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Editorial

ON Speech Day, Saturday, June 5th, the official ceremony of opening the Studies Block was performed. In the last twenty-five years there has been no development comparable to the completion of this building. Since 1928 there have been four Houses, but not until last September did they become separate. Classrooms have been built, playing fields have been laid down, and masters have come and gone, but the reorganisation of affairs in this year has wrought a more radical change than all of these. Already the true value of the system has become apparent, and there can be little doubt that this will continue to develop in the years to come.

A definite landmark has been reached in the history of the School. The last six years have been a period of change, reorganisation and consolidation. In such circumstances it is difficult to produce outstanding results, but with our feet planted firmly on a secure foundation, we may regard the future in a brighter light. Changes will undoubtedly take place, for such is the natural order of a virile society, but it is unlikely that there will come about any major alteration in the basic routine evolved in the last three years. The number in the School has now risen to 260. As a result of this rapid increase since 1951, the proportion of age groups in the School will be uneven for a year or two. This will affect the games and activities until a fair number of these boys reach the top of the School.

It will be recalled that the death of Miss May Riley was recorded with regret in the Editorial of the June 1953 issue. It may be of interest to add that the late Miss Riley contributed in no small measure to the building up of the School, and this will always be remembered with gratitude. Her great interest and faith in Strathallan is confirmed by the beneficent bequest in her Will of the Residue of her Estate which the School will receive on the termination of a Life-rent. It is estimated that about £17,000 will ultimately accrue to the School Endowment Funds.

School Notes and Notices

LAST term we welcomed Lt.-Col. F. H. Anderson, who is in charge of the School cricket. He is a member of the Free Foresters; in addition, when up at Cambridge he played rugby several times for the University, and the Harlequins, and later appeared in a Scottish Trial.

We were sorry to say goodbye last term to Dr. W. S. Haldane, who has been appointed Headmaster of Alyth Junior Secondary School. He will be much missed, particularly by those who came under his influence in the laboratories and the Air Section of the C.C.F. in which he served the School so well. We are also sorry to lose Mr. J. C. Kershaw who leaves in July. He has been helping with the P.T. and games during his short stay here and has been a very cheerful and popular member of the Staff.

Miss V. W. Moffat, the Matron of Riley House, is retiring in July. We thank her for the good work she has done and offer her our best wishes for the future.

Our congratulations go to Mr. A. M. Appleby and Miss B. R. Pearson, whose engagement was announced in April.

The School is most grateful for a very generous gift of timber which has been used for the new sight screens and in many other ways. The donor wishes to remain anonymous. Mr. H. S. Grant, an Old Strathallian, has kindly given us a further annual subscription to "Reader's Digest". We are grateful to another Old Strathallian for a gift of a number of books to the School Library.

The workmen were busy all winter on the Studies Block, and the facing of the outside was finished only towards the end of May. The interior decoration has been based on the scheme of House colours, the dominant shade being a pale blue. A concrete pavement has been built connecting the Studies' door to the House; the first fifty yards of the East Drive have been resurfaced; and additional parking space has been made behind the Simpson Commonroom. The whole effect, whether seen from the Lawn or from the Rugger pitches, is very pleasing, and blends remarkably well with the additions of twenty-six years ago.

Thanks to alterations carried out in the Upper Stripping Rooms, during the Christmas holidays, each House now possesses

an additional changing-room. A greatcoat store has also been incorporated in the same floor. Half of the courtyard at the bottom of the building has been built up to provide extra accommodation for sports and corps equipment, and the original

*The Studies from the Lawn*

[M. C. Padkin]

ground-floor rooms are now used for drying purposes. A considerable improvement has been effected in the washing facilities in the Stripping Rooms since the baths were replaced at Christmas by warm showers. This makes a more economical use of the water available.

The amenities of the cloakroom area have been considerably improved. Last term the place was completely stripped and rearranged. The lockers round the Notice Board have been moved to the Lower Stripping Rooms, and four House boot-rooms have been constructed in the original inner cloakroom. Coatpegs are now in the corridor running between the two Dining Hall doors.

Minor alterations have been carried out in the Dining Hall, where the shelves which housed the sports' cups have been removed. The cups will in future be retained for a year by the winning Houses in their own House wings.

A considerable effort was made early this term to clear the grounds, particularly the area behind the Studies, of all dead

wood and tangled undergrowth. To achieve this the Pioneer parties of four years ago were again called into being. On most evenings between six and seven the sounds of axe and saw were to be heard coming from the lower regions of the Law Hill, and thin wisps of wood smoke could be seen curling through the tree tops.

The dance with the Beacon School was held in the School Library on Saturday, December 11th. This was as enjoyable an affair as ever.

It had been hoped to bring into use this term the new pitch laid down a year ago. This was impracticable, however, due to the drought during April. But by Sports Day, coming as it does at the end of July, there is a good chance of the new track being ready.

Speech Day

SPEECH DAY was held on Saturday, 5th June, when the principal guest was the Hon. J. Henderson Stewart, M.P., Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland.

Making a departure from the usual programme on account of the time taken up by the official ceremony of opening the new building, the Headmaster presented the greater part of his review of the past year in the form of a written speech. In this report he stated that the great event of the year had been the occupation of the new Block which had taken place at the beginning of the Winter term. The system, he declared, was working splendidly, and the boys had adapted themselves to the new routine extremely well. Everyone felt that the House spirit had been greatly improved.

Perhaps the most heartening sign so far was the improvement in the external examinations results, which were now better than at any time in the last ten years. In games, the Headmaster declared it had been only a moderate year, but there had been a much greater interest taken in hockey, fives, athletics, swimming and boxing, and in the field of activities there had been a healthy increase in enthusiasm and numbers taking part.

He had to confess, however, that the response given to his appeal made a year ago to leave boys at school for a further year had been disappointing. A boy's dignity and efficiency, he pointed out, developed beyond recognition during his final year, and it was well worth any sacrifice by the parents.

In reference to the forthcoming retirement of Mr. R. N. Bain, the Clerk of Works, he said "His thirty-two years with the School have been an outstanding record of loyal and devoted service.

It is impossible to say how much he will be missed by us all. His name has become a byword, and he is consulted by everyone on the widest variety of matters. In Mr. Bain we have the strongest and most valuable link with the past, and he, probably more than anyone, has been responsible for the continuity of the School since the death of the Founder. No one can grudge him his more than well earned retirement, but he is an incalculable loss to the School, and we are very glad that as he will be living in Forgandenny, we shall still be able to keep in touch with him. We hope Mr. and Mrs. Bain will enjoy many happy years together in their new home".

Mr. Henderson Stewart, after presenting the prizes, said that he appreciated how lucky the boys at Strathallan were to get such a start in life that was given to comparatively few. The previous day he said he had been visiting Glasgow schools. Many of these, airless, dark, and covered in by "great edifices", were without even a scrap of playing field. To that sort of challenge the public school boys of to-day must respond with a leadership that was their supreme duty to Scotland.

Quarter-of-an-hour after the completion of the speeches the new building was formally opened, Mr. Henderson Stewart turning the silver key to unlock the outer door.

In the afternoon, in addition to the usual School Society exhibitions, a longer and more ambitious concert was presented in the Dining Hall. Tea was served from a quarter to four, and the pipe band, greatly improved from last year, played on the Lawn. Despite last-minute fears for the weather the sun shone brightly and contributed towards the success of the day.

Principal prize winners were:

Smith Cup for the Captain of the School, A. C. Millar. Dux Medal, J. D. Hood. Houston Medal for General Merit, A. A. Arneil. English Prize, J. H. Sinclair. History, A. C. Millar. Mathematics, J. D. Hood. Science, J. D. Hood. Latin, W. M. Edwards. Art, R. A. Gray.

