

THE ERASMIAN

The Magazine of
The High School,
Dublin.



DECEMBER, 1951

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EDITORIAL

"O TEMPS, suspends ton vol!" for the Muses have not yet acknowledged our anxious plea for inspiration, and yet you persist in stealing away the hours. Yes, dear reader, here we are once again hurriedly trying to fill up a few lines of an editorial, but alas, like so many of our predecessors of the same occupation, we find ourselves with nothing to say. However, remembering what Vigny once said

"Gémir, pleurer, prier, est également lâche,
Fais énergiquement ta longue et lourde tâche",

we resigned ourselves to our fate.

In keeping with tradition, we took up that mythical "editorial pen"—this time a Biro, if you'll excuse us, ye men of old!—and having donned an expression of great dignity, which we felt was characteristic of all editors, we sat in patient expectation. Nothing happened! Then suddenly, out of the thousand and one thoughts which were swirling round in our mind, we grasped a line or two from Musset, who tells us

"Chasser tout souvenir, et fixer la pensée,
Sur un bel axe d'or la tenir balancée."

Thus we tried to recall anything and everything, but as soon as we had extracted one specific thought, and were just about to inscribe it on our still empty sheet of paper, it overbalanced off the "Axe d'or" of our pen, and left us still staring into space. Being in such a state of mind, Wordsworth's plan fascinated us. He writes that he used to lie on a couch "In vacant or in pensive mood", and lo! the thoughts

"Flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude."

We were in a similar mood, pensive and very vacant, but unfortunately we had not the added luxury of a couch. Perhaps that is why it had no effect.

We then thought of writing a few words of welcome to our new Headmaster, Dr. Reynolds, and to our new Sergeant, Sergeant Moody. How could we fill up enough space?

We just couldn't. Then there was the Sergeant's bell which, we thought, if we looked at it the right way, might bring unto us a "tale of visionary hours", but this only succeeded in making more apparent to us the flight of time.

Talking of time, we are now forced to the conclusion that we are no more favoured by the fates than were our predecessors, and realising that it is not our duty to detain you any longer from the pleasant pages which follow, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Dublin High School

H. R. CHILLINGWORTH, M.A.

The first part of this history of the High School by Mr. Chillingworth, who was a member of the staff from 1922 until 1939, appeared in the June, 1951, issue of THE ERASMIAN.

MR. THOMPSON was succeeded by Dr. John Bennett, who will be remembered as one of the School's greatest headmasters. Dr. Bennett, like his predecessor, had been senior classical master in the School. In 1918 he was appointed to the headship of Sligo Grammar School, a position which he held till the retirement from the High School of Mr. Thompson. With Dr. Bennett's accession, continuance of the High School's classical tradition was assured. At Trinity College he had been a classical scholar, and in 1906 had graduated (in classics and philosophy) as a University Student, that is, as one of the two most distinguished men of his year. Dr. Bennett, like his predecessor and every really successful headmaster, was blest with a memory for administrative details, and, like Mr. Thompson, he was blest in having able and loyal assistants. Educational machinery ran smoothly at the High School, and the pupil who did not find life pleasant and interesting there must have been in need of medical treatment. Dr. Bennett's régime was distinguished by the introduction of the prefect system, by the establishment of a parents' association, and by the remarkable success of the Old Boys'

Union. The number of pupils continued to rise, and, some years ago, a preparatory department, in which women teachers shared in the work, was opened. A few years earlier an arrangement was made for providing dinners at the midday break. The cost of the meal added little to the parents' bills, and the dinner enabled boys who lived far from the playing field to go there after school neither replete nor too hungry to do themselves justice at games.

Of the novelties introduced during Dr. Bennett's régime the Parents' Association is perhaps the most noteworthy. Regular association of the parents as a body with the school is always desirable, but is hardly feasible except where the school is a day school. In Eire it has never been more desirable than it became when the Government, through the Department of Education, began (with the best intentions) to curtail the secondary schools' liberties. Parents' associations can do nothing to change the main lines of the Department's policy, but they can do much towards making the best of conditions that cannot be altered. On the general aim of the schools, the preparing of young people for the self-help of adult life, there are, fortunately, no great differences of opinion, and what the High School's Parents' Association has been doing cannot fail to have the Department's hearty approval. Experts—businessmen and members of the professions—have addressed the Association on careers for boys, and their addresses have been followed by questions and discussions. These have no doubt led parents to important decisions, but the Association's most useful function is probably the promotion of mutual understanding between parents and the School Staff. In the nature of things the parents should have more to learn than the teachers, most of whom, being family men, have to face domestic problems daily. In comparison with these problems, those of the school are almost esoteric. At the Association's meetings, however, I hear that their esoteric nature has been no hindrance to fruitful discussions.

The forming of the Parents' Association may have been made possible, as its success was certainly made hopeful, by the co-operation, during more than a decade, of Old Boys and members of the School Staff in organising

what came to be known as the High School Concerts. Concerts, in the ordinary sense of the word, these performances were not, but all who remember them will agree that the name was never a handicap. There were full houses from the first performance to the last. They began in the first year of Dr. Bennett's headship, and their success was largely due to the talent of Mrs. Bennett, who with the help of Mr. W. R. Wilson, F.R.S.A., supplied the costumes, a task which must have been as tedious as it was difficult. Mr. Wilson's share in staging the shows deserved all the praise which his collaborator, Mr. C. L. Dillon, M.A., gave it in the brochure in which he recorded the School's dramatic activities. These included the production of Gilbert and Sullivan's ever-popular *Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, and *The Gondoliers*; plays in English, French, and Greek (*The Acharnians*, a novelty surely on a Dublin school stage), and a wonderful pantomime, *Aladdin*. Old Boys gave help ungrudgingly, and the whole enterprise owed much to the knowledge and hard work of the producers, Mrs. Begley, Mr. G. A. Mackay, and Mr. Eric May. War, destroyer of so many good things, brought the School Concerts to an end. A revival should be possible some day, but whoever attempts one will have to aim high to avoid "base comparisons" with the work done by the School players between 1928 and 1938.

Since 1929 the High School Old Boys have had a corporate existence, and since its formation their union has flourished. That it should have been formed is significant of the great change which has taken place in the relations of ex-pupils to their schools. It is doubtful whether the formation of such a union would have been possible in the last century, and it is more than doubtful whether a union formed then would have chosen the School as its meeting-place. As far as I know, there has never been any question respecting the suitability of the High School for the Union's annual dinner. Good digestion has waited upon appetite in the Clockroom. Even if that room had been in the early days the School's execution chamber, its transformation to a banqueting hall went far towards obliterating the past. The Union's annual dinner is a great event. For several years in succession the guest of honour was the British Representative

in Eire, Sir John Maffey (now Lord Rugby), between whom and the school formal relations grew into genuine friendship. Lord Rugby is an admirable speaker, but he has surely never spoken with more effect than on the afternoon of November 10th, 1948, when he assisted at the dedication, by the Archbishop of Dublin, of the memorial to the Old Boys of the School who fell in the war against Hitler's Germany. Lord Rugby has returned to England, but the Union had the pleasure of welcoming his successor, Sir Gilbert Laithwaite, who honoured the School by being the Union's guest at last year's Old Boys' Dinner.

Let us in conclusion praise famous men, a few of the numerous H.S.D. *alumni* who have done honour to their School. The patron of its O.B.U., Dr. E. H. Alton, Provost of T.C.D., left the School for the University in 1892. At Trinity he gained great distinction in classics, and was described by the late John E. Healy, himself a scholar, as one of the greatest Latinists in Europe. His predecessor in the provostship, Dr. William Edward Thrift, had also been a High School pupil. He was a physicist and mathematician. Along with Dr. Alton, he represented the University for several years in the Dáil, and earned the respect of men of all parties who were capable of appreciating honest work in the public service. His brother, Mr. Harry Thrift, Senior Fellow of Trinity, is an Old Boy who, in his younger days, was a footballer of international reputation. He captained the Irish rugby team in 1908. There are three Old Boys among the T.C.D. Junior Fellows—Messrs. G. F. Mitchell, J. D. Smyth, and F. S. L. Lyons, and, if I am not mistaken, there are more than one among the Professors. The Rev. John Arbuthnot Nairn was a High School pupil in the late decades of the last century. At Cambridge (and afterwards) he distinguished himself as a classical scholar, and from 1901 to 1926 was Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School. Another ex-pupil, the Rev. F. R. Montgomery Hitchcock, late Rector of Maldon, Essex, who not long before his death received the degree of Litt.D. from Dublin, distinguished himself as a theologian. He was Donnellan Lecturer in 1912. The work of another High School worthy, Dr. Walter Clegg Stevenson, who, with the late Dr. John Joly, F.T.C.D., devised means of combating deep-seated

cancer, is commemorated by a mural tablet in the Clockroom. The poet William Butler Yeats, the discoverer of Celtic twilight and author of *Innisfree*, was a pupil in the 'eighties of last century, and William Kirkpatrick Magee, who is better known by his pen-name, John Eglinton, was a schoolfellow of his. Some time ago he contributed to THE ERASMIAN an account of Yeats as he knew him in his school-days. John Eglinton, one of the most notable of Irish essayists, has long lived in England, but he has forgotten neither his native land nor his School. A much younger scholar, also an Old Boy of D.H.S., Dr. A. N. Jeffares, lately of Edinburgh University and now Professor of English in the University of Adelaide, Australia, has made the life and works of Yeats the subject of special study, the outcome of which has been one of the first biographies of the poet.

