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SCHOOL NOTES.

 ON May 21st we received a visit from Dom G. A. Cunningham, O.S.B. He is an Old Boy of the Catholic Institute, having left in 1922.

* * * *

During the Easter holidays the members of Form VI. Science spent an interesting morning on a visit to Bryant and May's match factory, and to Bootle Gasworks. Such visits serve to remind one that the use of Chemistry is not confined to class or laboratory work.

A novel conclusion was given to the Easter Term by the School Orchestra, who gave a performance in the Hall. Judging by the applause, their efforts were well appreciated. They continue to practise patiently, every Thursday, and in the near future they may inflict the strains of Haydn's "Toy Symphony" or of "In The Highlands" on your ears.

* * * *

We are now nearing the close of another school year, with the glorious prospect of a

long Summer Vacation in view. But before this loom the examinations, dark and foreboding. At present, therefore, the thought of holidays should serve to stimulate us to greater efforts in the final hectic "swot" before the examinations.

* * * *

Our Annual Retreat took place this year in Passion Week—the 9th to 11th April. It was conducted by Rev. Fr. Placid, C.P. He instilled a great deal of his own enthusiasm into

all, and we hope his work was crowned with the fullest measure of success.

* * * *

IN MEMORIAM.

We have just heard of the death of John Cunningham. It was practically the first trip of his apprenticeship, and it was with extreme regret we heard the news of his speedy passing away owing to sun-stroke—in the neighbourhood of Port Said.

To his parents and relatives we tender our sincerest sympathy.—R.I.P.

Stradivarius and the Violin

THE two words Stradivarius and violin can never be separated, for the mention of either immediately brings to one's mind the other. The renown of this remarkable maker of violins is beyond that of all others; his praise has been sung alike by poet, artist, and musician.

"The instrument on which he played
Was in Cremona's workshops made,
By a great master of the past,
Ere yet was lost that art divine;
And in its hollow chamber, thus,
The maker from whose hands it came
Had written his unrivalled name—
'Antonius Stradivarius'."

(Longfellow).

His magic name is ever rising to the lips in the presence of the "king of instruments"; its sound is as familiar to the humble player as to the finished artist. He has received the undisputed homage of two centuries, and time seems but to add to the number and devotion of his liege subjects: he is as little likely to be dethroned to-day as Shakespeare.

Antonio Stradivarius was born in 1644, in Cremona, and on reaching the age of twelve

was apprenticed to Nicolo Amati, a famous instrument maker. Here in this man's workshop he learnt the rudiments of the trade, and after he had served his apprenticeship he continued in Amati's employment as one of his skilled workmen.

His instruments became famed for their delicateness and their pure tone, and in 1676 he left his employment and set up on his own account.

He was very successful in his new venture and orders flowed into his workshop. Amongst his patrons were Count Cozio, one of the foremost patrons of the arts, Cardinal Orsini, Archbishop of Benevento, Bartolomeo Grandi, leader of the Court Orchestra of His Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy, and the Marquis Niccolo Rota, who presented one of the instruments to the King of Spain.

What we might term the golden period of Stradivarius, however, commenced about 1700, when he was in his fifty-sixth year. From this year his instruments show to us much of that which follows later. The outline is changed, but the curves blending one with the other are beautiful in the extreme. The corners

are treated differently. The wood used for the backs and sides is most handsome, having a broad curl. The scrolls are of bold conception and finely executed. The varnish is also very rich, and leaves nothing to be desired.

In 1714 he made the "Dolphin," which is regarded by the chief connoisseurs in Europe as a "chef-d'oeuvre" of Stradivarius. From the days when it was in the possession of the Marquis de la Rosa to the present time, its beauty has excited the admiration of the Fiddle world. The splendour of the wood is unsurpassed in any violin, ancient or modern, and it was named the "Dolphin" from the richness and variety of the tints it gives to the varnish. The model is perfection.

His work was interrupted during the years 1701 and 1702, on account of a campaign that was taking place between the French and the Prince Eugene, during which Cremona was taken by Marshall Villeroy, retaken by Eugene, and finally taken a third time by the French. During the peace that followed Stradivarius could once more go on, uninterrupted, with his trade and, in 1707, we find him supplying the Duke of Alba with three violins of his own workmanship.

Passing to the last period of this great

maker, we find that his instruments from 1730-1737 differ slightly from those of earlier dates. The rich oil varnish with which they are covered is precisely the same in quality as that found on earlier instruments, but he seems to have used more varnish on these instruments for the thickness of their coats is different.

This may be accounted for by his age, for one could scarcely expect as fine a finish as he had given to them in his earlier years. Nevertheless this difference does not, in any way, deteriorate from the value and excellence of these instruments, and Stradivarius probably felt very proud of his ability to continue his artistic labours after passing his 90th year.

He had now introduced his three sons to the trade, Omobono, Francesco, and Carlo, although not one had the skill of his father.

He passed away on December 18th, 1737, and was laid to rest in the Church of San Domenico. His sons carried on his work after him, but they never attained the degree of perfection which their father had, proving once more the saying: "Genius' are born and not made."

M. O'REILLY

VIB. Mods.

Irish Antiquities.

DERMOT DOYLE (U.V alpha).

IRELAND is probably richer in antiquities than any other country in the world.

The quantity and diversity of its relics of the past is amazing. Although there is no trace of the Paleolithic age, the more interesting Neolithic and Bronze ages are well represented. Ireland was not inhabited until about 2000 B.C., when the Neolithic men came. Afterwards, in the Bronze age, Irish

civilisation quickly developed so that when St. Patrick arrived in Ireland he found a high standard of advancement and learning which must have contrasted strangely with the condition of barbarian England before the Romans came.

The antiquities may be divided into three classes: (1) Prehistoric, (2) Early Christian, (3) Anglo-Norman. As the Anglo-Norman

remains date from the 12th century, and are therefore comparatively modern, I will not deal with them here.

Prehistoric relics are chiefly Religious, Military and Social. Among the Religious antiquities we find Dolmens, Tumuli, Stone Circles, Gallan Stones, Ogham Stones and Holed Stones.

Dolmens, or "Giants' Graves" as they are called in popular tradition, consist of three or more huge unhewn stones supporting a sloping covering stone of immense size. The covering stone of that at Kiltennan, Co. Dublin is twenty-three feet long, seventeen feet wide and six feet thick.

The covering was put on in the fashion of building a pyramid. The standing stones were first put into position and then a long incline of stones and earth was made leading up to these stones. Along this slope the stone was rolled until it reached the top and then the stones and earth were removed and the whole formed a burial chamber.

The Tumuli are far more rare and more elaborate. The chief of these is the Newgrange Tumulus. It has the appearance of a small hill and is about an acre in extent, being circular in shape. Entrance is gained through a low narrow passage about fifty feet in length which expands in the centre of the mound into a circular chamber with three recesses. It was known in early chronicles and legends as Brugh na Boinne (Palace of the Boyne) and is one of the most famous monuments in Europe. Stone circles were used to mark the Tumuli to greater effect. Several of these exist in the Loughcrea Hills in Meath.

Gallans, or Pillar Stones, were used to mark a boundary, a place of interment, or to commemorate some dead. Specimens of these are also found in England ("Hoar Stones") and on the Continent. Ogham Stones were stones incised with the cypher language, Ogham, peculiar to the early Pagan Irish. The inscription usually begins at the bottom

left-hand edge and reads upwards. Several superstitious practices were associated with Holed Stones.

Much of the time of the early Irish appears to have been taken up with fighting, so that the Social relics are few compared with the Military. All their villages were fortified with a rampart and a ditch, and sometimes there were three outer protecting walls. These forts were known by various names. Those of stone were known as Rathes, those of earth as Rathes, while a fort on a hill was known as a Dun or a Lis. It is remarkable how these names have been retained in place names such as Catherciveen, Rathdrum, Dundalk, Listowel, etc. These forts abound in County Kerry particularly, in the Dingle Peninsula. Notwithstanding the fact that many of these have been destroyed by the progress of agriculture, there still remain of all classes of forts the astonishing number of twenty-eight thousand. Some of the larger forts, as at Tara, were the homes of royal personages. Some of these raths were connected by underground tunnels which served as store-houses or places of refuge. These were known as Souterrains and specimens exist at Beaufort in the Dingle Peninsula, at Clady on the Boyne, near Navan, and at numerous other places.

The Early Christian antiquities consist mainly of Oratories, Churches, Round Towers and Crosses.

The Oratories were usually built on the model of the Cloghanor stone hut. These were constructed of dry stone throughout. Stones were placed in tiers, one above the other, each tier inclining slightly inwards until at last one stone would close the top. The interstices were then filled with earth as a protection against wind and rain. This type though rather crude was exceedingly ingenious for so primitive an age. Better types were those built with perpendicular side walls and a sloping roof. Among good exam-

ples are those at Ardmore and on the Aran Islands. St. Kevin's Kitchen, Glendalough, is a two-storey type of oratory with a round tower, and in it are buried some Irish notabilities including an Irish king of the 11th century. Oratories were the first crude forms of churches which reached a high standard of perfection in Cormac's chapel.

Most interesting of all antiquities are the Round Towers. Seventy of these now remain in Ireland to which country they are almost exclusively confined, three appearing in Scotland. Many theories arose concerning the uses of these interesting relics. Dr. Petrie has now satisfactorily proved that they are religious relics and it is noticeable that they always appear near religious establishments. They were used as refuges for the early Christian priests and for the valuables of the church in time of war. In height they vary from 50 to 120 feet and are about twenty feet in diameter at the base, having walls about three feet thick. There are four or five storeys, each lighted by a single window, the top storey having four windows each overlooking a road. The ingenious builders of these towers must have known from experience that the corner stones of a square building could be prised out while a round tower offered no such weakness. The doorway was well above the ground so that a battering ram could not reach it. Entrance was made by a ladder which was drawn in after the defenders, who attacked the assailants with stones, darts, boiling oil, and other customary means of self-defence. As the raiders (the Danes) could never stay long in any district, there was little danger of the besieged being starved out. Lough Neagh is supposed to have been once dry land. Hence Moore's lines:

"On Loch Neagh's banks as the fisherman strays,

When the clear cold ere's declining,
He sees the round towers of other days
In the waves beneath him shining."

Scarcely more than a dozen round towers retain the original conical cap, some of them being those at Glendalough, Ardmore, and Clonmacnoise. Most of the rest are surmounted with a battlemented parapet which was an addition of later date when the conical cap had fallen.

High Crosses or Celtic Crosses were the perfection of the plain cross. The arms are bound with a circle and all the cross was delicately and intricately incised. They are all of exquisite beauty and give a very accurate representation of the ecclesiastical and military costumes of the time. Splendid specimens of these crosses exist at Monasterboice, Clonmacnoise (which furnished 188 crosses of all classes), Tuam, Kells and Darrow. The National Museum, Dublin, contains many excellent specimens of these crosses.

