it was impossible to remove his jersey, and as there seemed to be a shortage of these articles, Mr. Gillanders had to take the field in the very bright purple jersey of Panmure. We don't know exactly how he felt, but he certainly looked distinguished! He made no mistakes and acquitted himself quite well. His opportunity should come.

Mr. Hubert Gilmour, formerly of Troon, is now engaged with his father conducting

a hotel in the Channel Islands at Woodside Cheer, St. Peter, Guernsey. To those who have no knowledge of the Channel Islands with their strange customs probably handed down from the days of the Norman kings, a chat with Mr. Gilmour would prove most interesting, and perhaps not the least interesting fact that he brought to our notice was that the Governor of the Island, Lord Ruthven of Freeland, was the former owner of what is now Strathallan School and its estates. If you should meet Mr. Gilmour and have a few minutes to spare, get him to tell you of the peculiar usages which he has come across there.

We note that Mr. Harley Hepburn, who has established a successful practice as a C.A. in Kirkcaldy, has recently had a further addition to his family. He is now the father of three boys.

There was also an announcement in one of the Edinburgh papers of the marriage of Mr. Arthur Easterbrook, who is a C.A. We regret that we have not further particulars to hand.

We were very pleased to see Messrs. Wilfred and Leonard Galloway at the Old Boys' match and we learned on that occasion that Mr. Wilfred is secretary to the firm of Messrs. J. K. Mearns & Co. of Dundee. In 1932 he married Miss Annie K. Mearns and there are two children—a boy and a girl.

We notice in the papers the announcement of the engagement of Mr. David Wood of Perth to Miss Jeanette Bramwell Burton of Kirkella, Yorkshire.

We congratulate Mr. Archie Barr on his appointment as a director of Messrs. McNaughtan & Sinclair, 29 Cadogan Street, Glasgow.

We note from the "London Gazette" that Mr. G. B. Smith, Past President of the Club, has been promoted to the rank of Captain, 76th (Highland) Field Brigade, as and from 2nd November, 1937.

We are informed that Mr. R. D. Linton is now employed with the Blackburn Aircraft Works at their Dumbarton Works. We understand that he holds a responsible position in the Production Department.

Mr. J. Fred Stewart, of Broughty Ferry, was another very welcome visitor to the School during this last term. He is a director of one of the Dundee jute firms—Messrs. J. McKenzie Stewart & Company, Ltd., a position for which he had an excellent training in London, Calcutta and Dundee. He played rugger for a time with the Dundee High School F.P.'s 1st XV, but after getting married in 1933 he has confined his activities to tennis and is a regular playing member of the Monifieth Lawn Tennis Club, of which he is Vice-President. He has a little daughter just over two years of age.

### From our St. Andrews University Correspondent.

There is very little to report from this University at this time of the year beyond the fact that Strathallians are going forward with their work for their examinations in June. Mr. J. L. Fleming, who has been out of the rugger side for a considerable time owing to an accident, is now back again in his old place in the 1st XV. He takes his medical finals in June.

### From our Edinburgh University Correspondent.

The Edinburgh-Borderer team this last term has from time to time contained two Strathallians, Mr. J. H. Drummond and Mr. Lindsay Campbell. Mr. Jack Breckenridge has again proved the mainstay of his ward team in the inter-ward rugger matches and in the semi-final scored ten out of his side's sixteen points. The 'varsity rugger side, which contains Messrs. Breckenridge and Balfour, had a tour down South to London and Cambridge, and in the match with Cambridge University where we were beaten by a very large margin the chief cause of our downfall was another Old Strathallian, Mr. J. G. S. Forrest. We were all very sorry that the match between the School and the Cambridge team was put off for two or three of us had arranged to fill in the gaps in the Cambridge side. From an academic point of view I am glad to record that Dr.

John Ross has been successful in passing the first part of his M.D. examination, and that Mr. George Balfour has been appointed one of the demonstrators in pathology to third year students. May I take this opportunity of sending greetings and best wishes for 1938 to all Strathallians?

### From our Glasgow University Correspondent.

I am afraid I have not very much to report this term except that perhaps in spite of the University's poor record on the rugger field, the three Strathallians engaged in the side have given quite a good account of themselves. There are about twenty of us scattered over the faculties of medicine, law and engineering with, of course, the greatest number on the medical side, and if we were to include the occasional C.A. students taking their lectures in accountancy and law and those engaged in law offices who are taking a lecture a day for their LL.B. degree, we should number in all about thirty, which I think is something of a record for Strathallians at this University. There are no examination results to record this term, and at the moment we are all very busy trying to compel the citizens of Glasgow to part with their money in support of Charities' Day.

### From our Cambridge University Correspondent.

We have now twelve Strathallians in residence here, the largest number there has been at one time. We have met on occasions for lunch this term and have succeeded in making up a tie representing our small community. The tie is like the Club one except that there are no crests on it and a thin light blue stripe separates each double stripe of blue and gold. On the sports field Mr. J. G. S. Forrest, as Secretary to the C.U. Rugby Football Club, has continued his rugby career successfully and although we remember the 'varsity match with regret, we cannot forget his brilliant form throughout the term. Mr. J. A. Smith has succeeded to the captaincy of St. John's Swimming Club, a position

he has been heading for since he came up. He is also President of the College Medical Society on whose committee sits Mr. E. V. Mackay. In other spheres Mr. R. S. Johnston is secretary of the College Law Society, while Mr. R. A. Houston has played quite a number of games for the Cambridge Vandals. We have had the pleasure of welcoming this term two Strathallians from Edinburgh University, Mr. G. W. Balfour and Mr. J. Breckenridge, who were included in their 'varsity side which was opposed to the Cambridge XV. Although their team was soundly thrashed, all Strathallians gave a good account of themselves. We were all very sorry when our game against the School had to be postponed although we would have had to take the field without Mr. R. S. Johnston who fractured his ankle whilst playing squash. Incidentally this game is a splendid way of keeping fit. Perhaps members of the School sides might take a hint from this.

