

THE STRATHALLIAN

THE MAGAZINE OF STRATHALLAN SCHOOL
PERTHSHIRE

VOLUME THREE

Summer

1934

NUMBER ONE

Editorial

IT is with very great pleasure that we sit down to write the present Editorial. It is so seldom that the Editorial Board is snowed under with contributions and finds it difficult to make selection, that such a circumstance is by way of an event. We hope that it is a happy omen for the coming volume. Naturally, it adds to our labours, but we do not mind that.

The possibility strikes us that this may be the outcome of the newly formed Editorial Board of the Old Boys' Club, for

the one disconcerting thing about the influx of contributions is that the majority of them come from F.P.'s. We would thank those concerned for their loyal support; and make a special appeal to the present pupils to do their share next term. The magazine should represent the present as well as the past, and it will be the School's fault if the Old Boys monopolise the space. We realise that with nearly all the seniors engaged with the Scottish Examinations there is some justification for them, but the excuse is only acceptable for one term.

School Notes and Notices

A TERM of splendid weather, for a Spring term, coupled with the new time table, enabled the School to enjoy the maximum of fresh air, and a comparatively clean bill of health was the result, nothing worse than a mild outbreak of 'flu interfering with a term of hard work and hard play. Three out of the four senior forms being engaged with Scottish University Prelims. has meant an enormous amount of work on the part of boys and staff alike; but we venture to think that the co-operative efforts will have been justified by results.

The Rugby teams have shown a considerable improvement upon last term's displays. Indeed, the last games, that with the Scottish Wayfarers particularly, provided form which we all knew was possible and yet which never seemed to materialise. A real team spirit was in evidence. The 1st XV is to be congratulated upon at last putting an end to the run of success enjoyed at its expense by Dollar Academy; and for this reason alone Forrest's team deserves mention in the School records. It might also make history in the matter of misfortunes as regards

injuries. This term has seen Hall, Auld, Carswell and Mitchell out of the pack at one time or another, and Strang has on occasions suffered the penalty for his intrepidity in defence. If a "never say die" spirit ever deserved a Cap, it was Strang's; and we congratulate him and the other Caps, Houston for his grand display at full back, W. Hood for his fine attacking qualities on the wing (his display against Glasgow High School alone almost merited the reward), and G. Sharp for his fine work in the tight and loose.

We would also congratulate the Nicol Seven upon their deserved success in the House Matches, and the Simpson Juniors upon landing the Junior Championship for the second year in succession.

While we are handing out the bouquets, we would also congratulate J. G. Forrest upon his election to the Cricket Captaincy. This honour completes a fine triple record: Sports Champion last year, he has been Swimming Captain for twelve months, became Rugby Captain last September, and with the Cricket Captaincy and a chance of retaining his Victor Ludorum in June, he should set up a record for all round

sportsmanship which will long remain unchallenged.

No sooner were the House matches over than Forrest got his men on to the nets for cricket practice; and the hopes entertained for the development of some of last season's young players seem about to be realised, so that hopes of a successful season run high. There are one or two defeats to avenge, notably that by the F.P.'s last Commemoration Day, so we trust these hopes are justified.

The fine weather, however, did not put a complete check upon indoor activities. The Workshop has been much patronised, and here the value of experience is greatly evidenced in the improvement in variety and quality of the articles made during the term. The venture of Mr. Waters and Mr. Bain must be reckoned a distinct success in every way.

Meanwhile, in the evenings the Annual Table-Tennis Championship was played off. It attracted a large proportion of the School, there being over eighty entrants. W. Hood retained the title he won last year. The merit of his performance may be judged from the fact that he lost one game only in his seven matches. In the final he defeated D. M'Coll by 21-11, 21-15. We congratulate him upon his success, coupled as it was with a further success in a Fives Championship played off during the second half of the term. He seems to have a distinct "flair" for this type of ball game, and we quite anticipate his carrying off the Badminton Championship whenever such a thing materialises.

The Debating Society has had a most successful term, and the hopes that the younger members would improve as speakers as they gained confidence has been justified; and there is no doubt that the Staff Debate was a source of inspiration as far as the lighter side of debating is concerned.

The Dramatic Society, too, has enjoyed considerable popularity, and its end of term production, "Eight Bells," seemed to have appealed to the taste of its audience. While it cannot be ranked among the happiest efforts as far as polish was concerned—the early production may have been in part to blame—it was in many ways more ambitious than usual; and as far as stage effects were concerned it was most successful. The broadcasting of the sea-shanties and noises off was a distinct

triumph; and the Society wishes to thank Mr. Knox for his kind assistance in the rehearsal of the former, which were so admirably timed. The acquisition of a dimmer for the lights also opens up wide fields for future productions.

There is no doubt that no little part of the evening's success was due to Mr. Knox and his orchestra, which showed such a marked improvement on its performance twelve months ago. Considering the youthfulness of some of its members, it was a splendid effort, and augurs well for a highly successful Concert next Christmas.

On February 15th Mr. Edgar March delivered a much appreciated lecture upon "The Salving of Ships," which opened up a new source of wonder to many of the audience. Having briefly indicated the means whereby ships come to be in need of salving, Mr. March outlined the various diving and salvage plants, and the numerous expedients resorted to under varying circumstances. He then gave several instances of efforts made to save ships upon sandy and rock-bound coasts, and made his audience fully appreciate the ticklish job it was to work on a wreck, and how often the labour was wasted. A lighter side was provided by the five railway engines which righted the transport ship *Onward*, which heeled over and blocked Folkestone Harbour during the war. Then came the raising of the Italian battleship *Leonardo de Vinci*, a feat complicated by the fact she sank upside down in thirty feet of mud. The cutting away of the whole of the upper works and gun turrets and floating of the hull upside down was finely illustrated by diagram and slides. Mr. March touched more briefly with the raising of bullion, and concluded with the work upon the Scaja Flow operations. It was a most interesting lecture, and we hope to see Mr. March again at some future date.

The appearance of the Dining Hall has been greatly enhanced by the oak plaques on the North wall, on which are inscribed the names of the Rugby and Cricket Captains since Strath. took its place in the sports field with the First Teams of the bigger schools; the winners of the Victor Ludorum Cup, and the School Captains. The honours now have a permanent record attached to them, and will be more coveted than ever.

Our President, 1935

Mr. Sam Dow

(Freeman of the City of London)

THIS year's President requires no introduction to a very wide circle of Strathallians, for although he was at Strathallan for a period of about six years ending 1927, Mr. Sam Dow through his



very many important activities connected with the Old Strathallian Club has made himself known to a very wide circle indeed, and his choice as President this year was unanimous and gave great satisfaction to his many friends.

At School Mr. Dow was one who gave unstinted service in every walk of school life, and he gained most of the honours coveted not only on the games field and on the social side, but in directions academic and scholastic. During his last year at School Mr. Dow was appointed prefect and later vice-captain of the School. He gained his First XI cap at cricket and his First XV cap at rugger, being a very live wire in one of the best scrums that the School ever had. Many a time has his relentless following up so worried the opposition that

a try has accrued, and it was just such a similar try that he scored in the last Old Boys' match during the closing moments of the game, a score which was not only popular among the Old Boys who knew that to be his last game, but a score which was popular on account of its real merit among a very critical band of schoolboy spectators.

In ways academic, Mr. Dow passed his Cambridge School Certificate examination with honours, and followed this up by taking his Inter-Bachelor of Commerce examination at the University of London, gaining the Vintner Scholarship in January, 1927, an open scholarship worth between £200 and £300, awarded as a result of the London University examination in commerce by one of the oldest Corporations in Britain, namely, the Vintners. The terms of this scholarship took Mr. Dow abroad studying wine production and allied subjects. He visited all the important wine producing regions of Western Europe, and several times was fêted by very important foreign bodies as the representative of the Vintners' Corporation of Great Britain. When Mr. Dow returned to London he was honoured by the Corporation of Vintners, who showed their appreciation of his work abroad by electing him to the full membership, and this distinction carried with it one of the most sought-after honours in the British Empire, namely, the Freedom of the City of London—at the date of his election Mr. Dow must have been the youngest Freeman of the City for a great many years. Shortly afterwards he entered his father's business, which has extensive wine connections all over Britain, and a few years later he became a benedict and has now a daughter aged two years.

From the Club point of view, Mr. Dow intends making his year of office one in which the Club is not only going to extend its membership, but its activities as well, and there is no doubt that it is absolutely true to say that in every Strathallian, no matter where he may be found, Mr. Dow has a well-wisher who fully believes that he will accomplish what he has set out to do.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The second half of the season was given a rousing send-off by the Staff debate on the motion "That Romance is dead," a subject offering considerable opportunities for humorous treatment, which the speakers were not slow to seize. Mr. Ward and Mr. Frank again triumphed over Mr. McCutcheon and Mr. Knox, the motion being defeated by 39 votes to 13, the large majority in no way signifying that the debate was one-sided.

The next debate was on the motion "That the chances of Adventure are growing less," a motion supported by R. Johnston and C. Roy. The debaters hardly met on common ground in their definition of adventure, but it was apparent that the idea of risk, put forward by J. A. Dow, met with the approval of the meeting for the motion was easily defeated by 21 votes to 3.

The next meeting was by way of an experiment, high speed debating. Subjects and speakers, one for each side, were drawn from the hat, and more or less impromptu speaking was the result. The experiment was a distinct success, since not only did it bring to the fore many talented but hitherto timid speakers, but was also a source of considerable humour. Such subjects as "That Strath. should take up Croquet and Tiddly-winks" and "That Prohibition should be enforced in Britain" were particularly successful in this respect; but even the more serious motions, "That Cyclists should be taxed," for instance, called forth a certain amount of flippancy, if more personal, treatment.