A period of eighty years is long enough to test the suitability of most institutions to their environment, especially the suitability of day schools. A school's neighbourhood changes, and young people who, under earlier conditions, would have become pupils, have to get their schooling nearer to their homes. Residential Dublin has greatly changed in eighty years, but the changes have not adversely affected the High School. The area between the Grand Canal and the Dublin Mountains has become much more populous, but the means of transport between it and the School have improved greatly. It should be as easy nowadays for boys living anywhere in Dublin to travel daily to Harcourt Street as it was in the 'seventies of the last century for boys who lived within a mile of Harcourt Street to make their way on foot—there were no bicycles—to the High School.

I wish to thank the following gentlemen who helped me in one way or another to get facts for the foregoing sketch: Mr. C. H. Darley, M.A., Chairman of the Erasmus Smith Board, and Mr. Mervyn Bell, Registrar; Mr. S. S. Evans, Mr. Rupert Jeffares, and Mr. Maurice Wilkins, M.A., late Headmaster of Bangor Grammar School. I have, alas! been unable to include Dr. Bennett's name in the list, but Mrs. Bennett, I think, knows that to no one was I more grateful than to her husband. I have found useful the two-volume *History of Trinity College*, the work of Professor Con-

stantia Maxwell and the late Dr. Kenneth Bailey, F.T.C.D.

Many names have been omitted from the list which ought to have been in it, and which will no doubt occur to readers, and perhaps to myself. The name of our late Registrar, A. L. B. Moore, is one. Of Arthur Moore it has been written (by one, I think, who had exceptional means of knowing him) that "it was noticeable that those who tried to sum up his character often used the word 'gentleman'". He was indeed "something much finer than a very competent official". His thorough knowledge of the Erasmus Smith Board's business was the growth of half a century's experience. (He was, I believe, Registrar as far back as 1898, when I made his acquaintance through his friend Walter Stevenson.) In his long service his manners acquired a certain formality, but his courtesy was no mere form. It was the expression of a kindly nature. He was a man whom it was good to know.

A Summer Cruise

IT was my good fortune to accept the kind invitation of the father of my school pal, John Picton Scott, to accompany him aboard his 60-foot motor yacht *Islay Mist II* for a cruise along the South-West and South coasts of England and part of Northern France.

The *Islay Mist* left Dun Laoghaire for Milford Haven some days before it was possible for me to travel owing to examinations at school.

However, on the 15th June I arrived at Milford Haven and was met by John Scott, who took me along to the boat, where I met the entire ship's company which was made up of Mr. Scott, John, Basil Waugh and Mr. and Mrs. T. Phillips. It was then decided that, all being well, we would sail the next morning at dawn.

Accordingly, the next morning we left Milford Haven and sailed across the Bristol Channel to Padstow in Cornwall. It was a very choppy trip and there was a south-south-westerly wind of force 5 on the Beaufort Scale. On our arrival at Padstow we had a good meal and then turned in for the night.

After a good night's rest we left Padstow and sailed round Land's End to Falmouth. We stopped here for a day and visited the town. The next day we sailed to Torquay and remained there for a few days. Torquay is a very pleasant but very expensive place to spend a holiday.

As the weather was good it was decided not to proceed to Weymouth. So we set sail for Cherbourg. The sea was calm and the sun was hot enough to blister you within an hour. During this passage to France we saw planes landing and taking off from an aircraft carrier. We also passed very close to the salvage ship *Reclaim* a few days before she located the ill-fated submarine *Affray*. In the course which we followed we unfortunately got caught in the Alderney Race. This upset our calculations, for although we were cruising at six knots through the water the tide in the Race was running at seven knots against us and put us in fact one knot astern. Near here, too, the *Queen Mary* came along, but she had to alter course because she came up on our star-board side. In accordance with the rules at sea she was compelled to take this action.

Late the same evening we passed the Mole at the entrance to Cherbourg Harbour on the way to the inner basin, where we tied up for the night. We went ashore at Cherbourg and discovered that the people had a better knowledge of French than we enjoyed. After a brief visit here we sailed to Trouville. During this trip we passed the landing beaches called the Arromanches. Trouville is a holiday resort near the mouth of the Seine and we remained there for ten days. We visited the Casino frequently and other places of interest. We also visited the neighbouring villages and had great fun trying to make the peasants understand the correct French language as we understood it. Sometimes they understood our English much better!

At the end of our visit to France we left for the River Hamble, near Southampton. This crossing was made with the waves breaking right over the ship and jerking the wheel out of our hands, and with the whole company suffering from *mal de mer*, as we now called it. And it was with considerable difficulty that we endeavoured to keep the ship on course. We were very pleased to pass the

Isle of Wight and reach the Hamble River after a passage of nearly 24 hours. On reaching Hamble the Phillips left the ship, and a few days later Mr. Scott and Basil Waugh left, leaving John and myself in charge of the boat for over ten days.

During this period we used the boat's launch for numerous trips up the many rivers and gullies near Southampton. We also visited many places of interest nearby, including the hospital at Netley where my father was treated for the eight wounds he received during the 1914-18 war. It was also very interesting to watch the great ocean-going ships entering and leaving Southampton. On Mr. Scott's return to the boat I came home to Dublin via London and Holyhead, having had a pleasant and unusual holiday.

S. N. WATT, Form 5.

How we got our Clocks

THE measurement of time goes back to the earliest times of man. Probably the first clock was the water clock, which was a vessel filled with water and having a float on the top. The water dripped from a small hole, and as the level dropped the float pulled a hand around by means of a piece of cord. There were many types of time-pieces. Candles, which were divided into equal periods, recorded the time while burning. Sundials were also used, but they were only of use when the sun was shining. Thus there was only one thing of real value, and that was the mechanical clock.

A man called Cteribus introduced toothed wheels, and it was after this that clocks began to appear. The first clock was made about 1326, by a certain Richard of Wallingford. This clock used weights for power and had the "Verg" escapement which was invented about 200 years before the first clock was made. The invention of the mainspring by Peter Henlen of Nuremberg made it possible to make watches. It was he who constructed the first pocket watch in 1510.

Accurate timekeeping, however, was impossible until the invention of the pendulum and the anchor escapement. The pendulum was

invented by Galileo in 1582 after one day he had watched a lamp swinging in the Cathedral of Pisa. This man never made a clock, but made drawings of some that gave ideas to others. The first clock with a pendulum was made by Huygens, a Dutchman. Later, in 1675, Robert Hooke invented the anchor escapement.

After this the art of clock-making began to be studied by many people. From 1600 to 1700 was the time when all the most important types of movements were designed. The purpose of an escapement is to control the power. The anchor escapement was very useful in clocks which were not accurately made, and it seemed to function in even the crudest clocks. The next step was the "dead-beat" escapement, invented by George Graham, but this worked only if the clock was accurately made. He also devised a mechanical compensating pendulum which made accurate time-keeping possible. The same man invented the cylinder escapement. In 1765 Thomas Mudge, a pupil of Graham, developed the lever escapement which is in all good-class watches to-day.

