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(THE MAGAZINE OF THE HIGH SCHOOL, DUBLIN)

DECEMBER
1948

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 2



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THE EDITOR'S DIEN

Editorial

NEXT May THE ERASMIAN will celebrate its fiftieth birthday. Throughout the past half-century, using this magazine as a medium, successive generations of editors have tried to record for all those connected with the School the activities which have been carried on during each School year. Much, however, as we may have succeeded in this sphere, we can never hope to convey all the subtle undercurrents which help to make up the complete life of the School: these can only be comprehended by those who have experienced them.

Perhaps some of those reading THE ERASMIAN this year were members of the School when the first number went to the printer. They would now note many changes from the School of that time. Happily these changes, we believe, are for the better, while fundamentally the enduring core of The High School of 1899 remains unaltered. Extra rooms have been added to cope with the ever-increasing number of pupils, and additions have been made to the staff. More young boys than ever before jostle about in the passages, which one day they will traverse with teen-age dignity, but at present they are just as eager to fight as their illustrious predecessors.

The Clockroom has been the scene of many ceremonies, but none could have been more moving than the service for the unveiling of the war memorial, which was recently held there. Standing above the new tablets, the two plaques commemorating those who gave their lives in the first world war bear ample evidence that the old-established ideals of the School remain unaltered.

Tradition has always played an important part in the life of every school, and THE ERASMIAN, reflecting in its pages the glow of our torch, has no mean record to its credit. Based upon the deeds and writings of past and present pupils of the School, this magazine has almost completed fifty years of fruitful service. To celebrate our Golden Jubilee, the summer issue will be much larger and will contain many interesting and unusual features. So, until the vernal breezes have blown themselves out and the sun again begins to scorch the arid playground (*dum spiro, spero*), we leave you with an invitation to our fiftieth birthday party.

The Golden Jubilee Number

TO celebrate the Golden Jubilee of THE ERASMIAN we intend to publish a greatly enlarged edition next June. We are anxious to make this number really worthy of the occasion.

The bards and scribes of the present School are, we trust, already hard at work! Now, then, Old Boys! we invite you to send us literary contributions: articles, poems or letters, in light or serious vein; reminiscences, current news or flights of imagination. If you claim that you cannot do these things, perhaps you could make suggestions for others to execute—special features, etc.

If you are overseas, let us hear about your work or your part of the world—but post early!

Suggestions would need to reach us in January or February, and MSS must be in before Easter, 1949.

The design for a special cover has been commissioned. We have already been asked to publish many photographs. We will do our best, you may be sure, but do not forget that there is a limit to the resources of even the most willing of editors and managers. But let us not worry too much about that! Crowd around, lads, and let us make THE ERASMIAN's fiftieth birthday a big day in the history of the School.

Bleak City Frieze

The breeze,
Which whistles through the icy streets to seize
The lonely leaves that linger on the trees,
Now joys to freeze
The knees
Of workers hurrying homeward where their
teas
Await them.

The early picture-goer, at his ease,
Looking at those who queue behind him, sees
A frigid mass of people there, who wheeze
In different keys,
And wish to squeeze
Into the seats of early-leaving patrons just as
these
Vacate them.

A. W. M. COOPER (6A).

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William Butler Yeats

ON September 17th, 1948, the remains of William Butler Yeats were buried in Irish soil at Drumcliffe, Co. Sligo. We do not presume to attempt here an appreciation of so great a man, whose poetic genius was recognised in the most brilliant literary circles of the civilised world; but it is a privilege humbly to do him honour once again with those who stood around his quiet grave "under bare Bulben's head," for he was an Old Boy of our school.

Suffice it to recall, for those who now tread the same classrooms that he knew, a few facts about this great man. He was born in Dublin in 1865, and attended The High School from 1881 to 1883. An impression of Yeats during those years by a contemporary, "John Eglinton," another Old Boy of the school, and himself a literary man of no mean reputation, appeared in THE ERASMIAN in June, 1939. Yeats became a champion of the Irish Revival and believed earnestly in the cause of Independence. He devoted much time and energy to the Abbey Theatre in its early days. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923. He later served his country as a Senator. Intellectually as well as politically he was "a noble contributor to Ireland's inheritance."

Present-day schoolboys know him best by a few simple poems such as "The Ballad of Father Gilligan," "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," and "The Stolen Child." These are simple beginnings, but it is right that they should think of Yeats first as a poet, for he was—in the words of the Austrian poet Zweig—"the High Priest of Poets."

He once gave us the honour of publishing for the first time a little poem of his, entitled "What Then?" It appeared in THE ERASMIAN in April, 1937.

Two years later, in the list of "Deaths of Old Boys," we printed the simple notice:

"Yeats (1881-83), January 28th, 1939, at Mentone, Riviera, William Butler, in his 74th year, eldest son of the late John B. Yeats, Dublin."

Since then a world war has seared the face of Europe and left the world in turmoil, but this year the Irish Government sent the "Macha" to the Mediterranean to carry his body back to his native soil. Simplicity was the

keynote of the ceremony, for that was his own wish. His epitaph, which he wrote himself, is to be carved on his headstone:

"Cast a cold eye
On life, on death,
Horseman, pass by!"

E.W.A. and A.O.B.

A Visit to the Vaults

DURING the holidays we visited the vaults in the Church of St. Michan. The guide opened some big trap-doors with his keys. There are some steps leading into the vault. On walking down a dark passage, the guide opened a little door and took out an electric lamp. A bit further down there are some iron bars forming a door; this he opened, and held up the lamp for visitors to see all the bodies and coffins.

The guide started talking about the ages of the bodies. The three coffins that were there were around six hundred years old. One was a crusader, another was a nun. The guide told us that if we shook hands with the crusader, luck would come to us. I shook hands with him, but it put the cold shivers down my spine. We left the vault, much relieved to be up and out in the fresh air once again.

Now we went into the second vault, where we saw some very, very old coffins, all full of cobwebs, one of which was nine feet long. We went further up and saw some coffins edged with gold, and there were some lovely pearls on the top. At the top of the passage, on the far side, we saw the coffins of the brothers Sheares, who were beheaded after 1798, but their heads had been stolen. We went out of that vault after seeing the last coffins.

We were also in the church, where we saw the old Danish carvings just under the tower. The guide brought us into the part where they ring the bell. Then we went upstairs where there are little boxes; you can get into these. Then he told us the age of the organ, which was made around 1760. Finally, we went down a few steps, and there is a big book where we signed our names. So concluded my wonderful visit.

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(10 years).

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Winter

The Winter is a lonesome thing,
When all the birds have ceased to sing,
But fly around and look for food;
And nothing stirs within the wood.