As a result of the success it was unanimously decided that the following meeting should be run on similar lines, but either the novelty had worn off or the committee had not been so fortunate in its choice of subjects, for the meeting fell slightly short of expectations.

Owing to the examination demands at the end of term, it was found impossible to arrange for the Mock Trial, but it is hoped that one will be held during the Summer Term.

R. S. JOHNSTON, *Hon. Secy.*

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

Officers for the Session.

Chairman—T. M. Dishington.

Vice-Chairman—J. A. Smith.

Secretaries—R. L. Paul and R. Johnston.

Treasurer—M. Mitchell.

Committee—J. Forrest, V. Mackay, G. Harrington, A. Carswell, C. Roy, R. Clow and J. A. Dow.

A pleasant session has been enjoyed by those members of the society who could spare the time to attend the meetings, though the attendance has on occasions been a little disappointing. Of the Trial Readings held, the second of "The Younger Generation" was most successful, several newcomers in the New Year showing considerable ability.

Of the rehearsed readings, produced by the president and various members of committee, old favourites of the thriller type, "The Sentence of Death," "In the Library" and "Thread o' Scarlet" were pleasingly mixed with comedy and farce in "The Old Bull," "The Cabinet Minister's Fireside," "Money Makes a Difference," "Wurzzle Flummery," "A Collection Will Be Made" and "Peace and Comfort." In addition, three new plays were presented for the first time.

These included, on the first general meeting of the New Year, a reading of "The Dear Departed" by Stanley Houghton, with the cast that should have been responsible for the production of the play in the Christmas Concert; "Elegant Edward," a comedy by Gertrude Jennings; and "The Philosopher of Butterbiggins," a Scotch comedy by Harold Chapin.

Mr. Norton read, as his Presidential Address, Sir James Barrie's one-act thriller, "Shall We Join the Ladies?" which afforded much enjoyment to a large audience.

At the end of term, or at least before external examinations began, the Society produced "Eight Bells" by Percy Mandley. This, despite the handicap of examinations, which tended to interfere with rehearsals, was a popular success, and we take the opportunity of acknowledging with thanks the sum of £2 0/7 collected for the Society funds.

R. S. JOHNSTON, *Hon. Secy.*

The Dramatic Society Social

ON Friday, March 22nd, the Dramatic Society gave their annual Social Evening, the play being produced as usual by Mr. M. Norton.

For this term's production, "Eight Bells," a nautical play in three acts by Percy G. Mandley, was selected. The whole of the drama is enacted in the captain's saloon of the full-rigged ship *Combermere*, and takes place a few days after the outbreak of war in 1914. The master of the craft, Dale, wilful and petulant, and given over to intemperance, refuses to show any tolerance to the quite reasonable request of the German members of his crew that they should be put ashore on neutral territory, and mutiny breaks out. The situation is further complicated by the presence on board of the master's wife, Marjorie, who does anything but assist matters by carrying on a scarcely veiled flirtation with Ormrod, the mate and a former admirer.

With such a condition of affairs prevailing, it is upon the ability of the members of the cast to create and maintain an atmosphere of tension and expectancy that the real effectiveness of the play depends.

The play opened well with a lively dialogue between Collister, the second mate (A. Brown) and Carl, the steward (R. Johnston), in which Brown's repartee, given in a delightfully natural manner, at once caught the sympathy of the audience, and created the carefree atmosphere of life at sea. Just as readily did his breezy manner towards the close of the play help to relieve the tension of the drama, and throughout he played his part simply and naturally.

With the advent of the master, Dale, later in the first scene, the play began to take shape. Previous to this, the audience had witnessed the somewhat timorous efforts of Marjorie (G. Harrington) to arouse in the mate, Ormrod (J. A. Smith), some signs of love-making, as she attended to his damaged hand. But as both actors showed traces of nervousness, which they never completely conquered throughout the play, the flirtatious episodes were the weakest part of the whole drama. J. A. Smith rarely appeared to possess any of the qualities of the successful wooer, and his acting was disappointing in that he held

to the one pose of truculence throughout, and never revealed any glimpses of the tenderness one might have expected. This rigidity of manner and lack of response made matters more difficult for both Harrington and Mr. Norton.

Mr. Norton, from the moment of his dramatic entry, took command of the stage and overshadowed all the actors but one. Tactless alike with his wife, his crew and his mate, ever unreasonable, and heedless of the consequences, he was the embodiment of the drink-besotted skipper, yet never despicable. At times there was a scarcely perceptible over-acting, in an endeavour to rouse more vigour in some of the less imaginative of the cast, but there was nothing in the whole play to surpass his brilliant piece of solo acting when, under the influence of drink, he gradually appears to lose all self control, all grasp of reason, of everything. Throughout the play, Mr. Norton's interpretation was splendidly consistent, and he gave life and reality to a difficult part.

After the mutiny on the ship, Gerhardt, the leader of the Germans, takes command of the vessel. T. Dishington in this part made the transition seem quite normal, almost inevitable, by his superb acting. He did not merely look the part, he lived it. Every word, every gesture, from the suspicious lifting of an eyebrow to the angry blaze of the eyes or the indifferent shrug of a shoulder, all conveyed their wealth of meaning. The early scene in which he pleaded with Dale for fair treatment, or the later one in which he sternly quelled the insubordination of his own men, revealed him at his best, and he is to be congratulated on a very fine piece of imaginative acting. Particularly fine was the scene in which he, the new captain, interviews Dale, the man whose place he has usurped.

The presence of several minor characters in the cast afforded scope for unexpected pieces of by-play and sudden flashes of humour which the audience readily appreciated. Klotz (R. Campbell), in particular, displayed a fine appreciation of an ironic situation, and a splendid enunciation; and Carl, the suave steward, and the bos'n, Ashworth (R. Aitkenhead), with his cockney twang, likewise did all that was

required of them. Pancho (R. Clow) showed that he knew how to make a successful entry upon the stage, and we should have enjoyed seeing him more often. The other seamen (J. A. Dow, J. Cooper, W. Kelly and C. Roy) were rather less convincing, in that one or two of them occasionally forgot they were playing a part and smiled at the wrong time.

The stage managers (J. A. Dow and G. Sharp, and their assistants) merit congratulations for their skilful management of the stage effects. The blood-curdling yell at the murder of Roberts and the singing of the sea shanties were very well timed. The prompting was not so good, and more efficient work here would have alleviated

several of the awkward pauses that occurred in the course of the action.

Viewed in retrospect, the production of "Eight Bells" was an enjoyable entertainment, rather uneven in that several of the *dramatis personæ* quite overshadowed the others, and that at times the play flagged, but the possibilities of the situation on board the *Combermere* were made the most of. The curtailment of rehearsals by a fortnight on account of examinations was evident in the difficulty that several of the members of the cast experienced in remembering their lines. A little more vigour in speaking, especially from actors at the back of the stage, and more care on the part of the audience to maintain silence would be very helpful on future occasions. S. K.

A WALKING TOUR IN THE RHINELAND

A FRIEND and I last Summer decided to spend our holidays walking in the Rhineland, and it was not without some trepidations that we set out; so many unfavourable reports were in circulation of the harsh treatment meted out to tourists in Germany. These, as we were to find out, were nonsense, the only reverses we had being in Holland.

The booking clerk at Rotterdam station would not accept our Dutch money, it having been bought in Edinburgh where it must have lain for years. The Queen, on the coins, was depicted as a young girl. By the time they did condescend to accept the money, they were also able to inform us that the last train for Cologne had departed. A Dutch friend we had met on the boat very kindly took us to Utrecht, his home town, where we spent the night.

Next morning, the booking clerk, for some unknown reason, would only issue tickets to the Dutch border. By this time we were decidedly "fed up," and boarded the Cologne express, determined to trust to luck. At the border we sought unsuccessfully to obtain through tickets. The conductor would have put us off the train, but a charming Fraulein, intervening on our behalf, persuaded him to let us complete the journey without tickets.

Cologne, like all the other German towns we visited, was clean and well laid out. The most notable feature of the town was the complete absence of loungers and

unemployed about the streets, which served to give the town an air of prosperity. We found that all unemployed were drafted into one of Hitler's organisations and given all sorts of odd jobs, for which reason these Nazis are referred to as "Maids of all Work." There were many Brown Shirts in the streets; at first sight every third man seemed to be a Nazi. The town was *en fête*, and flags decorated the streets. That evening there was to be a firework display down by the river as a preliminary to some great ex-cavalrymen's meeting next day.

My friend and I, along with some German acquaintances, went in the late afternoon to the sun terrace of a large café on the opposite side of the river, where we expected to obtain an excellent view of the display. There was an immense crowd on the embankments, and military and Nazi uniforms were in evidence everywhere. Occasionally one could see several members of the much discussed Air Sports Club, their uniforms similar to that of our own R.A.F. Every few minutes a fresh contingent of uniformed men would arrive, each headed by a band which, to judge by the noise, consisted chiefly of drums.

By nightfall there must have been hundreds of uniforms along our side of the embankment also; and much as I should have liked to take a photo of this unique scene, I refrained on the warning of a German who said such an act would be frowned upon.

The river presented a gay scene with many brightly lit pleasure boats sailing up and down. Suddenly, amid the shouts of the assembled onlookers, a huge rocket soared heavenwards, sending out many-hued balls of flame as it exploded. This was the signal for the commencement of the display, which lasted a long while, to the accompaniment of deafening reports and a brightly illuminated sky. The culminating scene was the floodlighting, by means of crimson chemical flares, of the two huge bridges and the embankments between.

