

THE ERASMIAN

NEW SERIES.
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CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
Editorial	483	Athletic Sports	502
School Notes	484	Swimming Notes	505
Notes on Old Boys	486	The Sea in English Literature	506
Why the Charm of Poetry is not appreciated by everyone	488	Cricket Notes	508
The Annual Prize Distribution	489	Intermediate Examinations	509
Football Notes	488	Exam. Results	509
Sonnets	501	Our Contemporaries	510
		Notices	510



THE MAGAZINE OF

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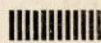
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= The Erasmian =

DECEMBER, 1926.

Editorial.

Experientia docet . . . Young men have always been keen supporters of the new. They rush into new positions resolved to revolutionise and reform. The Romans found a Senate necessary to bridle the rash hot-headedness of her young leaders. In the combined effect of the *temeritas* of her youth and the *gravitas* of the "fathers" lay her power. Old men, of course, assert that the latter quality is by far the more important. Such random remarks, however, belong neither to Roman history, into which we seem to have strayed, nor to an Editorial, to which we had better turn. We were full of this zeal of youth when the prospect of occupying this traditional chair first loomed on the horizon. For many years now we have read with a feeling akin to pity the laments of our predecessors on "the entire absence of a suitable theme" and their platitudes on "the honour of handling the editorial pen." For our part, we had resolved to abandon that instrument, now well-worn, in favour of a more modern "Blackbird." We should scorn to fill out our space with short columns and asterisks. There would be no need to drag Football and Cricket from their own columns to come to our aid. "*Tempora mutantur*" (dare we say taken from an old Erasmian) was to have been our text. Now, alas, we find "plus ça change plus c'est la même chose." So we proceed to be as verbose as possible and more devoid of humour than ever.

* * *

We would not have our readers imagine that we are at all displeased with our task. Perhaps our chief joy in this connection lies in the fact that we have not, as we had feared, to waste much of the valuable editorial time in returning manuscripts to the many authors whom we had pictured waiting in a long queue at our office door. Being by nature very kind-hearted, we had wondered how this delicate task could be performed so as to cause least pain. Fortunately the question has solved itself. The only rejected manuscripts that are strewn about us are our own.

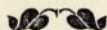
We received a shock when, a few days before the Distribution, it was whispered that Mr. W. B. Doak was leaving us. It was not long before our fears were realised, and we heard that he was departing to Northern Ireland. We congratulate Mr. Doak on his appointment and the Northern Government on their good judgment. We welcome in his place another brilliant student of T.C.D., Mr. W. S. Maguinness.

* * *

After a very damp and not altogether successful Cricket Season we came back looking forward to a game which the weather could not spoil. We have not been disappointed. It will be generally agreed that our two best matches were played with bad ground conditions—the memorable fight with Galway and the more recent aquatic game against 'Rock. Although at present the number of wins is not in our favour, the fact of having nine representatives chosen for the first Interpro. Trial shows our possibilities.

* * *

We have only one remark to make on the well-worn subject of contributions. Although THE ERASMIAN only appears bi-annually, contributions may be handed to the Editor at any time in any Term. When contributions are asked for, the most frequent excuse is a lack of subject. Now subjects are occurring every day of the Term, and there ought to be no difficulty in finding one from which an article in prose or verse, serious or otherwise, may be produced.



School Notes.



Work was resumed after the Summer Vacation on Wednesday, September 1st. The School still has large entries of new pupils, and we are pleased to note Senior as well as Junior boys. During the Vacation the railings of Belgrave Square were re-painted and the pavilion re-roofed, and this Term new desks have been put into four of the Classrooms.

* * *

Our patience in awaiting the tardy publication of the Intermediate Certificate results was well rewarded by our successes. The marks are given elsewhere. Two Scholarships were obtained this year, by K. N. Douglas and F. G. Bestall. The former was first in English and Greek, the latter in German. It was also very creditable for fifty per cent. of our candidates to pass with honours. Next year's candidates must keep up our record. In June A. W. H. Breakey obtained first Classical Sizarship, and at the Junior Exhibition Examination

in October gained second place and the High School Exhibition. He more than kept up our tradition for winning Entrance Prizes by carrying off all four—in Latin and Greek, Prose and Verse Composition.

* * *

As usual on Armistice Day the two minutes' silence was observed by the School in the Clockroom. There was a short service and an address by the Headmaster.

* * *

F. H. Ballagh won the Schoolboy Tennis Championship of Ireland this summer, thus retaining for the School this distinction, which was won last year by E. H. Maynard.

* * *

Although *longo post intervallo* we are publishing a résumé of last season's Cricket season, in continuation of our record in our June Number.

* * *

Of the Sports held at the end of the June Term we must also add a word. They were generally considered among the most successful we have held, and we congratulate the Committee, particularly Mr. Evans, on carrying through the long programme up to time and without a hitch. We give elsewhere the full results. W. R. Prescott won the Senior Cup with 19 points, first in the High Jump and 440 Yards and second in Long Jump, Hurdles and Half-Mile, and J. R. Stewart the Junior Cup with 16 points, first in the 100 Yards and 220 and second in Long Jump and 440 Yards.

* * *

Our Swimming Season ended with the usual Gala, of which details are given elsewhere. We congratulate W. R. Prescott on winning the School Championship and on his fine diving, and the Polo Team on beating St. Andrew's. We have not yet received the list of boys who were successful in winning Certificates for proficiency in the Swimming Tests.

* * *

Mr. Simpson is doing yeoman service for our Football this season, and the teams are showing improved form. We have only one word for them—train, train, train.

* * *

The School did very well in the R.D.S. Competition last spring, and when the results of the essays were published in Horse Show Week we were delighted to see we had won two Silver Medals, D. Leach and C. G. Thomson; a Bronze Medal, G. H. Hall; and a Certificate, T. N. Richardson.

In the Essay Competition held in Dublin schools by the

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, K. N. Douglas and H. W. Good won the second prizes in the Senior and Junior Divisions respectively.

* * *

The Scripture Examinations are being held, as we go to press, on Friday, Dec. 10th, and we trust the results will be as good as in previous years.

* * *

The Annual Prize Distribution was held on Friday, Nov. 19th, in the Clockroom. The Bishop of Cashel, Chairman of the Board, gave away the prizes, and made an important speech on compulsory Irish. The Bishop of Tuam also spoke, and the Headmaster read his Report for the year 1925-6.

* * *

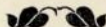
The School was photographed in one group by the new panoramic method on Tuesday, Sept. 28th. The result is excellent. A large number of boys have purchased copies, and if other boys require them they should give in their names to the Sergeant. The price of a copy is 3/6.

* * *

We congratulate D. W. Rice on his success in winning the Gold Medal for Violin playing at the Feis, and A. W. Saunders in passing with honours in the Second Grade for Violin in the London College of Violinists.

* * *

The School Term closes on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd, and the new Term begins on Friday, Jan. 14th.



Notes on Old Boys.



R. E. M'Guire (1914-20) sailed on Nov. 19th for Burmah to take up his duties in the Indian Civil Service.

* * *

I. E. Jones (1912-21) obtained fourth place at the competition for the Indian Civil Service in August, and will go out to the Punjaub next autumn. He has also been elected Auditor for the College Classical Society for the present year.

* * *

W. C. G. Proctor (1912-21) has been elected Auditor of the College Theological Society for the present session. He has also been awarded the President's Gold Medal for Composition by the University Philosophical Society.