The Winter is a lonesome thing:
Even the squirrel, a furry thing,
Will romp no more upon the ground
But go to sleep, like all around.

The Winter is a lonesome thing:
But still, when'er the joys of Spring
Break out and chase the gloom away,
Then everything will soon be gay.

D. J. G. IRWIN (3c¹).

Harvest

The corn is golden yellow now
Instead of darkish green,
Which just about a month ago
Was the only colour seen.

The men in shirts are working hard,
The scythes the farmer hears,
And though he smiles upon his field
The storms and rains he fears.

Grain husks are flying in the barn,
For threshing has begun;
And children playing with the corn
Hear the farmer's shout and run.

The farmer now is happy
For he knows that he's done well:
His wife can make more soda-bread,
And some flour he can sell.

J. KILLEN (3c¹).

Summer Morning

On a summer morning
When the dew is on the ground,
The trees are gently rustling
And a bright new world is found.

A gentle breeze is blowing
As the stream goes gurgling past,
Over pebbles, under bridges,
Till it meets the sea at last.

On a summer morning
When the sun is in the sky,
The flowers open up their heads
And the clouds go sailing by.

D. NOWLAN (Form 3A).

Odi Profanum Strepitum et Arceo

(AN INDIGNANT OUTBURST)

MODERN popular *music* (which is in itself a misnomer) was aptly described by Mr. Hope-Wallace, during a session of the Brains Trust, as "a raucous cacophony." It consists largely of inharmonious noises made on instruments capable of producing most beautiful sounds.

I am amazed that band leaders have bands mainly composed of wind instruments. Usually the only stringed instrument is a double-bass which some poor individual thrums in the background to give rhythm to all tunes. Wind instruments are all right in their place and played by people who really appreciate music, but an orchestra cannot consist of them alone without depriving itself of some of the most harmonious tones in music.

To-day no member of a dance band can appreciate music, or else one would not hear the most appalling din imaginable being passed off as music. I often wonder what sort of person becomes a player in a dance band. Is he unable to learn to play his instrument properly, or is he just too lazy to play it properly? If neither of these causes is the right one—what, then, is? Is it that all these players are demented, or do they know no better, or are they, perhaps, tone-deaf?

So much for the instrumentalists. Now, the vocalists. The modern method of singing is based on certain principles. Firstly, it is necessary to have no training at all, as far as voice production and control are concerned. Secondly, the ability to pronounce the most idiotic sequence of words without laughing outright or otherwise expressing one's feelings with regard to their lunacy, is essential. When one has by patience and perseverance perfected oneself in these gentle arts, one may begin to sing. One takes top notes through the nose and does not take bottom notes at all. One sings fast or slow as one pleases, and may break off in the middle of a phrase or note for breath.

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Modern music itself is bad enough, but when band leaders start making arrangements of popular classics, it is sheer sacrilege. I feel very strongly on this point and plead for the passing of a universal law, stating that arrangements of any classical music in the modern style be prohibited. If Beethoven, Mozart, Handel, Gounod and such great masters had intended their music to be played in the modern idiom, they would surely have written it in that idiom.

Why, then, is this music, which is devoid of any pleasure, popular? Is it because the greater part of the listening public does not know any better? Or is it because they are tired of the classics and there is practically no popular modern classical music? Or is it because classical music demands the fullest attention before it can be fully appreciated, and people nowadays are either in too much of a hurry or else too lazy to concentrate to the necessary degree? Or is it because they only want a noise in the background?

J. L. WILDING (6A).

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SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School News

WHEN School re-opened after the summer holidays on 1st September, we found a number of interesting changes: there were more new boys than ever; there were two new members of Staff; a new class had been added to the Juvenile School (J.4); there were new classrooms; the Clockroom had been redecorated, and the new War Memorial Tablets were in place.

The large rooms of No. 40, with their lofty ceilings, make bright and pleasant classrooms.

We welcome two new members of Staff: Mr. J. E. Cornish (Mod.), B.A., T.C.D., H.DIP.ED., who has come to us from Kilkenny College, is teaching English and French and, in addition, is assisting with sports; and Miss I. M. Gamble, M.A., T.C.D., H.DIP.ED. (Hons.), who comes to us as an additional member of the Staff of the Juvenile School.

We also welcome Mr. J. Smyth, T.C.D., an Old Boy of the School, who has returned from the Forces, and is now in charge of the Juvenile Rugby.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. Goulden in his bereavement by the death of his father in August last.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick on the birth of a son on 3rd July, 1948.

The Rev. Brian Harvey, B.D., a former Catechist of the School, has gone out to the Dublin University Mission in Chota Nagpur. We wish him every success in his work in the Church overseas.

On Wednesday, 10th November, a very moving and impressive ceremony took place in the Clockroom, when the new War Memorial Tablets were unveiled by Lord Rugby and dedicated by His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. An account of the Service will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Early in October, the Rev. R. W. Williams, Secretary of the S.C.M., visited the School and spoke to the 6th Form. In November, the Rev. E. M. Neill, M.A., Organising Secretary for Eire, came and spoke to the Middle and Senior Forms, on behalf of the Scripture Union.

On Monday, 27th September, a party of 130 boys, accompanied by Mr. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Cornish, went to see the film "Hamlet" at the Metropole Cinema.

On Friday, 29th October, over 60 boys of the Upper School went to see the film on "Atomic Physics," which was shown at the Royal Dublin Society.

All the desks for the new classrooms are being made by Mr. Wilson and his Manual Instruction classes.

We are very grateful to Miss Olive Purser, M.A., for the gift of a large number of valuable classical books, some of which are now unobtainable.

The Prefects for 1948-49 are: A. H. Knight, J. D. Fox, T. V. Jackson, J. L. Wilding, R. F. Marks, M. S. Burton.

Congratulations to: R. D. Williams on winning the Old Boys' Cup, 1948; A. W. M. Cooper on gaining his Cap in the Leinster Schools' Interprovincial Cricket XI, 1948; J. D. Fox and J. M. Gore on being selected to play in the Leinster Schools' Rugby Interprovincial (2nd) Trial Match; and C. E. Maltby and D. Forsyth on being selected as substitutes for Trial matches.

NOTE: The Editorial Committee is anxious to have, for record purposes, a few spare copies of THE ERASMIAN for June, 1941, and June, 1945. If any reader would be good enough to part with his copy of either of these issues, we should feel greatly indebted to him, as we are badly in need of them (there was only a limited number in those years owing to Emergency restrictions). Please return them to: "The Editor of THE ERASMIAN, The High School, Harcourt Street, Dublin."

Our Contemporaries

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following School magazines: *Portora* (Portora Royal School, Enniskillen); *The Anchor* (County School for Boys, Gillingham, Kent); *C.A.I.* (Coleraine Academical Institution).