Ireland is not without her antiquities of art. The Wicklow Gold Mines of the early Pagans furnished material for such masterpieces of skill as the Tara Brooch and the Shine of St. Patrick's Bell (in the National Museum). Early Irish handiwork also produced the Cross of Cong (in which a relic of the true Cross is said to have been concealed), the Ardagh Chalice, and St. Patrick's Crosier.

Early literature is plentiful. The most famous books include the Leabhar na h'Uidlore (The book of the Dun Cow), the Yellow Book of Lecan, the Book of Leinster, and the Annals of the Four Masters. Of the religious manuscripts by far the most famous is the Book of Kells with illuminated letters which baffle imitation. This is kept together with a similar manuscript, the Book of Durron, in Trinity College, Dublin.

Yet the best place for examining the antiquities of Ireland is not in Dublin (for stone forts, round towers, etc., cannot be carried in brown paper parcels to the capital), but amid the actual relics of Clonmacnoise, or Monasterboice, or amongst the ruined glories of Glendalough.

THE SPEEDOMETER.

WM. R. BAKER (U.VA.).

THE Speedometer is one of the most useful acquisitions that have been made to a motor-car. There are two popular types of speedometers, namely, the Dial type and the Rotary type. The latter consists of a flexible tube, running from the front wheel to the dial box. When the car is moving, the front wheel rotates a cog wheel which revolves a fine chain of many links concealed in the flexible tube. At the top of the chain is a circular magnet, and this, therefore, revolves. Fitting over the magnet, but not touching it, is an inverted drum on which are printed figures that indicate the car's speed. The rotating magnet acts with magnetic force on the drum, and this magnetic force causes the drum to revolve. The faster the car goes, the greater is the

magnetic pull on the drum, and a number is brought to the opening showing the speed of the car.

In the Dial type the magnet fits into the centre of the indicator. As the magnet revolves, a current moves a pointer round a fixed dial. As the magnetic attraction increases with the speed, the resistance of the spring is gradually overcome and the hand moves round. The magnetic force declines when the speed decreases and the hand moves back to zero. Both types are worked on practically the same principle, and the Dial type is the more popular. As there are laws restricting certain cars to travel at certain speeds, the speedometer often saves drivers from heavy fines or imprisonment.

THE HARE.

TO enter into a minute description of an animal so well known would be deemed a work of supererogation. Being a most defenceless and timorous creature, all its senses seem only to regulate its flight, and it is perpetually attentive to every alarm. Its eyes are large and prominent, adapted to receive the rays of light on all sides, and which are never wholly closed; its ears are long and capable of being directed to every quarter, the remotest sounds are readily received; the hind legs are remarkably long and furnished with strong muscles which give the hare singular advantage in ascending steep places; and so sensible is the animal of this, that it always makes towards the rising ground.

It is extremely swift: the pace is a sort of gallop, or rather a quick succession of leaps, unaccompanied by noise, the feet being covered both above and below with hair.

Foxes and dogs of all kinds pursue the hare by instinct; wild cats and weasels are continually lying in ambush, practising all their arts to seize it; birds of prey are still more dangerous enemies, as against them no swiftness can avail; and man, far more powerful than all, makes perpetual war against the hare, it constituting one of the numerous delicacies of his table. Thus persecuted, the hare would long since have become extinct, did it not find a resource in its amazing fecundity. So various are its foes

that it is rarely allowed to reach even that short term to which it is limited by nature.

In general, the hare wants neither instinct sufficient for its own preservation nor sagacity for escaping from its foes: he forms a 'seat,' which he rarely leaves in the day, but in the night takes a circuit in search of food, choosing the most tender blades of grass and quenching his thirst with the dew. This timid creature also lives upon fruit, grain, herbs, leaves, roots, preferring those plants which yield milky juices, and in winter will gnaw the bark indiscriminately from all trees, except that of the alder and lime. In plantations and nurseries of young trees, hares commit dreadful havoc. The colour of the hare approaches nearly to that of the ground, which secures it more effectively from the sight. Providence has been so mindful of this, as well as many other animals, in northern regions, as to change their colour, and they become white at the beginning of winter, thus rendering them less conspicuous amidst the surrounding snow. White hares are occasion-

ally met with in this country. The young, of which the female has generally three or four at a time, are produced with their eyes open, the dam suckles them about twenty days, after which they leave her and provide for themselves, never removing, however, far from each other nor from the place where they are littered. The hare lives about ten years.

These quadrupeds seem to pass their lives, when undisturbed, in solitude and silence, and are seldom heard to cry except when seized or wounded. They are not so wild as their disposition and habits seem to indicate, but are easily tamed and are even susceptible of a kind of education. As they have a remarkably good ear, sit up on their hind legs, and use their fore paws as hands, they have been taught to dance to music and go through the manual exercise, and it is a well-known fact that some years ago one of these little animals was exhibited at Sadler's Wells, beating its fore feet upon a drum which a person carried round the stage.

THOMAS FRAYNE, U.V alpha.

Smiling Jacks.

F. NORTON (VIB. Moderns).

THERE are all sorts of curious clocks in the world, but perhaps those which interest people most are the ones to which are attached Smiling Jacks, or Jacquemars, as they are sometimes called.

Many years ago, when our land like most others was not the peaceful place it is to-day (no votes for women, etc.), and when any spot might at any time be surprised by the sudden visit of some enemy, it was the custom to station on the tops of the church towers, just by the belfries, men in armour to give the alarm when danger threatened. To do

this they smote the bells with their weapons, and the villagers fled *quam celerrime* (as Caear would put it) to some place of safety. (If the enemy happened to be the Scots, the people just fled into some church while the collection was being taken). The men in armour without doubt gave clockmakers the idea of the Jacks o' the Clock, for the figure is nearly always that of a man in armour. Two of the most famous Smiling Jacks in this country are to be found in Suffolk, at Sothwold and Blythburgh. The one at Sothwold is made of wood, carved and

painted to resemble a knight in armour. He strikes the bell with his battleaxe, which he holds in his right hand, the movement being caused by a chord which passes through his arm. At the present time the pulling of the chord is done by hand, usually just before the clergy enter the church, but at one time Jack used to be connected with the clock and he struck the hours. Indeed most of the Jacks were used to tell the time, and in those days they were sometimes very necessary, for many clocks were without dials.

There is another very old clock with Jacks in the Cathedral at Wells. This was taken

from the Abbey at Glastonbury at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries (Danes does not mention this). Yet another is the clock of old St. Dunstan's in London, which always interests the passers-by as it knells forth the quarters and the hours.

Perhaps the reader does not know that Liverpool also has its Smiling Jacks. They are on view outside a prominent jeweller's in Church Street (they have been for some years now). For scholars of this College they are best seen from the upper deck of a 30 or 31 tram (as many of my trans-Mersey readers can testify).

The Pitch Lake at Trinidad.

S. T. PATTERSON (U.V beta).

NOWADAYS, if you are asked "What are the seven modern wonders of the world?" your mind, somewhat naturally, turns to feats of engineering. It would never occur to you that ordinary common tar could form one of these wonders, yet it is a fact that it does.

At Trinidad, one of the West Indian islands, there is a marvellous lake of pitch. It is circular in shape, and covers an area of about one hundred and ten acres. Its surface is seamed and pitted with fissures filled with water. The general surface of the lake, even under the broiling mid-day sun, is no hotter than an asphalt pavement under the summer

sun. But in the centre, where the pitch comes up out of the earth, the lightest footstep leaves an impression, and you can almost feel yourself sinking if you remain in one spot. A man would probably be sucked under, as in a bog, if he remained in one spot long enough. In parts the pitch may be seen oozing out of the cracks and holes.

The lake is said to contain about 4,500,000 tons of first-class asphalt. It is a great source of wealth to the island on which it was first discovered by Sir Walter Raleigh, who said that on the western shore of the island he found a large quantity of excellent pitch with which he coated his vessels.



Dockyard Detectives.

THE materials, tools, and appliances, which are in stock and being used in our Government dockyards, are beyond computation in price. The checking of tools and the materials day by day employs hundreds of experts, and the loss in Government property would probably be colossal were it not for the almost perfect system of booking, in and out, everything accounted as "stores."

Then there are the dockyard detectives whose job is to get to know practically every man working in the docks, and to prevent the least article from being stolen. It is only human for the dockers to take things. They might see a tool, or a useful piece of metal, and they take a fancy to it. Somehow it does not seem like stealing to them: that is in the strict sense of the word. It seems impossible for such a handful of plain clothes men to search the thousands of men going out, and prevent anything from being smuggled out, but they do their duty and with remarkable success, for the amount of "missing" material is surprisingly small.

As a matter of fact they do not search every workman going out, but they single out a certain number from the thousands

flocking out of the gates every night. The first idea a man has that he is wanted is a tap on the shoulder, and he is told his presence in a nearby shed is required. This makes the ordinary man frightened, for he does not want to run the risk of losing his job, and his pension. But there are some old hands at the game and they often manage to get off with a piece of valuable metal, which is easily disposed of in any of the old junk shops with which the riverside districts are littered.

Then there are the ordinary commercial docks. Here the way of the detective is harder; there are a number of casual workmen instead of regular hands; they have no fear of losing a pension and, consequently, there is more inclination to tread the broad path which leads to the prison gates. A vast amount of stuff is missed from here per annum, despite the vigilance of the detectives. In many cases crates of valuable merchandise are broken into, and the contents removed in innocent dinner baskets wrapped round the waist, etc. But, taking all this into account, the losses in the docks are remarkably small, and it speaks volumes for the detectives that they have cut down this loss by theft to a tenth of what it was.

A. KERRIGAN, VIB. Moderns.

A Mag. Article in The Making.

H. A. SHENNAN (VIB. Moderns).

ANOTHER term, another Mag. *ipso facto* another Mag. article, and so the world rolls on, or rather round. About this time the Editor goes scouting for subscribers. He impresses upon those who promise to write an article the necessity and the virtue of originality in their work.

At home, with this object in mind, the aspirant journalists prepare to write. Strange to say, they experience great difficulty in finding a subject whereon to expatiate. When they do finally choose a subject, somehow or other they are totally unable to make a start. In fact, 'words fail them'; their vast

intellects are clouded; their minds, usually keen and sharp, are dulled. They fall to speculating wonderingly as to how Sir Philip Sidney could write by merely 'taking up his pen and looking into his heart.'

After some cogitation they admit to themselves, that after all an original article is a bit beyond them. But, they reflect, an article must be done. After still further deliberation, they become smitten with an inspired idea, something like this: "Ah! there's that mouldy old encyclopaedia that Uncle So-and-so bought me for my birthday; there's sure to be something in that." Down come those volumes from the tops of shelves, where they have reposed ever since they were bought. Hitherto regarded as 'useless,' 'stupid,' 'mouldy,' 'dull' and 'dry,' these books are now to prove of some use after all.

After diligent searching through the clean, glossy and virgin pages, these budding Shakespeares find what they consider to be a 'real, jammy article,' and this is copied out word for word, comma for comma, and

stop for stop. The article is generally on some subject involving long treatises on technical points such as "How a dynamo works," "The Engine Room of an Atlantic Liner," or "How an aeroplane flies." Next morning these embryo novelists go to school, quite satisfied with their work, or rather with their flagrant plagiarism. Then an amusing dialogue ensues between the Editor and each of these future essayists which runs something like this:—

Editor (to Boy): "Did you do that article for me yet?"