H. G. Goodwillie (1909-16) has been appointed Assistant Engineer to the Great Southern Railway at Athlone.

* * *

Rev. J. A. Nairn, B.D., Litt. D. (1887-93), is resigning the Headmastership of Merchant Taylors' School, London, this Christmas.

* * *

G. Boles (1921-22) sailed from Southampton for Salisbury on Oct. 15th to join the British South African Mounted Police in Rhodesia.

* * *

D. G. Lawson (1908-12) is now Assistant Telegraph Engineer to the Post Office at Accra, on the Gold Coast.

* * *

J. B. O. Staveley (1918) has obtained his diploma in Wireless Telegraphy, and has joined the Merchant Service.

* * *

Major-General L. G. B. Anley (1886-87) has been appointed General in Command of the Northern District in England.

* * *

Stanley Woods (1915-20), who again won this summer the Senior Tourist Trophy for Motor Cycling in the Isle of Man Race, has now left Ireland to take up an appointment in Birmingham. In the race in the Isle of Man he covered a distance of 264 miles over the mountains in the record time of 3 hrs. 54 mins. 40 secs., at an average speed of 67.54 miles per hour.

* * *

A. L. Riley (1917-23) has passed the Intermediate Examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants.

* * *

H. C. Woodcock (1919-24) has passed the Intermediate Solicitors' Apprentices Examination.

* * *

F. E. A. Campbell (1890-97) is Inspector of Educational Training, H.Q. Western Command (India) at Quetta.

* * *

H. E. Child (1911-18) has taken up an appointment with Williams Deacon's Bank in Manchester.

* * *

Colours for 1926 have been awarded by Dublin University Swimming Club to D. B. Good (1915-25) and R. W. Mather (1911-16). Mather has been elected Vice-Captain for 1927, and Good is on the Committee.

T. J. Mahon, M.Sc. (London University) (1914-17), has obtained twelfth place in the English Civil Service Examination for Inspectors of Taxes.

* * *

We congratulate T. V. Harris, of Lansdowne (1912-17), in playing three-quarter for Leinster against Munster and Ulster.



OBITUARY.

We regret to announce the death of A. J. R. Stritch (1894-1901), in his 44th year, at Oban on Sept. 17th.



Why the Charm of Poetry is not Appreciated by Everyone.



The charm of poetry is chiefly gained by the combination of words so as to give a certain rhythm. The poet combines these in such a way as to enchant the reader so much by the music of the soft-sounding syllables that his mental sight may be blinded to the apparent meaninglessness of the passage. Something must be sacrificed to gain this end; the poet, therefore, has to arrange his musical effect by abandoning his clear, concise statements and substituting *shovels* for *spades*. Does this end justify the means? Should the student who reads poetry not only for the musical charm but also for the meaning require copious explanatory notes to be able to understand fully the theme of a *song without music or apparent meaning*? This quality of Classical English poetry rather prejudices the general public, and especially the lower classes, against it. Why should a poet say "This sea that bares her bosom to the moon" when "This sea that lies widespread beneath the moon" gives the same meaning more simply? Another feature which makes poetry only the delight of a few is that most poems are written on lofty subjects which do not interest any but the most idealistic and sentimental of people. Poets have written on winds of different kinds; they describe the wind as a public park scavenger, as a companion to the domestic cat, which "howls at all hours," or as an animate object akin to the Bengal tiger in its ferocity; yet they do not picture a majestic, bluff-bowed Thames barge being propelled along that great river, nor do they picture the salty old Bargee sitting smoking his clay pipe on the hatchway. Poetry written on a lower and more humorous theme appeals more to the masses. When a normal

person who has not a sentimental and illogical mind reads a line such as "On a poet's lips I slept" his imagination immediately pictures a poet as a hideous pagan idol with a mouth six feet wide; nevertheless, when the same person reads,

"By the old Moulmein Pagoda, lookin' eastward to the sea,
There's a Burma girl a settin' and I know she thinks
of me,"

he has no doubt whatsoever of the meaning, and has not to swallow extraordinary and incorrect facts to enjoy the charm of poetry. Most people prefer the homely little verses of Kipling to the lofty incantations of Shelley and other similar poets. This type of poetry is also more profitable. Books of humorous poetry command a larger market than anthologies of "high falutin'" song, of which the inaccuracies of idea are excused by *poet's licence*. Also many prizes are offered for those humorous little quintains commonly called "Limericks." Nevertheless, with all this encouragement, poets do not seem to have turned their efforts to writing for the majority.

F.G.B.

The Prize Distribution.

The Annual Prize Distribution was held in the Clockroom on Friday, November 19th, at 3.30 p.m. There was a very large attendance. The Chair was taken by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Miller, Lord Bishop of Cashel and Waterford, and there were also on the platform the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Tuam, who gave an admirable address to the boys and parents, Very Rev. the Dean of Christ Church, Canon Stoney, Mr. R. C. De Versan, Mr. J. Garvey, Mr. J. Andrew, and Mr. A. L. B. Moore (Registrar). The Headmaster first read his report, which is given below, and then the Prizes were distributed. Then followed an important speech by the Chairman, dealing largely with the question of compulsory Irish (this part of the speech is given elsewhere), and the address by the Bishop of Tuam. The proceedings closed with the Benediction, after which the visitors and boys all had tea.

Headmaster's Report for 1925-6.

The Report of the High School for the year 1925-6 will, I trust, show that the school has continued to be successful and to maintain a high standard of secondary education.

During the past twelve months there have been two changes among the Masters. Last January Mr. Yorke succeeded Mr. Steede, and this week Mr. W. B. Doak, after five years' excellent work, having left us to take up an Inspectorship under the Education Board in the North of Ireland, Mr. W. S. Maguinness has joined the staff. Mr. Maguinness is a distinguished scholar and moderator of Trinity College, who is graduating this term with the University Studentship in Classics.

I go on to the school's external examinations and their results. In the examinations in religious knowledge, held last December under the joint direction of the Church of Ireland and the Presbyterian Assembly, the results were better than those of any previous year, the total number of passes being 138 out of 160 candidates. Of those 138 the Church candidates numbered 114 and the Presbyterian 24. Particularly high marks were obtained by several boys, notably in the Junior Grade, and in Greek Testament, in which for the second year in succession we gained the distinction, also won on several previous occasions, of securing the silver medal in the Church of Ireland Examinations, and the First Place and Special Prize of £1 in the Presbyterian Examination, the successful students being A. W. H. Breakey and H. M. Glover. For their assistance as Catechists in imparting Religious Instruction we have to thank Rev. J. Tobias, Rector of St. Peter's, and Rev. W. S. Kirkpatrick, Minister of the Presbyterian Church in Greystones, as well as several of the masters.