Chapel Notes

THE following preached at the Sunday services during the Winter and Spring terms:

Sept. 20, The Headmaster; Sept. 27, Rev. W. Drummond Hunter, M.A.; Oct. 4, Rev. J. C. Mackinnon, M.A.; Oct. 11, The Headmaster; Oct. 18, Rev. J. C. M. Jack, M.A.; Nov. 8, Rev. L. Derrick-Large; Nov. 15, Rev. R. F. R. Logan, B.D.; Nov. 22, Rev. J. A. Kitchin, M.A.; Nov. 29, Rev. A. Cameron, B.D.; Dec. 6, Rev. T. F. Gibb, B.D.; Jan. 17, The Headmaster; Jan. 24, Rev. A. Cameron, B.D.; Jan. 31, Mr. D. Silver; Feb. 7,

Rev. M. Ritchie, M.A.; Feb. 21, Rev. J. Mackie; Feb. 28, Rev. W. Hume, M.A.; March 14, Rev. Dr. J. F. Marshall; March 21, Mr. A. D. D. McCallum; March 28, The Headmaster.

The following anthems have been sung by the Choir since October: "Let thy merciful ears be opened" (Weelkes), "Let us now praise famous men" (Vaughan Williams), 150th Psalm (Franck), "I waited for the Lord" (Mendelssohn), "Jesu, Lamb of God" (Mozart), "Lead me Lord" (Wesley), "May thy Spirit Rest upon us" (Mozart), Brother James' Air, Te Deum in B flat (Stanford). During the Easter term choruses from the "Creation" were sung.

The annual Carol Service was held on 13th December. This took the usual form of nine lessons and carols.

Lectures and Entertainments

ON March 22nd, Lady Forbes, the wife of a former ambassador to Peru, gave the School a talk on that country. To illustrate this she had brought a case full of fascinating exhibits, the most interesting of which dated from Inca times. In vigorously designed silver and pottery, the earliest pieces showed that the level of civilisation in the new world once compared favourably with that of the old. Ranging from those times to the present day, Lady Forbes held her audience in enthralled attention, and packed more interest and entertainment into an hour's lecture than anyone could have hoped for. We only wish she had accidentally left some of these exhibits behind.

Senior members of the School were also privileged last term to hear Professor Hitchin, of St. Andrews University, who talked on dentistry as a career. After a well-balanced and stimulating lecture, Professor Hitchin concluded by showing some excellent coloured slides of sets of teeth, some healthy and some decaying or damaged; those who have sound teeth were left in very little doubt as to their good fortune. We departed from the gymnasium grateful to an interesting lecturer, and with the impression that dentistry is a very worthwhile profession.

There were also two films shown last term: "They were not divided" and "Henry V".

J.A.B.

Music Notes

OVER the winter, most of the musical efforts were centred on the preparation of Haydn's "Creation". Several of the choruses in this are by no means easy and they proved to be heavy going for the less experienced trebles. However, in the end, the trebles acquitted themselves really well, as did the whole choir.

In the Easter term we were fortunate in having two first class concerts. The Chelham Quartet sang—and one of their members introduced in a most amusing and homely fashion—a selection of excerpts from many of the best-known operas. The individual voices may not have been in the first rank of excellence, but they blended well and the artists so obviously enjoyed themselves, their timing and diction was so good, and the programme itself so well chosen that this proved to be the most popular concert we have had for several years. Later in the term we had a concert from the St. Andrews University Madrigal Society. Again, what was most noticeable about the performance was the enjoyment with which the group attacked all the madrigals, bringing out effectively the varying moods.

Previously, before Christmas, Beryl Kimber made a most welcome return visit to the School, and played a programme containing items by Handel, Lalo and Beethoven. She also gave a very happy half-hour to the members of the violin class, by joining in with great enthusiasm with their playing.

Over the last two terms, small groups have attended concerts in Perth, given by the Amadeus Quartet and the Alan Loveday Trio, and in October a large party, containing all those who had taken part in the “Mikado”, saw a performance of the “Gondoliers” in Edinburgh.

It is always sad to lose members of the orchestra just as they are beginning to get really proficient. Both D. M. Stuart and D. M. A. Dillon were at this stage and managed well in the performance of “The Creation” to play the clarinet parts with a confidence almost equal to that of the vastly more experienced other members of the orchestra. However, it is encouraging that quite a number of younger boys with several years at School still ahead of them are coming on quite well.

On Speech Day the orchestra combined for the first time with a section of the choir in performing choruses from Bach’s Peasant Cantata.

In the March Associated Board Examinations, held in Perth, the following were successful:

D. M. Sinclair (Oboe), Grade 3 Pass with merit.

D. M. A. Dillon (Clarinet), Grade 3 Pass with merit.

G. I. J. Anderson (Clarinet), Grade 1 Pass.

In the December examination the following passed in Theory of Music:

W. S. T. Pottinger, Grade 3.

D. M. Sinclair, Grade 5.

D.E.C.



[M. C. Padkin]

Old Ship Inn, Cheshire

Literary and Debating Society

THIS year saw two innovations; for the first time separate Senior and Junior debates were held, and in March a joint Junior meeting was held with Glenalmond. All debates with one exception took place in the Saloon, and there were altogether six meetings. In the Christmas term two motions were put before the House: "That no useful purpose was served by the ascent of Everest", and "That the existence of the colour bar in modern civilisation is to be deplored". At the first of these, a Senior debate, two masters spoke and the motion was lost by 22 votes to 8. Mr. J. A. Binnian and J. S. Paton proposed and Mr. H. M. E. Haines and H. A. Macmillan opposed the motion. Speakers at the Junior debate were K. R. Hunter and I. S. McMickan for the motion, and W. M. Thom and H. Willcox for the opposition. This was won by 17 votes to 14.

At the beginning of February, it was decided by 26 to 15, at a Junior debate, that Scotland was not fit to govern herself. D. S. McCallum, J. A. Brough, K. R. Hunter and R. C. H. Mackay were the principal speakers. Two Senior meetings followed, the first of these, which had as a motion "That not even sponsored television will seriously rival the cinema", was

lost by 19-10. R. A. Gray and J. H. Sinclair managed between them to point out the majority of the more obvious advantages of the cinema as opposed to television, while J. D. Hood and L. M. Urquhart, by stressing the comforts of the armchair viewer, swayed the House.

At the penultimate meeting, held on 10th March, it was definitely agreed, in the event of a fire in an art gallery, that the caretaker should be saved before the masterpiece. A. C. Millar and J. D. Thomas pleaded their case without avail, while R. J. M. Philip and W. R. Galbraith managed to persuade the House to cast 23 out of 30 votes in their favour.

K. R. Hunter and R. C. H. Mackay were the Strathallan principal speakers at the Glenalmond Debate. The motion before the House, "That too much time at School is spent on useless subjects", was defeated by 28 votes to 11. It is to be hoped that we can entertain our visitors again next year.

Taken all over the standard of debating in the School seems to have risen this year, although still too many speakers prefer to question the less relevant of their opponent's statistics rather than to put forward constructive ideas of their own.

A.C.M.

"The Creation"

PARTS I and II of Haydn's "Creation" were sung on three occasions by the School Choir: In the Middle Church, Perth, on 21st March; in St. Andrew's Church, Auchterarder, on 28th March; and in the School Gymnasium on 1st April. Five members of the School assisted the orchestra which had come from Perth for the occasion, and the soloists were well known Perth singers.

The Choir's singing fully justified their many hours of patient practice, for they achieved an excellent blending of voices. In particular, the basses succeeded in producing just the necessary volume to avoid drowning the beautifully clear singing of trebles and altos. There are of course choral highlights in this work, and the Choir did full justice to "Awake the Harp", "The Heavens are telling", and "Achieved is the glorious work".

It is perhaps unfair to dwell upon the performance of one soloist when all three were good, but Isobel Clark's purity of tone deserves special mention, and one recalls her singing of

"With verdure clad the fields appear" as a highlight of the evening. As a trio, their singing of "On thee each living soul awaits" was a fitting approach to the climax of Part II.

As usual on these occasions, the orchestra showed no signs of being under-rehearsed, even although they had had little chance to play as a group before the actual performance.

A brief extract from the programme is given below:

Soloists—

Isobel Clark	Soprano
John Corbett	Tenor
David Malcolm	Bass
Continuo	Gordon West
Conductor	David Cutforth

School members of the Orchestra—

Oboe	D. M. Sinclair
Clarinets ...	D. M. Stuart, D. M. A. Dillon
Horn	K. F. L. Leishman
Trumpet	A. J. Fitzpatrick

R.A.L.B.