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The Unveiling Ceremony

ON Wednesday, 10th November, 1948, at a simple, yet impressive service in the Clockroom, Lord Rugby, United Kingdom Representative in Eire, unveiled two tablets bearing the names of thirty Old Boys of The High School who died in the Second World War.

There was a large gathering present, which included parents and relatives of those who died, Old Boys of the School and friends, and the Staff and Senior boys of the School. The Service began at 5.30 p.m.

During the singing of the opening hymn, "Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven," those taking part in the ceremony entered in procession in the following order:

A Past President of the Union (carrying the wreath), MAJOR R. R. WILSON, late R.A. and R.A.F. Levies.

The President of the Union, MR. MERVYN BELL, and the Air Attache, WING-COMDR. J. RANKIN, D.S.O., D.F.C., R.A.F.

The Headmaster, DR. J. BENNETT, M.A., and the Military Attache, COL. R. D. M. C. MIERS, D.S.O.

The Chairman of the Governors, MR. CECIL H. DARLEY, B.L., and THE LORD RUGBY, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

The REV. E. H. DESPARD, B.A., Catechist, and the REV. R. LEE COLE, M.A., B.D., Catechist.

The REV. J. MURRAY MOORE, B.A., Catechist.

The REV. F. W. SYNNOTT, M.C., late Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Chaplain, 7th Armoured Division, and the REV. A. H. BUTLER, M.B.E., Senior Chaplain, 1st Division.

HIS GRACE THE LORD ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.

The REV. R. H. DOWSE, M.A., Senior Catechist, acting as Bishop's Chaplain.

As all took their places and the hymn ended, the Minister, the Rev. A. H. Butler, M.B.E., said: "In the name of God we gather here as one family in His Presence to remember before Him in this Service those who have laid down their lives in the war that is past, and especially the Old Boys of this School, so that we may honour their memory and sacrifice. We will also remember before Him all who are still

suffering because of war, and all who have been bereaved. And we pray that, remembering their great sacrifice, He will make us better men and give peace in our time. Let us spend a few moments in silent worship as we think of our Creator and Saviour."

A short prayer followed, and the assembly repeated the Lord's Prayer together.

The Rev. J. Murray Moore, B.A., then read the Lesson (Revelation: Chapter vii, 9 to 17), after which the Headmaster, Dr. J. Bennett, read the names of those who went out from this School and gave their lives in the War of 1939-45.

The President of the Old Boys' Union, Mr. Mervyn Bell, then asked The Lord Rugby, in the name of the relatives of the fallen and of the Old Boys of the School, to unveil the two new inscribed plates of the War Memorial. With a few simple words, his Lordship released the flags which covered the tablets and then laid a wreath of poppies beneath the Memorial window.

Lord Rugby then, in a short but eloquent address, paid tribute to the men whose memory we were honouring that day.

The tablets were dedicated by His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Dublin, who concluded the Act of Dedication with the words,

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them."

to which those present responded, "We will remember them."

Here a minute's silence was observed, after which the anthem, "Souls of the Righteous in the Hand of God" (Noble), was rendered by the choir under the direction of Dr. G. H. P. Hewson, F.R.C.O.

The hymn "For all the Saints" followed, and after the Benediction had been pronounced by the Archbishop, the Service was concluded by the singing of "God Save the King."

The singing at the Service was led by a choir composed of members of St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Dr. George H. P. Hewson, F.R.C.O., Organist of

(Continued on page 36)

MEMORY OF THE OLD BOYS OF THIS SCHOOL
WHO FELL
IN TWO GREAT
WARS
AND IN
GLORY OF GOD
TO THE



“I bare you on eagles’ wings and brought you unto myself”

Tribute

[Address delivered by The Lord Rugby, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., United Kingdom Representative in Eire, at the unveiling of the 1939-45 War Memorial Tablets in The High School, Dublin, on Wednesday, 10th November, 1948.]

"We have met in the Clockroom of The High School to place on record the names of those who were once boys at school here, and who in a dark hour freely made a choice which, though it won honour for them and for their School, did not bring them back to us, and left a gap in many an Irish home. A previous generation took the same path, and now this new record is to stand side by side with the older one, adding a link to the tradition of service.

"This is the panel of their names, and if the full story could be told—first, in each case, the inner conflict, the growing resolve, the acceptance of the call, the tale of good and evil chance in war; and then, taking these names all together, the vast range of their exploits and experiences by sea, by land and by air—what a rich chronicle is enshrined and hidden here of human vicissitudes and of events on a vast stage.

"The inner conflict, the slow or swift resolve, the acceptance of the call to serve—why did these men answer the call? Why did they go? No compulsion lay upon them. But the call of a bugle, though faint and far away, sobs with moving echoes in the hills and glens of Ireland. These were Irishmen and had in them that divine flash—part knight errantry, part an instinctive reaction—which whenever causes are to be lost or won carries Irishmen into the central cockpit and puts a green thread into the tapestry of history.

"But the call which summoned these sons of Ireland to their final destiny was not faint or far away. If I—an Englishman—am chosen to unveil their memorial, it is because you are mindful of those anxious days when the dark curtain of war blacked out the windows of my homeland and cast its shadow across the Irish Sea. It is because you know that every message which brought pride or sorrow to an Irish home came to my door too. I was here when your sons went out to play their part. Some were still boys at school when I first came here. Nobody can interpret more vividly than I, or with a more grateful heart, what this Memorial stands for to-day, and will, by God's mercy, stand for in the years to come. The flowers of the forest fall, but the seed is carried on by the silent wind to blossom in the fields of the future.

"In the long, lonely pauses of the war, in the tense moments of battle when a man must brace himself for the hit or miss of Fate, their thoughts must often have turned to the Clockroom of their old School and to their Irish home. If they are with us here to-day in spirit, do they wish us to grieve for them and be sad? Surely not. That would be to cast a cloud over an adventure of high spirit gladly undertaken, and to throw a shadow on the brief glowing chapter of their achievement. They did not count the cost. They would not wish us to count it to-day or to look for thorns in the swift harvest of their days. They would wish us to have a smile for their picture, to have a place for them in our hearts, and to remember them with pride. It is hard, indeed, not to grieve for the 'might-have-beens' of life. These might have won fame or fortune, happy homes with children. Who knows? They might have had to bear sorrow and sickness, the long years passing into ever-darkening shadow. Who knows? They did not wait to see.

"To-day, by this act of dedication, we submit their record to posterity, and to the test of time—time which blunts the edge of memory and blurs the inscription. But when other monuments are dumb this window will tell an undying story to the boys of The High School, and far down the years these walls will echo the bugle call of Alamein and Normandy. Our tribute to this gallant company is not held within the narrow frame and scope of these tablets. Their memorial is the unseen fountain of honour and pride which flows for them in their old School.