Next, corresponding to the old Intermediate Examinations, we had last June the second of the new series of School Examinations for the Intermediate Certificate held by the Free State Department of Education. The results were fully up to the excellent standard of the previous year, and confirm the conclusion which was then drawn, viz., that the school is providing for its pupils a good all round education. The number of boys taking these Examinations is limited by the Department's rules, as they must first pass through an approved course of instruction lasting normally for three or four years, as the result of which only our Fifth Form boys are eligible for the Intermediate Certificate Examination. Of the 18 students who entered 14 passed, and nine passed with Honours, and out of the seven Scholarships (each worth £40 a year for two years) won by Protestant Schools, two were won by our boys, K. N. Douglas and F. G. Bestall. Last year we gained three Scholarships, and this record of five Scholarships in two years out of a total of thirteen still stands unbeaten by any other Protestant school. This year, as last, we obtained First Place in various subjects,

K. N. Douglas being first in English and Greek, and F. G. Bestall and H. C. Doak respectively first and second in German. In the course of the two years—last year and this—the school has had first place in English, Latin, Greek (both years), German, Mathematics, and Drawing, and second place in French and also in German. I mention this merely to show that our good work is not limited to one or two subjects, but is general.

There were also two other Examinations of an interesting kind in English Composition held by two outside societies, in which the school obtained best results. The Royal Dublin Society in May last offered Medals and Certificates to Dublin schools for the best essays on their Spring Show, and the school was awarded two Silver Medals, one Bronze Medal, and one Certificate; and prizes were offered to Dublin schools by the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the best essays on kindness to animals, and we were awarded the second prizes in both the Senior and the Junior Divisions.

At the Junior Exhibition Examination open to boys entering Trinity College last autumn, W. S. Glover obtained First Place and the Kidd Scholarship of £80 a year for four years, and D. B. W. Good obtained sixth place and the High School Exhibition of £25 a year for four years. This year at this Examination the Second place was won by A. W. H. Breakey, who has accordingly been awarded this year's High School Exhibition, the same as Good last year. The First Place was won by H. G. Yeats, a former pupil of the school, who left when his family moved to the North of Ireland. Last autumn W. S. Glover won an Entrance Prize for Science, and D. B. Good two Entrance Prizes for Classical Composition, and this year A. W. Breakey has won four Entrance Prizes for Classical Composition, for Greek and Latin Prose, and Greek and Latin Verse. He was also awarded last June the First Classical Sizarship in Trinity College. And lastly, several other boys entering College have been awarded Erasmus Smith Statutory Exhibitions by the Board of Governors.

The pamphlets in your hands show also an excellent record of past pupils in Trinity. In the spring the First Science Scholarship was won by A. W. Robertson, and the Fifth Classical Scholarship by W. S. Cunningham. On the results of the Moderatorship Examinations last December the two Brooke Prizes (which are next to the studentship) were won by I. E. Jones in Classics and by W. C. G. Proctor in Mathematics. Jones won First Place in the First Class in Classics, and a Second Class in Ancient History and Political Science, and has this summer been successful in obtaining Fourth Place in the Examination for the Indian Civil Service;

the school thus being successful for two successive years in this competition. The successful candidate last year was R. E. McGuire, who has this week sailed for the East to take up his duties in Burmah. Proctor obtained Second Classes in both Mathematics and Science, and has now entered the Divinity School, where he has won prizes for Hebrew and Biblical Greek. E. J. Weinberger won a First Class Moderatorship and R. E. Murray a Second Class in Modern Languages. Further, Proctor is this year Auditor of the College Theological Society, has been awarded the Gold Medal for Composition in the University Philosophical Society, and was last winter Captain of the University Harriers, while Jones is this year Auditor of the College Classical Society, and A. H. M. Hillis has also been awarded by this Society its prize for Composition. Other distinctions and honours in Trinity and elsewhere are recorded in the prize pamphlet.

While we congratulate these students on their successes, we must remember that it takes all sorts of boys to make a school, and in many instances those who do not obtain academical distinctions derive no less benefit from their school training. I hope you will all agree with that. In any case, we aim at doing our best for all our boys, and we encourage them not only to learn their lessons and to cultivate good ways and studious habits in school, but also to play games, develop their physical constitutions, and to learn the equally important lessons of the Football and Cricket Fields. The Board of Governors support and help the school in sports as well as by prizes for academic success. Our Football Captain was D. T. Murphy, and our Cricket Captain F. H. Ballagh, who also won the Schoolboy Tennis Championship of Leinster. The Annual Sports were held very successfully at Lansdowne Road on June 25th, when the Senior Championship was won by W. R. Prescott and the Junior Championship by J. R. Stewart. There was again a large entry of over 150 boys, and by good and efficient management the Committee were able this year to get through an extensive programme in excellent time. We were helped in the Sports by many kind friends, who sent us prizes and gave us subscriptions. There was also great enthusiasm at our Swimming Gala held in the Iveagh Baths at the end of the season on September 29th, when the School Swimming Championship also was won by W. R. Prescott, a fine swimmer and the best schoolboy diver in Dublin. Boys are well taught to swim by Sergt.-Major Burke, and a large number of them have again been awarded proficiency certificates by the Leinster Swimming Association. And then in school hours all boys have regular lessons in Swedish Gymnastics, and an excellent display was given, under the efficient direction of Miss Hitchins, on

May 31st in the Swedish Gymnasium, when the Class Medals were also distributed. One more feature of school activity must be mentioned, viz., THE ERASMIAN, the school magazine. This is published twice a year, in December and in June. It was edited last year by A. W. H. Breakey, and showed that the school possessed in G. E. Gill a poet of remarkable promise.

I think this Report is a sufficient proof of my statement at the beginning that our school is maintaining a high type of education, and that our parents and the public upon whom we depend have reason to be satisfied with it. I do not mean that the school is perfect or cannot be improved. Far from it; but I think we satisfy fairly well the definition of a school laid down less than a year ago by the then Free State Minister of Education, Professor John McNeill, in these words: "The true test of the efficiency of a school is this, what it is doing or endeavouring to do for the betterment of its own community, the people from which it draws its pupils." If, as I claim, we are satisfying this official definition of a school, why is the Government anxious to change the kind of education which we are giving by trying to make our pupils learn a language which their parents do not wish? For, according to the present regulations, next June will be the last occasion on which our pupils will be able to pass the Intermediate Certificate Examination without taking and passing in Irish. In other words, Irish will in 1928 become an essential subject of the Intermediate Certificate Examination, and students who have not learnt Irish will then be excluded from that Examination and from all chances of winning Scholarships. I want to make the case quite clear. The boys here will not be compelled to learn Irish, but they will be excluded from the Examination and from the competition for Scholarships. Indirect pressure is thus to be applied to schools, to teachers, parents and pupils, to make them take up a subject which they do not wish, under penalty of being excluded from all the advantages of the Intermediate Certificate Examination, which provides a useful and welcome test for the school's work, and from the possibility of winning valuable prizes. During the last two years this school has won Scholarships amounting to £400. Of course, if the parents wish their children to learn modern Irish, we shall provide the facilities, but our experience is that not only do the large majority of parents not wish it, but on the contrary most of them decidedly object. We are told in some quarters that the parents have not expressed their views on this question. On the contrary, as the mouthpiece of the parents I have not failed to make it quite clear to the authorities and to the public that our parents most emphatically do not wish for compulsory Irish.