We missed the actual ex-servicemen's meeting, having to proceed to Coblenz, where our walking tour started, early next morning. From there, we kept away from the main road by the river, walking for the most part on the hill paths on the plateau above the Rhine Gorge, and did not see another town for a week. The hill paths are all clearly marked on the map, but proved very difficult to find. When passing through a forest, we usually came to cross roads with about six paths leading off; we generally managed to take the wrong one.

Sometimes we would happen upon a dreamy little village, nestling among the hills and inhabited apparently only by children and fowls. One little place we found seemingly deserted. It was early afternoon, and the glare from the hot sun was very painful to the eyes. The only sounds to be heard were the incessant chirpings of crickets, and the occasional excited cackle of some distant fowl. The streets were narrow, and the houses close together, causing our footsteps to echo strangely and give an eerie atmosphere to the place. We were quite relieved to hear, a little further along the street, the voices of children at school. Both men and women, we discovered later, were at work in the fields, where they had to work hard to obtain a living from the poor soil.

This was typical of many of the smaller hamlets through which we passed. In many cases proper roads, both to and in the village, were non-existent, so that it resembled nothing but a glorified farmyard. Apple and pear trees, heavily burdened with fruit, lined the paths, and were the only things which seemed to thrive on the

slaty soil. The farm implements were of the crudest, and the old-fashioned waggons and ploughs were drawn by protesting oxen; no horse being seen. On the other hand, every village had electric light and a telephone, while all the inns had refrigerators.

Once, while having lunch, we heard suddenly the tramp, tramp of heavily booted feet, and shortly after a number of unemployed men from a labour camp came marching along, all in step, heavy top boots on their feet and shovels over their shoulders, rifle fashion. They lived in wooden huts outside the village, and repaired roads and built houses during their course of training.

Outside one little Gasthaus, my friend was bitten on the tongue by a wasp. In a few minutes speech was impossible, the tongue rapidly swelling to three times its normal size. The nearest doctor was six miles away, and things were beginning to look decidedly serious when an ancient car came along. This we commandeered, and my friend was soon in the surgery. Three hours later we were on the road again. Thereafter we treated everything that buzzed with the greatest respect.

By this time we had left the plateau, and had reached a little village by the Rhine, with vineyards in terraces on the slopes behind. The houses were almost all half-timbered, the interstices being filled with mud and wattle, and the upper storeys overhanging the lower ones. One seemed to have been transported several hundred years back. Along the road trundled an occasional cart, while on the pavement outside his shop a cooper made casks for the coming wine harvest. The illusion did not last long, however, for the tranquility of the scene was rudely shattered by the passing, amid a cloud of dust, of a Mercedes filled with Brown Shirt officers.

Down the Rhine many castles could be seen, perched precariously on crags overlooking the river. Some were small, being mere towers; others were huge, but the majority were in ruins. One or two were strongly reminiscent of a Gibbs' Dentifrice castle. Rheinfels, the greatest castle on the Rhine, had been partially restored by a wealthy German-American as his summer residence.

One of the most interesting hostels we stayed at had been, until a few years before, a ruin of one of these castles. It had been restored by a famous architect, and was kept as far as possible as it had been in its heyday. The kitchen was modern, but the furniture in the common room was of a kind seen in medieval prints. The castle, built on a prominence high above the Rhine, commanded a magnificent view of the Rhine Gorge. Viewing the scene from one's bed, through the window, one seemed to view it from an aeroplane, so far down below did the river appear.

The hostels were of many types. Some were converted barracks, others former castles or ecclesiastical buildings, while many were modern, designed specially for the purpose. One in the Wispertal was ultra-modern, being five storeys in height and cylindrical in shape, with windows facing in every direction. It was very comfortable and not nearly so bad as it sounds. The warden there, when he heard we were Scots, told us he had played football with the "Fraulein Soldiers" (kilties) on No Man's Land one Christmas.

All the hostels were comfortable, and usually crowded. Many of the wanderers were young people out of work, who were spending their enforced leisure walking or cycling about the country. Very often they subsisted entirely on bread and jam, with coffee made from corn. They thus lived very cheaply, and seemed to be able to keep fit despite the frugal fare.

A great spirit of camaraderie seems to exist among the youth of Germany. En route and in the hostels, everyone spoke to the other like old friends, although they had never met before. There was a total absence of class consciousness and stiffness, and we always felt at home among them.

Rudesheim, one of the modern hostels, with four hundred beds, has a wonderful situation high on the hillside, overlooking the town. Nearby, silhouetted against the sky, is the colossal winged statue commemorating the foundation of the German Reich. Far below flows the Rhine, with the famous House Tower on a tiny island. This hostel was crowded when we arrived, and we renewed many friendships. At night the hostel and the terrace in front were floodlit, and made an unforgettable sight. Overhead

was the deep blue of the sky and across the river, at the mouth of the River Nahe, twinkled the lights of Bingen. The night was warm, and on the terrace crowds of boys and girls sang and danced under the soft red lights of the flood lamps. More wanderers were constantly arriving, all very brown, the majority very tired after the day's journey and the long pull up the hill. All too soon the "to bed" bell rang, and in a short while the terrace was dark and deserted.

The next day we travelled by boat, and the afternoon saw us walking up the magnificent four mile long avenue from the river to Wiesbaden, a truly amazing town. A spa for wealthy Germans, it seemed to have been built regardless of expense. The streets were exceptionally wide and lined with tall trees. All the buildings are in the Rococo style of architecture. A strange air of peace pervaded the town. The traffic was sparse and exceptionally quiet. Many old people could be seen riding in broughams drawn by white horses. In the parks, fountains were playing, and the grass was of a green usually seen only on Gleneagles posters. Everywhere wealth was in evidence; in the shops, the buildings and the lay-out of the town. It was only the presence of many "to let" signs that reminded one that much of Weisbaden's glory had departed since the depression of the after-war.

Frankfurt presented a greater contrast. All the usual bustle of an important business centre failed to destroy the historical atmosphere. In the old houses, half timbered, and leaning half over dark and narrow streets in the old town, was a striking contrast with the ultra-modern buildings to be found in the new town.

All too soon the most enjoyable holiday I have ever spent drew to a close. Already I am planning a return visit. A great change has been wrought in post-war Germany, and many of the garbled accounts to be read in the Yellow Press of conditions there are quite untrue. No one understands the German mind properly until he has been over there and met the people and seen things for himself. The Germans are essentially a kindly and hospitable race, and a holiday spent among them will never be regretted.

E. C. G.

The All India Rugby Tournament

Oh, the great days, in the distance enchanted,
Days of fresh air, in the rain and the sun;
How we rejoiced as we struggled and panted—
Hardly believable, forty years on!

ALAS, it comes to us all, "the great days in the distance enchanted," and greatest of all for many are those spent on a rugger field; and from among my many I have chosen the All India Rugby Tournament, as, I think I am correct in saying, it is unique.

This is an annual event played in one of the Presidency capitals, Calcutta, Bombay or Madras. Teams representing these cities, All Ceylon, Burmah, Planters XV, all, or nearly all, the British Regiments stationed in India, and last, but by no means least, the Navy, if there are any ships in port at the time. And here a special word about the Services who, amidst their arduous duties of maintaining peace and order, find time to play this game, and play it often far too well for the liking of the civilian sides. Particularly would I mention the Welsh Regiment and the Duke of Wellington's or West Ridings, who, apart from Calcutta, have their names more often inscribed on the beautiful silver cup presented to the winners than any other side.

For the purpose of this article the venue will be Madras, partly because it is so much easier to write your own experience as a guest, but particularly because of the wonderful hospitality accorded there. It is a week set apart, Rugger Week, and everyone stops all else to give the visitors the time of their lives.

You arrive after two weary days and nights in a filthy train, and are straight-way taken to your host's house, where the probability is that you will meet someone from Bombay, Burmah or Ceylon, who had been at Strath. with you, or had played with you at home; anyway it is a familiar face, and the business of enjoying oneself begins.

One of the many beautiful clubs of Madras is the meeting place about mid-day, and here are more familiar faces to talk with of happy meetings of the past and of prospects for the present tussle.

"How we discoursed of them, one with another,
Auguring triumph, or balancing fate."

There is riding, golf, tennis and sea bathing from one of the finest stretches of beach in the East, to cater for individual amusements. And where does the Rugger come in, you will be wondering?

Each evening at five there are two matches watched by all, and then, for those who have not played, practice for half an hour or so. For the teams which reach the final it proves a most strenuous week, with matches every other day and the final on Saturday, and all this at a temperature of about the 100 degree mark.

There are compensations, however, for each evening these super-hosts have arranged some excellent entertainment; a dance, a swimming gala, a theatre show, and a never-to-be-forgotten evening, the Tommies' Dinner, where these excellent fellows get together and show one how to enjoy oneself.

So the week goes by, all too quickly, till the great day of the Final. For those playing it is a wonderful day. The stands are filled with the most enthusiastic crowd imaginable, and the pitch is surrounded by thousands of Indians, whose interest in the game increases each year. The game—well, it is the same as all rugger games should be, thirty men playing cleanly for all they are worth, not for silver cups and such like things.

Perhaps I may here be permitted to describe the Final of 1932, considered by many one of the finest games of the series. I had the honour of captaining the Calcutta side, and our opponents were All Ceylon.

We all foregathered about four-thirty to have photographs taken, Ceylon with their elephant mascot, and Calcutta with a huge teddy bear all dressed up in the club colours, complete with boots. The lawn of the Madras Gymkhana Club was a lovely sight, hundreds of men and gaily dressed women, regimental pipe and brass bands playing alternately; and at last five o'clock came and we went on to the field. The Calcutta side was paid a great honour when our old friends, The Welsh Regiment, presented me with their "Saucepan" for luck.