Boy (complacently): "Oh, yes sir."

Editor: "Let's have it."

Boy hands it over. Editor reads. Boy awaits verdict 'sure of what it will be.'

Editor: "Is this your own work?"

Boy (confusion spreading over his countenance): "Er, yes sir, that is most of it, sir."

Editor (knowingly): "I see."

Scene Closes.

That "Mag. Article" never appears in print.

The Pearl.

THERE is no question as to the beauty of pearls. To many people they seem the most beautiful of all gems. A brooch, a ring, a necklace with pearls is a very precious gift; even the warlike Romans seem to have esteemed pearls above all other gems.

An ancient writer goes as far as saying that Caesar's motive in coming to Britain in 55 B.C. was to obtain its pearls, 'which were so large that he used to try the weight of them by his hand.' These were, of course, fresh-water pearls, found in mussels that inhabit rivers, although river pearls are commonly held to be inferior in lustre and value to sea pearls.

The ancients found much mystery in pearls. They were at a loss to account for their origin, and had some curious theories. For example, one theory was that they were formed from dew, because probably the ancients saw some resemblance between dewdrops and pearls in their flashing lights. The lustre was set down by the ancients as the effect of lightning which flashed at the moment of formation, the pearl catching 'the fiery gleam.'

Pearls, strange to say, require changes of air, and very valuable pearls are even sent on sea voyages to other lands, lest they lose part of their lustre.

The pearl's secret is even more wonderful

than the ancients thought, for its beauty is born in the darkness. Buried in the sea, hiding in an ugly shell, the pearl begins to be. It does not come of dew, but of irritation. A grain of sand intrudes itself into the shell; unable to get rid of the irritant, the shell dweller fossilizes it, buries it in a tiny house of pearl. How ingenious an idea to turn the irritants of life into jewels! To turn life's evil into good.

Pearl diving is very dangerous. The waters

where pearls are sought are infested with sharks, and the work is always exhausting. A few minutes, at the most, is the limit of a diver's stay beneath the water.

He needs patience and endurance, for thousands of shells have to be caught for even a few pearls, and, strangely enough, shells that are irregular or in some way deformed are often most likely to yield pearls. So does nature surprise us with her treasures.

JOSEPH CONROY, U.V alpha.

Results of Term Exams, 1930.

VIA.Mod.--1, F. Clarke; 2, Joseph O'Brien; 3, Francis McHale.

VIB.Mod.--1, Hugh Shennan; 2, Austin Thomas; 3, Edward Norton.

VIA.Sc.--1, John Bold; 2, Gerard Rogan; 3, Terence McGrath.

VIB.Sc.--1, Robert Stevenson; 2, Vincent Quigley; 3, James Doyle.

U.V alpha--1, Joseph M. Banks; 2, Francis McDermott; 3, Dermot J. Doyle.

U.V beta--1, James Devlin; 2, Donal McSweeney; 3, John Chambers.

U.VA.--1, William Winrow; 2, George Wright; 3, George Lunt.

L.V alpha--1, Wm. Taylor; 2, F. Lennon; 3, L. McDonald.

L.V beta--1, Wm. Hollingsworth; 2, T. Sweeney; 3, G. Davies.

L.VA.--1, Ml. Kirwan; 2, B. Donaghue; 3, John O'Neill.

L.VB.--1, M. O'Mahoney; 2, M. Reppion; 3, M. Strickland.

IV alpha--1, G. McDonald; 2, J. Crease; 3, T. Walsh.

IV beta--1, E. McLoughlin; 2, Ed. Giles; 3, Wm. Mabbs.

IVA.--1, G. Conolly; 2, G. Carty; 3, C. McMahon.

IVB.--1, H. McEleavy; 2, N. McGree; 3, C. Taylor.

III alpha--1, A. Downie; 2, J. Waldron; 3, C. Lake.

III beta--1, F. Byrne; 2, A. Hughes; 3, G. Humphries.

IIIA.--1, C. Ainsworth; 2, Francis Frayne, George McCavish; 3, Wm. Balmer.

IIIB.--1, E. Sinnott; 2, John Beggs; 3, Thos. Kelly.

II.--1, J. Finnen; 2, P. Walsh; 3, R. Costa.

I.--1, J. Grant; 2, C. Gaskin; 3, R. Ball.



Literary and Historical Society.

THE Society, after its promising inauguration last term, has since gone ahead with great strides. The first lecture of the present term was delivered by Flaherty, of VIA.Mods., on "Wolsey and the Balance of Power." This highly technical subject demanded great skill as so many conflicting authorities had to be consulted; an absolutely novel point of view was propounded—that of Pollard—and ably upheld by the lecturer. Historians were allowed criticism at the conclusion and even more novel views were brought forward, among them the Chestertonian.

As a result of the lecture, a great deal of obscurity on this abstruse matter disappeared and the lecturer deserves every congratulation for it.

An extremely controversial subject formed the theme of the next paper, given by F. McHale, "That Literature is the true history." The lecturer developed this topic very ably, though at times his rather hurried delivery was a little difficult to follow. He showed how the general tenor of the age is reflected in the literature of the times, instancing particularly the Elizabethan and Augustan ages. The discussion after the lecture included questions on Spanish literature, which, the lecturer confessed, was not his particular province; his paper, however, is highly commendable in that it furnished material for very lively discussion. A very interesting lecture.

The Society, now more ambitious, made a noteworthy "bag" for its next paper. Mr. Mullen very kindly consented to deliver a lecture on "The Sonnet." It was politic wisdom, perhaps, that dictated this choice, for any member of the Society who had

attempted this lecture would have been entirely lost. Mr. Mullen traced the Sonnet from its indefinite origin in Sicily, explained the theories as to its structure, followed its meanderings in France and Italy, and was just getting into an absorbing account of its development in English literature when he was obliged to come, for lack of time, to a summary conclusion. We could not lose the remainder of this fine paper, and so Mr. Mullen will conclude his lecture in the very near future; and "the sooner, the better."

"Realism in our Literature" was next delivered by F. Clarke. This account of an almost exclusively modern trend in our literature presented great difficulties, which the lecturer surmounted in fine style. He first gave a useful definition of Realism, pointing out that it had been practised unconsciously quite early in our literature, even so far back as Chaucer. Having shown the three main realistic groups in English literature, he went on to deal with various branches of realism—dadaism, impressionism, naturalism and so on. He supported his thesis by reading examples from Arnold Bennett's "Old Wives' Tales." On the subject of War novels he wisely preserved an open mind, concluding with a summary of the results and good of realism. This excellent lecture certainly cleared up much bewilderment in the minds of those of us who were inclined to class it all as "newfangled stuff" and leave it at that. It was also noteworthy in that members of the Science forms, desirous of being "educated," were present. We wish them well in their grapple with culture and hope that they will lose no further opportunities for being uplifted. And in conclusion, "Floreat Societas."

H. McG.

UNIVERSITY VISIT.

IN response to an invitation from the University authorities, a party from VIA. paid a visit to the University on Wednesday, May 19th. We were welcomed in the Arts Theatre by the Vice-Chancellor who gave a short address on the functions of education. A lecture followed, on the campaign of Joshua in the Holy Land, delivered by Professor J. Garstang, Professor of Archaeology. He showed, assisted by lantern slides, the position and construction of the Biblical towns, assuring us that they had actually existed, and, in order to "lend verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing (not quite) narrative," he exhibited a large brick which had formed part of the wall of one of these towns.

After the lecture we moved *en masse* to inspect the Tate Gallery, doubtless calling forth much silent opprobrium from the hard-working (*sic*) students. The party was now divided into two sections, one for engineering and the other, slightly smaller, for the Biology departments. Both divisions visited the departments of Geology and Architecture, and then tea at the Students' "Union" concluded an extremely enjoyable afternoon. We take this opportunity of offering heartfelt thanks to the University authorities, Professors and Students, for their respective invitation, demonstration, and toleration. It is to be hoped that the visit will become an annual function to be eagerly awaited by the Sixth.

H. McG.

French Debating Society.

THIS Society, now approaching the termination of its very successful 1929-1930 session, has nothing remarkable to chronicle since the last report appeared in these pages. Its success this year has again been due to the unrelenting care and attention of its president—Mr. Curtin. Any praise is superfluous.

Several members of the Society, however, have failed to display the *esprit de corps* so necessary to the harmonious working of its activities. It is a fact that, whether through excessive modesty or otherwise, many are reluctant to come forward in these debates; they consider it a duty rather than a pleasure. One persistent, noticeable, and most aggravating feature of some of the debates is the stereotyped conclusion to which so many are addicted. There is an audience listening

and they are quite willing to be interested, but the fourth or fifth "en concluant" is hardly stimulating. With all the ingenuity of VIA. we trust to see a change this term—if not, next. The Society met on March 14th, May 9th, and May 30th. Meetings have been arranged for June 13th and 27th (full dress), but the latter date will probably be subject to revision.

The "burning question" of the day—Empire Free Trade—was discussed on March 14th. Clarke, Flaherty and Grannell of VIA. Modern appeared for, and Rogan, Flynn and Byrne against, the motion. Despite excellent work by the Scientists, the Moderns gained the day.

On May 9th we discussed the saying of La Fontaine: "Patience et longueur de temps font plus que force ni que rage." VIA. Science,

represented by Hanlon, Kershaw, and McKeown, supported it, whilst the opposition was provided by McHale, Nolan and O'Brien of VIA.Modern. A keen debate ensued, but the result was as usual, the Moderns carrying off the palm by 3 points.

"Est ce un bien pour l'homme que la

liberté?" asks La Bruyère. On May 30th we attempted to decide it. Rogan, Flynn and Byrne said that it was, whilst Ripley, Kelly and Doyle denied it. The representatives of VIB.Science gave a very creditable performance, but were nevertheless beaten, the margin being 4 points.

J.N.

Sixth Form Debating Society.

THIS Term will bring to an end a very successful year for the Debating Society. Although there is no disputant of outstanding brilliance, the general debating standard is very high. The debates were usually held between the Science forms and the corresponding Modern forms.

The Moderns displayed greater originality of mind, though the Scientists were characterised by a certain steadiness and fluency of speech sometimes lacking in the Moderns. The questions discussed were of great general interest and there were sufficient new propositions to keep interest flourishing.

There was no difficulty in providing speakers for the various occasions: a good indication that Form VI. are keenly alive to the immense advantages to be gained from the Society.