For this there are at least two sound educational reasons. I am not dwelling on the wider issues raised, so admirably dealt with in Dr. Luce's letter in Wednesday's *Irish Times*. I will confine myself to two sound educational reasons, which ought to be sufficient to decide this matter. First, they wish, and rightly wish, their children to have the best possible education; and they feel that if they learn Irish some other subject to which they attach more value and regard as of more importance must be sacrificed. The experience of other boys' schools where Irish is a regular subject of the curriculum shows that in them the learning of modern European languages has largely disappeared. German was presented at the last Intermediate Certificate Examination only by Protestant schools, and French was presented by only one-fifth of the candidates—in round numbers, 350 out of 1,750, and two-thirds of these, *i.e.* 235, were from Protestant schools, and only 115 from all the Catholic schools together. Thus, within two or three years of the introduction of the new system of secondary education and of the extension of the teaching of Irish there has been a rapid and startling decline in the secondary schools of acquaintance through foreign languages with modern European thought and culture. This decline in the knowledge of French and German cannot be good for higher education in the Free State, and it should give the Government pause in its educational policy. A second serious educational reason why our parents do not wish their boys to learn Irish is that they must in large numbers at the present time look forward to earning their living elsewhere than in the Free State. This is in the nature of things, and cannot be said to be anybody's fault. But parents see in the great Commonwealth of Nations to which we are proud to belong and in other undeveloped countries of the world opportunities for their children for which a knowledge of Irish is of no advantage, and their knowledge of another language or of another subject is of vastly more importance. Under these conditions it is wrong, and it is a crying grievance, to force or to attempt to force Irish on our schools and to penalise those students who do not learn it. We ask for freedom to go on, as with some success we have been doing hitherto. If the country, as is sometimes asserted, is really enthusiastic about learning Irish, that is only another reason for leaving us alone. Time will do its work, and the rising tide, if it is rising, will bear us all along with it. The Government can surely afford to wait. Why create a grievance? It can encourage the study of Irish as much as it wishes; we do not object to that; but we do object to compulsion under any form. On the other hand, we consider that if the Government would devote as much energy to other admittedly grave needs of secondary

education, on which there is no time now for me to dwell, such as pensions for the teachers and increased grants for the schools, it would do far more to advance the real interests of higher education in the Free State.

But I must end here, and beg in conclusion to thank all those who have helped the school during the past year, both parents and masters, and in particular the Chairman and the Governing Body of the School.

COMPULSORY IRISH.

SPEECH BY THE BISHOP OF CASHEL,

Chairman of the Board of Governors.

In the very full and interesting Report which the Headmaster has placed before you he dealt at some length with the Irish language question, which is very much before the public at the present time. He has spoken with the utmost frankness, but he was giving you his considered opinion, which he has a perfect right to do, and for which he is solely responsible. In the results which he has enumerated he alluded to the Intermediate Certificates and to the Intermediate Scholarships which have been awarded to our pupils. His point is that when the new rules come into operation it will be impossible to qualify for either of these awards without an accurate knowledge of Irish, and that to acquire this so much time must be given to it as to render it impossible to give adequate or, in fact, any time to languages which are regarded all over the world as essential to a sound education.

The alternative which confronts him is, therefore, not a pleasant one. It is either to press Irish upon these pupils, and so, in his judgment, interfere seriously with their future progress, or to go on as at present and accept this very heavy penalty. That seems to be a very fair statement of his case. The relation of the Irish language to education in Ireland is not an easy subject to talk about in public at present, but certainly there is very grave uneasiness as to the possibilities before us, and it is, therefore, better to say at once what the prevailing feeling is. We have already heard the complaint which the Headmasters have to make, and the statement of the case has our fullest sympathy. They conscientiously feel that to concentrate attention upon the Irish language to the extent required to qualify for Certificates and Scholarships would be a sacrifice of time which would result in irreparable loss.

There is also another point which is of great importance. They feel that this is not the end of interference with their

methods of education, and that the general subjects are chosen with a view to assisting further development of the teaching of the Irish language. Their position is this: they regard themselves, and, in my view, rightly so, as the best opinion in the country as to what constitutes a good education. They deplore unnecessary interference with the work to which they have devoted their lives. All the trouble seems to arise from the difference of ideals. On one side you have the Headmasters—vigorous, sincere, able—keenly desirous of fitting their pupils for varying positions in life; and, on the other, you have an education department determined upon what they term “nationalising the Free State” by forcing the people to learn a language which they believe will in time achieve what they so ardently desire. It may be that they are fully aware of the injurious effect upon general education, and that they are willing to pay the price.

In primary education the difficulties are still greater. The present condition is chaotic and tragic, and in a few years the result must be a national disaster. The public are not aware of the serious falling-off in the educational status of the primary school children. In many of our intermediate Schools Scholarships are offered from primary schools. It is rare now to find a well-qualified candidate. The former percentages of 80, 85, and 90 are now down to 40, 45, and 50.

Take a more serious feature—the teachers themselves. If you consult the Examination records of the Protestant teachers, either at entrance or in training, you will find that only a small proportion are up to a fair standard. Under pressure good-natured officials will find means by which large numbers can be retained, but the general result is to lower the standard of the country, already too low. What is the reason. It is the pressure of the Irish language either in the training college or in the schools from which these intelligent, but poorly educated, boys and girls come.

The same thing will happen in the monitorial training institute. The object before these institutions is to train boys and girls so that they may be able to impart information by means of the Irish language. It is safe to prophesy that our best boys and girls will not consent to enter this institution on the ground that Irish can never be made as effective a means of communicating general information as the English language. Extreme efforts may succeed in inducing some poorly qualified children to come forward, but the result will be seen in the gradual declension of the country's educational standards. If this is true of the schools and institutions which feed the universities, what about the university standards? Must they not also be influenced by the prevailing tone, and be forced regretfully

to lower their requirements? The present policy must result in the degradation of the Irish people in the eyes of an educated world. Protestants have shown no antagonism to the Irish language. They are quite willing to consider proposals for its study consistent with what they must regard as their first care—namely, the future of their pupils; but from whatever point of view they look at present-day developments, they are profoundly dissatisfied and gravely discouraged. They see no possibility of success in concentrating upon a scheme of education which limits the future of the pupils to the Free State.

There is another point of view which is essential to mention now. It is suggested by the word Empire. We have loyally accepted the new conditions under which we live. We have shown it time and again, but we have not been sharers in antagonism to the British Empire, nor will we ever be. We would earnestly ask our rulers to remember that we do not, and cannot, take the same view upon this question as they do. We are very proud to be associated with the British Empire. We will teach our children to be likewise, and we do not wish that any education should be imposed upon them which would render them less able to take their place in any part of the British Empire where they may be called upon to live. We hold, at the same time, that this is not inconsistent with love for Ireland and adequate attention to the Irish language.

An equally important point is what we may speak of as the "international." Some remarkable articles have been appearing in the *Irish Times*, notably one upon the English-speaking races. When the facts contained in that article come home to the minds of the Irish people generally it must convince them that the English language must remain the current tongue in this country. The *Irish Times* has reproached us for our hesitation in expressing our objection to the Government's policy upon this question. It was caused in some degree by a very general feeling that there would be modifications sufficient to meet the reasonable demands which have been put forward from time to time. However, all requests have been ignored so far, and the prospect is bleak indeed. It seems as if we were not far from the parting of the ways.

Advice has been given to us to sever our educational connection from the State in which we live. We will not do that until we can do nothing else, but if we are finally ordered, in effect, to endanger the future of the children under our care we shall have no option. It has also been suggested that an election campaign should be begun in this country. Speaking for myself, I would prefer to put the case as strongly as possible again before the Government and leave the decision with them. The

country is only beginning to breathe freely. We are anxious, deeply so, to continue to assist a Government which has succeeded so splendidly in restoring law and order. On this ground they deserve every possible help we can give them. We are, however, convinced that the educational ideals of the Government are opposed to reason, to justice, and to educational efficiency, and if we receive a final refusal from them it may become necessary to withdraw all our schools from Government patronage. It will throw a grievous burden upon our already over-taxed people. There is, however, no doubt as to the unanimous feeling amongst our people, and as to their willingness to do this, whatever the cost.