In 1714 the English Parliament offered a prize of £20,000 to any clockmaker who could make a timepiece sufficiently accurate to gauge a position at sea. So John Harrison made many types of chronometers, improving on each one. In 1761 he produced a chronometer five inches in diameter. This was taken on a voyage to the West Indies and proved its worth by showing an error of less than one minute in five months. In 1858 Big Ben on the House of Parliament was completed by F. Dent. It was about this time also when a Scottish engineer constructed a clock run by electro-magnetic power. Then in 1918 the synchronous motor was invented by Warren of America, and this motor is used in all electric clocks to-day.

In 1916 summer time was introduced by Willett, by which clocks advanced one hour during the summer months. The B.B.C. time signals were first broadcast from Greenwich on 5th February, 1924. Thus the clock, in the passing of time, has grown to be one of our most familiar objects.

F. STEVENS, Form 3B.

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A Visit to the B.B.C.

I HAD often thought what lovely music was played during the "Children's Hour" on the B.B.C., but they did not always announce the name of the piece. So one day I wrote to "Elizabeth", the head of the 'Children's Hour', and asked if they would always announce the name of the music. A few days after, I came home from a visit to the Spring Show and I found a letter addressed to me and on the top of the envelope was the name "British Broadcasting Corporation". It was a reply to my postcard and invited my sister and me to visit the B.B.C. on our holiday which we were spending with our grandparents in London. Before we went it was arranged that we should see the broadcast of the fourth part of "Huckleberry Finn". The day we went we got to the B.B.C. and waited in a big hall till a man came to take us to the studio. They asked Mummy and Daddy to go as well. We went up in a lift and came to a very small room, which I was surprised at. We were pleased to find that the ladies were "Elizabeth" and "Jo" whom we had heard very often. They took us to a glass panel which we looked through and saw the studio where the actors were getting ready. In the small room we were in the engineer at his control panel was turning some knobs. They explained to us what to look out for when the play started. We heard all the programme through a loud-speaker. While the play was going on some of the actors looked up and smiled at us. I expect they liked to see two of the children who listen to them. When it was over "Elizabeth" and "Jo" talked to us about what we liked on "Children's Hour", and signed our autograph albums for us. They asked us to visit them again next year. After that we went home and told our Grandmother and Grandfather all about it. Now when we listen to "Children's Hour" we always think about that visit and can picture what is happening.

D. CHALLEN (8 yrs.), Form J3.

NOTICE

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School! School! School!

I am a schoolboy of good intent
And try all the problems the masters present.
Some of them say that I am hazy,
And that all my work is in vain,
But most of them say that I'm lazy,
And give me a touch of the cane.

My Greek master raised an eye in surprise
When in an exam. I obtained a first prize.
He checked up the file, and to my discontent
Took back all the marks I had only been lent.
His remarks were so cutting I really felt weak
So now I've decided to learn no more Greek.

As all are agreed I'm not a success,
To some other field I must turn for prowess,
Cricket it seems is the sport indicated,
For there if I'm "bowled" at least I'm not
slated,
And if I score well for a couple of sessions,
Do you think 'twill matter if I'm no good at
lessons.

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Music

MUSIC! What almighty storms of passion can music not thunder in the imagination of man? What agonising cry of the soul can music not express? In music lies the divine secret of the universe—the essence of humanity and morality. Unbelievable though it may seem, in the higher aspects of music can be found all these things, and more . . . but only to those who can value them will they be revealed.

To the majority nowadays there appears to be a definite border between the so-called "classical" music and modern jazz. Jazz music, in fact, is only a comparatively minute twig on a very large tree. We can divide music into roughly three parts: harmony, melody and rhythm. Jazz is rhythm minus the other two. In itself, it is pleasant for a time, but it cannot express any particular emotion.

The most comprehensible analogy I can give of music is that of a large tree having many branches. The tree is music in its vast expanse of time and space. Of course, every piece of good music we hear does not signify a deep emotion. Usually the last works of a composer's life are the deepest, most soul-expressive examples he contributes to the art, because of the generally hard-obtained experience of humanity in them.

Music is a language: it can be written down by musical notation; and it can be spoken by instruments more eloquently than any other. But few people have much knowledge of how to listen to it. The "modern" idea of listening to music is to have a radio full blast in one's ear, and read an enthralling book at the same time. It is usually such people who consider "classical" music dull!

J. DAWSON, Form 3B.

The Chimney

There stands that chimney
So cold upon the hill;
Through many a storm it has passed,
Through many a storm it will.
And if I leave to return at last
I'll find it standing still.

E. C. TUTTY, 1B.

Fishy !

A canny young fisher named Fisher,
Once fished from the edge of a fissure.
A fish with a grin
Pulled the fisherman in,
Now they're fishing the fissure for Fisher.

G. S. G. LEWIS, 2A.

Letter from Australia

C/o H. Grant,
P.O. Box 11
Newdegate, W.A.
19th Feb., 1951.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I am writing to you from one of the marginal farming districts of W.A.'s wheat belt. The location is roughly (by calculations based on Perth) 33.9° S. 119° E. It is an area of salt lakes, with large rolling tracts of land covered with mallee, scrub and some heavy timbered stuff, mostly salmon gum.

It's strange to see all those things which were just printed facts in school. Just two miles away the virgin bush begins, in fact I can see it from where I write. Emus, 'roos, dingos, snakes, parrots, lizards, wild turkeys are common sights. Rabbits? Don't mention the word! At one time I believe one could see acres and acres of ground become one seething mass. Indeed, folks used to go out, "clonk" a few hundred, skin 'em and throw 'em to the pigs.

Emus are a pest too, as a group of them can flatten a crop in no time. Their feet are even bigger than Garda Clancy's (an implacable enemy of mine, who throws more than his own "weight" around), and can they run? They can! However, one day, running like an outside-right and with a tackle like a wing-three-quarter, I "floored" a "chicken". The "chicken" was some "chicken" too! However, I got it home, and did it taste good? By the way, kangaroo or emu steak is really good. The abos, too eat snakes, and their signature tune is said to be "If I'd known you was coming I'd have baked a snake!" However, I

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can't vouch for it! Snakes are deadly, but don't stay to argue, thank goodness. I've killed two so far, tho' I suppose I've passed dozens.

The rainfall reaches only 10" round here. As in other parts of Australia, and indeed in most of W.A., the rainfall is conserved in dams, as even in the heavy rainfall areas there are no run-offs. Excepting the S.W. coastal and Northern districts, of course. Only last week we were going to cart water when we got 143 pints. Yes! we reckon rainfall to a hundredth part of an inch. Most of the good catchments are snapped up by salt lakes, so it's a problem to know where to place a dam.

I'm working for a "cocky" (i.e., a wheat and sheep farmer) holding several blocks coming to over 3,000 acres. On that we run 950 sheep and crop 500 acres of wheat. There are just two of us, so it's a bit of a battle. However, with the big machines we get over the ground quickly. The soil throughout Australia is deficient in phosphates, so we put in over

100 lbs. to the acre at seeding time. It comes from Christmas Island and is treated with sulphuric acid, giving "superphosphate". Wool is fetching the money; we got over 9,000 lbs. off our sheep at an average of 190d. a pound, 4 bales being sold for 204d., 14 bales for 200d. A bale of locks brought 120d. Pre-war best Merino wool was 1/6 lb. However, the farmers' lot was a very poor one here pre-war, and many thousands were driven off their homesteads.

Wages are good! I get £8-12-7 (the basic wage, as I had no experience), less 25/- board, with roughly 10/6 for income tax and social services. Wages at 16 start over £4 and keep and rise to £6 at 18 or 19 and £7 at 20, all for chaps with no experience. I knew nothing when I came here, but "cockies" are patient, and I proved good with the sheep, my soccer training coming in handy.

By the way, Faiers and I started a soccer club shortly before I left Ireland called Stratford Athletic. We played at first in the Intermediate League (one of the Park's toughest), but now play in the Church's League. Quite a number of H.S.D. chaps play, and it's about the only decent one on offer for a boy leaving school, as I never knew anyone in H.S.D. good enough for Boh's standard—and anyway, they play Sunday football. If you know of anyone interested, Faiers (now at Trinity) can be contacted through the Historical Society.

Well, my billy is boiling now so must stop as I've said too much already. Remember me to the "Sarge", "Charlie", and Mr. Goulden, Mr. Keegan and Mr. Gardner. I believe "Willie" has retired? Drop me a line about the O.B.U. if you get a minute.

Yours sincerely, from an ex-pupil
of yours in H.S.D. and Rathmines,

S. L. MORRISON.

Fifty Years Ago

We have lately seen some timber lying in the inner yard. Is this the "inutile lignum", from which will come the shapely cycle stands, long promised?