Dramatic and Operatic Society

"She Stoops to Conquer"

GOLDSMITH'S "She Stoops to Conquer" was performed on December 15th and 17th. After the outstanding performance of "The Mikado" last year, this had to be judged by more ordinary standards. The fact that Goldsmith is more than a hundred years further away than Gilbert meant that while the broadest comedy came through freshly, the romantic complications seemed to some of the audience rather remote.

The most rewarding part in the play is that of Tony Lumpkin, and D. S. McCallum made a fine job of it. He had many of the best jokes in the play, and supplementing these with a good sense of timing and a clear bluff accent, he bounced the play along merrily. As Kate Hardcastle, A. C. J. McLean differentiated skilfully between the two sides of the part. Both as a polished young lady and a coy servant, he spoke clearly and acted convincingly. He and J. W. Dinsmore, as Constance Neville, brought a confident gaiety to their parts that seemed to be based on much more experience on the stage than their youth would allow.

Marlow and Hastings (R. C. H. Mackay and N. E. H. Crosby) had a much harder job. The two heroes seem to belong to a world much more distant to us than the other characters,



"She Stoops To Conquer" [By courtesy of P. K. McLaren]

and the unreality of their predicaments was increased by the fact that their words were not always quite clear. In Marlow's case it was particularly difficult for a fourteen-year-old to think himself into the part of an eligible bachelor of twenty something. But Mackay did his best.

E. J. E. Smith portrayed the well-fed comfort of Mr. Hardcastle, but might have made a little more of his bewilderment and anger. Mrs. Hardcastle fluttered in and out of the scenery, which, as R. A. Gray, she had largely designed and painted. Some of her early scenes with her son Tony were among the most successful in the play, her varying moods contrasting well with his rebellious confidence.

The maid was played by N. F. Maguire, and the landlord by R. J. M. Philip, while a bunch of semi-inebriated and scarcely recognisable fourth formers (J. C. Kenneth, D. M. Sinclair, W. M. Thom, G. C. Baxter and R. M. Benson) delighted the groundlings by their jollification in "The Three Pigeons". Dresses were made, make-up was applied, and scenery was shifted and lit by willing helpers too numerous to list. The whole performance was very rewarding, and, in spite of the difficulties of the play, the short time for rehearsal and the gloomy advance predictions of one of the producers, it was all great fun.

D.E.Y.



[By courtesy of P. K. McLaren]

"She Stoops To Conquer"—"The Three Pigeons"

Combined Cadet Force

Army and Basic Sections

THE contingent has undergone considerable reorganisation this year. The date for the Certificate "A" examination has been changed from November to March in the hope that a more continuous period of training will give cadets a better chance of success. The age for entry into the C.C.F. has been established at fourteen. For parade purposes the contingent is now divided into platoons by Houses. This should make it easy in future to run House competitions in drill and shooting. A shooting competition, on the basis of results in the Empire test, is being run this term. Next year when we have overcome our present "indigestion"—three-quarters of the Army Section has yet to sit Certificate "A" Part I—it is hoped to put much of the responsibility for basic training upon the respective Houses.

One Field Day has been held this year, and another is to be held.

In addition to these schemes Sgt. Arneil and Cdt. Pattullo have attended signals courses at Glencorse, while 4 cadets and all the officers sought guidance for 5 days at Aberdeen, attending a C.C.F. course at Gordon Barracks.

The Pipe Band is now very much a feature of Contingent parades, and looks well in its new equipment. On July 2nd it will compete at Goldenacre in the Schools Band Competition, and under P./M. Forgan it can be relied upon to make a good showing despite its brief existence.

Camp will be held at Cultybraggan, near Comrie.

M.H.

R.A.F. Section

The Air Section has lost F./Lt. W. S. Haldane since these notes were last published. He has now given up his C.C.F. work after several years of very effective service. F./O. H. G. Macintosh has taken over command of the section. The usual preparation for the Advanced and Proficiency examinations, which are being held on June 21st, has been taking place, although the weather has unfortunately prevented much use being made of the glider—at last securely housed. F./Sgt. Schofield, the Group Instructor, has, however, given several interesting lectures instead. A very enjoyable Field Day was held at Leuchars on 21st March, and it is hoped to hold a similar one at Turnhouse later this term. The R.A.F. is one of the two sections bearing rifles on the General Inspection, and considerable improvement will be needed if we are to acquit ourselves well. Camp this year is being held at Thorney Island in the south of England. This is a navigation school and there should be plenty of flying. We will be losing Mr. Kershaw at the end of this term and hope that he will enjoy his time at Liverpool University.

Promotions: Cpl. Scott to be F./Sgt., Cdt. Prophet to be Sgt., Cdts. Hood and Menzies to be Cpls.

H.G.M.

Angling

A CLUB, limited to twelve members, has been formed this term to encourage fishing. Lord Forteviot and Colonel A. Gomme-Duncan have very kindly granted permission for small parties to fish their waters on the Earn, on occasions. It is hoped that members, besides returning with stories of no co-operation and lost fish, will soon produce some genuine evidence of their skill.

Some classes in fly-tying were also begun last term. This novelty at first attracted some thirty boys, but, as was expected, numbers fell, leaving about twelve enthusiasts, with Booker-Milburn and McLellan as Secretaries. Though this activity has

closed down for the Summer term, it is intended to revive it during the winter months, which are more suitable for indoor pastimes.

J.A.B.

Workshops

DURING the past year we have acquired two electric machine tools, a bench drill and a sander, which have been in constant use by the many members enrolled. Owing to the numbers wishing to join the Club, it has meant that the time available for each boy has had to be curtailed. In this respect machine tools have speeded up production.

There has been a tendency for boys to copy rather than to design their own work. This we would discourage, but it has led to the making of six full-size canoes, a number of pendant lamps and many coffee tables. We think that we have found a very satisfactory medium which is unaffected by heat, acids and stains, for covering tables, etc., and in due course this will appear among the many articles produced by the boys.

As usual we are very grateful to Messrs. Bain and Boag for all the help we have received from them during the year.

A.J.T.

Mountaineering

SINCE the last number of *The Strathallian*, two meets have been held. On Sunday, 22nd November, a party of twelve together with the St. Andrews University Mountaineering Club proceeded to Loch Tay to climb Beinn Ghlass and Beinn Lawers. Well fortified by morning coffee in the Palace Hotel, Aberfeldy, a start was made from the Scottish Ski Club car park shortly after eleven. The cloud base was low, and once above it, it was not long before the snow level was reached. Visibility above 3,000 feet was almost negligible, and direction largely a matter of guesswork. The whole party did, however, reach the top of Beinn Ghlass, from where half went off into the mist to look for Beinn Lawers, while the remainder returned to the car park, and then to the Breadalbane Arms Hotel.

The Spring term did not bring us much mountaineering, but two boys spent some time in Glencoe during the holidays, while one of them even assayed, with apparent enjoyment, a rock climb of the difficult variety on Buchaille Etive Mor. Forgan and Anderson took a more independent line at Kinlochewe in Wester Ross, and despite hardship and great privation, returned well satisfied with their expedition.

*The Sentinel*

[M. C. Padkin]

The first meet of the Summer term was held on Sunday, 23rd May, when a party of eleven went to Glencoe in conjunction with the Perth J.M.C.S. Arriving shortly before eleven, the whole day was spent on the hills, notwithstanding most inclement weather conditions, which at times reduced visibility on the tops to less than twenty yards. Divided into four groups, half spent the time rock climbing, while the remainder concentrated on hill walking. Roped together, with hearts in their mouths, Paterson and Wilson eventually gained the top of Buchaille Etive Mor, while others climbed surrounding peaks, including the Aonach Eagach Ridge. This provided a very good introduction to simple rock climbing, and so great a degree of competent competence was displayed that although McCallum carried the rope for a larger part of the day than he intended, it was never employed. Beyond this northern rampart of Glencoe the peaks of Mamore Forest were clearly seen, but Beinn Nevis remained in cloud, as did Bidean Nam Bian to the south. Only Garbh Bheinn of Ardgour was clear throughout the day, across the waters of Loch Linnhe.

The party returned unscathed to Strathallan at 10.30 p.m.

Future plans are uncertain, but, looking well ahead, a ski-ing expedition is envisaged, either to Austria or to Norway.