If that day should come it would mean an end to bright hopes, but our duty is perfectly manifest.



Football Notes.

Captain—R. W. Reynolds.

Vice-Captain—W. R. Prescott.

Secretary—F. H. Ballagh.

The following table shows the results of all matches played to date:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts. for	Pts. Agst.
S.C.T. ...	14	5	1	8	95	75
2nd XV.	7	4	—	3	84	50
J.C.T. ...	11	3	2	6	95	84

We have also fielded "under 13" and "under 14" teams.

Our S.C.T. is continuing its improvement of recent years. We have eight of last year's team playing for us, and these, with two new arrivals, M. Ellis from Galway G.S., and R. E. Wynne from Christ's Hospital, Horsham, form a sound base. As a whole, however, the team has not yet settled down. The forwards are splendid in the loose, but need practice in scrummaging. They are still a bit inclined to do things on their own, instead of together. The backs also shine individually, but do not combine well. This is the fault of their lying up too close, in which position they cannot give and receive passes properly. The halves, however, play well together, but might "air" the ball a bit more, instead of kicking. The risk is worth taking. Taken all round, our defence (in which Pearse

plays a large part) is better than our attack, and it is to this latter that we should devote our attention.

Several times this season we have been unlucky in losing by a small margin—in three cases by a single try. In each of these cases a little more optimism or a little better staying power would have turned the tables. This only proves once more the importance of training, and we hope to see every member of the team hard at it in the coming Term.

The J.C.T., under the captaincy of W. E. M. Anderson, began the season well, but since then have proved a bit disappointing. On paper they look strong enough, though rather light in the forwards, but in practice they often go under to apparently weaker teams. We can only suggest as a remedy more practice and attention to combination.

A clear proof of our progress lies in the teams picked for the South Sides Trial Match. In all six High School boys were chosen to play, and three reserves. On the "Whites" we had Stafford, Prescott and Ellis; on the "Colours," Fox, Reynolds (who captained the side) and Stephenson. All played well, and we hope several will be picked to represent the South Side *v.* the North.

In conclusion, we wish to express our sincerest thanks to Mr. Simpson, who has been very helpful indeed this Term. Not only has he refereed all our home matches, but he has also been of great assistance in training and coaching the various teams. We take this opportunity of showing him that his work is not unappreciated.

A report of some of the more interesting matches is appended.

OCT. 23rd. S.C.T. *v.* ST. COLUMBA'S COLLEGE,
AT BELGRAVE SQUARE.

On this occasion our backs distinguished themselves on the heavy ground, and we proved too strong for our opponents by a margin of six tries. Fox displayed good form on the wing, and scored three tries. Reynolds, Prescott and Ballagh also scored.

Result:—High School, 18 pts.; St. Columba's Coll., 0.

NOV. 20th. S.C.T. *v.* GALWAY GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
AT GALWAY.

We were very pleased indeed to meet Galway G.S. again after a season's lapse, and again we were very hospitably received. The match proved a very hard one, and we barely scraped through with a victory. All praise is due to the "Grammar" pack, who brilliantly met our heavier eight. Fox

scored for us early on, but the Grammar rallied, and there was a ding-dong battle. Just before half-time Prescott slipped and seriously damaged his ankle. Unfortunately he had to go off, and, we are afraid, will be unable to play again this season. Soon after the kick off, however, Walker scored from a mêlée, but from then on Grammar pressed so hard that we rarely left our own "25." Their single goal was hardly all they deserved.

Result:—High School, 6 pts.; Galway Grammar School, 5 pts.

DEC. 4th. S.C.T. v. BLACKROCK COLLEGE,
AT BELGRAVE SQUARE.

Heavy rain had made the field very muddy, but our forwards fairly revelled in the sticky conditions, and played a magnificent game all through the match. The score really flatters the winners, for we had nearly as much of the play as they. The Blackrock backs, however, proved our stumbling block, and ran and handled the slippery ball surprisingly well.

Result:—Blackrock College, 12 pts.; High High School, 0.

NOV. 24th. J.C.T. v. BELVEDERE J.C.T.,
AT BELGRAVE SQUARE.

Our Juniors played a fine game against their redoubtable opponents (who had soundly beaten them the previous week), and were really unlucky not to win. The match was very even, but we had somewhat the better of the closing stages. Stewart (2) and Good scored for us.

Result:—High School J.C.T., 11 pts.; Belvedere J.C.T., 11 pts.

The following matches have been played up to the present date:—

OCT. S.C.T.

- 2nd—(H.) High School, 31 pts.; Monkstown 3rd A., 0.
- 6th—(H.) Mountjoy, 13 pts.; High School, 4.
- 9th—(A.) High School, 3 pts.; King's Hospital, 3.
- 13th—(H.) Wesley College, 8 pts.; High School, 0.
- 16th—(H.) High School, 12 pts.; Palmerston 3rd A., 0.
- 20th—(A.) Lansdowne 3rd A., 3 pts.; High School, 0.
- 21st—(H.) Skerry's College, 8 pts.; High School, 0.
- 23rd—(H.) High School, 18 pts.; St. Columba's College, 0.

Nov.

- 4th—(A.) Wanderers 3rd A., 3 pts.; High School, 0.
 10th—(A.) St. Andrew's College, 9 pts.; High School, 3.
 17th—(A.) High School, 13 pts.; Catholic University School, 8.
 20th—(A.) High School, 6 pts.; Galway G.S., 5.

DEC.

- 1st—(A.) Wesley College, 3 pts.; High School, 0.
 4th—(H.) Blackrock College, 12 pts.; High School, 0.

OCT.

2nd XV.

- 27th—(A.) Mountjoy 2nd XV., 11 pts.; High School, 9 pts.
 30th—(H.) High School, 8 pts.; Players 2nd XV., 0.

Nov.

- 3rd—(H.) High School, 16 pts.; Sandford Park, 5.
 6th—(H.) High School, 23 pts.; St. Stephen's Green School, 0.
 17th—(H.) Drogheda G.S., 20 pts.; High School, 0.
 27th—(A.) High School, 19 pts.; Terenure College, 3 pts.

OCT.

J.C.T.

- 6th—(A.) Terenure College, 6 pts.; High School, 3.
 9th—(H.) High School, 23 pts.; King's Hospital, 3.
 13th—(A.) High School, 9 pts.; Wesley College, 8.
 16th—(A.) Mountjoy School, 3 pts.; High School, 0.
 20th—(A.) Terenure College, 8 pts.; High School, 6.
 27th—(H.) High School, 24 pts.; Catholic University School, 0.

Nov.

- 2nd—(A.) St. Mary's College 1st XV., 12 pts.; High School, 11.
 20th—(H.) Belvedere, 17 pts.; High School, 0.
 24th—(H.) High School, 11 pts.; Belvedere, 11.
 27th—(A.) High School, 5 pts.; Catholic University School, 5.

DEC.

- 1st—(H.) Wesley College, 11 pts.; High School, 3.
 4th—(A.) Blackrock College, 17 pts.; High School, 6.