THE ERASMIAN, March, 1901.



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**ARCTIC
MINTS**

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School News

Term began on Wednesday, 5th September, 1951.

We record with regret the death of Miss Woodcock on August 13, 1951, and offer our sincere sympathy to her relatives.

We welcome to the Staff Mr. J. Duke, B.A. (T.C.D.), H.Dip.Ed., and an Old Boy, Mr. Alfred Burrowes, B.A. (T.C.D.), A.Mus.T.C.L. Mr. Burrowes takes the place of Mrs. M. D. Dunlop, who resigned at the end of last term. We also welcome Sergeant Moody, late Sergeant, Royal Dublin Fusiliers and Royal Air Force, as School Sergeant, and Corporal Wm. O'Brien, Army Boxing Club, as Boxing Instructor. Although "Johnnie" Nelson has resigned as Boxing Instructor we are glad to have him with us still as Gymnastic Instructor.

We congratulate Mr. Dillon on being re-elected a Trustee of the Association of Secondary Teachers, Ireland, and Mr. O'Kane on being elected Hon. Treasurer of the Dublin Branch and a member of the Central Executive Council.

Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. F. A. L. Gardner on his engagement.

During the term two addresses were given to the boys by the Rev. E. M. Neill, M.A., Organising Secretary for Eire of the Scripture Union.

A collection for the N.S.P.C.C., made among the boys during term, realised the sum of £1-13-9.

During term a party of 24 boys of the Junior School, with their teachers, Miss Orr, Miss Smyth and Miss Furney, visited an exhibition of Children's Art in the O'Connell Hall, O'Connell Street, where they spent an interesting and instructive morning.

On November 24th some 52 boys of the Senior School, escorted by Mr. Goulden and Miss Orr, attended a concert in the Capitol Theatre, held by Craobh an Chéitinnigh, where they heard Welsh choirs and harpists and traditional Welsh and Irish singing.

On November 30th a Safety First film was shown in the St. Stephen's Green Cinema to pupils from Dublin schools, including 60 boys from High School in charge of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Willoughby.

A debate was held, in co-operation with the Safety First Association of Ireland, on Thursday, 6th December, when a motion was debated that the precautions taken by the Association are adequate.

The Prefects for 1951-52 are: B. R. Wilkinson, I. R. McAulay, G. Clarke, C. C. Walker, B. M. McCracken, W. M. Gregory, J. S. Glover, J. W. Dowse.

We Congratulate:—

A. W. M. Cooper on being selected to captain the Schools of Ireland XI against the Leprechauns, and the Leinster Schools' Cricket team against Ulster, and Munster.

R. A. C. Walsh on being selected to play for the Leinster Schools' Rugby team against Connacht and Munster.

Miss Woodcock

To those of us who were privileged to know and work with Miss Woodcock, the news of her death came as a great shock, and brought with it a double sense of loss. There was the loss of a friend and the loss of a most valued colleague and teacher. In the comparatively short time that she was at the High School she had endeared herself to all. She was a splendid colleague, always ready to lend a helping hand, and her wonderful sense of humour helped to make even difficult days seem easier. As a teacher she was quite outstanding. She loved the boys, and her influence over them was wonderful. Her work was her whole life, and she was utterly miserable if absent through illness, and on such occasions looked forward eagerly to hearing the doings of all the boys, both good and bad. Her vivid personality impressed itself on all who knew her and she is truly mourned and greatly missed.

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ENQUIRIES WILL HAVE PROMPT ATTENTION

The Prize Distribution

THE Annual Prize Distribution was held in the Clockroom on Friday, November 9th, 1951. Mr. Cecil H. Darley, B.L., Chairman of the Board of Governors, presided. There was a very large attendance.

In his report the Headmaster said that one event of the past year had dwarfed all others, the death of the School's fourth, and in many ways greatest, Headmaster, Dr. John Bennett. He expressed his great admiration for Dr. Bennett and appreciation for all that he had done for the School during the twenty-three years he spent as its Headmaster. During that period the numbers in the School had nearly doubled, specialisation had been introduced into the senior school, commercial courses instituted, a Preparatory Department established, a Gymnasium built, boxing, lawn tennis and table tennis added to the list of sporting activities, plays and operas produced, school dinners provided, the Old Boys' Union and the Parents' Association founded, and an academic record established which, in the Trinity College Sizarship and Junior Exhibition examinations, was equalled by few other schools and surpassed by none. Dr. Reynolds said that he was deeply conscious of the great honour done him in being chosen as Dr. Bennett's successor.

Two other deaths had also brought sorrow to the School: that of Sergeant Nelson in February and that of Miss Woodcock in August. Sergeant Nelson had been School Sergeant since 1919, and Miss Woodcock had taught in the Junior School.

During the year under review, as the Headmaster's illness was intensified, the responsibility that fell on the rest of the Staff increased. The burden had fallen most heavily on the two Vice-Headmasters—Mr. Dillon and Mr. Evans—and the excellent state of the School at the end of the year, and also the record of examination successes, were the most eloquent tributes to their devoted work throughout the year.

Speaking of examinations results, Dr. Reynolds said that the School had had a most successful year, gaining first Sizarship in Classics, second Sizarship in Mathematics and two Junior Exhibitions. The Intermediate results had scarcely ever been better. Of 28

candidates 22 passed, of these 10 passed with honours. All 28 obtained honours in English, 17 honours in Mathematics, while R. H. Has-kins had the distinction of securing full marks in Arithmetic.

For the sixth year in succession the number of pupils had shown a further increase, and the total of 330 was the highest then recorded, though that too had been eclipsed by the present total of 361 boys. The number of classes in the Junior School was to be increased from September next, nevertheless the waiting list was already nearly full.

The Old Boys' Union, under the Presidency of Mr. E. E. Spence, had had another successful year. The Old Boys' Union had been a great benefactor to the School, and all boys should join it on leaving.

The Parents' Association had continued its valuable activities under the guidance of Mr. J. H. Scott, and its lectures and discussions had been well attended.

Speaking of educational policy in the Republic, the Headmaster said he had been disappointed to find that neither of the Certificate Examinations made provision for oral work in modern languages. The Department's Inspectors, in their periodic visits, made it clear that they wanted pupils to be able to speak the language they were learning, but this progressive attitude was not reflected in the examinations. Indeed the course of books prescribed, of which the pupil was expected to make a close factual and grammatical study, was so long that there was little time for anything else. This situation was even more surprising when one considered the case of Irish. The official policy was that every boy and girl should be able to speak the language, yet the official secondary school examinations gave little reward to those pupils who had learnt to speak Irish. Perhaps the Council of Education, when it came to consider the curriculum in secondary schools, would modernise the teaching of languages.

In conclusion, the Headmaster expressed his thanks to Professor Synge for his kindness in accepting the invitation to speak at the Prize Distribution.

Having presented the prizes, the Chairman said that one event had overshadowed the whole year, the death of Dr. Bennett. He was

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a splendid man, an ideal Headmaster. Unassuming and unselfish, he had always been most helpful to the Governors, and under his able guidance the School had developed to its present flourishing condition. The Chairman welcomed Dr. Reynolds as successor to Dr. Bennett, and expressed his confidence that the School would continue to prosper under the new Headmaster as it had under his predecessor.

Professor J. L. Synge, M.A., Sc.D., Institute for Advanced Studies, Dublin, spoke of his friendship with Dr. Bennett, which dated back to his student days. Turning to theories of education he mentioned the Elastic Bag Theory of the Mind, and the Bottle Theory, and in a most witty, entertaining and instructive speech developed them, to the delight of his audience. Professor Synge spoke of the conflict between the moral and social purpose of education and the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake. A compromise was essential so that the white pony of the social aim might run in double harness with the mule of curiosity, which often kicked over the traces. The mind was incapable of producing its best when one was in a state of nervous tension, whether induced by fear or by hope of reward; for that reason he disliked examinations, and also because they put a premium on industry rather than thought. He concluded with a quotation from "Æ":—

"No blazoned banner we unfold
One charge alone we give to youth,
Against the sceptred myth to hold
The golden heresy of Truth."