To a Subway Station

Like sphinxes on the desert waste they stand
While timid stragglers shuffle past and join the pilgrim band.
They contemplate the posters which adorn the further wall
Although they are not interested in any way at all.
Disinterest is the guise you see in which they're often found,
For none must let the other see he's listening for the sound—
The promised sound which indicates the hour is drawing nigh.
The hour that they've been waiting for with scarce a patient
sigh.

And then it's heard! A muffled roar. They liven up at last.
A murmur races through the crowd, and all is moving fast.
They straighten up and move a little nearer to the front,
And elbow in and out with an apologetic grunt!
It thunders in and then the doors are crammed with young
and old:

And soon the question will arise, "How many will it hold?"
However at the moment no one really stops to think,
For everyone is tottering upon the very brink.
Will they, won't they, will they, won't they, will they manage
it?

Or will they have to give it up and wait a little bit?
At last the chaos settles down and spirits start to drop,
And those who couldn't disembark must wait another stop.
But plunging down the escalator comes a business man
Who dashes to the waiting train as quickly as he can,
And prematurely thankful to an open door he goes,
But is quickly disillusioned when they all begin to close.
He's very puzzled by the loud ensuing merry din
Until he notes the driver with a most malicious grin.
He shakes his fist and grinds his teeth and generally displays
His disposition and his mood in many violent ways.
But temper, as it's often said, is never of avail—
The train drew out and he was left to gaze along the rail.

R.A.G.

A Visit to Switzerland

BASLE at last! After an eleven-hour journey from Glasgow, we set foot on the Continent for the first time. It was a beautiful Spring afternoon, and all thought that Switzerland would fulfil our expectations.

After the pilot had ascertained whether we were in the Swiss or French section, and the few formalities had been completed, we lunched, and then continued by train to Thun, our home for the next week. Thun is a delightful little town, situated in the Bernese Oberland on Lake Thun, twenty miles from Berne, the capital. Like every other town in Switzerland it is exceptionally clean, due to the fact that electricity is the main source of power. It caters well for tourists with its four hotels and excellent shopping facilities. The three of us from Strathallan were staying at one of the hotels with another party, numbering thirty in all.

Our pleasant stay was, however, a trifle spoilt by the continuous bad weather which lasted for most of our holiday. Tours arranged included visits to Interlaken, Kandersteg, Grindelwald, the Beatus Caves and the Neiderharn. The last of these was made by funicular railway and cable chair. Unfortunately the view we would have had was obliterated by whirling snow. Nevertheless the trip proved to be most enjoyable.

The visit to the Beatus Caves was perhaps the most interesting. These are situated at Spiez, a town approximately twelve miles along Lake Thun. These caves were most fascinating; the various grottoes had lighting effects giving the tourist the full beauty of the underground place. Fortunately the guide spoke excellent English, so the points of interest were not missed. Some stalactites, about a foot and a half long, caused considerable speculation when the guide told us that it took a thousand years for one of these to grow an inch! This is hardly credible, but is apparently true.

The most disappointing of the organised tours was that to Grindelwald, the famous ski-ing centre. Here we were to have seen a large glacier, but unfortunately, due to the snow, avalanches were extensive, and the local people emphatically told us that it was very dangerous even to attempt to go near it. We were then forced to spend our time shopping. Last, but certainly not least, was a visit to Switzerland's magnificent capital, Berne. Here many hours were spent in sight-seeing, the famous bear pit being one of the many attractions. The majority of the streets there have arcades covering the pavements, permitting the shoppers to remain dry in wet weather. Here and there were large department stores, not unlike some in Britain.

A rather amusing incident occurred when a gendarme on points duty posed for us to have his photograph taken, thus throwing the traffic into confusion.

Only too soon our stay ended. A rather uncomfortable night on the French train was experienced, and all were glad when we boarded the steamer at Calais to take us to England. After an uneventful crossing we disembarked at Folkestone, where a short train journey took us to London. After waiting several hours we caught the north-bound train, and arrived in Glasgow at half-past eight on a Sunday morning. Our unforgettable experience was at an end.

D.M.S., W.M.T., A.S.M.

Rugby Football, 1953-1954

ONCE again we have to look back on a season which, as far as results go, can give little cause for satisfaction. Of a total of forty matches played by the School teams only eleven of these resulted in victories, seven of which were gained by the most junior team in the School. When one comes to examine this state of affairs there is little fresh that can be added to last year's retrospect, particularly as far as the 1st XV is concerned. As last year the 1st XV were a young side, lacking experience, weight, and most important, any real pace. Competition for places in the team was not sufficiently keen, as the 2nd XV was definitely below standard, and this had an adverse effect on all practice games. With these limitations, no one of sound football judgment could have expected the 1st XV to have won many matches, and taken by and large, one cannot really complain of the spirit shown by the team throughout the season. There is very little fun to be derived—and after all that is the main object of the game—from constantly facing stronger, faster and heavier opponents, and generally speaking the team “stuck to it” pretty well, and while its efforts engendered a good deal of anger and criticism on the touchline, the players can take comfort from the fact that the game is always so much easier when viewed from that position! As Captain, Paterson lacked experience and suffered from being moved from one position to another early in the season, but should prove very useful next season. Millar led the forwards well, and set an excellent example by never “letting up” himself. Of the backs, Arneil always played with great determination both in attack and in defence, but lacked support, while Rossie, both as a full back and later as a scrum half, showed considerable promise.



Top Row—N. E. H. Crosby, D. M. Anderson, H. W. Dinsmore, R. C. Ross, A. J. Fitzpatrick, P. Davidson, D. M. Stuart, J. M. Swan. *Centre Row*—D. M. A. Dillon, A. A. Arneil, R. A. Paterson (Captain), D. H. Scott, A. C. Millar.

In fairness to the Under 15½ and Under 14½ teams it must be pointed out that the former played all their matches away and the latter all but two; and both their fixture lists have been made much more formidable in the last two years. Except for one lapse against Loretto, the Under 15½ played as well as could be expected of them at this stage, and the same can be said of the Under 14½ where the margins of defeat were generally close.

With regard to the future, I think that one can safely say that competition for places in the senior teams will be much keener next year, which is all to the good, and that there will be no lack of sound forwards of greater weight and speed than in the past two seasons, but there will still be a lack of three-quarters of any real speed and thrust. These qualities cannot be manufactured, and one must just be patient. Much has been said in this retrospect of the handicaps suffered by the 1st XV with regard to speed, size and weight, but all the blame for our poor record cannot be attributed to these factors. There does seem to be throughout the School a very low standard of the knowledge of the theory, strategy and tactics of the game, and a certain lack of keenness for positive and constructive individual practice—this was mentioned last season. There are several excellent books on Rugger, several of which are in the School Library, and no one who hopes to make any showing at all at the game will ever do so unless he understands clearly what he is trying to do, and is prepared to go out on to a field and practice with determination to master the techniques of the game in general and his own position in particular. A good and successful side may only be turned out if every individual in that team shows this determination to make the best use of himself. Masters should not have to dragoon boys into individual practice. I hope to notice a great improvement in this respect next season.

Finally may I take this opportunity of thanking all masters who have coached teams and games this season for all the hard work they put in.

A.D.D.M.

Summary of Results

		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	
						For	Against
1st XV	-	13	—	—	13	11	331
2nd XV	-	6	—	—	6	3	209
15½ XV	-	7	2	1	4	24	105
14½ XV	-	6	2	1	3	24	48
13½ XV	-	8	7	—	1	151	64

HOUSE COMPETITION

Senior League

Ruthven beat Freeland 11-0
Ruthven drew with Nicol 0-0
Ruthven beat Simpson 8-6

Simpson beat Nicol 3-0
Freeland beat Simpson 6-3
Nicol beat Freeland 6-5

Junior League

1st Round

Simpson beat Nicol 39-0	Freeland beat Ruthven 8-6
Simpson beat Freeland 6-3	Ruthven beat Nicol 21-3
Simpson drew with Ruthven 0-0	Freeland beat Nicol 20-0

2nd Round

Simpson beat Nicol 15-0	Freeland beat Ruthven 3-0
Simpson drew with Freeland 3-3	Ruthven beat Nicol 20-5
Simpson beat Ruthven 15-3	Freeland beat Nicol 20-8

Senior Cup—1st Ruthven, 2nd Nicol, 3rd Simpson and Freeland.