ROME—I.

Roman outposts on the Rhine hear the call,
 Merchants hurry down from Belgia, dismayed.
 Auxiliaries come hasting to Rome's aid
 From the Balearic Islands up to Gaul,
 One by one retreat the legions from the wall:
 Suspicious of a trap and half-afraid,
 Well knowing the might of Rome from many a raid,
 Slowly the Picts return, doubting her fall.

For Huns and Goths are marching upon Rome,
 Drawing nearer, drawing nearer, every day;
 The citizens and merchants leave their home,
 In countless temples, countless thousands pray.
 To North and South swift-riding men go by—
 "Rome is falling!" "Rome is falling!" is their cry.

G.E.G.

ROME—II.

All along the Northern roads, day and night,
 Is the low steady sound of marching feet;
 Wealthy men in the villas leave their seat
 And uneasily they watch the weird sight—
 Dusty troops from Northern Gaul, travelling light,
 Frightened peasants, tired and sweating with the heat,
 White dust obscuring all, like a sheet,
 And above a scorching sun, hard and bright.

The news has gone from Thule to Taprobane,
 The legions march to Rome from every side;
 There is massing of her forces, but in vain,
 Soon the world will see an end to all her pride,
 Rome is falling and will never rise again;
 Rome is falling and her tyranny has died.

G.E.G.



The Athletic Sports.

This Annual Meeting was held at Lansdowne Road, by kind permission of the Rugby Football Union, on Friday, June 25th, commencing this year, half an hour earlier than usual, at one o'clock. The weather was fine and ideal for Sports, not being too hot, and, thanks to excellent management, the long programme was got through with great promptitude, and the Sports were over by six o'clock. There was a big entry of 152 competitors, not counting the Sisters', Parents', Old Boys' and Policemen's Races, and everyone enjoyed the afternoon. The Senior Challenge Cup was quite an open affair, and was won by W. R. Prescott; the Junior Cup was won by J. R. Stewart. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Thompson. The Band of the D.M.P. played a good programme.

Results :

Long Jump (under 15) Handicap—G. W. Murdock (9 in.), 15 ft. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ in., 1; H. W. Good (9 in.), 2; A. W. Saunders (scr.), 3.

Long Jump (Senior)—R. W. Fox, 18 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 1; W. R. Prescott, 17 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 2; R. W. Reynolds, 16 ft. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in., 3.

100 Yards (under 10) Handicap—W. T. Morrow (6 yds.), 1; A. E. Moore (5 yds.), 2; M. S. Rooney (7 yds.), 3.

100 Yards (under 11) Handicap—The following qualified—W. M. Weir, J. W. Wilkinson, D. F. Reeves, P. L. Walker, K. H. Grove, K. White, L. B. Butler, T. W. Bamford, R. G. Love. Semi-finals—White, 1; Wilkinson, 2; Reeves, 3. Bamford, 1; Love, 2; Butler, 3. Final—Bamford (8 yds.), 1; Wilkinson (8 yds.), 2; White (8 yds.), 3.

100 Yards (under 12) Handicap—Qualified—E. Croxon, H. V. Williams, G. A. Brewster, A. D. Goff, H. C. Gowan, E. V. Dunne. Final—Dunne (7 yds.), 1; Brewster (7 yds.), 2; Croxon (scr.), 3.

100 Yards (under 13) Handicap—Qualified—G. W. Murdock, B. F. Mason, A. E. Blake, N. Geoghegan, K. M. Walmsley, E. Green, A. W. Cox, J. Gibney, L. B. Hutson, E. G. Flynn, D. S. Dick, H. Martin, S. C. Horrell, D. Meyer, A. L. Orr. Semi-finals—Murdock, 1; Blake, 2; Mason, 3. Geoghegan, 1; Gibney, 2; Green, 3. Flynn, 1; Martin, 2; Meyer, 3. Final—Murdock (scr.), 1; Flynn (2 yds.), 2; Gibney (4 yds.), 3.

100 Yards (under 14) Handicap—Qualified—J. Webb, J. C. Hutson, W. G. Kirkpatrick, J. M. Bryson, R. M. Graham, W. Begley, F. C. Keating, E. J. Pim, C. A. Boyle, W. G. Anderson, G. W. Taylor, R. J. Walker. Semi-finals—Webb, 1; Bryson, 2; Kirkpatrick, 3. Boyle, 1; Keating, 2; Taylor, 3. Final—Webb (scr.), 1; Boyle (6 yds.), 2; Bryson (4 yds.), 3.

100 Yards (under 15) Handicap—Qualified—A. W. Saunders, L. R. Rogers, R. H. Rooney, C. W. Dick, C. A. Bamford, C. A. Boyle, H. W. Good, H. Jeffares, W. Warnock, J. R. Stewart. Final—Stewart (scr.), 1; Saunders (scr.), 2; Jeffares (4 yds.), 3.

100 Yards (under 16) Handicap—Qualified—R. W. Fox, S. H. Boyce, A. C. Fox, C. W. Keating, J. B. Clarke, C. J. Bullock, J. R. Dick, R. L. Burgess, M. Wilson. Final—A. C. Fox (5 yds.), 1; Bullock (5 yds.), 2; R. W. Fox (scr.), 3.

100 Yards (Senior) Handicap—Qualified—T. D. Murphy, H. B. Montgomery, T. S. Mason, R. W. Fox, R. J. Matthews, P. W. Smith, R. W. Reynolds, J. E. Scarff, D. M. Mitchell. Final—Matthews (4 yds.), 1; Reynolds (scr.), 2; Murphy (scr.), 3.

High Jump (under 15) Handicap—A. W. Saunders (scr.), 4 ft. 4 in., 1; W. R. Nickels (3 in.) and W. G. Taylor (3 in.) tied at 4 ft. 3 in.

High Jump (Seniors)—R. W. Prescott, 4 ft. 10 in., 1; D. M. Mitchell, 4 ft. 9 in., 2; G. Henry, 4 ft. 4 in., 3.

220 Yards (under 15) Handicap—The following qualified—A. W. Saunders, J. R. Stewart, J. C. Hutson, G. W. Murdock, J. Webb, H. Jeffares, E. G. Curry, F. E. Keating, C. A. Boyle, G. W. Dick, N. J. Smith, N. Geoghegan. Final—Stewart (scr.), 1; Hutson (9 yds.), 2; Webb (2 yds.), 3.

220 Yards (under 16) Handicap—Qualified—R. L. Burgess, J. B. Clarke, M. Wilson, C. W. Keating, A. C. Fox, C. J. Bullock. Final—Fox (10 yds.), 1; Keating (8 yds.), 2; Bullock (10 yds.), 3.

220 Yards (Senior)—Qualified—T. D. Murphy, W. H. Waddell, G. Henry, R. W. Reynolds, R. J. Matthews, P. W. Smith. Final—Murphy (scr.), 1; Reynolds (scr.), 2; Matthews (7 yds.), 3.

Siamese Race—A. C. Fox and R. J. Walker (scr.), 1; C. Croxon and C. G. Martin (8 yds.), 2; D. G. Cathcart and G. W. Taylor (4 yds.), 3.