Mr. H. E. P. Anderson, President of the Old Boys' Union, presented the Old Boys' Cup to the winner, A. W. M. Cooper. He spoke of the origin and object of the Cup, which is awarded annually to the boy selected by vote of Seniors and Staff as the best type in the School. Dealing with the relations between the Old Boys' Union and the School, he recalled that Dr. Bennett had often acknowledged the work that the O.B.U. had done for the School in the past, and he could assure Dr. Reynolds that that help would continue in the future. In conclusion, he congratulated Cooper, who, he was sure, would be "Faithful to his Trust".

After the Benediction, pronounced by Canon W. H. Coulter, M.A., tea was served to visitors and boys.

An Cumann Gaelac

DO'N CÉAD UAIR I STAIR NA h-ÁRTO SCOILE TÁ CUMANN GAELAC CURTA AR BUN. AR AN SCÉATRÚ LÁ, MÍ NA SAMHNA TIONÓLAÓ CÉAD CRUINNÍÚ AN CUMAINN.

TOGAÓ NA h-OIFIGÍ SEO:—

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LEAS-UAČTARÁN:— S. UASAL Ó SÚILÍN, S. UASAL MAC DOUGÁM, I. UASAL MAC LEABRÁD, F. UASAL SÁIRNÉIR.

REACTAIRE:— BRIAN MAC UILEM.

RÚNAÍ:— RÍPTEARD SCÉARAC.

BAILL COISTE:— LIAM MAC SREAGÓIR, BRIAN MAC REACAIMN, CINÉAD PLÉAMONN, DAIBRÓ MAC SIOLLA PÓDRAIS, RAGNALL MAC SALLCÓBÁIR.

AR AN SCRUIINIÚ SEO DO ĆUS SÉAMUS Ó SÚILÍN LEÁCT UATÓ AR AN ÁBÁR "OILEÁIN ÁRANN". AR AN FICHIÚ LÁ DEIREAD FOMHÁIR TIONÓLAÓ AN DARA CRUINNÍÚ. BÍ LIAM S. SÓGAN, COIMEÁDAÍ SAN ÁRTO-MÚSAEM, ANN, AGUS DO ĆUS SÉ LEÁCT UATÓ AR AN ÁBÁR "FILIÓCT". BÍ SLUAŠ MÓR AS ĆAC CRUINNÍÚ A TIONÓLAÓ AGUS TÁ SÚIL AGANN SO LEANPARÓ SÉ MAR SEO AS ĆAC UILE CRUINNÍÚ EILE.

R. A. S.

Competition

A well known Old Boy has generously offered £2 as prizes for the best contributions to the June, 1952 ERASMIAN. Contributions will be divided into two sections, those from boys in classes above 3b, and those from boys in 3b and lower classes. Further details will be given next term.

Lending Library

We are grateful to Mrs. Bennett for a generous gift of books to the Library, and to the following boys who have also presented books: G. N. Eames (3) and G. W. Browning (1).

The Erasmian

The Editorial Committee of THE ERASMIAN invites literary contributions from present and past pupils, especially from Old Boys overseas, and all others interested in the School.

Editor—B. R. Wilkinson. Assistant Editor—R. A. Skerrett. Sports Editors—C. C. Walker, R. A. C. Walshe. Committee—R. M. Gallo-way, J. T. Killen, W. A. McCoubrey, G. H. Bleakley, J. S. Dawson, C. G. Hyland.

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Examination Results

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS

Leaving Certificate—C. B. Craven, K. H. Fleming. Both passed in all subjects but one.

Intermediate Certificate—Honours: R. A. Skerrett, J. R. Hautz, A. B. N. Fox, G. A. Watt, C. B. Warren, M. A. Berman, J. F. G. Harrison, G. H. Watson, A. J. Probert, A. C. Knott. Pass—W. G. Agar, W. R. Alexander, D. J. A. Dawson, G. P. Dunwoody, J. Forsyth, F. W. Gray, R. H. Haskins, N. V. Jones, H. E. Kilroy, T. W. R. Meates, R. H. C. Walshe, D. W. C. Walsh.

THE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

First Class—W. G. G. Fisher, A. R. L. Beck, B. S. Herman. Second Class—D. H. Malcolm, A. Watson. Carpenter Memorial Prize—J. R. Hautz. John Phillips Rogers Prize—J. R. Hautz and R. A. Skerrett. Mr. Warnock's Irish Prizes—Senior: G. A. Henderson; Junior: R. A. Skerrett.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN

Degrees

M.A., B.D.—The Rev. J. H. Hawkins.
B.Sc.—M. W. Bryan.
B.A., B.A.I.—M. W. C. Williams.
Moderatorship—Mathematics (1st Class): B. H. Murdoch, N. S. Montgomery.
Classics (2nd Class)—J. A. E. Sutton.

Moderatorship Awards

Gold Medal—Mathematics: B. H. Murdoch.
Studentship—Mathematics: B. H. Murdoch.
Bishop Law Prize—Mathematics: B. H. Murdoch.

Entrance Scholarship and Exhibitions

Junior Exhibition (1st Class)—A. P. R. Brook.
Junior Exhibition (2nd Class)—A. W. M. Cooper.

Sizarships

Classics—W. S. W. Poole (First Sizarship).
Mathematics—A. P. R. Brook (Second Sizarship).
John Thompson Exhibition—W. S. W. Poole.
The High School Exhibition—A. W. M. Cooper.

Special Prizes in School of Divinity

Downes Divinity Premiums—Written Composition: J. M. G. Carey.

School of Physics

FitzPatrick Scholarship—R. J. Weir (equal with another).

OTHER PRIZES

Edge Prize in Botany—Half Prize: R. B. Maude.

Marshall Porter Memorial Prize—Classics: E. C. T. Perdue.

Jellett Prize—R. F. Marks.

School of Engineering

Junior Year—R. W. A. Feuerstak, H. G. M. Payne.

Term Honor Examinations

P. F. Browne (J.S.)—Experimental Science (1st Rank).

W. P. Northen (J.S.)—Experimental Science (2nd Rank).

E. C. T. Perdue (J.S.)—Classics (2nd Rank).

R. B. Maude (J.S.)—Natural Science (2nd Rank).

C. A. Faull (J.S.)—Modern History and Political Science (3rd Rank).

K. B. Henderson (J.S.)—Legal Science (2nd Rank).

M. Buchalter (J.S.)—Legal Science (2nd Rank).

A. H. Knight (S.F.)—Classics (2nd Rank).

J. M. A. Turner (S.F.)—Natural Science (3rd Rank).

R. W. A. Feuerstak (J.F.)—Mathematics (1st Rank).

J. K. Graham (J.F.)—Mathematics (1st Rank).

J. L. Wilding (J.F.)—Classics (3rd Rank).

Final Freshman Examination

D. R. Jupe, A. H. Knight, R. F. Marks.

OTHER EXAMINATIONS

Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland

Intermediate—Passed: M. A. Cole.

Our Contemporaries

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following magazines: "R.S.D." (Royal School, Dungannon), "C.A.I." (Coleraine Academical Institution), "Mountjoy School Magazine."

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SPORTS REVIEW

CLUB OFFICERS:

RUGBY, 1951-52

Capt.: C. C. Walker.
Vice-Capt.: B. R. Wilkinson.
Hon. Sec.: R. H. C. Walshe.
Capt. J.C.T.: D. J. Fitzpatrick.

BOXING, 1951-52

Capt.: E. Jarrett.
Vice-Capt.: W. M. Gregory.
Hon. Sec.: J. Forsyth.
Junior Capt.: E. L. Kimberley.

TABLE TENNIS, 1951-52

Capt.: B. M. McCracken.
Vice-Capt.: D. Dawson.
Hon. Sec.: G. H. Watson.

CRICKET, 1951

Capt.: A. W. M. Cooper.
Vice-Capt.: A. Clarke.
Hon. Sec.: C. C. Walker.
Capt. J.C.T.: C. C. Walker.

TENNIS, 1951

Capt.: W. S. W. Poole.
Vice-Capt.: B. M. McCracken.
Hon. Sec.: G. H. Watson.
Junior Capt.: B. Crawford.

SWIMMING, 1951

Capt.: R. S. Purcell.
Hon. Sec.: E. Jarrett.

ATHLETICS

Capt.: A. Clarke. Junior Capt.: E. L. Kimberley. Hon. Sec.: A. Clarke.
Hon. Secs., Annual Sports: B. M. McCracken, C. C. Walker. Hon. Treas.: J. S. Glover.