The game was a thrilling one from start to finish. Ceylon took an early lead with a penalty goal, and increased it with another almost immediately. Then Calcutta reduced the deficit with still another penalty goal. Too many infringements, you may say, but over-eagerness was the cause, picking the ball from the scrum in each case. The tackling was superb, and "dummies" had a very poor sale that day. A perfect movement, with the ball passing twice along the three-quarters, ended in a try in the corner, and the conversion put Calcutta ahead with a two point lead which they held at half-time.

On it went, from end to end of the field, with the score unchanged, and with only ten minutes to go, one of the Ceylon wings, hemmed in, stopped in his tracks and dropped one of the most perfect of goals, putting his side once more in the lead. But more thrills were to follow. "Go right, Calcutta." But the kick was to the left, seized on by one of our wing forwards, who dashed over at the corner, without a Ceylon man handling the ball. A good kick further increased the lead. With only a minute to go, Ceylon made one last tremendous effort. Their wing man was pulled down a yard from the line, and in falling knocked on. Sixteen dead tired men lay against each other, and Ceylon, with a stupendous effort pushed us back over our line and fell on the ball to bring the score level at thirteen points all. In deadly silence the kick was taken, right from the touchline, and to the kicker's undying glory was converted to give Ceylon the victory.

And so thirty leg-weary but happy men struggled off arm in arm to have the Cup presented by His Excellency the Governor of Madras, and a large, long, iced Shandy to quench their thirst.

That evening came the Rugger Dinner, with four to five hundred enthusiasts, young and old. What nights! Long to be remembered and discussed, and inevitably well enjoyed.

Sunday, the day of rest, alas, sometimes of necessity, spent in saying "Goodbye" to the different teams until the departure of your own train; and so farewell, but with wonderful memories to sustain you through the weary twelve months till Rugger Week comes round again; to those of us less fortunate and longer in the tooth, memories to carry with us for the rest of our life.

D. S.



The Chapel Walk is in all its glory at this season of the year.

R. N. V. R.

ROYAL Naval Volunteer Reserve officers require to put in one month's training afloat; and so it was that in June the writer found himself at Torquay on a certain Saturday afternoon, with the fleet anchored in Tor-bay preparatory to going north to Scapa Flow for summer manoeuvres.

Any man joining a naval vessel for the first time is given twenty-four hours in which to find his feet; so I made the most of my time by going round all the principal parts of the ship, escorted by a fellow midshipman, and trying hard to remember all I had learnt in the training establishment. I was introduced all round to the Funroom, that is the general living quarters of all junior officers.

On hearing I was Scotch, I had to endure no amount of leg-pull re "haggis," etc. I got my own back, however, by telling them that the aforementioned was "game," only caught in remote parts of Scotland and that it had to be hung at least three days before being eaten, which, amazing to relate, a large number of them believed!

Thirty-three thousand tons of steel is a surprisingly easy place in which to lose oneself, and more than once I found myself completely lost and had to ask the way back to the upper decks. Added to this, all available roof space between decks is taken up with steam pipes, wires enclosed in armour plate and ventilation guides, etc., and great care must be taken when going around. I hit most things at least once with my head, and armour plated steel is not the softest material with which to come in contact.

My first night on board was rather a nightmare as my hammock was slung six feet above an iron hatch cover, and I spent most of my time trying to stay "put." These hammocks really are most comfortable when one is used to them, as I eventually proved by sleeping like a log in spite of the continual noise which goes on day and night in a man-o'-war.

The second day aboard, my duties were explained to me and I found I was "watch-keeping" for fourteen days and would

probably be Boat-running for the remainder.

Watch-keeping in the Service for midshipmen is assisting the officer of the watch in the organisation and running of the ship while in harbour and, while at sea, actually conning the ship while under the command of captain, commander and navigator. When in harbour, the officer of watch has to be ready to receive visitors, and when one is in harbour with the fleet, especially on a flag ship, these visitors are many and varied. This, however, is only a very small portion of his duties as he is entirely responsible for the control of the entire ship's company, which is often over 1000 men. He must also know what each squad or section is doing as well as to see that boats are called away at specified times; so that when any who chance to read this article go aboard a man-o'-war and see an officer on the quarter deck, dressed in frock coat, etc., they need have no fear that he is only an ornament, as many people seem to think, for he is virtually in charge of the vessel under the captain and commander.

While at sea, the officer of the watch's duties differ in that he is located on the bridge and not in the quarter deck as when in harbour. In addition to organisation he has full control of the vessel again under the captain, etc., but he himself has to keep the vessel on her course and this requires full concentration as one degree out means many miles wrong in a day and consequently many more tons of coal or gallons of oil used.

The reader may not think this is much, but when the government is calling for naval economy and efficiency, it counts for a great deal; and, of course, if the vessel is in company of others, she is not going to be too popular, especially with her next astern who has to keep station on her.

One usually has a four hours' spell, then eight hours off and four on again. This may not sound very much but the eight hours between watches are nearly always fully occupied with classes during the day

or sleep at night, and so one doesn't find much time to loll about and admire the scenery.

When in harbour, leave is generally given in the afternoons and evenings to a certain section of the ship's company, and on these occasions hockey, soccer or other sport is generally arranged ashore, while golf or tennis enthusiasts can usually find places on which to play. When at sea, exercise usually takes the form of deck hockey or something similar.

During the latter half of my training, I was occupied boat-running, that is, in charge of steam picket boat or forty-five foot launch running to and from the shore with liberty men, stewards, postman, games parties, etc. These boats take a lot of practice and not a little skill to handle successfully—mine lost a good deal of paint on its first trip or two with me at the wheel! However, after a few narrow escapes, things went better.

These boats are propelled by a single screw and always kick to starboard when starting off, coming alongside or going astern, and it is quite difficult to judge one's distance correctly. However, practice makes perfection!

The Home Fleet took part in general manoeuvres during June last year, and off the west coast of Ireland we took part in some quite exciting exercises. Steaming at night with all lights out must be exciting in ordinary vessels, but when one knows there are gigantic vessels within two cables' lengths in front and immediately astern, as well as destroyers on both sides, it becomes even more so.

One day we heard 'planes overhead, and later twelve of them suddenly appeared right above us, diving all out and firing their guns. It was all most exciting and interesting and did not require much imagination to realise how terrifying it would be under real war conditions.

Altogether my sea time was most instructive and interesting, and it is with much pleasure that I look forward to being able to repeat it many times in the next few years.

EARNSIDE ECHOES

It has been brought to my notice that the Medical Class distillery has been working day and night. The consumption of the alcohol has been a source of mystery, and special detectives have been drafted into the district to discover the secret drinker. We have our suspicions ——!

* * *

Readers will be pleased to learn that the "Queen Mary," formerly known as "Butter Ball," was successfully launched from the top step of the new Strath. diving board last February. Lord and Lady Forgandenny were present at the ceremony. Both had newly returned from a short holiday with His Majesty, consequent upon the strange disappearance of Mr. Roy Blackhand's gold cigarette case.

* * *

After Mr. March's lecture on "The Salving of Ships," Strath. showed its interest by the formation of the Forgardenny Salvage Co., with Gregory as President. Several wrecked juniors have been salved from the deep end of the bath.

* * *

We are pleased to call our readers' attention to changes in fashion. One member of the Staff recently appeared in a brand new "Marina" hat.

* * *

We shortly hope to be able to publish an F.P.'s reminiscences. What the rugger team did not do way back in 19——!

* * *

Public Enemy No. 1 was seen entering S.4's classroom at four-thirty on the afternoon of February 21st. S.4 were held up for an hour and consequently missed tea.

* * *

Serious practice has been indulged in during the course of the term by the Strath. Motor Cycle Club. Cornering by the old House and righting skids have been the chief occupations.

Sports Notes

RUGBY

THE First Fifteen has enjoyed a distinctly better season since the New Year. There were three bad defeats, but two of these were at the hands of unbeaten teams, and there was little disgrace in going down before such opponents as Heriot's and Aberdeen. The School did very creditably against Dan Smith's team and the Old Boys, and finished off the season well by beating Dollar and Glasgow High School in great style. With many of the present team staying on a further year, the prospects for the next season look brighter than they have for some time.

Further cause for gratification is to be found in the successful season enjoyed by the Second Team, which lost but two games in ten, scoring 58 points against their opponents' 36. The Third Team has also done well, though tailing off somewhat in the last match.

Team Criticism

J. G. S. Forrest has been an inspiration to the defence and a continual source of danger to opponents in attack. His tackling has been a constant saving of points against us, and had he had more confidence in those with him, his bursts through would have been more fruitful. He must cure himself of running into the scrum. Although his generalship on the field has sometimes been at fault, he has always been a fine leader, and has made the most of the talent available. 1st XV Cap awarded 1933-4-5.

M. Mitchell is probably the most improved player in the side and should be in first-class football shortly. His fine physique, good kicking, and unselfish passing have gained much ground and often cleared us from a tight corner. 1st XV Cap awarded 1933-4-5.

J. Cooper has lost this year some of the dash which characterised his play last season, but his hard work in the scrum and very good tackling put him in the front rank of forwards. 1st XV Cap awarded 1933-4-5.

I. Wood has been as good as the other caps, but his style of play does not make

him conspicuous. He is the best solid scrummager we have, and his unobtrusive activities have been a source of delight to many and discomfort to others. 1st XV Cap awarded 1933-4-5.

R. Houston has always been good and often brilliant. It would hardly be an exaggeration to say he has not missed a tackle, and his torpedo dives have often won a touch down. His kicking is sound if not extremely lengthy. He has been a great asset to the side, particularly by giving confidence to those in front. 1st XV Cap awarded 1934-5.