"So let the trumpets sound gladly for them and for their victory."

St. Patrick's Cathedral and Professor of Music in Dublin University, and members of the School Choir, trained by Mr. T. L. B. Cooley, A.M.R.S.C.M., who also played the accompaniments.

" Their name liveth for evermore "

ATKINSON, G. A., Pilot-Officer, R.A.F.
 BOXWELL, N. F., Sergeant, R.A.F.
 BUCKLEY, G. D., 1/7 Queen's Royal Regiment.
 BUTLER, L. B., Sergeant, R.A.F.
 FOX, R. W., Pilot-Officer, R.A.F.
 GILMOUR, W. DES B., Sergeant-Pilot, R.A.F.
 HAMILTON-HUNTER, B. P., R.A.F.
 HAMMOND, T. C., Sergeant-Observer, R.A.F.
 HARRISON, F. W., Royal Corps of Signals.
 HEANEY, W. T., Sergeant-Observer, R.A.F.
 LARKIN, H. S., Lieut.-Col., 2/16 Punjab Regt.
 LENEHAN, S., Major, R.A.
 MASTERSON, H. N., Acting Pilot-Officer, R.A.F.
 MAXWELL, V. E., Wing-Commander, R.A.F.
 MOORE, W. S., Squadron-Leader, R.A.F.
 MURDOCH, J. M., Trooper, Royal Tank Regt.
 OWEN, P. R., Pilot-Officer, R.A.F.
 PATTERSON, G. B. P., R.A.F.
 PEARSE, G. P., Surgeon, R.N.
 PRATT, W. N., Pilot-Officer, R.A.F.
 ROBINSON, K. B., Flying-Officer, R.A.F.
 RONAYNE, C. S., Flying-Officer, R.A.F.
 SMYTH, G. P., Captain, R.A.S.C.
 SMYTH, W. B. M., Sergeant-Pilot, R.A.F.
 STEPHENS, D. P., Flying-Officer, R.A.F.
 TAYLOR, W. F., R.A.F.
 TOMLINSON, R. T., D.F.M., Sergeant, R.A.F.
 WALKER, T. H., Lieut., Royal Inniskillings.
 WHEELER, SIR W. I. DE COURCY, R.-Admiral (M.), R.N.
 WOODWORTH, D. H., Sergeant, R.A.F.

Recording of the Service

A complete recording of the Service was made at the time and will be kept by the School as a permanent record of the event. A number of 12-inch records, containing an abridged version, have been ordered and may be purchased at the School at a cost of £1 15s. each.

The High School War Memorial Fund

LAST July the O.B.U. Committee appealed for funds to establish a memorial to the Old Boys of this School who gave their lives in the 1939-45 war.

It was at that time suggested that the memorial should take the form of additional brass tablets to the existing memorial in the Clockroom, and the building of a new pavilion in Belgrave Square.

Frankly, the response has been disappointing. Two thousand letters were sent out to Old Boys, parents and friends, in reply to which 204 subscriptions were received, amounting to £376 18s. 6d. Contributions, thus, only amounted to 12 per cent. of the sum required to carry out the original project.

The first intention of the Committee has been achieved, we are glad to say, and the new tablets were unveiled at a very fitting ceremony on November 10th. We are, however, very far from attaining our second objective, which, if ambitious, is worthy of the memory of those whose sacrifice it is designed to commemorate.

We feel sure that there are many Old Boys and friends of The High School who would like to subscribe but have not yet found it convenient to do so, or who have just forgotten about it. Indeed, some may not have heard of the appeal, for many letters came back to us marked "Not known"—indicating that we have not their latest addresses.

It may take two or even three years to raise the amount required. Some of our members have already expressed a wish to subscribe a sum annually over a period of three years. If this idea appeals to you, please let the Hon. Treasurer know and he will undertake to remind you each year.

If you have not yet sent a subscription, please do so *now*, and make this appeal as widely known as you can. Cheques or postal orders should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. P. R. Walker, "Fernhill," Sandyford, Dublin.

The first list of subscribers (names only) will be published in THE ERASMIAN, June, 1949.

The High School Lending Library

The Committee of the School Lending Library wish to express their gratitude to the following people who have kindly presented books: Mr. Goulden (6), S. Morrison (16), J. M. A. Turner (4), J. F. G. Harrison (1), B. J. Stewart (1), L. R. Gibney (1).

The Prize Distribution

THERE was a very large attendance of parents and friends at the Annual Prize Distribution which was held in the Clockroom on Friday, 12th November, 1948. The Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. C. H. Darley, B.L., presided.

The Headmaster prefaced his review of the activities of our own School in the past year with a reference to the background of the general system of secondary education in this country. He showed that we have reason for satisfaction and thankfulness, for, although we have certain well-known causes of complaint, we do enjoy a freedom which is rare elsewhere.

Speaking of the School's progress, Dr. Bennett pointed out that we now have a larger staff and more classes and classrooms than at any time in our history. Even though we have had to limit entries, the steady increase in the number of pupils has continued; yet there is no foundation for the suggestion that we are overcrowded. The fact is that the Board has given the Headmaster all the additional Staff for which he asked, and has also provided three new classrooms. The proportion of teachers to boys is about one teacher to every nineteen boys.

Parents were reminded of the system of organisation of the Senior School by which boys can specialise while still continuing to follow a general course.

It is only too easy, the Headmaster said, to secure openings in business at present and boys are leaving far too early, thus missing the most important period in their education, that is, when they have become mature.

The record of our boys in the University is outstanding. (*Details on another page in this issue*).

Among several other points in a very comprehensive report, the Headmaster referred to

the unveiling of the Memorial Tablets to Old Boys of the School who fell in the 1939-45 war, and paid special tribute to Major R. R. Wilson and Mr. Mervyn Bell and their Committee for their able and energetic organisation which had made the ceremony on November 10th a most fitting and impressive one.

In his address after he had presented the prizes, the Chairman commented upon "the astounding successes" of High School boys in Trinity College. He had been told by one of the professors that our boys were "well grounded" before they entered the University. He endorsed the Headmaster's statement that boys left school too early.

The Bishop of Cashel, the Right Rev. Dr. T. A. Harvey, warned the boys against "the danger of enjoying the arts of life by proxy," and advised them to develop resources in themselves so that in the face of morally enervating propaganda they might keep the integrity of their souls. "Make something, do something or perform something," he said, "instead of watching others do it." His counsel to parents was to give boys good books to make them dissatisfied with trashy ones; to let the picture gallery and the concerto counteract the poster and the crooner. "Fortify your boy against all that is second-rate by strengthening his character and helping him to exercise his discrimination."