Junior Cup—1st Simpson, 2nd Freeland, 3rd Ruthven, 4th Nicol.

Flag Points—1st Ruthven, 15; 2nd Simpson, 10; 3rd Nicol, 5.

Strathallan v. Allan Glen's

Played at Bishopbriggs on 21st November. Result: Allan Glen's 16, Strathallan 0.

After a rousing first half which resulted in no score, and during which the School kept the larger home side completely under control at all stages by tackling which was crisp and uninhibited, the School XV was eventually beaten by one drop goal, one penalty goal and two goals to nil.

The score was opened only fourteen minutes from "no side" when the Allan Glen's scrum heeled cleanly on the Strathallan goal line, the ball being carried over on the blind side. A very good kick converted the try. This was immediately followed by a drop goal from in front of the posts, and the remaining ten minutes were spent inside the School twenty-five.

A penalty goal, the result of a holding-on infringement, was followed by a goal in the closing minute when the opposing scrum half crossed the line from a five-yard scrum under the posts.

This was one of the best performances given by the School XV to date, and it was only when physical fatigue set in towards the close of play that the defence was unable to react quickly enough to prevent the late scores.

Team: W. R. Brown, P. Davidson, D. M. Stuart, A. J. Fitzpatrick, D. H. Scott, A. A. Arneil, M. D. Rossie, A. C. Millar, D. M. Anderson, D. M. A. Dillon, N. E. H. Crosby, H. W. Dinsmore, R. A. Paterson (Capt.), R. C. Ross, J. M. Swan.

Strathallan v. Aberdeen Grammar School

Played on Big Acre on 5th December. Result: Aberdeen Grammar School 9, Strathallan 0.

The School, on a frosted ground, threw away too many scoring opportunities in this game to be anything but disappointed with their performance. The game was lost primarily at forward, where the School pack, facing a very indifferent opposition which seldom showed any real fire or effectiveness, never asserted itself.

On the other hand there was some dreadful lobbed passing and some horribly wild throws by the three-quarters, whose positioning in defence, particularly at half-back, left much to be desired. This as much as the fatally slow heeling led to two of the three tries.

The School could well have turned this poor and unspectacular game into a victory had they shaken off a little of the anaesthesia which enshrouded their beginning and had they once shown a little unrestrained zest.

Team: As against Allan Glen's.

Strathallan v. Dollar Academy

Played on Little Acre on 23rd January. Result: Dollar Academy 27, Strathallan 0.

After much rain the ground was very heavy and wet, but otherwise conditions were good. The whole secret of Dollar's success lay in the fact that they were quicker in every respect. They thought quickly, got down in the scrums quickly, both tight and loose, and generally reached every situation with more speed and purpose than Strathallan, with the result that they gained possession of the ball and consequently the initiative throughout almost the whole game. Strathallan defended pluckily and kept going to the end, but until they can learn the secret of quick thinking and prompt acting they cannot expect to achieve much in attack. Right from the start Dollar hustled Strathallan forward, and secured a complete monopoly of the ball—and this, too, when for the first time this season we could not plead the excuse of being severely outweighed. Attacking constantly at the beginning, they would have scored earlier than they did but for some good tackling and dropped passes which were understandable in the conditions. After about ten minutes, however, this constant pressure had its reward, and after a break by their fly half, Hall, who was the mainspring of all the Dollar attacks, they scored an unconverted try on the left. After this Strathallan showed to better advantage for a short spell, and gaining possession of the ball from several scrums, attacked quite strongly and forced Dollar to touch down for a twenty-five. But Dollar soon reasserted their superiority, and two more tries, very similar to the first, were scored before half-time, although in one of these the final pass looked suspiciously forward. The second half was largely a repetition of the first, with Dollar gaining constant possession of the ball, and Strathallan only being able to attack spasmodically. The Strathallan defence remained sound, but the constant covering and tackling tired the three-quarters, and Dollar were able to score more freely than in the first half, adding three goals and one dropped goal, thus bringing the total to 27 points—although again in scoring one of these tries their wing three-quarter was definitely "in touch". A feature of this half was Hall's certain goal kicking with a muddy ball, and he was in fact the outstanding player on the field. For Strathallan Arneil got through a great deal of covering, but gave Hall too much licence, while Stuart's tackling in the centre was invaluable.

Team: As against Aberdeen Grammar except J. D. Hood for D. M. A. Dillon.

Strathallan v. Glenalmond

Played on Big Acre on 6th February. Result: Glenalmond 20, Strathallan 3.

The School, playing with apparently new found zest which produced the most enjoyable rugby of the term, kicked off against a slight wind, and from the start played with a thrustfulness which was as wholesome as it was unusual.

In the eighth minute, however, after the School had spent much of the time in their opponents' half, a scrambling forward rush by the Glenalmond pack resulted in an unconverted try in the corner.

Only when the visiting centres were allowed to move did there appear to be any real danger to the Strathallan line, and on several occasions good covering by the forwards denied the visitors any success. A dropped goal, followed by a goal from a crisply orthodox three-quarter movement, brought the score to 11-0 in favour of Glenalmond. At this stage the School, still very lively in the loose and still getting a fair share of the ball from the tight, set off on several sallies, and on one occasion Rossie slipped away round the blind side of the scrum, making forty yards before the attack died. The Strathallan hopes soared high when Dillon emerged from nowhere in possession of the ball, and making considerable ground, attempted to put the ball up in the air. He was unsupported, however, and his kick was charged. The lack of success of these two movements in particular may well be attributed to the unusual occurrence of finding ourselves in a scoring position, a circumstance which has this year been afforded too seldom.

Two unconverted tries by Glenalmond were replied to by a penalty goal, kicked by Rossie, and in the closing minute a good try by Glenalmond raised the score to 20 points to 3 in their favour.

Team: W. R. Brown, D. H. Scott, P. Davidson, D. M. Stuart, A. J. Fitzpatrick, A. A. Arneil, M. D. Rossie, A. C. Millar, N. E. H. Crosby, D. M. A. Dillon, R. C. Ross, R. A. Paterson (Capt.), D. M. Anderson, H. W. Dinsmore, J. M. Swan.

Hockey

A START was made early in the Easter term with four-a-side hockey in the Gymnasium. The improvement shown in the stick work later in the term has shown the value of this. Although all the matches were lost they were all against senior club sides, and much promise was shown, R. W. W. Paterson and Barclay being hard-working forwards, and Anderson, Eason and Arneil solid in defence. Great faults still remain, however; a lack of steadiness in the circle, indifferent marking, slowness in recovery and lack of covering in defence being the most noticeable. If these are corrected, and the improvement in stick work maintained throughout the Summer, there is every hope of a successful season next year, especially as the great bulk of the team will be returning. A side has been entered for the Dunfermline Civic six-a-side tournament in June, and it is hoped that one or two other matches will be played this term.

The School v. Highland District lost 2-4

v. The Staff lost 0-1

v. Dunfermline Carnegie lost 1-3

v. Edinburgh University lost 0-6

v. Highland District lost 1-4

Under 16½ XI v. Naemoor won 11-0

Junior XI v. Craigflower won 2-1

The following represented the School: A. A. Arneil (Capt.), E. J. M. Inglis (Vice-Capt.), S. L. C. Orr, D. A. Clement, D. M. Anderson, M. D. Rossie, D. B. Pirrie, D. A. Leishman, D. F. Barclay, D. C. Yellowley, W. T. D. Prophet, R. W. W. Paterson, J. G. Clark, J. S. McGregor, R. S. Eason, D. R. D. Bruce.

H.G.M.

Fives

THE standard of fives has improved considerably, and for the first time for a number of years we have played against other schools. The outlook for the future is even better. J. G. Clark and M. D. Rossie, our first pair, have reached a very fair standard, and with J. D. Thomas from the second pair, they will be here for a year or two more. Junior fives has also flourished, and during the Winter terms it became necessary to book to obtain a court in the evenings.

In the match against Glenalmond the first pair won and the other two lost. We are, however, still far below the standard of Merchiston, who trounced us, but our first pair made a good fight of their games. We beat Glasgow University, but this was not nearly their best team.