G. Sharp has played in various places in the scrum. He is most at home in the back row, though his shoving has been vigorous enough when he has been in front. 1st XV Cap awarded 1934-5.

J. Strang has improved steadily and finished the season in good form. Many of his faults have disappeared; his service is really good, and he has often been dangerous individually when near the line. His pluck when damaged or when fighting a losing battle should be a rebuke to many in the Junior School who lie down and die far too easily. 1st XV Cap awarded 1934-5.

W. Hood has often been the star player, though the necessity of playing him in the centre for some time unfortunately spoilt his game. His tackling in the centre was weak and could be improved, but in his right place on the wing he is practically unstoppable, and had he played there all the season, would without doubt have had many tries to his credit. 1st XV Cap awarded 1934-5.

R. Johnston has been a sound stand-off, and we have a promising and dangerous partnership for next season. He has a fine football sense, and a good repertoire of variations of attack, but must let the ball out more.

D. Murray, although coming into the side late, has thoroughly justified his inclusion. He has been a good partner to Forrest and his passing and tackling have been very reliable. His slight build has been a handicap which will perhaps be overcome next year.

V. Mackay, playing on the other wing to Hood, while not fast, has been sound and has enough knowledge of the game to keep his end up in a tight corner.

P. Wilson has been patchy, but towards the end of the season has at times been among the best of the forwards.

A. Carswell also has been patchy; he shines on a dry day, but is at a discount in a mudlark.

T. Dishington has been of great service in the last few games, his hooking being good and his weight useful. His vigour in the tight makes up for many of his shortcomings in the loose.

R. Auld has been in the majority of the games played and has hooked well. Good as he is, however, it is doubtful whether his lack of weight has not been a drawback at times.

R. Clow has been in and out of the First more often than any other player, but has always played full out. He is quite a promising wing forward.

D. Hall has played well in the first half of the season, and scored several characteristic tries before his injury. As a front row forward he is hard to beat.

J. Peden has proved a sound tackler and a hard worker on the occasions he has played in the second half of the season prior to his injury.

The outstanding players in the Second XV have been R. Aitkenhead and J. Smith. Their speed and knowledge of the game have done as much as the tough play of the pack. Discoveries of the season are R. Peacock, F. Anderson and T. Macfarlane, all of whom should develop into sound, if not brilliant players. Second XV Caps were awarded to:—D. Murray, V. Mackay, J. Peden, R. Auld, A. Carswell, P. Wilson, R. Clow, R. Aitkenhead, G. Anderson, W. Steven, D. Mackenzie, C. Roy, W. Dunlop, R. Peacock.

Strathallan v. George Heriot's School, played in Edinburgh on January 19th.

Strath. met with the worst defeat of the season, an unfortunate start to the second half of the season. The result, with the School playing an unbeaten side, was a foregone conclusion, but it was a certain rabbit-like outlook which allowed the home side to pile up the score. The game started

evenly, and for a short while it looked as if Strath. might hold their own. A wing attack was made on the right, and an unlucky bounce after a kick ahead, which gave Houston no chance to touch down, enabled Heriot's to open the score; and this seemed to have a demoralising effect on the Strath. side, for two further tries were soon added, one from a straight-forward passing movement, and the other from a cross kick after Houston had been drawn across to the right. This score was converted. By half time Heriot's had scored 17 points.

In the second half Strath. put up a better fight, but simply could not get a fair share of the ball. Throughout the game the bigger and more combined home pack heeled the ball, Strang barely getting half a dozen passes out to his partner. With so many opportunities, Heriot's could scarcely help scoring; particularly in view of the smart inter-passing among their backs. The whole team was drilled in reverse passing, and the ball was kept in motion, so as completely to defeat the visiting defence. Houston had an off day, though he frequently found himself with two or three men to mark, a discouraging enough prospect. Johnston did his best with a small share of the ball, and Forrest worked hard in defence. Mitchell, Wood and Cooper worked hard in the scrum, but the pack as a whole was well shoved and could do little.

Result: Strathallan, nil; G. Heriot's School, 31 pts.

Strathallan v. Aberdeen G.S., played at Aberdeen on January 26th.

This game was played in icy conditions, there being an inch of snow and slush on the ground. Strath. fought gamely against a faster side, but were unable to hold the home backs who put in some excellent movements with the wet ball. In the first half play was quite open, and although the Aberdeen backs looked dangerous whenever they had the ball, they were kept out somehow. Macfarlane, playing his first game in the senior side, managed to look after his wing fairly creditably, and Forrest saved a try splendidly with a last minute tackle. Ultimately the home side opened the

scoring near the posts, after several badly missed tackles. Forrest cleared with a good run and a kick, but Strath. were unable to maintain their position in the home half. Though the Aberdeen pack was held, their backs were given three further opportunities to score before half-time which they were quick to seize.

On resuming, Strath. continued to have a fair share of the game, but lacked the speed to hold out their faster opponents. Houston did well to catch opponents who were nearly through, but Hood was unsatisfactory in the centre, and his failing to tackle here left bad gaps in the defence which Forrest found impossible to cover always. The forwards played well, Mitchell and Wilson being particularly conspicuous for their hard work.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Aberdeen G.S., 23 pts.

Strathallan v. Stewart's College, played in Edinburgh on February 2nd.

The old international pitch seemed to have a bad effect on the Strath. side which played below par. The big Stewart's forwards were able to control the game and as a result Strath. saw little of the ball. In spite of this the tackling of our backs was better than usual, and the scoring kept down to a minimum. On the other hand the School backs made several attempts to develop attacks, and were a little unfortunate to fail to register points. Hood particularly was unlucky to be bundled into touch right by the corner flag after a splendid run. This attack was kept up by all the threes, but eventually the home backs cleared with a long kick after a long spell of defensive work.

In the second half the School forwards tired, and as a result the home side did more of the attacking. Nevertheless, good work in defence by Forrest and Houston nullified most of the many Stewart's opportunities. Hood's speed with the dry ball showed up to great advantage.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Stewart's College, 21.

Strathallan v. D. Smith's XV, played at Forgandenny on February 6th.

After their recent performances Strath. did well to keep a strong team down to a

ten point margin. The opponents included three members of the Smith family, three or four other F.P.'s, and several St. Andrews University players; but though there were many strong individuals, they failed to blend into a team, and therefore their full strength was not shown. The School pack put up a very good show against heavier opponents, and through a superior combination was able to give the backs a fair share of the ball. The subsequent attacks did not materialise because the larger backs of the visitors were able completely to smother some of their diminutive opposites. Forrest scored a good dropped goal during one of these attacks. The visitors' scores were the result of breakaways, though one try by a forward should have been prevented. Generally speaking, however, the School backs, and Forrest in particular, acquitted themselves well in breaking up the attacks of the visitors.

Result:—Strathallan, 4 pts.; D. Smith's XV, 14 pts.

Strathallan v. Dollar Academy, played at Forgandenny on February 16th.

Strath. won a great game in a pool of mud and a storm of rain, and thereby opened their victories for the term. Though the scoring was low, owing to the deplorable conditions, there was no doubt that Strath. was the better side. Forrest missed an easy penalty kick in front of the goal in the opening minutes. Throughout the first half Dollar was on the defensive, but the School attacks came to nothing, partly owing to the sterling defence of the visitors and partly due to the School backs' failure to realise the strength of the wind, which generally carried their touch kicks dead or into touch in goal. The home forwards held the game on the Dollar line for considerable periods, but the sticky conditions prevented the quick dash over. Strang damaged his knee at the beginning of the game, and towards the end of the first half, he and Houston changed places.

Against the wind, after the resumption, Strath. worked the touch line the whole way into the visitors' half. Dollar made spasmodic raids, but Houston, aided by the wind, was able to secure the touch down from their kicks ahead. The home pack

now took complete control of the game, and by solid scrummaging and short kicks ahead worked back into Dollar territory. Finally, Johnston kicked ahead, and, following up hard, caught the wing before he could clear. A wild pass went straight to Murray, backing up, and his impetus carried him over. The kick was too far out to be successful against the wind. For the remainder of the game Strath. kept up the pressure by the same tactics, but there was no further scoring. The conditions were unfortunate, but Strath. adopted the right tactics of keeping the ball tight, for Dollar's heeling of the ball almost invariably led to their losing ground.

Result: Strathallan, 3 pts.; Dollar Academy, nil.

Strathallan v. Old Strathallians, played at Forgandenny on February 23rd.

A strong F.P. side was well held by the improved School side. Territorially, indeed, there was little between the sides, but the Old Boys held the advantage in speed behind the scrum, N. Gillanders, F. Grant and W. Roy being particularly forceful. In the tight, the School eight fully held their own against the heavier but less well drilled visitors' pack, but the loose rushes of the F.P.'s were very good, and S. Dow and R. Linton secured tries. The School's attacks scarcely met with the success they deserved, but G. Reid was his usual safe self at full back and gave the Old Boys little cause for anxiety. Dan Smith did excellent work in drawing the defence and then cross-kicking to find W. Roy, who went over after a typical run down the touch line. On the whole, however, Roy was allowed very little rope and did not have a good day.

For the School, Houston played well, his defence under pressure being very sound; and Forrest worked tremendously hard in covering up in defence.

Result: Strathallan, nil; Old Strathallians, 19 pts.

Strathallan v. Glasgow High School, played at Forgandenny on March 2nd.