Mr. Mervyn Bell, Registrar to the Board of Governors and President of the O.B.U., presented the Old Boys' Cup to the winner, R. D. Williams. After congratulating Williams, Mr. Bell reminded boys how much they owed to their School, and expressed the hope that all past pupils would join the O.B.U. Taking boys away from school too early he likened to taking away a half-finished job from a skilled craftsman; the "finish" is what counts. He urged boys to put all they had into games and work, and asked them to remember the ideals of the Old Boys whose names were honoured in the new War Memorial Tablets.

NOTICE

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Examination Results, 1948

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S EXAMINATIONS

Intermediate Certificate: Honours—R. M. Addie, D. A. L. Cooney, A. W. M. Cooper, W. S. W. Poole, E. A. Southam, T. W. Williams.

Pass—N. E. Beresford, C. A. Bowden, J. D. Erdberg, W. J. D. Free, J. M. Gore, S. G. Harvey, J. N. Hayes, N. E. Holmes, S. W. McCamley, R. H. Shapiro, J. G. Sinclair, M. E. White, N. E. Wilson.

The School Choir qualified for the Department's Grant with 85 per cent.

THE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

First Class—W. T. R. Meates, G. H. Watson, D. S. Nowlan.

Qualified for Second Class—W. M. Gregory, A. J. Probert, C. B. Warren, W. R. D. Alexander, H. E. Kilroy.

Carpenter Memorial Essay Prize—A. W. M. Cooper.
John Philips Rogers Prize—A. W. M. Cooper.

Mr. Warnock's Irish Prizes—Senior, R. B. Maude; Junior, C. A. Bowden.

French Government Prizes—Senior, J. G. Berry; Junior, A. W. M. Cooper.

Mr. L. B. Cooley's Music Prizes—J. T. McDonough, W. M. Gregory, and A. C. Knott.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN DEGREES

Ph.D.—R. A. Cole.

B.A. (Moderatorships)—A. P. Richardson, Oriental Languages (1st of 1st Class); R. F. Kyle, Experimental Science (Theoretical Physics) (1st Class); E. W. Brennan, Modern History and Political Science (2nd Class); D. L. Seligman, Legal Science (2nd Class); E. D. R. Simms, Classics (2nd Class); Supplemental—R. S. Young, Natural Science (B) (2nd Class).

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—A. L. Jones (2nd Class Honours); C. J. Davis, C. Harris.

B.A.I. (Elec. and Mech.)—A. C. Stewart.

B.A. (Arts)—J. R. Lindsay, L. M. Nuroch, S. Reede.

DISTINCTIONS AT ENTRANCE

R. D. Williams—First Entrance Scholarship (£240) and First Mathematical Sizarship.

J. G. Berry—Entrance Exhibition (£80) and qualified for Experimental Science Sizarship, but ineligible for award.

W. P. Northen—The High School Exhibition (£100), Sizarship in Experimental Science, and qualified for Entrance Exhibition (£50), but ineligible for award.

K. B. Henderson—First Sizarship in Irish.

E. C. T. Perdue—Thompson Exhibition (£100).

DISTINCTIONS IN COLLEGE

Brooke Prize (Classics)—E. D. R. Simms.

Lloyd Exhibition (Mathematics)—R. H. Kyle.

Townsend Memorial Prize (Mathematics)—B. H. Murdoch.

HONORS EXAMINATIONS

R. H. Kyle (J.S.)—Mathematics (1st of 1st Rank), Experimental Science (1st of 1st Rank).

D. E. Dann (J.S.)—Economics and Political Science (2nd Rank).

J. M. G. Carey (J.S.)—Classics (3rd Rank).

N. J. F. Rodway (S.F.)—Classics (1st Rank).

B. H. Murdoch (J.F.)—Mathematics (1st of 1st Rank).

N. S. Montgomery (J.F.)—Mathematics (1st Rank).

J. A. E. Sutton (J.F.)—Classics (2nd Rank).

M. W. Bryan (J.F.)—Experimental Science (2nd Rank).

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Entrance—J. G. Berry.

Junior Year—P. H. Stewart, M. C. W. Williams, G. F. A. Day.

Middle Year—P. Comley, G. D. Lyons.

SCHOOL OF PHYSIC

Pre-Registration (Botany)—A. J. Freedman.

First Medical (Anatomy and Physiology)—F. Fine, H. Q. Hutchings.

Second Medical (Materia Medica and Therapeutics; Pathology and Bacteriology)—S. H. Buchalter, D. L. Cowan, D. Romney.

ARTS

Final Freshman—P. Comley, G. R. L. Lyons, R. A. Maltby, N. J. F. Rodway.

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OTHER EXAMINATIONS

PITTSBURGH UNIVERSITY, U.S.A.

M.Sc.—G. H. F. Gardner.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON
AND

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND

Diploma in Psychological Medicine—G. S. Prince.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, IRELAND

Final—A. Shaw.

INCORPORATED LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

First Examination in Irish—H. E. Burleigh,
2nd Place (July, 1948); K. B. Henderson,
1st Place (October, 1948).

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SPORTS REVIEW

Club Officers:

RUGBY, 1948-49

Capt.: D. Fox.
Vice-Capt.: A. W. M. Cooper.
Hon. Sec.: W. J. Free.
Capt., J.C.T.: M. Gore.

CRICKET, 1948

Capt.: G. W. Griffin.
Vice-Capt.: A. W. M. Cooper.
Hon. Sec.: J. C. Haine.
Capt., J.C.T.: A. W. M. Cooper.

BOXING, 1948-49

Capt.: D. Forsyth.
Vice-Capt.: B. T. Tomlinson.
Hon. Sec.: N. Jarrett.
Junior Capt.: W. J. Lochtie.

TENNIS, 1948

Capt.: E. C. T. Perdue.
Vice-Capt.: G. W. Griffin.
Hon. Sec.: W. J. Free.
Junior Capt.: W. J. Free.

TABLE TENNIS, 1948-49

Capt.: W. J. Free.
Vice-Capt.: W. S. W. Poole.
Hon. Sec.: R. M. Mahon.

SWIMMING, 1948

Capt.: N. H. Kerrison.
Vice-Capt.: C. E. Maltby.
Hon. Sec.: W. J. Lochtie.

ATHLETICS, 1948

Capt.: R. B. Maude. Vice-Capt.: N. H. Kerrison. Hon. Sec.: D. Fox.
Hon. Secs., Annual Sports: L. Hyland, J. C. Haine.