#### BIRTHS.

BAKER.—At 17 St. Ann's Villas, Holland Park, London, on 10th December, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. George Gillespie Baker, a son.

CHRISTIE.—At Millbrae Nursing Home, Glasgow, on 9th December, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. Ian S. Christie, Braehead, Hazelwood Avenue, Newton Mearns, a daughter.

ROBERTSON.—At 11 Binstead Avenue, Dundee, on 4th January, 1938, to Mr. and Mrs. Allan Robertson, a son.

SCOTT.—On 23rd April, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. M. Bryden Scott, 68 Empire Court, Northend Road, Wembley, a daughter.

#### MARRIAGE.

MONTGOMERIE—MORRISON.—At All Souls' Church, Langham Place, London, on 1st January, 1938, Archibald Clive Montgomerie to Mary Catherine Morrison.

#### NOTICE.

The 5th Annual Dance is being held in the Burlington House, 183 Bath Street, Glasgow, on Friday, 4th February, 1938, at 8 p.m. The function this year will take the form of a Supper Dance. The Council trust that members will endeavour to be present and thus ensure a successful evening. Tickets, price 10/- each, are obtainable from the Honorary Secretary, 30 George Square, Glasgow.

#### "ROYAL" SPLENDOUR.

I've watched the sun-god sink behind a hill  
Whose creeping shadow drove away the light,

As moving o'er the land, it darkened till  
It hushed and filled a wondering world  
with night.

And such a shadow have we seen descend  
Upon a countenance we all hold dear,  
A face whose radiant glories far transcend  
The sunset glow that comes from too much  
beer ....

I speak, of course, of Wing-Commander Roy  
(Who by his genius rose from "Canteen  
Boy"),

For down his face a shadow seemed to slip  
And gently land upon his upper lip.

Then, as we gazed in rapture and in awe,  
There stood revealed, without the slightest  
flaw,

A thing of beauty ... only God can know  
What lotion Roy had used to make it grow.

Like wings of eagle, mighty king of birds,  
From tip to tip it reached a noble span,  
Proclaiming more emphatically than words,  
"The R.A.F. at last have found a MAN."

O bristling gift of mighty God on high!  
Like wings of planes that swoop down  
from the sky

With death and terror for all England's  
foes ....

And all this happening under ONE man's  
nose!!!

Throughout the land the tidings quickly  
spread:

"Our home defence is now secure," they  
said;

"Towards our shores the enemy we'll  
decoy

And have them slaughtered by Air  
Marshal Roy."

The nation's idol, meanwhile unafraid,  
In Strath, still cultivates his stock-in-trade;  
He knows an enemy would indeed be rash  
To face a man with such a fierce  
moustache.

\* \* \*

No more I'll watch the sun set o'er the hill,  
No more through stormy skies the  
lightning's flash;

No more such scenes with awe our hearts  
can fill

Since we beheld the birth of Roy's  
moustache. A. J. S.

# Strathallian Club.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT—30th November, 1937.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for Year ending 30th November, 1937.																		
1936.			INCOME.			1937.			1936.			EXPENDITURE.			1937.			
£39	0	0	To Ordinary Members' Subscriptions	...	£44	17	6		£40	11	3	By cost of Magazine for 1937	...	...	£40	18	6	
16	5	0	„ Revenue from Capital Invested	...	17	10	1			8	6	5	„ General Printing (including Circulars) and Stationery	...	...	8	13	3
2	2	6	„ Profit from Annual Dinner, 1936	...	1	2	5			3	13	6	„ Postage of Magazines and Circulars	...	...	3	18	9
1	9	10	„ Profit from Annual Dance	...	0	0	0			0	0	0	„ Deficit on Annual Dance	...	...	3	6	5
0	2	7	„ Bank Interest	...	0	13	7			0	7	6	„ Premium on President's Chain of Office	...	...	0	7	6
17	6	6	„ Deficit for year	...	18	9	6			15	15	0	„ Honorarium to Secretary	...	...	15	15	0
										7	12	9	„ Bank dues, Postages, Telephones, etc.	...	...	9	13	8
<hr/>					<hr/>				<hr/>						<hr/>			
£76	6	5			£82	13	1		£76	6	5				£82	13	1	
<hr/>					<hr/>				<hr/>						<hr/>			

CAPITAL ACCOUNT as at 30th November, 1937.				Funds at date in hands of Trustees—			
Capital as at 30th November, 1936	...	£880 13 0		(a) £200, 3% Conversion Stock	...	£199 11 0	
Life Membership Subscriptions—				(b) Post Office Savings			
Received during the year from				Bank	...	£473 1 8	
26 new Life Members	...	120 16 0		Added during year	...	98 6 0	
		£1001 9 0				571 7 8	
Less: Presentation to Nurse				(c) In Bank	...	£78 11 5	
McGuffie	...	8 0 0		Added during year	...	1 3 6	
		£993 9 0				79 14 11	
Revenue and Expenditure Account Deficit—						£850 13 7	
Deficit per Revenue Account	...	£18 9 6		In hands of Treasurer—			
Less: At Credit of Revenue and				(a) In Bank	...	£111 7 2	
Expenditure Account, 30/11/36	...	0 0 7		(b) In hand	...	12 19 4	
		18 8 11				124 6 6	
		£975 0 1				£975 0 1	

GLASGOW, 2nd December, 1937.—Examined with the Vouchers and found correct.

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

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