In the House competition Ruthven won the Cup, with some ease, for the second year in succession.

D.E.Y.

RESULTS

- v. Glenalmond, home, won (4-2)
 - J. G. Clark and M. D. Rossie won 2-1
 - R. S. Eason and D. H. Scott won 2-1
- v. Glasgow University, home, won (3-3), won on points
 - J. G. Clark and M. D. Rossie won 2-1
 - R. S. Eason and J. D. Thomas lost 1-2
- v. Glenalmond, home, lost (5-7)
 - J. G. Clark and M. D. Rossie won 3-1
 - R. S. Eason and A. A. Arneil lost 1-3
 - J. D. Thomas and D. H. Scott lost 1-3
- v. Merchiston, away, lost (0-6)
 - J. G. Clark and M. D. Rossie lost 0-2
 - R. S. Eason and J. D. Thomas lost 0-2
 - A. A. Arneil and D. H. Scott lost 0-2

Summary of results: Played 4, won 2, lost 2

Inter House Competition

1st Ruthven, 2nd Simpson, 3rd Freeland, 4th Nicol

Boxing

THIS year the number of boxers in the School has increased to over forty, and classes have been held regularly twice a week in Activities Period. There has been a noticeable improvement in the standard of boxing, and there are now in the School several promising performers. As yet there are insufficient boxers to warrant an Inter House Competition, but a match was held on 5th March, 1954, with Morrison's Academy, and after a most exciting contest in which the result was in doubt until the last bout, Strathallan won by seven bouts to six. It is believed that this was the first time that the School has ever partaken in an

outside boxing match, and it is hoped to arrange more of these next year. We are very grateful to Messrs. R. H. P. Duff, W. Mason and J. McLeish, who came from Perth to officiate at the match.

A.D.D.M.

RESULTS

Strathallan			Morrison's Academy		
Gillies, T. R.	-	1	Fleming, J.	-	0
Law, D. B.	-	0	Radcliffe, P.	-	-
McLellan, R. M.	-	1	Green, D.	-	0
Kerr, R. I. M.	-	0	Mackenzie, K. J.	-	1
Shiels, M. B.	-	0	Walters, G.	-	1
Solley, S. H.	-	0	Hamilton, W.	-	1
Weeks, R.	-	1	Wood, R.	-	0
Weeks, G.	-	0	Palmer, H. W.	-	1
McLellan, P.	-	1	Croy, A. D.	-	0
Jamieson, M. S.	-	0	Murray, C. G.	-	1
Brown, H. R.	-	1	Leslie, I. C. K.	-	0
Taylor, J. E. B.	-	1	Ridge, G.	-	0
Eason, R. S.	-	1	Marsh, R. D.	-	0
		7			6

Athletics

THE Standards Competition, begun in the eighth week of the Easter term, resulted in a win for Ruthven, who, obtaining 116 standards in all, led Freeland by three. Simpson were third with 90 standards and Nicol fourth with 83. The combined total of 402 standards was a marked improvement on last year's total of 327.

Included in the Standards' points as usual were those won on March 30th, when over waterlogged courses the School Cross Country Competitions were held. Individual winners were:

Senior: R. A. Paterson (Simpson).

Middle: N. S. Shaw (Simpson).

Junior: G. A. Burns (Freeland).

The Cross Country Competition was won by Simpson, who, having conceded the Junior title to Freeland, proceeded to win the Middle and Senior groups, defeating Nicol in the latter by one point.

The School will again be represented at the Scottish Schools' Championships to be held this year at Westerlands, Glasgow, on Saturday, June 19th; and the Athletics Sports will be held on July 17th. In addition to last year's programme when Hurdles were included, "Putting the Shot" will take its place as an event in the Middle and Senior age-groups.

Last term, in March, the School was favoured by a visit from the Achilles Club. The whole afternoon was spent in coaching. This was particularly valuable, coming as it did at the beginning of the Standards Competition.

R.H.

Swimming

THIS year we hope to meet Morrison's Academy again in a swimming match. After our narrow win last year, it is clear that competition will be keen, and a close match is expected. A large number of boys are taking life saving certificates this year, and it is hoped that the number of passes will be as high as in previous years.

Swimming, this term, has been in the hands of Mr. Kershaw, to whom we are grateful for having spent so much time in arranging and supervising classes.

P.I.P.

Badminton

BADMINTON this year made a late start in the middle of January. Enthusiasm, however, was in no way damped, and the School Club membership was filled to capacity. In the final of the tournament W. D. Jack beat A. D. L. MacTaggart (15-7), (8-15), (15-7).

R.J.M.P.

The Strathallian Club

The Club President

AT the last Annual Meeting of the Club held in Perth prior to the annual dinner, Mr. Robert A. Peacock was elected President of the Strathallian Club for 1954.

Mr. Peacock was at Strathallan from 1933 to 1938, and one cannot do better than quote from the School Magazine of that time, which chronicled his departure as follows. "The School Captain, R. A. Peacock, deservedly stands very high among Strathallan's Captains, combining as he does popularity with unquestioned authority. As well as leader of the first XV pack and captain of swimming, Bertie has infused his own tireless enthusiasm into those about him in all spheres, etc., etc."

To live up to the somewhat fullsome phrases contained in most valedictory addresses oft-times proves a difficult task, but there is no doubt that Bertie has done just that in the years



R. A. PEACOCK.

following his departure from the School, and we in the Club have had much evidence to substantiate the continuance of his undoubted abilities.

A "Freshers" trial, a place in his victorious college Rugby team, as well as in the Water Polo and Track sides, plus a Part One Economics Tripos, filled his first year at St. John's College, Cambridge, and gave a hint of further distinction to be his in his last two years at the University, but, being a member of the R.N.V.R., the outbreak of war in September, 1939, meant his immediate mobilisation in the Royal Navy, and thus cut short an academic and athletic career which promised much.

A mine-laying destroyer, two years in Coastal Forces, Anti-Submarine Officer in a corvette on the Atlantic run, a long A./S. Course followed by a year on the staff of C.-in-C. Western Approaches as an A./S. Specialist, and finally to the Staff of Captain Escort Forces, British Pacific Fleet, suggests that Lt. R. A. Peacock, R.N.V.R., was kept fairly active for the six years of hostilities.

His return to civilian life in Glasgow meant the exercise of much concentrated determination to qualify as a Chartered Accountant, and having achieved this goal, he is to-day a partner in Messrs. Peacock & Henry, and a director of several companies.

His wife, son and twin daughters are his main interest, but he still finds time for a certain amount of golf, swimming and shooting, and, under pressure, gardening.

It has been said that a large measure of the reputation of a school lies in the bearing, interest and loyal support displayed by her Old Boys. In Mr. R. A. Peacock are to be found all these qualities, and with our sincere congratulations on his appointment as President of the Club, we would wish him all good fortune in his year of office.

Old Boys' News

Editorially at least, the trait common to Strathallians appears to be modesty, a certain coyness, not to impart information to their fellows. Seldom do we find a fine blast of "I AM" in the meagre collection of items of news which reach us. Instead we observe veiled references to "old so and so" in the shape of information that A.B. is with the C.D. Company, which bald fact when interpreted means in effect that A.B. has been the C.D. Company's chief and guiding light these past years.

It certainly is worthy of note, however, that the bulk of our "Newsy" items come from overseas, where Strathallians appear to be shouldering the White Man's Burden to an increasing extent. But we do appeal to our friends at home to come forward with news of their appointments and activities.

To conclude our appeal may we quote the following extract verbatim:

"Thank you for the privilege of reading *The Strathallian* once more. You can imagine that it is quite a treat to have old memories renewed—old faces recalled—especially in a somewhat out-of-the-way-part of Canada like this".

C. O. Stewart (1934-38) writes from Southern India where he is engaged with Messrs. Finlay of Glasgow, teaplanting. "Ossie" informs us that he and W. C. (Coffee) Roy (1926-33) are the

only two Strathallians that he knows of in that area. A sterling full-back at school, "Ossie" captained the High Range XV last season, and says he might see another season out! Whilst in Calcutta in 1950 playing in the All-India he met Nicol Brown (1934-38), who was then with the Acme Tea Chest Co., in Cooch-Behar.