Rugby

AS might be expected, with the numbers in the School still growing, the number of boys playing rugby has increased. Since most of the new boys are rather young, however, the Senior team will not benefit by this improvement for some time to come, while it continues to suffer losses through the number of boys who are going into business before they are seventeen. While we have more seniors playing this season than last, and we can "ring the changes" on the last few places in the S.C.T., we have only three players over seventeen on the regular 1st XV. Nothing daunted by such a handicap, the S.C.T. show a good spirit and have demonstrated their ability to score in most of their matches, even in the face of heavy opposition. The loss of our Vice-Captain, A. W. M. Cooper, through injury early in the season, was a sad blow, but we hope that he will be fit to play again after Christmas.

Whatever our difficulties, however, we do not seek to excuse our lack of skill on the field. A little more cohesion and the intelligent application of points learned in training would strengthen both attack and defence.

Our Captain, J. D. Fox (scrum-half), and J. Gore (our hooker), were both selected to play in the Schools' Interprovincial Trials; and D. Forsyth and C. Maltby were chosen as "subs."

We are glad to have the services of Mr. Cornish in training the J.C.T. and Under 14's. His long experience of handling such teams should be a great asset to them; but the J.C.T. seems, with one or two exceptions, to lack size and, in general, we are afraid, quality, though their Captain, M. Gore, is a hard-working forward and a good hooker. The Under 14's are doing quite well.

Though the Under 13's have yet to record a win, they are as keen as mustard; and the same may be said of the Under 12's and Under 11's. Mr. J. Smyth has charge of the juveniles this season, and has spotted some talent in their ranks already.

We have a very full fixture list this term and more boys than ever are getting a chance to play in matches. In a match with the Old Boys on October 28th, the School were defeated in a very lively and enjoyable game. We are looking forward to our next encounter in the Colours match towards the end of the season. Meanwhile, the highlight of the Senior fixtures before Christmas is the "away" match with Bangor Grammar School on December 4th—the day of the Ulster v. Leinster Interprovincial match in Belfast.

The first half of the Inter-House Competition will, we expect, be completed before the end of November.

Boxing

THIS season our Club has become affiliated to the I.A.B.A. Numbers are slightly above average, and the gymnasium has been well filled on Tuesdays and Fridays. We wish that earnestness in training was in proportion to our increase in membership. Only two hours a week are available for boxing training. Boys ought to see that they are spent as profitably as possible.

The Annual Championships were the most important feature of this term's activities. There were sixty-six entries in fifteen weights and several afternoons were spent in elimination bouts. We thank Mr. R. R. Quin (former Captain of the Club), who generously gave his time in judging these preliminary rounds.

We thank our old friend, Mr. Carroll (referee); Mr. Colman (I.A.B.A.), who was paying us his first visit; Mr. Kirkpatrick (judge), and Mr. R. R. Quin (M.C.), who officiated at the Championships.

It is only too easy to forget those whose work behind the scenes makes such public events possible; so we wish to express our apprecia-

tion of their help to Mr. Goulden and Mr. Wilson, and Johnny Nelson, our trainer.

Next term we hope to have contests with Castleknock College, Dungannon Royal School, and Portora Royal School.

Results of Championship contests, 1948:—

3 st. 7 lbs.—A. P. Burgess beat A. Kay.
4 st.—M. R. H. Taylor beat W. Hogan.
4 st. 7 lbs.—I. Scott beat N. D. Knowles. 5 st.
—H. C. M. Lundy beat N. R. Quin. 5 st. 7 lbs.
—W. Gregory beat R. J. E. Hill. 6 st.—K. Allen beat D. C. B. Taylor. 6 st. 7 lbs.—B. Fox beat J. Forsyth. 7 st.—E. A. Southam beat G. Bull. 7 st. 7 lbs.—H. N. G. Lundy beat E. Jarrett.

Fly—D. G. Griffith beat K. H. Hodgson.

Bantam—G. T. Ripplingale beat R. V. Johnston.

Feather—J. J. Steyn beat B. Tomlinson (no title at stake).

Light—N. S. Rothwell beat W. J. Lochtie.

Welter—N. Jarrett beat W. Free.

Middle—S. Nolan beat D. W. Forsyth.

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Table Tennis

THIS season we have a large number of enthusiastic members, and there is a keen spirit in the Club. A number of friendly matches has been arranged in addition to the usual League fixtures. We started the season very well by beating Sandford Park School by seven matches to five. In October we ran a tournament, for which all members entered. The winner was W. J. Free.

On Tuesday, 23rd November, Mr. H. Carlile, an Old Boy of the School and a former Irish International table tennis player, paid us a visit. His demonstrations, advice and criticism were greatly appreciated, and we are eagerly looking forward to his next visit.

We are indebted to W. S. W. Poole and his father, who presented us with a splendidly fitted equipment box, which they made specially for us.

The challenge matches for team places were completed early in November, and the following team was selected:—W. J. Free (Capt.), W. S. W. Poole, A. K. Knight, L. Dawson, R. M. Mahon, C. E. Maltby; Sub., J. D. Fox.

Handball

THIS term an effort to revive the handball championships has met with considerable success. There were sixty entries, and the semi-finals have already been reached. The winners of both Junior and Senior sections will receive medals.

J. T. McD.

[We congratulate J. T. McDonough (5¹) on his organisation, single-handed, of this competition.—EDITOR.]

Swimming

THE School Championships were held in September at Blackrock Baths, the Senior Cup being won by B. Tomlinson, and the Junior Cup by S. A. Wright. The House Squadron was won by Belgrave House. Some of our members entered for the Leinster School Championships, but without success.

Our Captain, N. Kerrison, was most unlucky in being unable to compete in any events at the end of the term, as he would undoubtedly have distinguished himself, as in previous years, both in swimming and diving.

W. J. L.

Cricket, 1948

THIS past season was a very enjoyable one despite the small number of Seniors playing cricket. The Juniors, however, atoned for this, as they turned out in large numbers.

The S.C.T., which carried quite a number of Juniors, had a fairly successful season. They won through to the 2nd Round of the Cup, where they were defeated by King's Hospital after a keen game. Details of these matches appeared in the Summer Report.

The annual match against the Parents was played on Saturday, 19th June, and resulted in a win for the School after a most enjoyable match.

The Colours match against the Old Boys was played on the 24th and 25th of June and resulted in a draw.

Details:—

O.B.U.: 1st inns., 44 (Cooper, 6 for 20);
2nd inns., 79 for 9, declared (Cooper, 4 for 11).

SCHOOL: 1st inns., 45 (Rodway, 3 for 7;
Ingram, 6 for 12); 2nd inns., 65 for 8,
stumps drawn (R. Williams, 33;
Rodway, 2 for 6).