On Monday, May 17th, the motion "Should we have a Poet Laureate?" was discussed by Callander, Stevenson and Quigley (Pro.) for VIB.Science, and H. McGrath, Thomas and Kerrigan (Pro.) for VIB.Moderns. Callander, opening speaker, gave a rather disconnected and inaccurate history of the Laureateship. A rather abrupt finish marred what would otherwise have been, for a maiden speech, quite a creditable effort. H. McGrath, first speaker against the motion, pointed out some of Callander's fallacies and continued to urge the essential uselessness of the office since its

holders refused to fulfil their functions. He instanced its susceptibility to abuse, quoting the appointment of H. J. Pye. Stevenson, continuing for the Pros., was unintentionally humorous in his speech, representing the Laureateship as the goal of every poet's ambition, the one thing which was keeping poetry alive in this country. Though uninspiring, his style was fluent and his speech showed preparation.

Several useful arguments were propounded against the motion by the next speaker, A. C. Thomas. He opened in fine rhetorical style, indicating the origin of the Laureateship, showing the impossibility of producing poetry to order, and citing the possibility of political jobbery in the appointment of future Laureates. His speech contained the germ of a telling argument on the future wars and their effect on the Laureate's office. This he should have stressed.

Quigley summed up for the Pros. He was mildly sarcastic about some imaginary or misunderstood arguments put forward by his opponents, but his speech raised the general level of his side. He was followed by Kerrigan, the last speaker, who caused some amusement by his competent refutation of his opponents.

Mr. Faherty, adjudicating, awarded an overwhelming victory to the opposition.

On Friday, June 6th, the motion "That

the progress of humanity depends mainly on Science" was defended by Looney and McGrath (T.) of VIA.Science, against Grannell and Nolan of VIA.Mods.

Looney, the opening speaker, depicted vividly the state of man before the advent of Science, and showed how Science had improved man's physical and mental conditions alike. He unwarrantably included philosophy in Science and made the gratuitous and erroneous assumption that there is no need of logical thought in Literature, and that, robbed of its sensory appeal, it means nothing. Despite a slight tendency to reiteration his speech was extremely good.

Grannell asserted against the motion that Science was productive of all the nervous diseases that assail mankind to-day, that it was driving people into asylums, that it created the unemployment problem, and, finally, that it was annihilating civilisation. This sweeping indictment would have had more effect had it been delivered in a more confident manner.

T. McGrath declared that all the ancient civilisations were based on Science. He made the old ghost walk, that Literature shows no improvement, and refuted most of Grannell's arguments, though he based all

his assertions on the declaration of one of our greatest poets.

"Truth is Beauty; Beauty Truth."

Nolan opened startlingly. When the uproar subsided he continued with his speech, urging that the fall of the ancient civilisations dated from the introduction of Science, e.g. the building of the Great Wall of China; that modern Science was a recent growth which a few minutes thought could reason out of existence; and that its sole function was to do for man what he should do for himself. This was a very good speech.

Members of the audience were now allowed, without prejudice to the result of the debate, to state their views. These were very interesting and the critics, the majority of whom inclined to Science, displayed in some ways a better grasp of the problem than the speakers themselves, who were disposed to make the debate a mere matter of the relative merits of Science and the Arts. The judging was, on this occasion, left to the audience, and on a show of hands the supporters of the motion were proved victorious by one vote. Bro. Wall, commenting on the result, commended the high quality of the speeches, singling out for especial mention that of Looney with Nolan a good second.

H. McG.

Sixth Form Scientific Society.

DURING the Easter holidays the Society made two very enjoyable visits; the first, to Linacre Gasworks, was highly instructive and has made it extremely unlikely that the manufacture of coal gas will be forgotten for some time; the second, to Bryant and May's match factory, Bootle, though not quite so interesting, was still very entertaining. We heartily thank those concerned and hope that such visits will be frequent.

Some exceptionally good lectures have been delivered this term. The first of the term was delivered by G. Rogan, on "Molecular Weights" and the simple but accurate descriptions of the various parts of apparatus was beneficial to both Science and Moderns.

F. McKeown gave us "Liquefaction of Gases," in which he explained the liquefaction of the more difficult gases and also the commercial uses of liquid air, e.g. in the

preparation of nitrogen and oxygen. It was especially valuable for the very good summary which the speaker gave at the end of his paper, and for the very competent manner in which he dealt with questions.

Next was "The Electrical Conductivity of Gases," a very interesting lecture, by H. Kershaw, containing an especially interesting though brief account of X-Rays.

D. Flynn's "Thermal Conductivity of Solids and Liquids" was illustrated by an especially good set of lantern slides. The lecture itself was excellent, in fact one of the best given so far.

Arrangements have been made for two more lectures; the first is to be "Measurement of High Temperatures" by J. Bold, and R. Looney will conclude the term by giving us an account of "Electrical Conductivity of Solids and Liquids."

With one exception all the lectures given during the year were helped by lantern slides, made in each case by the member contributing. Owing to the spirit of co-operation, and the keen interest manifested by each and all, the proceedings of the Society may be regarded as highly satisfactory for the year that has passed.

Insect Life in Iceland.

FRANCIS McDERMOTT (U.V alpha).

THE name of Iceland has a cold sound about it, and the country has a short summer and a long winter; yet it is a less dreary region than we might suppose. There is plenty of both animal and vegetable life to amuse or occupy those who are fond of natural history, though many objects are wanting which we find in temperate countries.

One of the peculiarities of Iceland is the hot and sulphurous springs, which make some parts of the land warm and the air dry. Sulphur is not agreeable to many insects, and yet it is curious that near some of the sulphurous springs stout-bodied moths are frequently plentiful, as at Geysis and Lang. Butterflies do not seem to dwell in Iceland; stray specimens have been taken of some kinds, which, it is thought, have travelled there on board ship, as butterflies do now and then. Some people have taken slim-bodied moths to be butterflies; there is a great abundance of one kind in particular—white, with a blue or greyish band across the wings.

Most of the Iceland insects are blue or grey; only a very few have a touch of brighter colour, and many of them are so nearly like the lichen-covered boulders of lava, that they are scarcely noticed when resting upon them. Along the slopes of the hills, if the dwarf willows and birches are touched, the moths rise in clouds, and they are also abundant at dusk along the low-lying meadows. The flowers that are most attractive to them are those of the wild thyme. Bees are rare, as there is a scarcity of wild flowers, but some specimens are found. Flies, however, are plentiful, especially a yellow-winged species, and one with a dark body; they are attracted in swarms to dried fish.

Along the plains, beetles may be discovered by turning over stones, and others by searching the grass and low herbage; they are generally dull-coloured. Occasionally a caddis-fly, or water-moth, is to be seen skimming over the surface of a small pool, in which the grub has made its curious case or movable house.

Earwigs, so common in our islands, do not appear in Iceland; it is not sufficiently warm to suit them.

Travelling over the plains and fields in Iceland is fatiguing, the ground being sometimes rough, with numerous jagged stones,

and at other times slippery because it is covered with a whitish-green moss which hides treacherous holes. The Icelanders are a simple-minded, active people, very sociable, and always ready to give a kindly welcome to strangers.

DIVING.

G. MURPHY (U.V alpha).

THE man in the deep-sea diving suit is a modern knight in armour. He battles not against cold steel but cold water. The very air he breathes is supplied by patient men ashore or in a boat above, slowly working an air pump. For every ten feet he descends he sustains an added water-pressure of nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs. over every square inch of his body. Hence he must descend carefully, not out-distancing the rate at which the pumps can supply the proper air pressure, otherwise he may suffer great pain, bleeding at the nose, eyes and ears, and even loss of consciousness, and death. And he must descend even more slowly, lest air be forced into his tissues, causing extreme torture, or lest he literally burst from internal air pressure.

It is dangerous for divers to work at a greater depth than 150 feet, although these brave men have often worked at depths greater than 200 feet, and in a few instances below 250 feet. Perhaps the most interesting work of the diver is the salvaging of treasure and wrecked ships. From one Spanish vessel alone, which sank off the Grand Canary Island in 160 feet of water, divers recovered chests of gold worth nearly £100,000. Considerable results have been achieved in the task of salvaging vessels sunk during the World War, 1914-'18.

In the construction of bridges, dams, under river tunnels, waterworks, etc., divers survey for foundations, caissons, and pile-settings. Waterworks in large towns employ a diver constantly. Deep-sea divers are also used in several industries, as in fishing for pearls, corals, sponges, and shells, although dark-skinned swimmers of the tropics often perform such work without any equipment. Some of these natives can dive to great depths, and can remain under water two or three minutes.

Diving dress, or armour, may be of metal or rubber. Perhaps the most useful suit is one of aluminium alloy, weighing about 500 lbs. The helmet is usually made of copper, with "windows" covered with thick glass. Lead weights are attached to enable the diver to descend quicker, and the shoes have lead soles to enable him to keep his balance, feet down.

Divers communicate with fellow-workers on the ocean bottom and with attendants above by cords, speaking tubes, or telephonic apparatus. Air is supplied from a pump above through a flexible tube entering the helmet. The poisonous breathed air escapes either through another tube leading out through the back of the helmet or through an ingenious valve arrangement.

Things Not Known Generally.

THE South Magnetic Pole is a point that travels round with a kind of waltzing movement in a circular area, thirty miles in diameter, and changes its exact position from day to day.

* * * *

Aluminium paper consists of paper which has been specially prepared so as to give it a parchment-like consistency. This is covered with a layer of powdered aluminium sprinkled on a thin layer of resin. Pressure is applied while the coating is still soft to ensure the adhesion of the powder. The metallic surface thus obtained is not affected by moisture or greasy substances.

* * * *

The heaviest load that a strong man can carry for a short distance is 320 lbs. The extreme load a man can habitually carry on level ground is 132 lbs. His days work at this rate is 4,857,600 foot-pounds. Up and down ladders or stairs the practicable load is only 121 lbs. A man pushing or pulling with his arms can only exert, at the most, about one-eighth of a horse-power.

* * * *

Electricity was discovered by Nature long before Volta's time. The best known type of life fitted with electrical apparatus is the torpedo ray. This fish weighs sometimes

75-lbs. and abounds in the waters of New England. It can inflict a shock severe enough to knock a man off his feet. This natural electric machine carries two storage batteries, one on either side of the head.

* * * *

The Eiffel Tower has been proved to be a thermometer. A special device showed that the huge structure responds to varying temperatures almost instantaneously by increasing and decreasing its height by definite amounts, which corresponded to the changes of temperature recorded in the Central Meteorological Bureau. As at times only one side of the building is affected, it frequently increases its height on one side and not on the other.

* * * *

Nature was the first to conceive and perfect armour plate. How many instances in animal life of the protection of armour. In the armadillo the armour consists of three plates of horny covering, one being placed on the head, like the helmet of a knight of old; the second protecting the neck and shoulders, and the third over the back and flanks. This armoured protection may be noticed in the lobster and many other crustacea seen at the seaside.

F. E. MORAN, U.V alpha.

Snow Liners of the Future.

J. WOODS (U.V alpha).

BEFORE many years have passed huge snow-liners may be daily carrying passengers speedily and comfortably across the huge, trackless ice-deserts of the arctic, which are now impassible for ordinary means of transport. These new engineering

marvels will be the outcome of a newly-invented snow-motor which can run straight across great tracts of snow, independent of any existing tracks, at quite a considerable speed.