SENIOR CUP TEAM, 1951

Standing—J. Forsyth, B. M. McCracken, J. S. Glover, R. M. Galloway, G. H. Watson, W. W. Bornemann.
Sitting—Mr. Cornish, C. C. Walker, A. Clarke, A. W. M. Cooper (Capt.), A. P. R. Brook, B. R. Wilkinson, Mr. Ruddock.

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Rugby

THE S.C.T. have had up till now a very unsuccessful season. A reasonably competent pack of forwards have failed to atone for lack of co-ordination among the backs. The committee have found it unusually difficult to select a regular team, due to some players failing to fulfil their early promise. The Old Boys' match was, as usual, enjoyed by all, and in a game of exceptionally high standard the Old Boys, through the excellent handling of their backs, finally gained a well deserved victory by 9 pts. to 3.

As had been hoped, last year's good "Under 14" have become a useful J.C.T. They, however, have one slight failing in that they are inclined to "rest on their laurels", and as a result lose or draw matches which they are quite capable of winning. However, in defeating Belvedere, they showed the high standard of football which they are able to achieve. So it is with hope in our hearts that we look forward to the Cup matches, and wish them the best of luck.

The "Under 14" has had a rather subdued season, and somehow gives the impression of being capable of producing better results. The "Under 13" is the team of teams. It has not yet suffered defeat. In a total of eight matches it achieved the amazingly high average of 20 points.

R. H. C. W.

[We would like to take this opportunity to offer congratulations to the author of the above report, R. H. C. Walshe, on his winning a Leinster Schools rugby cap.]

Cricket

IN contrast with the highly successful season of 1950 we failed to gain any honours this year. Nevertheless it was a season much enjoyed by all, and enthusiasm was ever present.

The S.C.T., though a comparatively strong bowling team, failed to strike any consistent batting form. In the first round of the Senior Cup we defeated Blackrock College in a low-

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scoring match. The second round, however, proved our downfall, when Masonic defeated us by about 100 runs. In our annual match against the fathers we proved victorious. On the 28th and 29th June we met the Old Boys, and after a highly enjoyable match we held them to a draw. Details:—

O.B.U.—1st innings 121 for 9 (Begley 62); 2nd innings 81 for 9 (Begley 47. Clarke 5 for 48).

School—1st innings 114 (Cooper 40. Begley 4 for 23); 2nd innings 65 for 7 (Walker 24. Begley 3 for 11).

The J.C.T. was a very promising team, and defeated Wesley College in the first round of the Junior Cup. Following in the tracks of the S.C.T. the J.C.T. was defeated by a very superior St. Mary's College team. The team, though not entirely successful, showed that there are some promising bowlers and batsmen for the coming season.

The Under 14 and other junior teams had a satisfactory season, and it was easily seen that there should be no lack of players in future years.

The house matches were, as usual, played towards the end of the season, during unusually lenient weather, and resulted in a clear win for Harcourt.

C. C. W.

Table Tennis

THIS season we have a large membership and there is an enthusiastic spirit in the club. We were rather heavily defeated in our first league match against Masonic, losing 9-0. We are looking forward to our annual match against the Old Boys on Tuesday, December 11th. We are entering an Under 15 team, for the first time, in a knock-out competition after Christmas.

The team at present is: D. Dawson, B. McCracken, B. E. Twamley, G. Watson, H. Maude, J. P. Williams. Sub., C. C. Walker.

G. H. W.

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Boxing

ALL members of the Boxing Club were sorry to hear of the retirement of Johnny Nelson, as he has had a great deal to do with the success of the club during the past seventeen years. We were, however, very lucky to secure the services of Corporal W. O'Brien as trainer in place of Mr. Nelson.

Great enthusiasm was again shown with the entry of sixty boys for the 12th Annual Championships. The finalists provided a splendid night's entertainment and drew an exceptionally large crowd. Mrs. Reynolds very kindly presented the medals to winners at the end of a very enjoyable evening. Abbey secured the most House points, so defeating Belgrave, with Harcourt a close third.

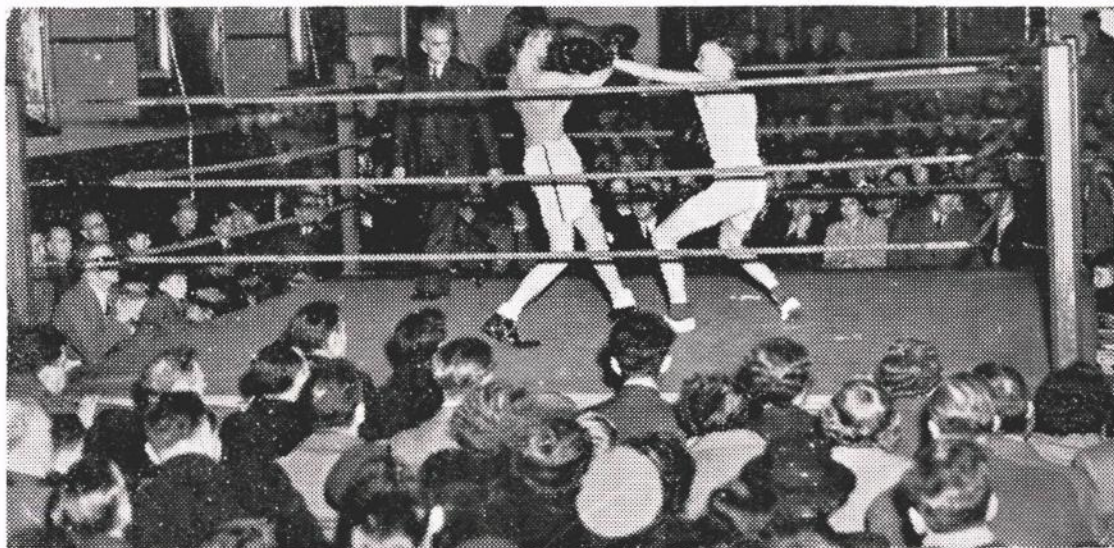
Details of the Championships are as follows:—

- 4-7—A. P. Burgess (H.) lost to W. Parkin (H.).
- 5-0—M. C. Adams (A.) lost to G. N. Hutton (H.).
- 5-7—A. M. Scott (H.) beat G. L. Beatty (H.).
- 6-0—I. F. Scott (A.) beat M. R. H. Taylor (H.).

- 6-7—N. R. Quin (A.) lost to M. S. Haskins (B.).
- 7-0—H. M. C. Lundy (A.) beat R. J. E. Hill (A.).
- 7-7—B. Stewart (B.) beat R. N. Walker (A.).
- Fly—W. W. Bornemann (A.) lost to D. A. Abbott (B.).
- Bantam—W. M. Gregory (A.) beat B. G. Crawford (H.).
- Feather—N. R. Pearson (B.) beat A. B. N. Fox (B.).
- Light—E. L. Kimberley (B.) beat J. Forsyth (A.).
- Light-Welter—E. Jarrett (capt.) (H.) lost to C. E. Coates (A.).
- Welter—R. Y. Newport (A.) beat J. C. R. Seager (B.).
- Light-Middle—R. W. Dobbyn (H.) beat R. A. Skerrett (B.).
- Middle—R. M. Galloway (A.) beat G. A. Watt (B.).

As well as the annual home and away fixtures with Dungannon R.S. next term, a match was arranged with St. Columba's College on 29th November. Result—High School 5, St. Columba's College 4.

B. S.



B. J. Stewart and R. N. Walker in action in the Annual Championships

Photo courtesy "Irish Times."

Swimming

SWIMMING this year has greatly improved. We are sorry to announce again that no Gala took place owing to Iveagh Baths being closed. Our Championships and House Squadron races were held on the 25th September in Blackrock Baths, and considering the weather was not so favourable for us, there was a large entry for both Senior and Junior Championships.

We must congratulate R. N. McDonough on gaining fifth place in the 50 metres Junior Championship in the Leinster Secondary Schools' Gala.

The results of our races were as follows:—

Senior Championship—R. S. Purcell (Abbey). Time 1-45.

Junior Championship—D. C. B. Taylor (Abbey). Time 42 secs.

House Squadron—Abbey House (R. S. Purcell, R. N. McDonough, D. Taylor and J. Forsyth).

We must congratulate Abbey House on such a fine performance.

R. S. P.

Athletics

THE Annual School Sports were held at Lansdowne Road on Saturday, 30th June. There was a large attendance and competition was very keen, especially for the Championship Cups.