The J.C.T. proved to be our most successful team this year, as they did exceptionally well in their Cup matches. After accounting for C.U.S. and Avoca School in the earlier rounds, they went under, in the semi-final, to a very strong St. Mary's side, which eventually won the Junior Cup.

Details:—

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE: 117 (Kelly, 56;
Cooper, 4 for 35; Freedman, 1 for 5;
J. Forsyth, 2 for 16).

THE HIGH SCHOOL: 39 (Kelly, 3 for 18;
Gibney, 4 for 15).

The Under 14, Under 13, Under 12, and Under 11 teams played many matches and seem to have enjoyed themselves immensely. They show much promise for the future, although the Under 14 team fell away in their League matches.

On account of the large number of fixtures and the poor weather, the House matches were held up this year. They were, however, eventually finished early in this term, and Harcourt House emerged triumphant.

We wish to thank Mr. A. L. Knott and Mr. R. Roe, our Senior and Junior coaches, respectively, and Mr. Kirkpatrick for his never failing interest throughout the season.

We congratulate A. W. Cooper, our Vice-Captain, on gaining his place in the Leinster Schools' XI.

J. C. H.

Athletics, 1948

THE Annual School Sports were held at Lansdowne Road on Saturday, 26th June, 1948. There was a very good attendance, and the competition was extremely keen.

The following were the winners of the principal Cups:—

War Memorial Cup—R. B. Maude.

The Junior Championship Cup—A. P. Menary.

The Moore Cup (220 yards, Senior)—R. B. Maude.

The Magill Cup (100 yards, Junior)—A. P. Menary.

The Lord Holmpatrick Cup (Athletic points)—Harcourt House (Capt., W. G. Palmer).

D. F.

Tennis

LEAGUE matches having been lost and won (details in THE ERASMIAN, June, 1948), we turned our attention during the latter part of the season to the School Championships, Tournaments and House matches. We found ourselves with very little time to play these off, however, as bad weather earlier in the season had slowed up progress in the preliminary rounds; one House match, indeed, had to be played in September.

The final results were:—

Senior Champion—G. W. Griffin.

Junior Champion—W. J. Free.

House Points—Harcourt House.

Handicap Tournament: Senior—W. J. Free and J. C. Haine; Junior—J. Seager and J. Forsyth.

The Annual Parents v. School match was played on Wednesday, June 23rd, and resulted in a victory for the School.

W. J. F.



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OLD BOYS' UNION

THE Annual General Meeting was held in the Boardroom on Friday, October 15th. The attendance showed an increase on previous years, but quite a number of our 600 members were missing. The Hon. Secretaries, in their report for the year under review (October, 1947–October, 1948), stated that it was a case of success in everything attempted.

Once again the Union was most fortunate in its choice of President. Major Wilson was one of the most energetic presidents ever to occupy the Chair, and, with the help of a hard-working Committee, he had supervised the affairs of the Union in a most efficient manner.

The Dance, held on the 20th December, 1947, was a very enjoyable affair and £91 found its way into the Union's coffers as a result.

Of the Dinner, held on the 17th January, 1948, we need do no more than quote Lord Rugby: "It was one of the highlights of the Dublin season." Thank you, Tom Bell and Sam Meyer, for your work in connection with the Dinner!

The London Dinner, revived after a lapse of ten years, was organised by Mr. Mervyn Bell, and was held in the Holborn Restaurant, London, on 13th February, 1948—a very pleasant prelude to the English-Irish rugby match.

We thank most sincerely Dr. and Mrs. Bennett and the Staff of the School for their help and valuable assistance so readily given to us at all times throughout the year.

The following are your Honorary Officers and Committee for 1948-49:

Patron: Dr. E. H. Alton, Provost, T.C.D.

President: Mervyn Bell.

Vice-President: Dr. John Bennett (Headmaster).

Hon. Secretaries: Harry Bunbury, 18 Westbourne Road, Terenure; Cecil G. Morton, 33 Rathgar Road, Dublin.

Asst. Hon. Secretary: W. G. Booker, 14 Trees Road, Mount Merrion Park, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

Hon. Treasurer: P. R. Walker, "Fernhill," Sandyford, Co. Dublin.

Committee: H. E. P. Anderson, W. D. Boyle, W. G. Kirkpatrick, R. H. Kyle, T. D. Murphy, F. E. Tate, W. H. Walker, S. G. Watson, R. D. Williams.

Cricket Secretary: John A. Bell.

Rugby Secretary: E. W. Frith.

Golf Secretaries: S. S. Evans, H. Williams.

Dance Secretaries: Cecil G. Morton, W. G. Booker.

Athletics Secretary: Brendan Hennessy.

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THE HON. TREASURER

reminds you that Adelaide Hospital Scheme subscriptions are now due and also your Voluntary subscriptions. His address is: "FERNHILL," SANDYFORD, CO. DUBLIN. Please send them now.

FOR YOUR DIARY

ANNUAL DINNER in the Clockroom, *Saturday, 15th January, 1949.*

ANNUAL DANCE in the Metropole, *Saturday, 5th November, 1949.*

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SPORT IN THE UNION

Three cricket matches were played during the season and for the third time in five years we beat our old but friendly rivals, King's Hospital, by 3 wickets. The Colours match against the School was drawn, the School being 13 runs short of victory, with 2 wickets standing, when time was called. The Under 30's once again got the better of their Seniors in a very enjoyable match—the scores being 111 to 74.

Two rugby matches were played against the School and resulted in close wins for us on each occasion. The rugby secretary reported difficulties in getting a team together, and a little more keenness amongst the younger members would be welcomed. If you would like to play, get in touch with E. W. Frith, 26 Mountshannon Road, South Circular Road, Dublin, straightaway.

Mr. S. S. Evans reports a very successful golf season, of which our own annual outing at Milltown was the highlight. R. L. Bryson won the O.B.U. Cup for the second year in succession; Jack Bell, C. L. Dillon and H. Williams also won prizes. The Union was placed fourth in the A.S.U. meeting, and ninth in that of Schools Unions of Ireland.

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News of Old Boys

P. J. CUSTIS, A.C.I.S., F.R.ECON.S. (1930-37), has passed the Intermediate and Final Examinations of the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants. He has also been elected a member of the National Association of Cost Accountants of America.

D. B. W. GOOD, M.A., LL.B. (1915-25), has been called to the English Bar.

R. H. KYLE, Sch. (1936-45), has been elected Auditor of the Mathematical Society in Trinity College.

G. A. W. RIDGEWAY, B.A. (1936-39) was awarded a Certificate for Oratory in the College Theological Society in the 1947-48 session.