This game revealed a further improvement in the Strath. side, and produced the most hectic scenes of rejoicing the ground has seen for some time. The forwards were a heavy lot, Dishington's weight well compensating for the loss of Auld. Strath.

opened the attack and, keeping play in the High School half, threatened danger. The visitors cleared however, and a good forward movement gave the right wing a clear run in. The kick failed. Shortly after, a Strath. attack was set up, and after Mackay had come across, Forrest and Murray handled before Hood took the ball to run clean round his man to score a really splendid try in the corner. Almost immediately afterwards the forwards carried the ball up to the same corner and forced the defence to carry over. From the scrum on the line, Strath. took the ball over, but before a try could be clearly given, the High School forwards were off-side, and the ball was scrummaged again. Straight passing sent the ball to Mackay, who kicked loose, and Murray got the touch down, for Johnston to convert.

After half-time the High School exerted pressure, but their forwards were unable to get possession, and when they did, the attack was broken up by Forrest and Murray. One breakaway from their own half, and a good forward rush took play to the home line, where Johnston was forced to carry over, and from the resultant scrum the High School wing forward scored, the kick being missed. Hood then put the issue beyond doubt by a characteristic dribble and pick up, which gave the High School defence no chance. At the end of the game Forrest went over beautifully from a line out, but the ball had unfortunately not been thrown straight. The home pack deserves much credit for the victory, as it pushed the High eight all over the field. Johnston did well in opening up the attack, and the centres, Murray and Forrest, did their job in spoiling. Hood, however, was the hero of the match, his two tries turning the scale completely in Strath.'s favour.

Result: Strathallan, 11 pts.; Glasgow H.S., 6 pts.

Strathallan v. Scottish Wayfarers, played at Forgandenny on March 20th.

The School just lost a hard fought game by three goals to two goals and three tries. The ground was dry, and a strong wind from the School end gave the visitors the advantage in the first half. Their wing crossed the line but was held up; but from the resultant scrum their centre cut through to score under the posts. Strath.

did well to keep the ball tight against the wind, but another burst by the visitors' speedy backs resulted in a try far out. Strath. replied vigorously, and carried the ball to the Wayfarers' twenty-five, where Murray nipped in to take advantage of a mishandle on the line to score a try which Johnston converted. The visitors came back, and several good bursts by the forwards carried play very near the Strath. line. From a scrum on the twenty-five, Johnston, hard pressed, sent a rather wild pass back to Houston, the ball bounced most awkwardly for him, and a Wayfarer forward was up to score near the posts, to make the half-time score 13—5 in favour of the visitors.

Though in the second half Strath. had the advantage of the wind, and also the visitors were beginning to feel the pace, they did not have as much of the game as they should have, for full advantage was not taken of the wind. The Wayfarers attacked from the kick-off, and a good passing movement resulted in a try far out, while Murray was out of the game. This try could have been averted easily had Strath. but remembered to play to the whistle, and that first aid must wait until the game is stopped. A little while later the visiting backs again got going nicely to find a gap in the home defence. Houston moved into the centre, Murray dropping back to the last line, and from a forward rush, Strath. heeled on the Wayfarers' line, and Houston dived over for Johnston again to bring about full points. From this point Strath. went all out, and though Forrest made a fine break through, ran the length of the field and beat the full back for a try which Johnston converted, they could not pull the game out of the fire. Hood had one great run through the whole side, but was grassed at the last minute. The forwards played well, although without Mitchell and Carswell; but the returned Hall gave useful weight to the scrum, and Mackenzie put up a creditable show for his first appearance in the senior side. Strang and Johnston made a good pair, and the backs swung the ball about in a most business-like fashion.

Result: Strathallan, 15 pts.; Scottish Wayfarers, 19 pts.

SECOND FIFTEEN

In their opening match Strath. avenged their defeat earlier in the season by

winning by 17 points to 6 against Gordon's College in their home fixture. The visitors opened the scoring with a penalty goal, but thanks to two tries apiece by D. Watt and G. Anderson and one by Peacock, the School's undoubted superiority was vindicated. The following week, February 9th, the forwards were responsible for the ascendancy gained over Dollar Academy in the second half, when tries by Aitkenhead, G. Anderson, W. Steven and D. Mackenzie gave the School a 12—3 victory, after the visitors had again opened the scoring.

Aberdeen G.S. were the visitors the following week, and deplorable conditions underfoot made it a forward game entirely. A kick ahead enabled the Grammar School to score an unconverted try, but the home pack retaliated strongly, and from a quick heel, Aitkenhead went over. Shortly afterwards Clow secured a second unconverted try, which proved the decider despite pressure by Aberdeen at the close. On the 23rd February Morgan's Academy 1st XV were the visitors, and a rather poor game saw the School win by a penalty goal by McKenzie and an unconverted try by Macfarlane to nil. The only reverse of the term was at the hands of Glasgow High School in Glasgow, when Strath., while enjoying a fair share of the play, went down to the tune of 6—nil.

THE THIRD FIFTEEN failed to live up to earlier form, though it must be remembered that they had contributed many members to the senior teams. They lost all three games, Robert Gordon's avenging a defeat in the Christmas Term, and Morgan's Academy 2nd proving far too big and strong for them. The match at Dollar was lost by a single try, a creditable performance in view of the speed of the Dollar backs.

HOUSE MATCHES

Simpson House won the Junior Championship for the second year in succession. In their first tie, against Freeland, they quickly established an eleven point lead, through Thomson, Macalister and Steel, the last-named's try being particularly good, from a line-out near the Freeland line. In the second half Freeland came more into the picture and, after continued pressure, a fine passing movement all along the line saw M. Wilson go over, for R. Taylor to convert. This roused Simpson, and after Thomson had

broken through and narrowly missed with a drop at goal, Lyle scored an unconverted try. In the closing minutes a fine forward rush by Freeland made good ground, and Galbraith was over the line, but there had been an earlier infringement, and Simpson ran out comfortable winners by 14 pts. to 5.

In the other game there was little open play, and for long periods play was confined to midfield. Ruthven, however, went ahead when Scroggie took a pass near the centre flag and ran strongly to defeat the defence and secure a good try, which G. Sharp converted. In the second half Nicol pressed continuously, and I. Smith was unlucky to have two apparent tries disallowed. Ruthven hung on grimly to their slender lead, and aided by more than a slice of luck just ran out the winners.

The final was a very one-sided game, Simpson dominating the play in the first half. Lyle opened their account, and soon went over again from a five yard scrum. Pringle landed a penalty goal just before the breather. Ruthven made a vain effort to get on terms, but a break through by N. Thomson put Simpson further ahead, and play closed with Simpson easily holding their own in midfield.

Play did not reach a very high standard in the Senior Sevens, there being too much individualism and little team work. Nevertheless, the final was the best game seen for at least two years. Freeland scraped home against Simpson in the preliminary round. The first half was all Freeland, play seldom moving out of the Simpson "25," and eventually Houston went over under the posts, and Johnston converted. In the second half, after a short spell in midfield, Auld broke through and carried play on to the Freeland line, where Simpson exerted continued pressure. Relief came only when F. Anderson, with a glorious opening for a score under the posts, kicked dead. The game finished tamely with midfield play.

In the other preliminary bout, Nicol pressed from the kick off and established themselves in the Ruthven "25" for a spell. Mackay relieved, but Forrest, catching the ball on the centre line, ran clean through to score and convert. Ruthven then attacked, and were nearly in when Hood made a grand run. Ruthven were the more dangerous at the opening of the second half, and G. Anderson put in

some fine work in defence, twice catching Hood when he seemed well away. Eventually, Nicol fought back into the Ruthven half, and then into the "25." Here Roy redeemed a rather disappointing display by scoring a fine try, running straight across field from the left wing to score near the right corner flag. Forrest failed with the kick just as the whistle blew.

In the final, Nicol opened strongly, and a fine break through by Forrest almost let in Roy. Maintaining pressure, Nicol severely taxed the Freeland defence, of whom no one played better than M. Wilson, called in as a substitute for Macfarlane, who had been injured in the earlier round. Eventually Houston cleared, but Forrest came back again, and, shaking off a tackle on the line, ran round to score under the posts, a try which he converted. In the second half Nicol continued to press, and Watt scored a clever try from a scrum five yards out. From the restart Johnston found a fine touch near the Nicol line on the left, and from the line-out that followed Houston dropped over for Johnston to convert. Almost immediately the final whistle sounded, giving Nicol victory by 8 points to 5.

SWIMMING

Although the pond has been closed occasionally, a great interest has been taken in swimming throughout the term, an interest further stimulated by the advent of a diving board. This has proved a highly popular amenity; perhaps too popular, for the swimming has suffered in consequence apparently. In the test for badges held at the end of term, no one was successful. This is by way of a record.

Owing to various reasons, little serious polo practice was possible, though a certain amount of throwing was indulged in. It is hoped to start serious team practice at the beginning of the Summer term, for there is a very promising supply of talent available.

FIVES

Fives has proved a very popular recreation during the half holidays this term, and prospects are bright of a very keen House Competition in the coming term. With this, and the match with the Old Boys on Commemoration Day in view, a tournament was played off during the second half of the term, fifty-six players competing.

Some excellent games saw D. Aitkenhead, W. Hood, R. Johnston, W. Leburn, W. Wallace, J. Forrest, R. Innes and J. Mackie qualify for the quarter finals, the greatest surprise being the unexpectedly easy victory of Mackie over G. Harrington, who might well have been termed first favourite. Mackie, left-handed and hard-hitting, went on to the final at the expense of Innes and Forrest with the loss of only ten points. Here he met W. Hood who, after a rather easy draw in the early rounds, had to fight hard to defeat Leburn in the semi-final.

The final was a battle of hard hitters, with Hood having a little better of the exchanges and being smiled upon by fortune. The final score 15-10 represented fairly his superiority on the actual play, though a return bout might easily mean a reversal of the decision. The tournament was valuable in the revelation of talent; it now remains to evolve partnerships in the early weeks of the term.