The winners of the principal Cups were:—

War Memorial Cup—A. Clarke.

The Junior Championship Cup—E. L. Kimberley.

The Moore Cup (220 yards Senior)—A. Clarke.

The Magill Cup (100 yards Junior)—E. L. Kimberley.

The Lord Holmpatrick Cup (athletic points)—Belgrave House (Capt., A. Clarke).

Tennis

WE started the tennis season with practice for Senior and Junior teams at Leinster Stratford Lawn Tennis Club. Although we did not meet with much success, the season was quite enjoyable. In the latter part of the season our attention was focussed on tournaments and House matches. The final results were:—

Senior Champion—W. S. W. Poole.

Junior Champion—B. Crawford.

House Points—Abbey House.

Handicap Tournament: Senior—G. Watson and J. Seager. Junior—B. Crawford and D. Hudson.

The team at the end of the season was: W. Poole, B. McCracken, B. E. Twamley, G. H. Watson, J. Seager, J. Browne.

We had a very enjoyable match against the parents, in which we were defeated 4-2.

G. H. W.

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OLD BOYS' UNION

THE Annual General Meeting was held in the Boardroom on Friday, 19th October, 1950, the President, Mr. E. E. Spence, in the chair.

In his report the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. G. Morton, spoke of the great loss the Union had suffered through the death of Dr. Bennett. In 1928 Dr. Bennett had been appointed Headmaster of the High School, and on the 22nd November, 1928, the Old Boys' Union, on his suggestion, had been formed. Dr. Bennett had been elected Vice-President, a position to which he was re-elected unanimously each year for the following 22 years, and his keen interest in the Union was shown in his regular attendance at the Committee meetings and annual functions of the Union. The Union extended its most sincere sympathy to Mrs. Bennett on her very sad loss.

Two other deaths were also recorded with regret, that of John Nelson, School Sergeant for 32 years, on 21st February, and that of Charlie Gibbs, a member of the Union, who lost his life on 7th July in a vain attempt to rescue his daughter from drowning.

The year under review (Oct., '50-Oct., '51) had been most successful, and the President, Mr. Ernest E. Spence, was to be congratulated on the masterly manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the Union during his year of office. He had presided over all Committee meetings and left no stone unturned to ensure the success of all our social functions. The Annual Dance, held in the Metropole Ballroom on Saturday, 4th November, 1950, had an attendance of 461, an increase of 38 on the previous year, and the profits amounted to £64-1-3, as against £48-2-8 in 1949. The Annual Dinner had been held in the Clockroom on Saturday, 20th January, with an attendance of 170, the guest of honour being Mr. Paul Millar, head of the E.C.A. Mission. The President was to be congratulated on the very able manner in which he took the chair; Mr. Mervyn Bell on the excellent musical programme he arranged, and Messrs. Sam Myer and Harry Booker on the complete organisation of the Dinner. Ladies' Night had been held in Fullers Restaurant on Satur-

day, 31st March. An excellent dinner and a first-class musical programme had been enjoyed by 66 members and guests. The Annual Golf Outing had been held, by kind permission, at Milltown Golf Club on Thursday, 6th September, and Mr. Evans was to be congratulated on the wonderful organisation of this event. Two successful dances had been organised by the Junior Committee. The first, held on Saturday, 7th January, in the Clockroom, with an attendance of 130, realised a profit of some £12, which was sent to the Adelaide Hospital. The second was held on the night of the School Sports. On the 25th January the Union had entertained to supper and a theatre the first eleven which had won the Leinster Schools' Senior Cricket Cup, and their opponents, the Mountjoy School team. During the year 24 new members had been enrolled, making a total of 625. Some 30 members had not notified the Hon. Secretaries of changes of address, circulars and copies of THE ERASMIAN sent to them being returned by the Post Office. Any members who had changed their addresses were requested to notify the Secretaries. In concluding, the Hon. Secretary appealed to Old Boys to support those firms which advertised in THE ERASMIAN.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. P. R. Walker, reported to the meeting on the financial condition of the Union. For the first time for many years there had been a loss instead of a profit on the year's working, and he felt that members of the Union could do more in regard to the Voluntary Subscription Scheme.

The election of Officers and Committee for 1951-52 resulted as follows:—

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

President—Mr. H. E. P. Anderson.

Vice-President—Dr. R. W. Reynolds.

Hon. Secretaries—W. G. Booker, 6 Gledswood Close, Roebuck Road, Clonskeagh, Co. Dublin; C. G. Morton, 50 Orwell Road, Rathgar, Dublin.

Hon. Treasurer—P. R. Walker, "Ishgeen", Brennanstown Road, Cabinteely, Co. Dublin.

Committee—J. Bell (Sen.), E. W. Frith, W. D. Forsyth, G. W. Keegan, W. G. Kirkpatrick, T. D. Murphy, W. S. W. Poole, F. E. Tate and A. W. M. Cooper.

Hon. Sports Secretaries:—

Cricket—J. A. Bell, R. M. Mahon.

Rugby—G. W. Griffin, A. W. M. Cooper.

Golf—S. S. Evans.

Athletics—B. E. P. Hennessey.

Dance—C. G. Morton, W. G. Booker.

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

At the Annual General Meeting I had the privilege of addressing a somewhat small cross-section of members of the Union. I now invoke the aid of the columns of THE ERASMIAN to reach a wider audience.

Our membership now exceeds 600, and very nearly all the boys who left School at the end of the summer term joined the Union. This is a very healthy sign indeed and augurs well for the future.

Now, the main objects of our Union are to preserve the friendships of our schooldays and to do anything we can to help the School. There is no doubt in my mind that both are achieved to a very large degree, but I feel we could do much better as regards the School.

A few years ago we started a voluntary subscription of 5/- per annum. In the first year about 40 members responded, last year only five did so. Unfortunately, the Biblical Parable does not seem to work these days. As a matter of interest to those members who were unable to attend the General Meeting, your funds were disbursed last year in the following manner:—

1. Cost of THE ERASMIAN for members, £38.
2. School Sports Fund, £20.
3. Entertainment of the Senior Cup team (winners of the School's Senior Cricket Cup) and their opponents, £18.

The loss on the year's working was £19.

May I therefore appeal to you all to become voluntary subscribers, but please do not expect your honorary officers to collect your subscription. Make the modest effort required to send it or give it to a member of the Committee.

A few words about the Adelaide Hospital Scheme. When the Union partly endowed our bed they undertook to subscribe £25 a year to the Adelaide Hospital. This was guaranteed by certain members, some of whom have since died. The Scheme is in need of new subscribers. At present they number about 30. Out of a membership of over 600 it cannot be said to reflect great credit on our philanthropic activities. I feel sure we can do much better this year.



Mr. H. E. P. Anderson, President 1951-52

The Old Boys who congregated in the Clockroom to form the Union started a tradition. We present members owe it to them to keep that tradition alive and enhance it. We owe it to Dr. Bennett who so often paid tribute to the help and encouragement he received from the Union.

We now enter what can be called a new era under a new Headmaster, Dr. Reynolds, and we have assured him of our willing support and co-operation. I have no doubt that we shall all "be faithful to our trust".

In conclusion I take this opportunity of wishing you all, wherever you may be, at home or abroad, a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

H. E. P. ANDERSON,

President.

Junior School Lending Library

A SMALL library is being built up for each of the five forms in the Junior School, with the aim of encouraging these young boys to read for themselves. We should be most grateful for gifts of suitable books, booklets or magazines. It is not essential that they should be strongly bound or in new condition, but it is important that they should be well-written and interesting.

Many boys of 10 or 11 are omniverous readers, and their library has room for books on a very wide range of subjects. "The Geographical Magazine" and similar publications would be very welcome. But a large number of very simple little books (even paper-covered) are also needed for the youngest boys, many of whom have not long been able to read.

Most houses have a store of children's books that have outlived their usefulness. If yours is one of these, would you please give the unwanted books to the School? They will be made good use of.

The Headmaster would like to acknowledge with the warmest appreciation the donation of £1 for these libraries, made by Mr. H. E. P. Anderson, President of the O.B.U. Would any other Old Boy care to follow this excellent example? All sums of money, small or large, will be immediately turned into books.

Golf

A.S.U. Competition—Held at Royal Dublin on Thursday, 15th June. Won by Sandford Park with 286. High School, with 300, tied for 7th place. W. H. Taylor, with 68, shared second individual place. J. Bell (Sen.) won the Veterans' Prize with 80.