Recently one of these motors was taken

to the top of lofty Jungfrauoch, in Switzerland, where it was given a thorough testing; climbing steep slippery mountain slopes, descending others equally precipitous, and swinging round in its own length at a good speed in perfect safety.

These machines will be specially useful to the big lumbering companies of Canada and the United States. At present the machine used for hauling the logs during the winter is a steam locomotive having its ordinary wheels replaced by a caterpillar track on each side, like that familiarised by the army tank. It is steered by a hand wheel, like a motor car, only heavy sledge runners at the front of the locomotive guide it instead of wheels. The tracks are made by laying roads over the snow, all depressions being filled with water which freezes into a glassy surface. The logs are placed on heavy sledges which can hold from 5,000 to 7,000 feet of logs each, and one engine can haul as many as fifteen of them at a speed of four or five miles an hour.

The superiority of the snow-ship over the ice-engine lies in the fact that the latter has to have roads made for it, while the former requires no tracks whatever. This is because, instead of caterpillar tracks, the snow-motor has two long cylindrical drums, with pointed ends, to drive it. They are placed one on each side of the engine, just where the wheels of a motor-car are placed.

The rear ends are supported by a strong casting, and the front ends by something resembling the front axle of a motor-car. Around each drum winds a spiral flange, welded on, giving it the appearance of a huge screw.

By means of a chain drive from the engine these screws are rotated in opposite directions, and, since the whole weight of the machine is pressing the drums into the snow, they screw themselves, and therefore the whole contraption, forward. The steering of these wonderful machines is done by means of a steering-wheel which controls two clutches, one for each drum. By means of these clutches the speed of rotation of either screw may be made faster or slower than that of the other, or one may be stopped while the other is running. This causes the machine to swing round quickly.

The snow-motor has three forward speeds, a reverse, and an entirely separate clutch from either of those controlling the drums. A rather interesting fact about the pointed nose of each drum is that it is designed to press down heaped-up snow, making it a firm track for the remainder of the screw.

A few years ago one of these "Armstead" snow-motors demonstrated its marvellous capabilities by conquering the snow-blocked MacKenzie Pass which had never before been crossed by traffic in winter. Now a regular service of passenger-carrying vehicles is run through the pass all the year.

With all its wonderful possibilities it is little wonder that the snow-ship is being employed more and more in the Arctic and that ever-increasing numbers of machines are being put into service. It is quite easy to imagine how huge snow-liners will follow the mechanism of to-day, and eventually we will have regular goods and passenger services running across the desolate and little-known snow-deserts of to-day.



Hunting the Sword Fish.

R. CALAUOD (U.V alpha).

LESS than a hundred miles from the "skyscrapers" of New York, and almost opposite the famous resort of Newport, is Black Island, a great sand dune covered with green, coarse grass, rising in steep bluffs from the Atlantic, and lying only eighteen miles north-east of Montauk Point. Notwithstanding its nearness to New York, it is as little known as its inhabitants, a strange, hardy community descended from the old pioneers who settled on the sand dune over a century ago. In its harbour, nestling beside the wandering pleasure craft, is a fleet of trim, white-painted schooners, as smart as any of the yachts alongside, which only shows the pride the crew take in their craft. Few would guess that these smart little vessels are fishing-boats, engaged in one of the least known fisheries in the world. Their prey is the sword-fish. They are often over fifteen feet long with a two or three-foot "sword."

Following the Gulf Stream from the warmer waters of the South, the fish strike in towards the New England coast about mid-June, and it is then that the fishing schooners hoist their sails and pull out from the breakwater round the South Light, making for the open sea. As they get well out, four men go aloft in a long climb up the lengthy foremast. One man climbs right to the top of the topmast and hoists himself into a miniature "bo'sun's chair"; another man sits in a little perch lower down; and the remaining two sit in the crosstrees, lower still.

All day long they remain aloft, swaying through space in great sickening lurches to every movement of the ship. For hours they remain silent at their vigil, yet, though they appear motionless, they are on the alert for any suspicious streak that catches their eye.

Often it is the dorsal fin of a shark that may have caught their attention, but their eagle eyes can easily detect the smaller second fin which the shark has and the sword-fish has not. Suddenly one of the men is galvanized into life. After making sure, he shouts out the news.

The crew, half asleep, are called back to life by the man's voice. Men run to the sails, "jigger sheet" is let go, "jumbo" is made fast, the jib is hauled in slightly: all carried out in wild haste to the directions from the look-out man on the topmast to the man at the wheel. Over to the windwards, little more than a hundred yards away, a shining black object is seen cutting through the water as the boat turns over towards it. To the uninitiated it seems that the indolent creature must hear all the shouting and excitement that is going on aboard the schooner; but the sword-fish has not acute hearing power and is not a keen-witted fellow.

A man has now climbed out on the bowsprit and it is noticed that, at the extreme forward point, there is a small platform with a rough iron rail some four feet high, known as the "pulpit." The man lifts up the long pole from its rests on the bowsprit, examines the barb at the end, casts an eye over the lines attached, and glances at the security of the small, gaily-coloured buoy tied to the end of one of the lines. This is to play an important part in the securing of the fish, and the man who wields it is an expert. The fish still remains just below the surface, apparently oblivious of the fact that the schooner is now bearing right down upon him.

Every man is watching intently the movements of their prey; the man in the "pulpit" has raised the pole as high as he can, with the

barbed lower end pointed straight down at the water. Then, as the shadow of the bowsprit passes over him, the fish, feeling that danger is nigh, makes up his mind to dive. But the man with the pole seizes his opportunity and hurls the pole with all the strength of his right arm downwards. Straight as a die the barb smashes into the fish just at the base of the skull. There is a shout of satisfaction from the crew as the pole is drawn up, and the line with the painted buoy attached leaps overboard with a rush as the stricken fish, in a boiling mass of foam dashes away in mad frenzy.

Though mortally wounded, the big, slim fellow is far from dead; and has to be hunted down in the dory. This is very dangerous work. There is a stout little boat—not unlike a dinghy—that has been towing astern. It is quickly drawn in under the quarter; one of the watches from aloft slides down and goes aft. A deckhand gives him the “lance,” a broad-bladed knife lashed to a four-foot pole, and jumping into the boat pushes off. He rows to where the gaily-painted buoy is skimming aimlessly about on the surface as the stricken fish below dashes about in all directions.

There have been many tragic ends to this final combat between the man in the dory and the maddened fish. When mortally wounded by a steel barb in the base of the skull, the fish loses all its laziness and becomes stark, staring mad. It is then that, for an hour maybe, the man in the boat does little but keep his oars out and carefully “play” the fish in the same way as an angler “plays” a salmon to tire it out. But a sword-fish weighing some four or five hundred pounds has a rare amount of vitality, and even though badly stricken, and towing a long line with a stout boat at the other end, it is not easily exhausted. Ever and anon the line slackens and the man proceeds to take it in yard by yard, coiling it carefully for fear of

a sudden rush by the fish. He must keep himself clear of this line, and must be always ready to let go, for many a careless man has been entangled in his own line and dragged right out of the boat and nearly drowned; men have actually been killed this way.

It is a tedious job to watch from the schooner standing by, but every man aboard knows that the man in the dory, apparently doing nothing, is pitting his wits against the madness of the fish. A dozen times he pulls in the line and neatly coils it, and a dozen times the fish pulls it out again fathom by fathom.

However, the struggles of the fish get weaker, and stealthily the man in the dory is hauling in the line. Now the time comes when the lanceman in the boat must gather all his experience of the swordfishing to his aid. He knows he must not make any miscalculation, for it may mean death, or at least a bad wound, if the fish is not as “dead” as it appears to be. Many a fish has remained still and silent while the man in the boat, hauling in the line, approaches it, then suddenly comes to life and dashes off again taking the line with it. Sometimes the fish turn on their too daring antagonists and drive their sword-like beak through the timbers of the boat. Numbers of men have been badly wounded by these attacks of the stricken monster.

However, should the man haul in the line with no response from the fish, he stands up in the boat, bracing his feet wide apart, and hauls in the last few yards bringing the exhausted monster alongside. Its fins are moving feebly and its powerful tail in a last flutter throws the spray over the boat's gunwale. The man then acts with quick decision; he picks up the lance, raises it, and next moment the work is done.

When the look-outs, who have seen every movement of man and fish from the cross-trees, see the final stroke of the lance the schooner is swung round and comes plunging

down with belying white canvas, and in a sprinkle of foaming sea, to pick up the dory and secure the catch. The boat is brought round to leeward and a rope is made fast to the tail of the dead fish, and then by means of block and tackle the glistening monster is brought on board.

As the big fish is plumped down on deck there is a sigh of satisfaction from every member of the crew, who know from actual experience that the old saying, "a fish is never caught till it is on deck," is a true one.

CRICKET.

JOSEPH BANKS (U.V alpha).

"**I**T was when Ranji was—no, not Ranji; Victor Trumper—no, not him——" and the venerable gentleman with the long white beard, the black coat, shiny gr - - - black topper and long stick of the '60, '50, or perhaps '40, cricket spectator, wrinkled his brows and absently knocked off seventeen legs of an overturned centipede near his stick.

(Unfortunately for me, the benches of the Oval ground were comparatively empty and, therefore, the ancient had absolute possession of me; furthermore the old fellow made full use of his opportunities).

"Ah!" he continued, beaming with unholy joy as he perceived I offered no resistance to the performance of his best liked hobby. "I know who 'twas; it was Jess—now 'twasn't him either," and he again broke off, depriving the centipede of still another fourteen of its legs.

At this juncture the players appeared: first the fielders, at whom the venerable one grunted in a superior kind of way, then the opening batsmen. These were subjected to a close scrutiny, but finally the old man dismissed them in a single sniff.

He then opened his mouth to continue his wise observations, when I, noticing the centipede was now almost upon its remaining sixty-nine feet, remarked casually: "You

know, if you don't watch, that cent——"

"Which century?" broke in Peter (The old man is Peter; no other name could possibly fit him, so Peter he is to me), waving his stick, laying low the unfortunate sixty-nine-tipede. "Was it the century W.G. made in the 'nineties, when he lost the handle of his bat?"

* * * *

Here follows a period of half-remembrance, lasting until twenty was up on the board and sixteen off the ex-centipede.

After standing this treatment for another quarter of an hour, I ventured to sneak a look at the game, but the shocked pause in the ancient's flow caused (a) me to look round at him blushing with shame, (b) him to neatly roll a small piece of gravel on to the poor centipede's carcass with its remaining legs left free.

Months (?) later, a burst of clapping signalled the fifty up, but the stern look on the patriarch's face deterred me from looking at the pitch.

Batsmen came and went, yet I saw none; but eventually my sentence finished at half-past six. The players left the field, the spectators got up, the "gentleman" with a last impassioned swipe drove the centipede, now without a leg to stand on (literally), through the covers, exactly as —— made

the winning hit in '80; then rose and pattered off to his home, leaving me a free man.