From the Department of Education, Kedah, Federation of Malaya, comes news from G. D. Muir (1924-32). He informs us that in addition to being a member of the State Councils Kedah and Perlis, he is also Sup. of Education of these States, in charge of 500 schools of some 90,000 pupils. Duggie Muir was awarded the Coronation Medal.

David J. Whitton (1937-41), at Air H.Q., Officers' Mess, R.A.F. Habbaniya, Iraq, was promoted to Substantive Fl./Lt., R.A.F., from 3/9/53.

From our own Highlands, J. B. Milne (1932-39), at present working on the Quoich Hydro-Electric scheme, extends an invitation to any Strathallian who happens to be in the area to visit him and his wife.

After taking a B.L. Degree at Glasgow University (1949-52), A. Connell Currie entered the R.A.F. for National Service and is now Acting Flight Commander at Bridgnorth Camp, Salop. He was awarded the Certificate of Merit as the best all round recruit.

T. F. Roger, B.Sc. (1941-44), joined Messrs. Stevenson and McGuffie, Chartered Consulting Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, Glasgow, as a partner on 1st March this year.

Any Strathallian passing through Accra, Gold Coast, can contact R. H. Wallace (1933-37), c/o West African Airways Corp.

A nautical flavour from W. Brown (1949-52), who is joining the Blue Funnel Line after completing two years at "Conway", where he captained the Rugby XV and was games captain.

Ian McBride (1929-34) writes from Port of Spain informing us that he and his wife were on a short holiday in the U.K. last year. He relates that "Pie" Wilson, who works for the Apex Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd., lost his young daughter in a tragic car accident in Trinidad early this year. To "Pie" and his family may we extend our deepest sympathy.

From the backwoods of Canada comes news from D. Neil Paterson (1943-47), who is at present a forest officer with the S. M. Simpson Co., Ltd., Kelowna, B.C. Neil informs us that he means to move on to New Zealand after his present appointment expires.

Already headed for "down under" is Jack Scott, B.Com., C.A. (1936-41), who has retired from the firm of Messrs. Nelson, Gilmour, Scott & Co., C.A., Glasgow, and who may be reached c/o the Australia and New Zealand Bank, Ltd., Martin Place and George St., Sydney, N.S.W.

Alex. R. Pate (1939-47) graduated M.B., Ch.B., in Dec., 1952, and finished his hospital training at Inverness; whilst there he met Ian Mackenzie (1928-33), a stalwart Highland Rugby Club supporter who has a son at Strathallan at present. George Pate (1939-45) became engaged in December '53 and is due to be demobilised from the R.E. in September this year.

More medical appointments in the person of Dr. Donald McColl (1930-37), who is Works Medical Officer, I.C.I. Ardeer factory, and Secretary and Scottish Representative to the Council of (Scottish Group) Association of Industrial Medical Officers, while Dr. J. Leslie Stephen (1934-37) has been appointed Consultant Radiologist at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and at Killearn Hospital. L. Stuart Scott, M.B., F.R.C.S. Ed., F.R.F.P.S.G., is now Assistant Urological Surgeon to the Royal Beatson Memorial Hospital, and the Glasgow and West of Scotland Radium Institute.

John Hall (1941-44) is a Chartered Accountant with the National Gas and Oil Engine Co., Manchester.

George Sanderson Murray (1939-44) was cattle ranching in Brazil from 1946 and moved to Australia in 1950. He was on a short visit to his home in North Berwick last year.

Denis Hays (1920-23), since 1946 buying Manager of the production materials division at Fort Dunlop, has been appointed manager of tyre replacement sales with that Company. Serving during the war with the R.A.O.C., he attained the rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

To complete this section of the Old Boys' News may we remark that lack of School Rugby results has conjured forth another contribution from our "faithful viewer of the contemporary scene" (*Strathallian* Vol. 5, No. 11), who has sent in a further cutting from the "Weekly Scotsman".

To "our faithful viewer" J. B. Ross (1924-30) we would hasten to remark that an all too clear picture of the result of the School v. Glenalmond game can be obtained from the cutting which states:

Glenalmond 20 pts., Strathallan 3 pts.
and three lines further on

Strathallan 3 pts., Glenalmond 20 pts.

His succinct and final remark re School Rugby news, "What service!"

D. S. Whammond has been playing rugby in Canada with the recently revived Toronto Scottish Rugby Club. This young club has done well in its first season, having reached the semi-finals of the Autumn competition, but they are always on the look-out for fresh talent in the form of newcomers to Canada. Anyone going to Canada is advised to get in touch with either Alan Scott, the Secretary, Toronto Scottish R.F.C., 344 Brookdale Avenue, Toronto, or A. Barker, the Treasurer, 3 Angelsey Blvd. Tel. CEdar 1-3265. From Toronto comes the cheerful news—"Welcome newcomers and don't listen to any nonsense about unfriendly Toronto; we've got too many Scots here for that".

Dr. W. G. Harrington (1930-36), at present Deputy Group Superintendent Glasgow Royal Infirmary and associated hospitals since 1946, is shortly assuming the post Group Superintendent, Stirling, at Clackmannan Hospitals.

The following Old Strathallians played rugby last season: J. C. Dawson (Scottish International Trial, Glasgow, Glasgow Academicals), W. A. McMillan (Scottish Universities, Glasgow University), G. A. W. Marshall (Glasgow, Glasgow High School F.P.), A. R. Pate (North of Scotland, Highland), J. Todd (South of Scotland, Melrose), A. Stephen (Glasgow Academicals), I. M. Lochtie (Glasgow Academicals), B. E. Marr (West of Scotland), J. M. Hart (Renfrewshire, Greenock Wanderers), L. J. McCarrol (Glasgow University), J. McKee (Queen's University, Belfast), J. S. Lowden (Panmure), G. S. Lowden (Panmure), W. P. Roger (Madras College F.P.), W. W. Law (Howe of Fife), J. P. Allardyce (Harris Academy F.P.), C. E. Allardyce (Harris Academy F.P.), N. G. Brown (Cambuslang), M. Yates (Cambuslang), A. D. Pottie (Craigielea), J. A. McIntyre (Wigtownshire), J. A. D. McIntyre (Wigtownshire).

We wish to make this a complete list, and would therefore be grateful if all Old Strathallians playing Rugby could give either the School or Club Editor details.

Public Schools Appointments Board

Old Strathallians looking for posts in Industry or Commerce are reminded that the Public Schools Appointments Board is willing to assist anyone up to the age of twenty-four or twenty-five. The address of the Head Office is 17 Queen Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY

THE number of Strathallians at Edinburgh University seems to be dwindling and we hope that there will be a number of Freshers from School next session—otherwise J. C. Shaw and K. Frost, who organise our Strathallian Lunches in the Union Grill, will only have each other to send their postage-size invitations to.

Your correspondent, aware that he has finished the above sentence with a preposition or something, is glad to announce that some Old Strathallian has shone in the literary field. I. M. Walker, in his final year of an Honours English Course, edits the University magazine, *The Student*—and very well too!

W. C. Wallace runs a car and also attends Agricultural College, where he has as colleagues J. Beveridge and H. T. Stewart. Stewart, we think, is in the third year of the Degree Course.

D. C. Rossie, Faculty of Science, and E. Spink, fourth year Medicine, are people we rarely see. Spink, however, flying with the University Air Squadron, has been said to have executed a "Victory Roll" over the Union Grill on one of our Luncheon days.

A. Baxter, Heriot Watt Engineering College, and D. Shannon, Dick Veterinary School, both sit their finals in June. Baxter is now rather dashing, if unrecognisable behind a large moustache. The only dashing Shannon has done was when he let a dog escape from the Veterinary Kennels last term!

During this session several of us had the pleasure of seeing Ian MacNaughton, now with the Gateway Theatre, in several plays. At Christmas time he played Scrooge in a "Christmas Carol".

To anyone at Strath. who is thinking of going to a University we close by saying "Why not make it Edinburgh?"

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY

It is perhaps rather unfortunate that this letter must be presented some two months before the end of our academic year, as it must therefore exclude the results of the June examinations. We are, however, glad to be able to report that Strathallians are playing a still greater part in the corporate life of the University.