O.B.U. Cup—Held at Milltown Golf Club on Thursday, 6th September. Cup and Replica—J. Priestman, 67. Harry Bunbury Cup and Replica—E. E. C. Reeves, 68. Runner-up—R. L. Bryson, 69. Best Gross—H. Williams, 78. School Crest (2nd 9)—G. W. Lewis, 35½. Visitors' Prize—D. F. Robinson, 69.

U.I.S. Shield—Held at Milltown on Thursday, 13th September. Won by Castlepark with 142½. High School had 155. Our team was G.

Priestman and G. W. Lewis; A. Whiteside and G. Cole; R. L. Bryson and M. Cole.

S. S. EVANS, Hon. Sec.

Cricket

This season we played only one match. Our annual match against the King's Hospital Old Boys had to be cancelled owing to sickness in the King's Hospital School.

Our annual Colours match versus the School was played on Thursday and Friday, 28th and 29th June. The O.B.U. batted first and scored 121 for 9, dec. (Begley 62, Brady 22). The School replied with 114, all out (Cooper 40, Clarke 10). In the second innings the O.B.U. made 81 for 9 (Begley 47), and the School were 65 for 7 wickets, when stumps were drawn, the match ending in a draw.

The highlights of this match were Begley's 62 in about 15 minutes for the Old Boys, Cooper's 40 for the School, and Aiden Clarke's 6 through a window in Belgrave Square, but much to his disappointment the window was open.

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News of Old Boys

The Rev. R. C. Armstrong (1920-27) was preacher at the annual parade Service of the Dublin Battalion of the Girls' Brigade held in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on November 27, 1951.

Mervyn Bell (1915-22) is Irish President of the Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors.

J. A. Bell (1930-42) won the G. V. B. Cup in the Leinster G. V. B. Cup Trial, and the Premier Award in the Dublin Universities Night Trial.

D. Forsyth (1942-50) won the high jump in the athletic contest between A.A.U. Selected and St. Thomas's Hospital, London. He also came first in Grade A of the A.A.U.E., and has been selected to train on the Irish "Probables" team for the next Olympic Games.

Vivian James (1937-42) is training as a physiotherapist at the physiotherapy school of the National Institute of the Blind in London. He has been making good progress, and a recent report stated that he was first in his class. We wish him every success in the profession for which he is training.



In this photograph, along with Lord Powerscourt, Col. Wilson and Commissioner Sarratt, are three Old Boys—Commissioners E. E. Spence, P. C. Scott and E. J. Montgomery.

Photo courtesy "Irish Times."

The Rev. W. A. M. Cox (1924-31) read a paper on "The Church and the Welfare State" to the Dublin Clerical Association.

P. J. Custis (1930-37), A.C.W.A., A.C.I.S., has passed the Intermediate and Final Examinations of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and has been admitted an Associate.

R. A. Custis (1942-47), on his release from the Royal Air Force, has taken up an Executive Appointment with H.M. Treasury.

W. H. Kerrison (1942-48) played for Leinster in the junior interprovincial water polo match against Munster and scored twice.

G. M. Mitchell (1922-30) Junior Dean, Trinity College, has gone to America on a Rockefeller Scholarship.

The Rev. J. D. Murray (1928-32), Chaplain to the Boy Scouts, was preacher at the United Service for the Boy Scouts of Ireland, held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, on November 26, 1951. Other Old Boys present

at the Service included W. M. Carte (1909-11), Deputy Chief Commissioner; E. J. Montgomery (1913-23), International Commissioner; E. E. Spence (1911-13), National Commissioner; P. C. Scott (1922-27), National Commissioner; F. E. Brambell (1914-16), National Commissioner.

D. Orr (1930-40) is Captain of the London-Irish R.F.C.

J. G. Palmer (1936-44), Asst. Accountant, Royal Dublin Society, has been elected an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries.

N. J. Rodway (1938-46), Secretary of the Philosophical Society, T.C.D., was awarded the Gold Medal of the Society for Composition. He has also obtained a First Class Clerkship in Guinness's.

C. J. de Vere Shortt (1910-13) paid a visit to the School recently. He is at present in London, where he practises as a barrister and as a Doctor of Medicine.

The Rev. E. D. R. Simms (1936-44) of St. Patrick's, Ballymena, was made a deacon at an Ordination Service held by the Bishop of Connor in St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, on July 1st, 1951.

M. Taylor (1922-27) has been appointed General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A.

C. W. Vanston (1923-27) has been elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Statistics

Old Boys who left school during the years 1938-1942, inclusive, are requested to send to the Headmaster, for record purposes, the following information:—

- (a) Father's occupation.
- (b) Outline of their own careers since leaving.

General information only is required, e.g., Father's occupation—Merchant, Traveller, Doctor, etc. When the required information has been compiled the same request will be made to those Old Boys who left during the following five years.

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Marriages

Arthur E. Belford (1935-41) to Florence (Flo) Beatrice Carlile, July 13, 1951.

The Rev. R. A. Cole (1933-40) to Shirley Powys, September 21, 1951.

Ian Smeaton Couse (1941-45) to Dorothy Esther Parkinson, August 29, 1951.

Ernest W. Frith (1932-41) to Patricia Freeth, May 12, 1951.

Ronald Frederick Glover (1925-33) to Elizabeth Aline Sprott, August 6, 1951.

Richard Wallace Harris (1938-43) to Irene French Eagar, August 30, 1951.

George H. Jarrett (1937-38) to G. Violet Ebbs, September 29, 1951.

The Rev. Joseph R. Lindsay (1937-44) to Frances I. Hosking, June 27, 1951.

Robert D. Magill (1927-34) to Margaret W. Lamb, M.B., August 21, 1951.

Neville D. Maguire (1939-43) to Jean C. McAlister, September, 1951.

Edward Henry Ronald Reddy (1938-43) to Prudence Dorothy Mulvagh, September 25, 1951.

Dudley Clive Reynolds (1934-41) to Molly Houston, August 3, 1951.

Thomas E. R. Wills (1934-40) to Edna M. John, June 2, 1951.

Deaths

Victor V. Drennan (1891-95), June 24, 1951.

Charles Warren Gibbs (1915-22), died while trying to save his daughter from drowning, July 7, 1951.

For Your Diary

Annual Dinner in the Clockroom, Saturday, 19th January, 1952.

Annual Dance in the Metropole, Saturday, 1st November, 1952.

London Dinner in London (venue not yet arranged), Friday, 8th February, 1952.

Adelaide Hospital Scheme

We would ask members who are not already subscribers to consider sending us an annual subscription to this deserving fund. The Hon. Treas., P. R. Walker, "Ishgeen", Bren-

nanstown Road, Cabinteely, Co. Dublin, will be pleased to receive subscriptions from two shillings and sixpence upwards.

Parents' Association

THIS Association was formed with the object of promoting and furthering in any way possible the welfare of the School and its pupils, both while attending and when leaving the School, and of fostering social and other activities among members of the Association. Membership is open to all parents and guardians of pupils attending the School. The annual subscription is 5/- per family.

The Parents' Association has now been seven years in existence, and we ought to be able at this stage, by taking a retrospective glance, to assess its worth to the parents and to the School.

The Eighth Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, 26th October, 1951, at which there was a record attendance, and the following were elected on the Committee.

Mr. G. R. Wisdom (Chairman), Mrs. W. G. Abbott, Mrs. F. W. Dungan, Mr. W. G. Abbott (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. J. R. Dignam (Hon. Secretary), Messrs. W. R. Douglas, W. Simpson, D. Taylor, W. G. Taylor, M. G. Tyrell.

During the year we had a very interesting talk by Dr. McCracken on "Critical Periods in Youth Development", a social, talks on careers, and a whist drive. All functions were better attended compared to previous years, which gives the Committee hope that the Association is growing.

The annual cricket-tennis matches, Parents v. Boys, were played at Belgrave Square at the close of the Summer Term, the Boys proving victorious at cricket and the Fathers at tennis.

To Dr. Reynolds and the Teaching Staff the Committee would like to return thanks for their interest and ready co-operation at all times, and likewise to all those parents who have given us their support.

The Committee is always ready to welcome new members, and those desiring to join may send their names to either the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. W. G. Abbott) or to the Hon. Secretary, c/o. The High School, Harcourt Street.

J. R. DIGNAM, Hon. Sec.

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