T. R. E. SHAW (1933-35) paid us a visit this term. He joined the R.A.F. in 1942, and is now a Flight-Lieutenant.

E. A. THOMPSON, M.A. (1925-32), is now Professor of Classics at Nottingham University.

G. W. WILLIAMS, Sch., Mod., University Student, B.A. (1936-43), is Lecturer in Classics at King's College, London—not St. John's College, as stated in *THE ERASMIAN*, June, 1948.

H. G. ALLBUTT (1939-43), who served in the British Army during the war, has rejoined the R.A.O.C.

J. C. GILMOUR (1929-36), B.A., B.SC., has returned from the U.S.A., where he was studying some aspects of the chemistry of tobacco at Duke University, Durham, N. Carolina.

Deaths

WILLIAM HENRY CALCOTT CHAMBRE (1897-99), September 16, 1948.

COL. NORMAN JAMES MATHER, M.B. (1912-20), November 7, 1948.

JOSEPH EDWARD ROBINSON (1894-97), February 3, 1948.

ARTHUR NOEL SAUNDERS (1938-45), October 19, 1948.

DR. HUGH GERALD WESTROPP (1892-94), September 7, 1948.

Marriages

WILLIAM ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS (1928-35) to PHYLLIS MIGNON ENNIS BOYD, July 17, 1948.

REV. JOHN COOTE DUGGAN (1928-36) to MARY ELIZABETH DAVIN, September 9, 1948.

ALAN FREDERICK GREY (1931-38) to MURIEL PATRICIA MENZIES, September 18, 1948.

REV. JOHN ALEXANDER MOTYER (1935-42) to BERYL GRACE MAYS, August 30, 1948.

ROBERT THOMAS MOTYER (1932-38) to ELIZABETH COMISKEY, May 1, 1948.

JOHN EDWARD SCARFF (1923-28) to PHYLLIS DEEY, September 11, 1948.

FRANK LIVINGSTON THOMPSON (1931-39) to ELIZABETH ORA GOWAN, June 23, 1948.

Clonskea via Belgrave Square

[At the Golden Jubilee Dinner of the Palmerston (Rugby) Football Club in October the guest of honour was Mr. D. C. Ferguson, an Old Boy of The High School and a member of Palmerston since 1899. In his speech replying to the toast of the Club's founders, Mr. Ferguson referred to the close connection between The High School and Palmerston F.C.]

Several members of our O.B.U., who are also prominent Palmerston men, have since suggested to us that we should publish an article on this subject in *THE ERASMIAN*; so we have obtained permission from the Club to cull the following extracts from "Palmerston (Rugby) Football Club, 1899-1908: An Account of Its Formation." This interesting document was written last August—entirely from memory—by Mr. D. C. Ferguson's brother, Mr. J. C. Ferguson, a founder-member of Palmerston and an Old Boy of H.S.D., who is now resident in London.—EDITOR.]

Palmerston F.C. was formed as a result of conversations, in 1899 (or 1898), between Godfrey Ferguson, Frank Milligan, Bertie (H.F.) Robinson and myself. S. Meyer had been concerned in these talks at the beginning, but dropped out—I know not why—before a Committee Meeting was held or a game played. W. B. Swan joined later, but in time for the first Committee Meeting and game.

The original name suggested for the club was "Rathmines," but I proposed "Palmerston," and this was adopted unanimously. It was also settled that we—ex-schoolboys as we were and without a ground—should take on the same status as that of School "Cup" teams, etc.—playing on our opponents' grounds and on Saturdays only.

One reason for the rapid increase in Palmerston membership, and, therefore, its success as a club, was that during our first two seasons, playing 24 or 26 matches, we, by some extraordinary stroke of luck, never lost a game! Perhaps we were slightly a heavier team than most of the opposing XV's, but, on the other hand, we had no opportunities for practice; always played on "away" grounds; nearly always were one or two players short of the full XV, and almost regularly included in our forwards one or two raw recruits to football.

In, say, our first two or three games, we played in white jerseys, pending the production of the club jerseys by Karlyle.

As well as my fifty years' memory serves me, the following were among those representing the brand new club on the field of play:—W. Gibson, Charlie Alexander, W. B. Swan, George White, Lance Bayly, Harry Thrift, E. P. Morris, Alec Colvin, Arthur Woods, J. C. Ferguson, H. Burton, G. W. Ferguson, Bertie Robinson, Frank Milligan, G. W. Shannon, Charlie Argue, George Ritchie, F. Bayly, W. Burton, R. Stronach and L. Alexander. I have an impression that Jack Richardson also played once or twice for us, but may be incorrect in this.

An interesting circumstance, and one that had a bearing on the subsequent make-up or complexion of the club, was that, of the 22 players mentioned above, all but three—Gibson, Robinson and Woods—were ex-High School boys; in fact, Palmerston in its earliest stages and for several following seasons might well have been named "Old High School."

Following upon our successful debut in Rugby Football, Palmerston received, in early November, I think, a valuable accession to its ranks when my brother, D. C. Ferguson, joined up and brought with him George and Willie Campion and Paul Burrowes; all, be it said, "late High School." Later in the same season A. Montieth and N. Hope became members.

I think I may say it was this fillip that first encouraged the notion of developing Palmerston into something better than a team closely akin to, though somewhat better than, a scratch XV; but nothing was said or done at the time—we still were a very frail club and liable to break up on small provocation. We never selected a team; our great difficulty was to collect one.

We first played in our green-white-green jerseys against High School and were a goal up early in the match. In the last minute, however, Harry Thrift (the School Captain) circumgyrated the main portion of Belgrave Square at express speed, scored and converted, thus making the result a draw. We felt slightly hurt about this, but, as Thrift had played once or twice for Palmerston in the preceding matches, we held our peace. In this game H. Burton and the two Baylys also played for "the old School" against us.

Our chief rivals on the field in our first two seasons were The High School, St. Mary's College (Rathmines), and King's Hospital (The Blue Coat School), and we had many tense struggles with these well-trained teams. As time went by and we remained undefeated, the tenseness increased, notwithstanding which we managed to keep our slate clean to the end, when (in our third year) we changed our status by joining the Leinster Branch I.R.F.U., and entered the Junior League Competition.

DISPERSAL OF THE PIONEER COMMITTEE

Prior to 1908, Argue had gone to Kentucky, U.S.A.; Godfrey Ferguson to South Africa in 1902, where Swan and I followed him in 1908-1909; F. Milligan also went to U.S.A.; Morris to England (Southampton); Robinson, Colvin and Ritchie had retired from football, but, I believe, were still in Dublin in 1908; Paul Burrowes, Dunnie Ferguson, George and Willie Campion alone represented "the old guard" of Palmerston on the 1908 Committee.

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