CRICKET PROSPECTS

Our hearty congratulations to J. Forrest on being elected Cricket Captain. That he will be a successful captain is a foregone conclusion, and that he will have a successful season is almost equally certain. The backbone of the 1934 side is still with us, and the bowlers, Hood, Wood and Aitkenhead should do well. Roy, both in batting and bowling, should develop into a useful member of the side. We have steady batsmen in Murray, Houston and Fleming, who should fulfil last season's promise. Johnston, as vice-captain, batsman and wicket-keeper can be depended upon to do all that is required of him. Among the younger element the names of Leburn, Irons, Gray stand out as batsmen, whilst much is expected of Macfarlane and R. Taylor as bowlers. The one defeat by a school side last year, Glasgow High School, must be avenged, and we expect to put up more convincing displays against the adult sides.

It is hoped that the juniors will display a real interest in cricket and try to develop their game on the right lines, for there is ample opportunity for new blood in the 2nd XI, which has a good programme of matches.

The 1st XI programme is as follows:

Apr. 27th.	George Heriot's College	Home
May 4th.	Dollar Academy	Home
„ 11th.	Robert Gordon's	Home
„ 18th.	Kilmacolm	Home
„ 20th.	Stewart's College	Home
June 1st.	Aberdeen G.S.	Home
„ 8th.	Morrison's Academy	Crieff
„ 12th.	Hillhead H.S.	Glasgow
„ 15th.	Glasgow H.S.	Glasgow
„ 21st.	H. B. Rowan's XI	Home
„ 22nd.	Alan Glen's	Glasgow
„ 26th.	Dunfermline H.S.	Dunfermline
„ 29th.	Former Pupils	
July 6th.	W. C. Roy's XI	

73rd Perthshire Scout Troop

DURING the term the patrols have been chiefly busy in completing their work in the patrol corners in readiness for the judging, at the end of term, of the winter inter-patrol competition. Most of the Saturday meetings have had to be short, but a considerable amount of enjoyment as well as work (or perhaps, because of work) was packed into them. At the beginning of the term there seemed little prospect of anything spectacular—there were to be no badge classes, but only a steady insistence on the pursuit of 2nd and 1st Class work. This insistence has borne good fruit in a general levelling up of the troop's individual abilities. It is always dangerous to keenness to hang fire too long either in the Tenderfoot or 2nd Class stage. Whilst it is impossible to gain the 1st Class badge at an early age, work can be done towards it in the way of practising estimation or signalling—works which, if postponed, tend to grow more menacing in difficulty, but if begun soon, prove easy to overcome through practice. A very great number of 2nd Class tests have all been safely passed, and we are very glad to see the real enthusiasm amongst these younger members of the troop. At the same time, the S.M. was cajoled into the minimum number of classes for Pathfinder and Public Health badges and for 1st Class Signalling. Aided by their own efforts, the candidates in these were all successful when Mr. Mackie visited us on March 23rd. As one result of these tests, 2nd C.M. Scroggie of the Eagles has now gained his

King's Scout badge; we congratulate him on an honour he has worked so hard to obtain.

There has been a new departure in Scout work in the Tracker and Stalker badges. The candidates for the former are "progressing very favourably," whilst the entrant for the latter, H. Tod, has the distinction of being the first member of the Troop to hold the Bushman's thong. This is a very difficult honour to obtain, and we are very proud of Tod and the work he has done. Mr. Ward very kindly spent some time with a Starman badge class. He had a very appreciative audience of ten, all of whom were successful in the tests.

The corner work was judged on March 23rd by Mr. Frank and Mr. Waters, to whom we are very grateful for the care with which they awarded the points. We wish also to thank Mr. Waters for his constant help in the Workshop, enabling the number of individual exhibits to be greatly increased. Trophy and Corner Cup both went to the Swifts under D. S. Hall, with the Otters and the Owls running

them very close. The Cup for the best individual exhibit was awarded to H. Tod of the Otters. His table is a very sound piece of craftsmanship.

The Trophy, Cups and Medals were presented on March 30th by Captain E. McIntyre, Secretary of the Scottish H.Q. and a Deputy Camp Chief for Scotland. With our Commissioner, Major Baillie, he inspected the Troop and its work, and then gave a short talk on the values of camping. We were very glad to see them both.

Four new scouts, J. McGregor, H. Ross, A. Grant and J. Marshall, were invested on March 30th. We wish them good Scouting.

May I remind the Troop that camp notices have been sent out, and the officers of the Troop are expecting a large number in camp. Do not disappoint us, nor cheat yourselves of a good holiday. Make up your minds to come.

We are pleased to congratulate 2nd D. M. Irons of the Swifts on gaining Mr. Riley's Medal for the best All Round Scout of the year.

Strathallian Club

Telegrams: "Defence."

Telephone: Central 794.

Hon. President - H. RILEY, Esq.
President - SAMUEL DOW, Esq.
Vice-President - GEORGE SMITH, Esq.



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

COMMEMORATION DAY this year falls on Saturday, 29th June, when we hope we will have the usual large attendance of Strathallians. Last year the Club was successful in winning the Sports Cup and we, naturally, are anxious to retain possession of it. On behalf of the Council we would make an appeal to Strathallians to turn up and give us their support. Unfortunately, there must be a large number who have not been back to the School for some considerable time and it is to them that we make a special appeal this year.

We purpose holding the usual sport events, cricket, tennis, relay race, swimming, polo, tug-of-war, and fives, and we therefore require a large number of

active participants. Will those who wish to take part in any of these events please communicate with the Sports Convener, Mr. W. A. C. Lambie, 34 West George Street, Glasgow (Telephone: Douglas 3138).

On behalf of the Council,
SAMUEL DOW, President.
J. B. MAITLAND COWAN, Hon. Secy.

From our Cambridge University Correspondent.

At present Strath. is very strongly represented in Cambridge, indeed, probably more strongly than ever before. There are five Old Strathallians in residence this year, two of them first year, and although

this in itself is above the average, it speaks well for the progress of the school that some three or four "Freshers" are expected from Strath. next year. If progress in this direction continues so favourably it is possible that a branch of the Strathallian Club may be formed permanently in Cambridge in future years. This, of course, is impossible at present, but it is an ambition which we hope may, in time, be realised.

Of the Strathallians of longest standing in Cambridge, "Buster" Mercer of Jesus College is perhaps the most unfortunate as he has been absent from Cambridge for the last two terms owing to an operation, and at present there is little news of him.

Barry Crabbe, of Queen's College, in his third year sits his English Literature Tripos in June. He is the first Strathallian to take English at Cambridge and we hope he will be successful and wish him luck.

W. W. Watt, St. John's College, is putting in some hard work on a Law course, and we do not think he will have any difficulty in the Mays. He now plays a good game of golf, having improved considerably since leaving Strath. For more strenuous exercise he has been playing squash, but he will probably drop this and take up cricket again next term, when we hope he will do better than last year and gain a regular place in the college side. We congratulate him upon gaining the position of Secretary to the Law Society which he gained early in the year.

J. A. Montgomerie of Downing College is studying Economics. He is our outstanding athlete at present and we congratulate him upon gaining his College rugby colours. This is a great feat for a Freshman and especially so in Monty's case as he displaced a colours man to get into the team in the first place. He has become something of an ice-hockey player and toured the Continent during the Christmas vacation playing for Cambridge second team. This was also a notable effort and we hope he may gain a place in the 'Varsity side in the future. He has also put in some very useful high hurdling and flat racing for his college. Apart from

this he is putting in some hard study and we look forward to his career at Cambridge with anticipation.

J. M. Wilson, St. John's, is at present the only medical student from Strath., but he will be joined by others in this capacity next year. He is keeping up his "Fives" and may help to give the School a better game this year on Commemoration Day.

From our Edinburgh University Correspondent.

Although we have three "Freshers," Messrs. Breckenridge, Balfour and Drummond, up at the University this session, there is very little news to record. Perhaps the outstanding feature has been the success of Mr. Breckenridge on the rugby field for Hawick after the 'Varsity had turned him down for a game even with one of the minor XV's. Mr. Breckenridge has played some excellent games in Edinburgh, scoring many tries with his speed and thrustfulness and kicking glorious goals from the touch-line, *à la* Melrose, and the rugger powers that be here must be feeling very sore at letting such a player slip through their fingers. And more will be heard of him in the future.

Messrs. John Ross and Ian Chalmers are now approaching their final examination in Medicine and if everything goes well should be qualified this summer. These gentlemen are by no means unknown in University "Rag" circles.

Messrs. Constable and George Gray are with us—the former taking lower classes for Accounting, the latter for the purposes of the Law Agents' Examination. I rather fancy that Mr. Ian Constable qualified as a Chartered Accountant at the last examination and that Pat has still a little longer to go. There are several examination results in the various medical professional examinations to record, but I hope to be able to send a complete list in time for the summer issue. We have only one student taking the M.A., LL.B. course at present and that is Mr. James Grosset, a "twin

brother" to Mr. James Motion. I was down with a party at the Gala Sevens where London Scottish put up an excellent display. They were called upon to play the final in rather a fatigued condition against a rested Watsonian side. Mr. Ronnie Dunn gave an excellent display in every one of the games and in spite of the Scottish being beaten there was not one of their players but enhanced his reputation.

During my perambulations I have come across several Strathallians who seem to be making favourable progress, Messrs. Martin and Billy Waterston at the Dental College, and Mr. Harry Shanks who is taking out a B.Sc. in Agriculture. I also came across one or two of the Scottish Wayfarers who spoke most highly of the School and its rugger. That's good, School, keep it up!