440 Yards (Senior) Handicap—W. R. Prescott (scr.), 1; J. A. McKee (14 yds.), 2; T. D. Murphy (scr.), 3.

Sisters' Race (under 13)—Miss Mellon, 1; Miss Stewart, 2; Miss Johnston, 3. Over 13—Miss Waddell, 1; Miss Goff, 2; Miss Henry, 3.

440 Yards (under 15) Handicap—W. Begley (18 yds.), 1; J. R. Stewart (scr.), 2; J. C. Hutson (16 yds.), 3.

120 Yards (Senior) Hurdles Handicap—Qualified—T. Murphy, R. Reynolds, D. Mitchell, E. Joyce, C. Keating, J. Begley, W. Prescott, J. Scarff. Final—Begley (scr.), 1; Prescott (owes 10 yds.), 2; Keating (owes 2 yds.), 3.

120 Yards (under 15) Hurdles Handicap—Qualified—E. Green, E. Croxon, W. Taylor, W. Nickels, H. Boyce. Final—Green (owes 2 yds.), 1; Croxon (owes 4 yds.), 2; Taylor (owes 10 yds.), 3.

Half-Mile (over 15) Handicap—N. Walker (25 yds.), 1; W. Prescott (scr.), 2; T. Murphy (scr.), 3.

Sack Race (under 13)—Final—T. Bamford, 1; A. Goff, 2; D. Leach, 3.

Sack Race (over 13)—J. Bryson, 1; W. Kirkpatrick, 2; C. Lyster, 3.

Old Boys' Race—E. May, 1; P. T. Ellis, 2.

Parents' Race—Mr. Saunders, 1; Mr. Martin, 2; Mr. Begley, 3.

Mile Handicap (over 15)—N. C. Walker (50 yds.), 1; T. D. Murphy (scr.), 2; A. Robinson (30 yds.), 3.

Obstacle Race (under 13)—G. W. Murdock, 1; R. E. Boothman, 2; A. L. Orr, 3.

Obstacle Race (over 13)—W. N. Martin, 1; D. C. McConnell, 2; D. L. Hennessey, 3.

Consolation Race (under 12)—P. Walker, 1; E. B. Moore, 2; E. G. Vinson, 3.

Consolation Race (under 15)—N. G. Geoghegan, 1; D. S. Dick, 2; F. E. V. Keating, 3.

Consolation Race (Senior)—T. O. Rutledge, 1; J. R. Dick, 2; W. H. Waddell, 3.



The Swimming Club.



Captain, W. R. Prescott.

Vice-Captain, E. H. Maynard.

Hon. Sec., F. G. Bestall.

The Annual Gala was held in the Iveagh Baths on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 29th, at 4 p.m. There was an excellent attendance of parents and friends, and there was much excitement during the events. Interest was added to the competitions by the open events. The Old Boys' Handicap was splendidly contested, and R. W. Mather only just won from D. B. W. Good. Excellent competition was also provided by the Open Handicap Race for boys of Dublin schools, and by the race for the Junior Championship of Leinster Schools, which was won by S. Conroy, of Belvedere. The climax of the afternoon was provided by the Water Polo Cup Tie between ourselves and St. Andrew's, which we won by one goal to nil. Mrs. Thompson distributed the prizes.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Wilson for the help he has given all the season, and to Sergt.-Major Burke for training our boys; also to Mr. Ellerker and Mr. Brennan for umpiring for us.

Results :

Senior Handicap (66 yds.)—First Heat—G. Henry, 1; R. Reynolds, 2; A. E. Robinson, 3. Second Heat—A. G. Mason, 1; S. H. Boyce, 2; F. G. Bestall, 3. Final—G. Henry, 1; S. H. Boyce, 2; R. Reynolds, 3.

Under 16 Handicap (44 yds.)—First Heat—R. L. Bryson, 1; H. W. Stephenson, 2. Second Heat—W. E. Anderson, 1; D. H. Draper, 2; R. Savage, 3. Final—W. E. Anderson, 1; R. L. Bryson, 2; H. W. Stephenson, 3.

Under 15 Handicap (22 yds.)—First Heat—A. G. Breakey, 1; C. A. Boyle, 2; L. R. Rogers, 3. Second Heat—R. Savage, 1; G. F. Mitchell, 2; W. J. Prescott, 3. Third Heat—W. E. Anderson, 1; M. Taylor, 2; F. E. V. Keating, 3. Final—R. Savage, 1; W. E. Anderson, 2; A. G. Breakey, 3.

Under 13 Handicap (20 yds.)—E. G. Flynn, 1; J. M. Murdock, 2; G. Begley, 3.

The High School Championship (100 yds.)—W. R. Prescott. Time, 75 1-5 secs.

Beginners' Race (22 yds.)—First Heat—N. Fottrell, 1; J. M. Murdock, 2; G. Begley, 3. Second Heat—F. E. V. Keating, 1; A. L. Orr, 2; E. Pim, 3. Final—N. Fottrell, 1; F. E. V. Keating, 2; J. M. Murdock, 3.

Breast and Back Stroke Race (44 yds.)—First Heat—R. L. Bryson, 1; A. G. Mason, 2; W. R. Prescott, 3. Second Heat—P. W. W. Smith, 1; H. B. Montgomery, 2; J. A. W. McKee, 3. Final—W. R. Prescott, 1; R. L. Bryson, 2; A. G. Mason, 3.

Open Handicap Race for Boys of Dublin Schools (66 yds.)—P. O'Byrne, Synge St. School, 1; E. Harper, Synge St. School, 2; B. Smyth, Belvedere, 3.

Old Boys' Handicap Race—R. W. Mather, 1; D. B. Good, 2; A. H. Whiteside, 3.

Diving Competition Handicap—W. R. Prescott, 1; J. M. Bryson, 2; R. L. Bryson, 3.

Junior Championship of Leinster Schools (50 yds.)—S. Conroy (Belvedere), 1; P. Dockrell, St. Andrew's, 2; J. M. Bryson, The High School, 3.

Water Polo Cup Tie—The High School, 1 goal; St. Andrew's, nil.

Semi-Final—The High School, 2 goals; Belvedere B, 2 goals.

Re-Play—Belvedere B, 4 goals; The High School, 2 goals.



The Sea in English Literature.



Someone has pointed out that it is strange there are not more books and poems about the sea in English literature. The greater number of the old ballads are concerned with the life of peasant, soldier, outlaw or lover; comparatively few with that of the sailor. "Sir Patrick Spens," "The *Golden Vanitee*," "Sir Andrew Barton," "Captain Ward and the *Rainbow*," are among the few there are of this sort, but just how few is shown by the fact that in all Percy's "Reliques" there are not half-a-dozen ballads dealing mainly with the sea.

The compass was not used by European sailors till the beginning of the fourteenth century; and, to find his latitude

and longitude, the unfortunate mariner had to use the astrolabe, which even a plain-spoken, sensible man like Chaucer cannot make very intelligible. Consequently losing sight of land was a dangerous business in the Middle Ages.

Even in Shakespeare's time it was looked on with suspicion—"Ships were but boards, sailors but men; there were land-rats and water-rats, water-thieves and land-thieves, and then there was peril of waters, winds, and rocks." In nearly every case in the plays where the sea figures prominently it is a moment when "the sea-man's whistle is as a whisper in the ears of death," when there is a storm and the ship is wrecked or in danger of being wrecked.