Since our last letter, we have had six graduations from Glasgow, and it is a pleasure for us to record the following successes. R. Cullen, I. McLauchlan and J. Smith were capped M.R.C.V.S. last June, and R. Newton graduated M.B. Ch.B. in January. Robin is at present on the staff of the Larchfield

Hospital, Greenock. W. A. D. McFadzean and A. McLelland gained their B.Sc. (Agric.) degrees in September and March respectively. The latter is now at Auchincruive gaining practical experience and working for the Scottish Diploma in Dairy Husbandry.

Three Strathallians, A. C. I. Duncan, J. S. H. Hamilton and C. McCreddie, entered the Medical Faculty this year, and have passed the first half of their professional examinations. They sit Chemistry and Botany in June. F. Noble and J. M. Maguire are in the second year, and the latter was elected to the Rugby Club Committee. In addition to passing his second professional exams., D. S. C. Brown, now Honorary Secretary of the Boat Club, has been awarded a full blue for rowing. To achieve this distinction in the short space of three years is no mean feat, and we offer our sincere congratulations. K. A. C. Brown sits his third professional exams. in June, and is an acting Pilot Officer in the Air Corps. In the fifth year is L. J. McCarrol, who passed his Fourth Professional exams. in March and gained his rugby colours. We hear that Graeme Sandeman is working feverishly for his finals in June.

In the Faculty of Law, W. A. McMillan has passed the second year subjects in his B.L. degree. He had a good season with the University 1st XV and played for the Scottish Universities against the South of Scotland. He has recently been elected Vice-Captain of the Rugby Club for 1954-55. A newcomer to this faculty, L. D. Marshall has passed some of his first year subjects. D. I. Muir is now preparing for second year exams. in the Arts Faculty, and gained half colours of the Fives Club, of which he is now Treasurer. He was House to House Convener of the Students' Charities Organisation.

Nearing the end of his distinguished career at this University, T. R. L. Fraser, M.A., has only one subject of his B.Sc. (Agric.) to sit in September. He was re-elected to the Student Board as Former Student Member. M. F. Cessford is in the second year, and in addition to playing Rugby for the University, is Treasurer of the newly formed Piping Society. Messrs. Farquharson and Yates continue their Diploma courses at the Agricultural College.

In the Allied Veterinary Course is A. D. Barr. He is in his final year. A. D. Pottie, who was Vice-Captain of Craigielea Rugby XV this year, and J. M. Hart, who again played for Greenock Wanderers and Renfrewshire, are in their second years. R. I. S. Stewart passed his fifth year dentistry exams. in March, and we wish him the best of luck for his finals in June.

Waiting to sit his B.Sc. finals in June is I. R. Stevens. He is taking Honours in Chemistry, and is a Lance-Corporal in the University T.A. All other B.Sc. candidates are taking the

Engineering course. In first year is H. L. Stuart. He is studying Civil Engineering, and scored two successes in the March exams. F. C. T. McLay is in second year, and did well to pass all three of his subjects. He is a keen rugby player. Also in second year are H. I. B. Fitzpatrick and N. Milne, both of whom have an exam. to sit in September. Milne is now a Corporal in the T.A. In the March Professionals G. Wolfe and R. G. Stuart did well to gain all three of their third year exams. Stuart is a keen member of the University Motor Club, but although he has managed to be second in several of their Rallies he has yet to win first prize. We wish G. Vernon all the best for his finals in September. Somewhere between third and fourth years is M. J. Thomas, who we noticed passed Industrial Psychology at the last exams.

On the whole it would appear that Strathallians have had a successful year in all spheres of University life. We trust that Strathallan will provide us with Freshers to fill the place of those who have graduated, and feel sure that they will maintain the high standards set by their predecessors.

STRATHALLIAN CLUB

1954

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Tel. Central 8623, Pollok 1206.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer

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Tel. Central 6606, Kilmaurs 288.

Members of Council retiring 1954

*J. H. Allen, Esq., Sunningdale, Townsend Crescent, Kirkcaldy.
Tel. Kirkcaldy 3189, 3968.

*A. M. Nicol, Esq., 68 Kintore Road, Newlands, Glasgow, S.3.
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*John M. Maguire, Esq., 2 Larch Road, Dumbreck, Glasgow, S.1.
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Retiring 1955

*W. A. McMillan, Esq., c/o West Anderson & Co., Solicitors,
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*David C. Fulton, Esq., M.C., W.S., 30 Inverleith Place, Edinburgh, 12.
Tel. Edinburgh Central 6464, Edinburgh 84252.

*David I. Muir, Esq., Ashfield House, 402 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.
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*Laurence D. Marshall, Esq., c/o Maclay Murray & Spens, Solicitors,
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R. A. Wilson, Esq., C.A., 34 Blairtum Drive, Burnside.
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**Trustees for the Club
(retiring 1956)**

J. Lusk, Esq., 129 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2.
Tel. City 7891, Ayr 3347.

R. R. Fraser, Esq., 6 Bennoch Avenue, Kirkcaldy.
Tel. Kirkcaldy 2947.

**Club Member on the Board of Governors of Strathallan School
(retiring School A.G.M. 1955)**

*Dr. A. C. Macewen, 12 Comely Park, Dunfermline.
Tel. Dunfermline 473.

NOTE.—(1) * indicates distribution list for council meeting notices.

(2) Where more than one telephone number is given, business numbers appear first.

(3) Mr. R. H. Patterson was co-opted vice Mr. John M. Scott resigned, and his appointment falls to be confirmed at A.G.M. 1954.

Sub-Committees for 1954

Editorial Board

T. Macfarlane (c), J. H. Allen, D. C. Fulton.

Sports

W. A. McMillan (c), L. D. Marshall, D. I. Muir.

Golf

R. H. Patterson (c), J. M. McGregor.

Dinner

J. M. McGregor (c), A. M. Nicol, J. Maguire.

Dance

A. M. Nicol (c), D. I. Muir, J. M. McGregor.

ENGAGEMENTS

BIGGART, D. J. (1943-48), of 31 Newlands Road, Glasgow, S.3, on 1st April, 1954, to Pat Wilson, Newlands Road, Glasgow, S.3.

BRECHIN, Robin H. (1942-47), to Avril Anne Anderson, Clarkston, Glasgow.

SMITH, George I. (1945-47), to Betty Robson, Middleton, Belford.

MARRIAGES

GLEN, Douglas (1937-41), at Sherbrooke St. Gilbert's Church, on 4th June, 1952, to Ann Patricia Burnside, 9 Sandringham Court, Newton Mearns.

HALL, John (1941-44), at Hyndland Parish Church, on 26th January, 1954, to Mary Elizabeth Butters.

HENDRY, I. (1942-45), at Newlands South Church, on 2nd April, 1954, to Betty Robertson, 35 Newlands Road, Glasgow, S.3.

STEPHEN, Sandy (1944-47), on 30th March, 1954, to Madge Spottiswood.

STEVEN, Dr. J. Leslie (1934-37), at Eastwood Parish Church, on 11th December, 1953, to Dr. Grace C. Dunbar.

WOOD, J. M. (1927-29), at St. Columba's Church, Stirling, on 6th Nov., 1953, to Marion B. F. Millar.

BIRTHS

BARRIE (1936-41). At Fort House Nursing Home, Dundee, on 22nd April, 1954, to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald S. Barrie, 25 Blackness Avenue, Dundee, a son.

GLEN (1937-41). On 4th June, 1953, to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Glen, 37 Newark Dr., Glasgow, S.1, a daughter.

McCOLL (1930-37). On 2nd June, 1951, to Dr. and Mrs. Donald McColl, 12 South Crescent, Ardrossan, a daughter.

STEWART (1934-38). On 8th October, 1953, to Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Stewart, c/o K.D.H.P. Co., Ltd., Nyamakad Estate, Munwar P.O., Travancore-Cochin, S. India, a daughter.

DEATHS

CLELAND, T. M., on 8th May, at Doune. Suddenly.

SMITH, David (1925-30), of Newstead, Avonhall Gardens, Dundee, on 6th January, 1954.

STEVENSON, James Drummond (1941-47), M.B. Ch.B., Lieutenant R.A.M.C., of Eliock Lodge, Prestwick, the result of a climbing accident, on 18th April, 1954.