I had an unusual experience during my last "Orals" and perhaps the moral may not be exactly what it seems on the face of it, yet it is not only worth while recording but it shows that the School is spreading its name and fame. My oral examiner gave me a look up and down and, his eye falling on my O.S. tie, said "Strathallan, I see!" I passed. And I wonder.

From our Glasgow University Correspondent.

This session at the University has seen several new faces from Strathallan, chiefly in the medical department where Messrs. McKenna, Brown, Scott and Dunlop are appearing in their first professional examinations, the results of which along with those of more advanced years up to the finals we shall publish in our next issue. As was expected, Mr. W. B. McKenna, who was the Vice-Captain at School last year and who was outstanding in the Rugger XV, has obtained a place in the University First XV. This is an excellent achievement considering the 'Varsity have had one of the most successful seasons for many years and on more than one occasion Mr. McKenna's play has been favourably commented on by the Press. Messrs. Ian Scott and Wilson

Harrington have been playing pretty regularly for the Second XV, and Messrs. A. Fleming and W. S. Linton have figured in various XV's from the First downwards.

We note with great satisfaction that the vacancy on the Glasgow University Athletic Council caused by the retiral of Mr. Ian Scott has been filled by the election of Mr. Wilson Harrington. This is all to the good for it helps to keep the name of Strath. well to the fore at the University, and it is to be hoped that other old Strathallians will not be content to hide their lamps under the proverbial bushel but will come forward and contribute to the corporate life of the University in the same measure as they contributed to the corporate life at School. We are very pleased to note that Strathallan is now represented for the first time in the Faculty of Divinity at Glasgow by Mr. Willie Campbell, who also has been figuring in some of the University XV's. It has been rather difficult to get hold of examination results in time for this magazine but we are pleased to note that the Cullen Medal this year has been awarded to Mr. Ian Scott who was first in Professor Munro's medical clinic. There are one or two Strathallians up at the 'Varsity who should make their presence felt in the cricket field this term and we wish them the best of luck in their endeavours. All the fellows here were specially bucked by the revival of the rugger team at School, and the victories over Allan Glen's, Dollar and High School put us "on roses" for we have had many sly digs aimed at us when School has lost and it has been great getting our own back.

It has given us great pleasure to note that Mr. Jim Dow has been captain of cricket and rugger at Middlesex Hospital this year, and his side has had a most successful season, and news has just come to hand of the promotion of two old Strathallian captains to the captaincy of their rugger XV's. Mr. Gilmour Leburn has been elected captain of the Cupar rugger side, while Mr. Sandy Mackay is to lead the Greenock Wanderers XV. Promotion of this nature is to be recorded in

the fact that Mr. Ian Scott has been elected president of the Mansewood Lawn Tennis Club. May we extend our congratulations to these members of the Club who, although so young, have been selected by their fellows for positions of leadership. It is events like these that give us great pleasure to record, for in more ways than one they form an excellent criterion of the measure of the School's success in turning out fellows worthy of leadership.

Messrs. E. W. Hart and J. F. Dow are taking their finals in medicine in Cambridge and London very shortly and we wish them both a happy and a successful issue.

We hear rumours that an interesting announcement may be expected in the near future concerning Mr. T. M. Hart, who is at the Colonial Office in London, and we will be glad to publish the good lady's name when the news is made public.

We had an interesting chat with Mr. G. G. Baker, whose chambers are at 7 Fig Tree Court, Temple. He is shortly to be married to Miss Finlay, a sister of Mr. Jim Finlay, a Glasgow Strathallian. Mr. Baker will be very pleased to see any of his former school chums who may be visiting London, but it would be as well to make an appointment, for Mr. Baker is a busy man with a growing practice at the Bar, to say nothing of his duties as a councillor.

Mr. Douglas Todd, of Dar-es-Salam, paid a visit to Strathallan last term, and was pleasantly surprised at the growth of the School. He wandered through the various "amenities" and made a remark which has been very common among the old boys of earlier years: "The School seems to be becoming more like a hydro-pathic." Mr. Todd, who was assistant in the Treasury in Tanganyika Territory, has just been appointed Treasurer of British Somaliland, and in order to take up this new appointment his leave has been considerably shortened. There are many friends whom he would have liked to have visited whom he has not been able to include in this leave's round of calls. Mr. Todd is taking the School's name and fame into new territory, which is all to the good.

An interesting wedding took place in Finnart Church, Greenock, on 25th April. The bridegroom was Mr. Robert Barr and

the bride Miss Joyce Nicol. Mr. A. J. Barr, the bridegroom's brother, was groomsman, and we understand that many old Strathallians were present at the ceremony. Mr. Barr is a director of Messrs. Barr, Crombie & Co., and the company's steamer *Barrdale*, which was berthed in the James Watt Dock, Greenock, was gaily decked with flags in honour of the occasion. We extend our very best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barr.

Mr. Harry Allen, who is Troop-Leader of the 9th Fife Scouts, Kirkcaldy, has returned from the world Jamboree held in Victoria, Australia. Out of a total of seven Scouts representing Scotland, Strathallan School provided two of their number. Mr. Allen, at the invitation of one of the newspapers, wrote a most interesting account of the Jamboree, and we are hoping to induce him to let us have an article on the subject for the next issue of the magazine.

We had a very interesting visitor to the Club lunch on Monday the 4th of March in the person of Mr. "Roddy" Morrison, who is a member of several engineering professional bodies. During the last three years he has been engaged on railway engineering, and he has been home in this country assisting in the construction of sixteen of the largest passenger locomotives yet built for the East. It will not surprise those who knew him at Strath. to know that Mr. Morrison is also a fully qualified aero-nautical engineer, nor will they be surprised to hear that he has established a company undertaking all types of engineering construction. The Club members present were delighted with Mr. Morrison's visit, and his cheery nature and well informed conversation, to say nothing of his natural modesty, were appreciated by all.

The Club held a successful Dance on 1st February in the Burlington House, Glasgow. There were over one hundred guests present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Riley was present but could not be enticed to dance. The Old School Tie was prominently displayed, also the Old School Hat, and one of the Statues at the entrance was sporting a Rugby Cap with numerous dates thereon. The programme was in the form of a Rugby Fixture, and attracted a great deal of

attention. Perhaps the most enjoyable dance of the evening was "The Grand Old Duke of York," which practically developed into an excellent Rugby Scrum! A great many of the Old Boys finished very "hot and bothered" and openly regretted that they had not kept up their Rugby training! The Commemoration Day Cup was prominently displayed, proudly bearing the words, "1934—Old Boys", the first name on the Cup.

Mr. Walter Hird has sent us a most interesting account of the state of affairs in Tanganyika Territory. After regretting very much that he was unable to be present at the Dinner in Glasgow to see the presentation of the Chain of Office, Mr. Hird went on to say that he felt that the School has earned its right to a little pomp and ceremonial, which he noted with pleasure had been introduced this last Christmas. Tanganyika Territory seems to be in a state of flux at the present moment, and development schemes do not seem to be going forward, but readers on this side of the world who have noted the frequent references in the press to the hopes which Germany entertain of regaining her colonies will have little difficulty in understanding why business executives refuse to expend money on development schemes until the future position is clarified.

We congratulate our ex-President, Mr. N. G. Reid, on his promotion to Lieutenant in the 6th Battalion of the H.L.I., dated from the 13th November, 1934.

Mr. W. M. Brown, of Kilmacolm, who is employed with a Renfrew shipbuilding firm, is sailing on a newly completed dredger for the Persian Gulf. We hope that he will remember that Mr. Norman Allison is in these regions. We wish him a pleasant voyage, and what is more important in view of the climate at the other end, we wish him a safe and speedy return.

Mr. Jim Black, who is a chartered accountant, is at present on an extensive cruising holiday, but he hopes to be present on Commemoration Day to say au revoir to his many friends before he leaves to take up a post in Canada.

We have received a very snappy motor trade pamphlet from the Victory Motors Ltd., Dundee, which is the title under which two Strathallians, Messrs. Alan

Robertson and Norman Dunn, carry on quite an extensive business in Victoria Road and Tulloch Crescent, Dundee. They will be delighted to receive a visit from any old Strathallians.

We suspect that Cupid is paying special attention to the Kirkcaldy district at the present moment, for we hear interesting rumours connecting the names of several old Strathallians. Perhaps Mr. George Menzies and Mr. James Park will let us have the facts for publication in our next magazine.

Many old Strathallians who in days gone by have urged that a diving board be put in the swimming bath will find that their wishes have been carried out this last term, and the innovation is greatly appreciated by the present members of the School, who want to know why we didn't do it before.

Many a time there has been controversy with regard to the respective difficulty of Scottish and English examinations, and after two years' experience of the presentation of a large number of candidates spread over many subjects, it may interest them to know that the percentage pass gained by the School in the Scottish examinations does not vary more than two per cent. from the average pass taken over a great number of years in the Cambridge School Certificate examination.

We had a visit the other day from Messrs. Frank and Eric Schlanbusch, who gave us most interesting news from the Argentine. Mr. Bob Botting, who is connected with the Fraser business out in Buenos Aires, was married in April. They give great accounts of the success in business life of Mr. "Buster" Botting, who started on his own a few years ago as a stockbroker, and whose business now is becoming quite an important one. If this should happen to catch his eye perhaps he will drop us a note.

The School is very anxious to meet the Club on Commemoration Day at Badminton, and although we have no means of judging the School's capabilities in this direction, it is to be hoped that if we have any expert amongst the old boys that he will come forward and help to defend the cup that we won last year.

Don't forget to turn up in force on the last Saturday in June.