I, too, rose and staggered weakly out of the ground, and reached home as one in a trance. I have since recovered (thanks for asking) but still I wake up trembling with

fear, as I see in my sleep an old centipede, white-bearded and top-hatted, singing in a high falsetto: "She loves me" (a swipe at my arms), "She loves me not" (another for my foot), the while doing his best to roll a huge boulder on me.



SLEEP.



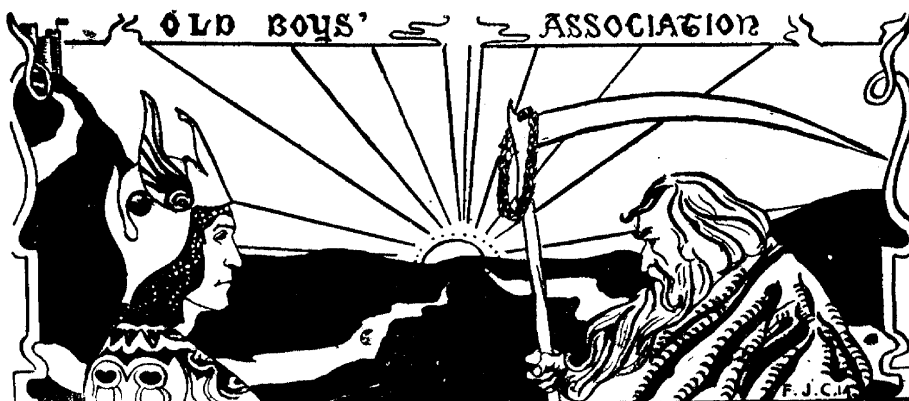
WILLIAM CARR (U.V alpha).

MOST people sleep one-third of their lives, and yet they are puzzled when asked what sleep is. During the day the substances of the body are used up faster than they can be repaired. This is true of the muscles, but especially so of the brain which is constantly directing the motions and receiving the impressions of the eyes, ears and other organs of the senses. The latter also is most in need of repair for, without it, the body is of little use, and so the thinking-machine stops working in order to recuperate, and we sleep. A strong impulse, however, may effect one of the senses sufficiently to break in and set the machine going for a loud noise or a vigorous shaking will probably wake a person up.

Sometimes certain regions of the brain do not get any rest, and dreams result. When we dream, our common sense faculty is not functioning and our memory connects things together in an irregular way. There is generally no outlet for the muscles in motion and the result is that dreams are unreal and deal with impossibilities. The imaginations and ideas are the same as when awake, but they are not kept in order. If a person eats too much of the wrong food, especially just before going to bed, he has indigestion, and the nerves may send strong impulses to the brain. If that is so, his sleep will be bad and probably accompanied by bad dreams.

It has been found, by determining the loudness of the noise required to wake a person at various periods, that sleep is soundest for the first hour or two and that, after that, the soundness rapidly decreases. Though the main portion of the brain is out of commission during sleep, many subordinate centres remain active. The heart beats, but more slowly, and respiration also continues at a slower rate. A person, though asleep will pull away his foot when it is tickled, but he knows nothing about it for the knowing part is off duty.

The brain is said to be anaemic during sleep because it receives little blood, and every organ needs most blood when it is in action. One of the earliest signs of waking is the appearance of more blood in the brain. People, as in fainting, may become unconscious from too little blood in the brain when in other conditions than sleep. It is believed by some that the withdrawal of blood from the brain is the cause of sleep, but it is maintained by others that anaemia of the brain is a result, rather than the cause of, sleep. Ordinary adults need about eight hours sleep in twenty-four, but children require more, though it is a fact that sleep has a weakening effect on the body and that persons who are bed-ridden for any length of time grow very thin.



It is interesting and pleasing to note that our Old Boys have made a definite step to help the Retreat Movement, a party of eleven of them spending a very enjoyable week-end at Loyola Hall, Rainhill, a short time ago. "Retreats" form the subject of a special Papal Encyclical and it is hoped later on to organize an Old Boys' Retreat some week-end in the early Autumn.

* * * *

We have had a very poor response to our appeal for news and articles. Most of the Old Boys we meet seem to live on desert islands. When one meets them they never have any news. Let the Old Boys' Section be a real "News Bulletin." It may mean a little trouble, but it will give a great deal of satisfaction to many.

* * * *

Old Boys are well represented among the Lourdes Brancardiers and it is gratifying to learn that their efforts to help the Sick Fund for the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage have resulted in nearly £150 being collected to date. This has been worked in co-operation with the Handmaids of the Association of Notre Dame de Lourdes and they are to be warmly congratulated.

* * * *

We offer our hearty congratulations to Arthur J. Maguire, Richard Twomey, and

also to Brian J. Cowhey, who have lately entered the married state.

* * * *

In connection with the appeal of His Grace the Archbishop, at our Annual Dinner, it is interesting to record that a very flourishing troupe of Scouts attached to St. Oswald's Church was formed by an Old Boy, to wit, Bernard Maguire. He has lately received full official recognition and his commission as Scoutmaster. We hope his example will be followed by other Old Boys who are attracted to the open-air life.

* * * *

News has also come to hand that Andrew McCord has got the position of Analytical Chemist in a large smelting plant at Flushing, Long Island, N.Y. Charlie O'Connor is also engaged at the same place.

* * * *

Austin J. Lea wrote stating that he was doing well in Kisumu, Kenya Colony.

* * * *

We offer our felicitations to the Rev. W. Byrne, Upholland College, who was ordained on Trinity Saturday, and wish him many years of fruitful labour.

In anticipation we are also offering our congratulations to the Revv. George Kieran and Bernard Ramsbottom, who are to be ordained (D.V.) on the 28th July at St. Clare's, Liverpool.

Old Boys engaged in teaching who have recently taken up posts:—

D. Irvine, at Rochdale.

J. Myler, at Halifax.

W. Cole, at Coventry.

H. Hodson recently sat for the City and Guild Examination for Handicraft Teachers.

* * * *

Many Old Boys are doing active work in the Catholic Evidence Guild, including Frank Graham, now a qualified chairman, G. Alston, a Diocesan Catechist, and C. Taylor who will take this exam. in June.

* * * *

J. Smith, a former student at St. Edward's and a University graduate, is now in Texas, where he is trying to organise a Society similar to the Catholic Truth Society.

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UNIVERSITY LETTER.

'Varsity,

June, 1930.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Shakespeare once told us that "Conscience hath a thousand several tongues," and for nearly a week all those tongues have been telling us that our letter is now long overdue. We hope you will pardon the delay, but it is so hard to write a letter with things in their present unnatural condition: by which we mean that *everybody is working*. The tennis courts are delightfully fresh and green, the newly decorated club-house is tantalising in its coolness, and some attempt has even been made to brighten up the quad.; yet, in spite of all this, most people prefer the stuffy atmosphere of libraries and class-rooms. However, we don't think this state of affairs will be unduly prolonged, as exams. will be over in three weeks, and then we will become normal human beings once again.

Having decided to write, the difficulty now becomes what to say, as this term is so uneventful. Nick Kearney will soon be retiring from an office in which he has set quite a

standard for future presidents, and we hope before long that one of these will be another Edwardian. Ronald Anderson recently made some profound researches in the theory and practice of teaching Chemistry and has just finished a learned thesis on the subject, but so far we have sought in vain for any relevant headline in the Daily Ex—s. In the sphere of Athletics, W. Farrelly is secretary of Tennis and has developed a style of play that more than justifies his regular inclusion in the first team.

Ray Rogers, who narrowly missed being elected captain of Soccer for next season, is at present busying himself with the conditions that make buying and selling profitable, and will soon affix "B.Comm." to his name. His younger brother (G. Rogers) is still in the initial stages of Medicine, but will probably be able to prescribe for us on Result Day, though many people still consider that the Mersey is the best method. At the Annual Meeting, the Catholic Society said farewell to the retiring officers, and elected G. Mercer as secretary (even though he is an Engineer), and at last we have a secretary whose writing is really legible. As his assistant he has G. Melia, whose band has acquired quite a sound—sorry, we meant a good—reputation down here. Wilf. Loughlin has been delegated to look after the finances of the Society and we think it would be hard to find a more capable man. The Committee also has the support of J. Murphy, who, when questioned about his future prospects, says he *hopes* to do Education next year, from which it may be gathered that this July there will be another B.A. in the list of Old Boys.

Although we have never seen Bill Lowe wearing a hat, we don't believe that he is practising to wear his mortar board on Degree Day by balancing a Mellor's Chemistry on his head during the lunch hour (or is it two hours for chemists?). Pat Hagan is still an ardent follower of the Muse Clio, who will doubtless

reward him with two letters after his name in July. On the other hand, J. Hagan prefers the more matter of fact Science course, and seems to be doing very well, while A. Morgan is now quite a wizard at Maths. Steve Cullen is taking Final Part Two, and if, during gym practice, there are any casualties through boys trying to do what we once heard described as "Mr. Maher's easy exercises," he will be delighted to come and render medical aid. B. Sharpe and W. Doyle are still occupied in making the wheels go round, and our complicated legal system holds no terrors for G. Bryson. We hear that H. Taylor has been seen trotting across the square to the Archeology Library, not because of any sudden interest in Classical Antiquity but because the leather arm-chairs there compare very favourably with the wooden variety in his own department.

Well, Mr. Editor, a goodly few will be going down this year, and we wish them every success in their various professions; at the same time we hope you will be sending a large contingent next October. While it is a little early to welcome newcomers, we do ask them to remember there is a Catholic Society, where they will be quite at home among old friends.

Once again those tongues of conscience are busy, this time reminding us that there is a great deal of work to be done in the few days that are left, so we must make our *adieux* to all by wishing you a fine day for the Sports, the best results in the Exams., and a most enjoyable Vacation.

Yours as ever,
'Varsity.

* * * *

LONDON LETTER.

LONDON,
June, 1930.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

A hope mentioned in our last letter that during the summer months we should see

new faces in London, faces that would bring back memories of early schooldays, almost forgotten, except when discussed with enthusiasm at a chance meeting, have not been realised. May be holidays have not begun in earnest, but your persistent call for "copy" cannot wait for answer until the vacation spirit sends people down London way.

While wondering where we should obtain interesting material for a letter we realised that we had not fulfilled our promise to visit St. Mary's Training College. Here surely we should find a bunch of Old Boys—Why not a visit. With an old Hope Street contemporary, John Murray, as Head Prefect or G.O.C. whatever is his correct title, we should very probably be treated royally at Twickenham. There we found a strong contingent of St. Edward's Old Boys amongst whom T. Ryan, F. O'Shaughnessy and G. Harwood are working hard for degrees at July—here's wishing them luck. The academic successes they are hoping to achieve do not prevent their taking part in sport, T. Ryan in particular having had a fine record in games and athletics. H. O'Neill and F. Wusteman are keeping up the old tradition of the School in the same direction, and F. Molyneaux is literally pulling his weight as a stout member of the tug-of-war team. We met others—there seems to be about twenty in all—and it was a real delight to spend an afternoon in the beautiful grounds at St. Mary's, Strawberry Hill, and be running across old School friends. There was a cricket match between Past and Present students of St. Mary's during our visit in which we were pleased to note Ray Howard amongst the Past members. Ray must have thought he was holding a tennis racket and did not attempt to hit a ball that failed to bounce—what a pity there are such things as stumps in cricket or he might have been still batting. When next we visit Twicken-

ham—and it won't be long—we shall expect to see new faces. John Murray will not be there, but we shall find others who will follow in his footsteps and keep up the record that has always been set at St. Mary's by our Old Boys.