Considering the way in which men who, however they may have shone at Court, knew nothing of nautical matters were given command of war-ships, even down to the eighteenth century, it is surprising that England did so well at sea. Sir Philip Sidney, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Richard Grenville—none, as far as I know, trained to follow the sea—all commanded ships, and commanded them well.

The first English novels to deal with happenings at sea were Defoe's. *Captain Singleton* is concerned with sea events even more than *Robinson Crusoe*, and about this time "Lives" of pirates were popular.

Roderick Random was the first sea story written by one who had really had opportunities of getting to know his subject. The descriptions of H.M.S. *Thunder*, full of fever, lice, evil smells and petty jealousies, and of the attack on Carthagina in 1741, are by a man who, as assistant-surgeon, accompanied that expedition, the portraits of Trunnion, Hatchway and Pipes by a man who had spent several years among sailors.

Captain Marryat spent practically all his life at sea, and the English Navy he depicts is the one to which most romance has clung. Frigates and privateers, sloops and pinnaces, cutters and schooners and brigs, letters of marque, brass carronades, cutlasses and mutineers, have figured in scores of books since Marryat's time. E. J. Trelawney's *Adventures of a Younger Son* is full of them, but, like Marryat, he knows what he is talking about. He went to sea at 13, commanded a schooner and fought with a nominally French privateer against English and Malays when 17, and had traversed practically the whole Indian Ocean, married and lost his wife before 21. Considering his experience, it seems likely that, had he accompanied Shelley on his disastrous voyage of 1822—he wished to convey him in Byron's yacht, but was not allowed leave harbour, having no port clearance—the badly-manned *Ariel* might easily have been saved.

The most prominent writer of sea tales in the last century was Herman Melville. *Typee*, *Omoo* and *White Jacket* show little imagination, but *Moby Dick* is probably the greatest sea story ever written. Captain Ahab's relentless quest, the ghostly and elusive White Whale, the description of the chase and the terrible ending are things that made Masefield say, "*Moby Dick* speaks the whole secret of the sea."

More recent writers, as Conrad, Masefield and Kipling, I have neither space nor ability to criticise. I can only recommend those who have not already done so to read *Dauber*, to me the best thing Masefield has done, and Kipling's *The Mary Gloster*, *McAndrew's Hymn* and *Captains Courageous*.

G.E.G.

Cricket Notes.

SEASON 1926.

It scarcely seems necessary to refer to our Cricket of the past season, as it was dealt with somewhat fully in our last issue. This year, instead of the Throwing the Cricket Ball Competition at the Sports, bats and balls were given as prizes for the best batting and bowling averages on the Senior and Junior Cup Teams. The Senior bat and ball were won by F. H. Ballagh and A. W. H. Breakey respectively—their averages are given below. On the J.C.T. J. M. G. Buchanan, with a batting average 11.2 gained the bat; the ball went to D. J. Hennessey with 3.4. We were unfortunate in not having a representative on the Interprovincial Team this year; we congratulate Ballagh, our Captain, on being chosen to play in the Trial, and hope he will get his place next year.

S.C.T. AVERAGES, 1926.

BATTING.

Name.	No. of Innings.	Total Runs.	Highest Score.	Times Not Out.	Average.
Ballagh, F. H. ...	15	217	100*	1	15.5
Lewis, G. D. ...	3	41	26	0	13.6
Buchanan, J. M. G. ...	7	63	27	1	10.5
Love, H. W. ...	2	10	9	1	10
Scarff, J. E. ...	12	108	38*	1	9.8
Breakey, A. W. H. ...	16	101	27*	2	7.2
Murphy, T. D. ...	10	51	18	2	6.3
McConnell, D. C....	11	55	22*	2	6.1
Hughes, A. J. ...	15	70	15	0	4.6
Stephenson, H. W. ...	11	34	11	2	3.77
Conlan, H. E. ...	16	56	14*	1	3.73
Orr, A. C. ...	4	9	8	1	3.0

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING.

Name.	No. of Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Runs per Wicket
Breakey, A. W. H.	96	24	217	34	6.38
Savage, J. A. ...	49	6	154	18	8.55
Ballagh, F. H. ...	119	22	327	38	8.6
Stephenson, H. W.	12	2	45	4	11.25



Intermediate Certificate Examinations.



	Result	English. (300)	Greek (400)	Latin. (400)	French. (300)	German (300)	Maths. (600)	Science (300)	Commerce (300)	Drawing (200)
Bain, R. E. D. ...	P.	145	...	170	(61)	...	217	185	...	...
Bestall, F. G. ...	H.	215	...	376	180	107	409	210	...	...
Buchanan, J. M. G.	H.	215	292	310	115	...	246	155	...	...
Conlan, H. E. ...	P.	150	...	(90)	(29)	...	227	145	153	...
Doak, H. C. ...	H.	150	...	342	174	105	265	180	...	...
Douglas, K. N....	H.	280	399	372	198	...	274	115	...	...
Glover, H. M. ...	H.	135	329	359	187	...	(161)	(80)	...	...
Gray, A. R. ...	H.	170	...	205	(65)	...	258	240	...	118
Manson, J. M. ...	P.	125	...	171	(63)	...	189	130	137	...
Mason, T. S. ...	H.	150	...	215	112	...	190	255	...	...
Prescott, W. R....	P.	120	...	120	(23)	...	424	115	102	...
Richardson, T. N.	H.	220	...	374	173	...	310	165	177	...
Scott, C. P. ...	H.	125	...	200	(55)	...	236	190	168	...
Stephenson, H. W.	P.	140	160	295	(79)	...	197	175	...	...



Examination Results.



TRINITY COLLEGE.

A. W. H. Breakey (1920-26) : First Classical Sizarship; Second Place in Junior Exhibition Examination and High School Exhibition (£25 a year for four years); Entrance Prizes in Greek and Latin Prose and Greek and Latin Verse.

W. C. G. Proctor (1912-21) : Prize in Biblical Greek; Prize in Hebrew (Junior Class).

Term Honours: A. H. M. Hillis (1921-23) (Jun. Soph.): 1st of 1st rank in Classics.

A. W. Robertson (1917-23) (Jun. Soph.): 1st of 1st rank in Experimental Science.

D. B. W. Good (1915-25) (Jun. Fr.): 1st rank in English Literature.

W. S. Glover (1916-25) (Jun. Fr.): 1st rank in Mathematics; 1st rank in Experimental Science; 2nd rank in Mental and Moral Philosophy.

Final Freshman Examination (Littlego)—Passed: M. F. E. Dobbin (1916-25), W. J. N. Mackey (1922-25), H. W. Dalton (1917-24), G. B. Thrift (1916-24).

MEDICAL SCHOOL.

Intermediate Examination, Pt. I.—D. G. McCauley (1918-23), G. B. Thrift, L. B. Harris (1917-23).

Final Examination, Pt. II.—G. E. Dodds (1913-21) (M.B., B.Ch.), S. Smyth (1911-17) (B.Ch.).

Clinical Hospital Practice—R. W. Mather (1911-15).

LAW SCHOOL.

Annual Examination in Criminal and Constitutional Law—E. J. Montgomery (1913-23).



OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the "Mountjoy School Magazine."



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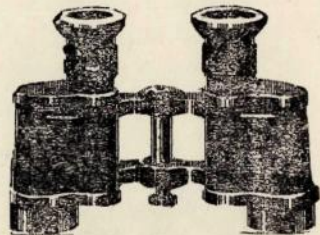
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