We recently had a 'phone message from Jack Mullen with an invitation out to his shack. He is hoping that we will come out when he is entertaining two long service members of the Old Boys' Association—Jack McAuley and Freddie Winfield. The latter, who is working in Newcastle, pays frequent, though short, visits to London and on this next occasion we are hoping to have a small gathering of old friends. We are hoping to drag in Austin Maguire who is knocking around London somewhere.

This morning's post brought me a card from Ray Howard with the address of J. V. Murphy. We shall have heard more of him by the time of our next letter, and we may have some further interesting news as we are meeting a number of St. Edward's boys this week. However, we cannot delay this letter until that meeting, so that we'll draw to a close and hope we're in time for the summer number.

Yours, etc.,

RAY.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

3/- PER ANNUM. Post free.

The Story of the Printers.

J. DOYLE (VIb. Science).

A FAMOUS man in the person of Lord Macaulay once said that the invention which had contributed most to raising of nations from poverty and barbarism to the highest degrees of opulence and civilisation was the printing press.

It is indeed a curious anomaly that printing, which has told us so many wonderful things, says practically nothing about itself. We do not know who first thought out the idea of using type, but we do know who gave the world the first printed book, and that man was John Gutenberg. He was born in Mainz about the beginning of the fifteenth century, but history gives us no information as to the exact date of his birth nor any account of his childhood. At the time of Gutenberg's boyhood many serious attempts were being made to improve on the method of writing out manuscripts, and the best that was produced was the woodcut process. This, however,

only gave very crude pictures, and on the whole was little progress. Gutenberg's parents fled from their native town when rebellion against the rich broke out, and took young Gutenberg with them. He is next found in partnership with a man named Dritzehn, the business being the making of mirrors. This, not being a financial success, the firm changed over to the making of woodcuts, and this seems to have been a flourishing business for the firm took in two more partners, the brothers Heilmann. After 1441, when Dritzehn died, all we know is that Gutenberg borrowed large sums of money for his secret experiments.

At last, in 1446, after twenty-six years of exile, Gutenberg went home to his native Mainz, feeling perhaps that it was proper that his native town should be the cradle of the great secret which he was about to bequeath to the world. He now borrowed large sums of money from a hard man called John

Fust, to enable him to erect machinery for the new printing, and his security was his machinery. The partners invited the co-operation of a very skilful metal worker named Schoeffer, and evidently he greatly assisted Gutenberg in the execution of his work.

Gutenberg started on an ambitious work—to print the Bible. The work was long and tedious. All the new type had to be made and corrected, and also the proofs had to be read very carefully. But at last, in 1455, the complete Bible in Latin, bound in two great volumes, was presented to the world. The triumph of the new art was complete. But poor Gutenberg's sun set even more rapidly than it had risen. John Fust, as he was legally entitled to do, seized the press, and Gutenberg was kicked out of his office, and his beloved press, the work of his life, fell into the avaricious hands of Fust. Gutenberg spent the last days of his life in abject poverty, and only through the charity of the Archbishop of Mainz was he given a small pension. He died unnoticed in 1468, thirteen years after the invention which makes him one of the greatest men in history. About the middle of last century the citizens of his native town erected a statue to his memory. But he needed it not then. His fame had gone forth to all nations and all lands.

The man who brought printing to our shores was William Caxton. He was born in Kent, in 1422, and in his youth he served an apprenticeship with a merchant who, on his death, left Caxton a large sum of money. In later life Caxton lived abroad, chiefly in Bruges, and became a master of many languages. He translated into English the history of Troy and, wishing that English people should enjoy reading it, he had a few copies printed in Cologne in 1474. He was so interested in this new process that he returned to England and took premises in London and commenced to do printing. His first work was a book on chess, and this was followed by Chaucers' works, religious works,

and a Bible. Printing was established in England. After Caxton's death his helper, Wynkyn de Worde, carried on the noble work. Soon after this, about 1495, a Printing Press was set up at Oxford by Rood, followed forty years later by one at Cambridge, and in 1507 Scotland had her first press. The Harvard College in America, now the famous University, produced the first book in the New World in 1638.

Printing received a great reverse when the Licensing Acts were passed in England, in 1530, establishing a severe press censorship. Many atrocities were carried out under cover of these Acts, and printing in England was in a bad way when, in 1694, the Parliament influenced by the new freedom refused to vote for the ratification of the Acts of 1530.

The removal of the censor gave new life to the trade, but as yet printing was pretty much as it had been in Gutenberg's time. At last, in 1814, the precursor of the modern giant presses appeared in the form of Konig's steam press, and on November 29th, 1814, the first edition of the "Times" by the new steam press process appeared. The result was remarkable. Invention after invention appeared in rapid succession. Machines for stamping type, setting and removing type, and the famous linotype which cheapened and improved printing. This latter process has over 1,500 patents in connection with it.

The modern press is one of the wonders of modern times. Every branch of ingenuity has been exerted to produce the beautiful work which is put into our hands at a cost which is less than one thousand part of that which a manuscript would have cost five centuries ago. The miracle of the modern press which thunders in our big cities all over the world, and turns out one hundred and twenty thousand newspapers in an hour, stands as a fitting tribute to the genius of Gutenberg and his worthy successors who have done such noble work for Civilisation.

HONG KONG.

By JOSEPH NOLAN (VIA.Modern, and ADDISON HARGRAVE (Lt. VA.).

IT used to be a doctrine, firmly held in England, that the diet of French people consisted mainly of frogs; whilst it was held, quite as tenaciously, by the French that wives were sold in open market at Smithfield. And even in these days of enlightenment it is often most amusing to hear people express views on subjects of which they know nothing or very little, and that only by hearsay. The contemporary idea of Chinamen is that they make good launderers, and when in China they wear pigtails, talk pidgin English, and drink birds' nest soup. This is altogether erroneous. Conflicting reports come from different parts of China and, no doubt, customs vary greatly from place to place; but the Chinese of Hong Kong, which has long been a British possession, are thoroughly well understood and their manners and customs, many of which would be positively revolting to us, are known with precise exactitude.

Besides being an important British colony, Hong Kong is an exceptionally busy and interesting port. As one would expect, it is rather cosmopolitan—perhaps not quite so much so as that "Little London" of the East, Shanghai. Nevertheless it is most interesting from the tourists' point of view, first of all *per se*, and secondly on account of its population.

Our notions of China, which we consider medieval, would receive a nasty shock at Hong Kong. It is quite an up-to-date city in every respect, situated on an island in the Si-Kiang estuary. Being a base for the China station, it is of course fortified, and, besides a very fine harbour, possesses excellent and extensive docks. Like Liverpool, it has a ferry service—only better. The boats run to

Kowloon on the mainland, which is only threequarters of a mile distant, every five minutes. Like their Western contemporaries, the hansoms, the importance of the rickshaws is waning in the face of severe competition from electric tramcars, buses and taxis. The ubiquitous (iniquitous?) tramcar runs from Kowloon to Canton; and to thousands of sailors on all the Seven Seas Canton conjures up visions of the Decameron. It breathes all the meretricious glamour of the East. The Peak is perhaps the most prominent feature of Hong Kong; here again we find the tramcar, only this one travels vertically for the greater part of the journey. At night, seen from the sea, the Peak presents a delightful kaliedoscopic chiaroscuro. Europeans and Chinese plutocrats reside on the slopes.

But the real life of Hong Kong centres round the dockside portion of the city; there we can hear more plainly "the still sad music of humanity." The Chinese coolie, born a hewer of wood and drawer of water, and scarcely ever moving up the social scale, is the basis of the human dunnage that agglomerates near the docks. Here congregates also the flotsam and jetsam of Latin Europe, Dutch, French, English, American, Norwegian, Swedish and Japanese steamers are always in evidence. In everybody's way is the Chinese junk and its younger brother the sampan. The true gypsies of the sea are the Chinese. A vast population lives in the small craft that infest all Chinese waters. In the vicinity of Hong Kong the inhabitants of these boats eke out a precarious livelihood by transporting miscellaneous cargoes to Kowloon.

The inevitable beachcomber is not so much in evidence in this British Colony. Nevertheless there are plenty of idlers—lazzaroni of the

East, Macaunese chiefly—who are never seen doing anything, but who manage to live. A Chinaman is quite content with a bowl of rice per day.

Warships of every nationality are to be seen, at one time or another, at anchor in the harbour. Perhaps the finest and certainly the most efficient are the Japanese; powerful, speedy, and well-manned, they have earned for their country the soubriquet of the "Britain of the Pacific." The ships of the Great Republic are very ugly in appearance with their top-heavy funnels and lattice masts. Our own little gunboats are frequently in for repairs at the dockyard, whilst occasionally

a cruiser slips in, stays a day or two, and then is gone.

The weather in Hong Kong is literally a burning question; but there is not that delightful uncertainty that we enjoy (?) in England. The winter there is equivalent to a warm English summer, whilst the summer is equivalent to—well—Hong Kong. One interesting phenomenon of the neighbourhood, and indeed of the whole China Sea, is the occurrence during the summer of "big winds" or typhoons. In spite of the typhoon shelters erected by frail man on his junk or tiny sampan, the coast, on a day following a storm, is littered with wreckage. Man's impotence is puerile compared with the might of Heaven.

~A Sports Day. ~A~

WHAT boy is there who does not bristle up with renewed energy and spirits at the word "Sports"? Terminals and Exams., looming in the near future, become more remote and, like the Greeks of old, he feels he must try his prowess to gain the coveted laurels.

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast," and one has only to watch the optimists practising to realise the significance of this adage. The feeble attempts made at the mile race, when perspiring brows are wearily mopped on accomplishing one-twentieth of the course, show forth excellent promise. The would-be high jumpers, tottering hopelessly at three feet, remain undeterred and refuse to listen to the pessimistic remarks hurled at them. All, however, valiantly remember the story of Bruce and the Spider and night after night, to the detriment of home lessons, try, try, try again.

The excitement is felt in the air as Sports Day draws near. Never have the weather prophets received such questioning, and one and all like true sportsmen hope for the best.

The day arrives and usually the elements are somewhat unkind. Perhaps they are in sympathy with those who despite their manly efforts fail in making their feet rise to the occasion.

What a spectacle the field presents. Colours of every hue adorn the playing fields and the splash of colour adds to the effect. Fond parents eagerly scan the programmes and watch with straining eyes the progress of the races. Humorous incidents occur which break the tension—What of this youngster who, keeping his eye tersely on the chap to the left and straining every limb to breaking point, arrives at the post apparently first, only to find that he is last but one. The slow bicycle race illustrates clearly the fact that "the last shall be first and the first shall be last."

The day ends when the victors and losers unite in singing the School Song. The familiar strains echo and re-echo around our beloved walls. One and all, whether laden with a prize or a bruise, then retrace their steps feeling that Sports Day is well worth while.

D. GRANNELL, VI. Modern.

Annual Athletic Sports.

THE Annual Sports were held on the College Grounds on Saturday, the 14th June. We were favoured with brilliant weather, and all the events passed off very successfully. Seamus Redmond won the Victor Ludorum medal with 36 points. The Old Boys' Challenge Cup was won by Form U.V alpha.

The prizes were distributed by Mr. C. H. Waring.

A very interesting musical selection was contributed by the St. Edward's Orphanage Silver Band.

RESULTS:

- Egg and Spoon Race, Div. B.:**—
1. D. Buckley; 2. J. Greenwood; 3. P. Linton.
- 100 Yards (Section 1), Div. C.:**—
1. G. Pellegrini; 2. M. Murphy; 3. J. Fletcher.
- 100 Yards (Section 2), Div. C.:**—
1. J. Rosario; 2. R. Leckie; 3. A. Coyne.
- 100 Yards (Section 1), Div. D.:**—
1. S. Redmond; 2. V. Norbury; 3. A. Downie.
Time—12.2 secs.
- 100 Yards (Section 2), Div. D.:**—
1. K. Anderton; 2. J. Sloan; 3. D. Robinson.
Time—12.2 secs.
- Sack Race, Div. F.:**—
1. M. O'Reilly; 2. R. Ripley; 3. A. Jones.
- 80 Yards, Div. A.:**—
1. Egerton; 2. M. Ayley; 3. V. Jack.
Time—12.1 secs.
- 100 Yards, Div. E.:**—
1. F. Lloyd; 2. T. Jackson; 3. F. Norbury.
Time—11.4 secs.
- 100 Yards, Div. F.:**—
1. W. Murphy; 2. R. Smerdon; 3. A. Jones.
Time—11.1 secs.
- 100 Yards, Div. B.:**—
1. J. Moore; 2. F. Byrne; 3. R. McMahon.
Time—14 secs.
- Egg and Spoon Race, Div. C.:**—
1. J. Waldron; 2. H. Moore; 3. L. Fitzgerald.
- Egg and Spoon Race (Section 2), Div. A.:**—
1. J. Day; 2. D. Roberts; 3. P. Bligh.
- Sack Race, Div. B.:**—
1. P. Walsh; 2. C. Redmond; 3. J. Moore.
- Slow Bicycle Race, Div. E.:**—
1. J. Doyle; 2. M. Kirwan; 3. R. Horan.
- Sack Race, Div. C.:**—
1. E. Filmer; 2. A. Gutman; 3. V. Roberts.
- 220 Yards, Div. D.:**—
1. S. Redmond; 2. J. Sloan; 3. D. Robinson.
Time—28 secs.
- 220 Yards, Div. E.:**—
1. F. Lloyd; 2. T. Jackson; 3. M. O'Mahony.
Time—27 secs.
- Wheelbarrow Race, Div. A.:**—
1. V. Jack and W. Watterson; 2. W. Duffy and J. Moore; 3. R. Ball and M. Ayley.
- Three-Legged Race, Div. D.:**—
1. A. Maxwell and R. Hollingsworth; 2. J. Cogger and A. Prendergast; 3. A. Finnen and A. Lelas.
- SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, 220 Yards:**—
1. T. McGrath; 2. R. Smerdon; 3. W. Davies.
Time—27 secs.
- Sack Race, Div. D.:**—
1. F. O'Neill; 2. V. Norbury; 3. H. McAleavy.
- Variety Race, Div. A.:**—
1. W. Duffy; 2. C. Ayley; 3. A. Morris.
- JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, 220 Yards:**—
1. S. Redmond; 2. K. Anderton; 3. D. Robinson.
Time—28.3 secs.
- 440 Yards, Div. F.:**—
1. D. O'Brien; 2. R. Smerdon; 3. F. Clzrke.
Time—60.2 secs.
- Variety Race, Div. B.:**—
1. J. Greenwood; 2. C. Meek; 3. J. Davis.
- Obstacle Race, Div. E.:**—
1. F. Filmer; 2. F. Burke; 3. S. Kennedy.
- Half-Mile, Div. D.:**—
1. G. O'Brien; 2. E. O'Brien; 3. J. O'Callaghan.
Time—2 mins., 28.3 secs.
- Old Boys' Race, 220 Yards:**—
1. G. O'Donnell; 2. J. O'Brien; 3. Phillips.
- 220 Yards, Div. C.:**—
1. M. Murphy; 2. G. Pellegrini; 3. E. Hoskinson.
Time—30.3 secs.
- Variety Race, Div. D.:**—
1. E. McManus; 2. J. De Polo; 3. R. Hollingsworth.
- Wheelbarrow Race, Div. C.:**—
1. D. Lynch and J. Byrne; 2. L. Fitzgerald and J. Mercer; 3. H. Smith and C. Ayley.
- Hurdle Race, Div. E.**
1. T. Jackson; 2. S. Kennedy; 3. F. Norbury.
Time—14.2 secs.
- Hurdle Race, Div. F.:**—
1. W. Davies; 2. M. O'Reilly; 3. T. McGrath.
Time—14.2 secs.
- Hurdle Race, Div. D.:**—
1. S. Redmond; 2. K. Anderton; 3. J. Murphy.
Time—15 secs.
- Three-Legged Race, Div. C.:**—
1. E. Green and T. Maloney; 2. J. Byrne and W. Lawlor; 3. C. Ayley and H. Smith.
- 220 Yards, Div. B.:**—
1. D. Buckley; 2. A. Guinan; 3. T. Moore.
Time—32.2 secs.
- One Mile, Divs. E. and F.:**—
1. F. Reid; 2. A. Kirwan; 3. F. Clarke.
Time—5 mins., 17.3 secs.
- 440 Yards, Div. D.:**—
1. G. O'Brien; 2. E. O'Brien; 3. D. Robinson.

Three-Lagged Race, Div. E.:—

1. K. Quilliam and A. Robinson; 2. P. Joyce and A. Thomas; 3. S. Kennedy and T. Frayne.

High Jump, Div. D.:—

1. S. Redmond; 2. J. Murphy; 3. J. Mulhern.

Long Jump, Div. D.:—

1. S. Redmond; 2. K. Anderton; 3. J. Sloan.

High Jump, Div. E.:—

1. P. Healy; 2. J. Fox; 3. T. Ritchie.

Long Jump, Div. E.:—

1. M. O'Mahony; 2. F. Lloyd; 3. J. Field.

High Jump, Div. F.:—

1. T. McGrath; 2. D. Grannell; 3. O. O'Brien.

Long Jump, Div. F.:—

1. W. Davies; 2. O. O'Brien; 3. D. Grannell.

Relay Races:—

Junior—1st, III alpha; 2nd, IIIB.; 3rd, II.

Middle—1st, IV beta; 2nd, IVA.; 3rd, IV alpha.

Senior—1st, L.VA.; 2nd, U.VA.; 3rd, U.V alpha.

Consolation Race, Divs. E. and F.:—

1. Pratt; 2. Whitty; 3. Hollingsworth.

Consolation Race, Divs. C. and D.:—

1. J. Cooney; 2. T. Mullinger; 3. N. Cullity.

Tug-of-War:—

Senior—U.V alpha defeated U.VA. (2-0).

Middle—IVB. defeated IVA. (2-1).

Junior—III alpha defeated II. (2-0).

Throwing the Cricket Ball, Div. F.:—

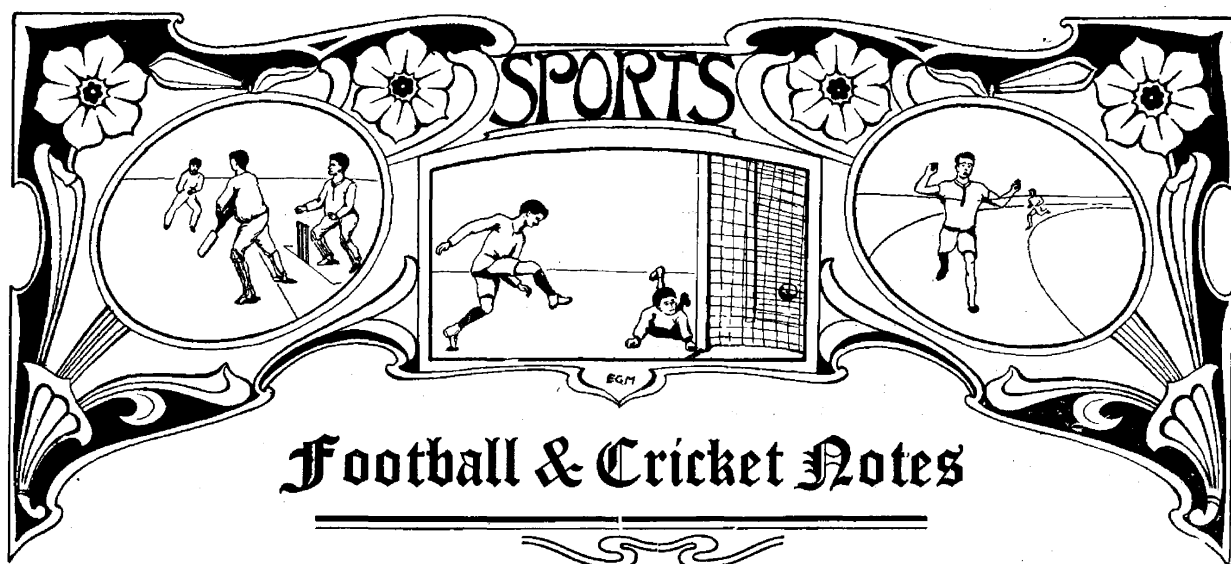
1. T. McHale; 2. O. O'Brien; 3. P. Byrne.

Throwing the Cricket Ball, Div. E.:—

1. L. Fallon; 2. P. Healy; 3. F. Filmer.

VICTOR LUDORUM:—S. REDMOND (36 points).*

OLD BOYS' CHALLENGE CUP:—U.V alpha (48 points).

**St. Edward's v. Wallasey Grammar School.**

At Wallasey, March 29th.

*Team:—*Garner; Ryan, McKeown; O'Mahony, T. Banks, J. Banks; Bonny, Lloyd, Monk, Flaherty, O'Reilly.

Wallasey led off an attack right from the start. Their left wing forwards played particularly well; their combination was splendid. Ryan and O'Mahony kept them from pressing on our goal. Indeed, our half-line was playing well, particularly J. Banks who played a fine game. Garner was fairly busy in this half and made two fine full length saves. Meanwhile our forwards made two or three attacks on the Wallasey goal, but failed to score. Wallasey's outside-right took a corner: the ball seemed to curve out but landed on the crossbar and bounced into play and was headed into the net by their inside-left.

Half-time:—St. Edward's, 0; Wallasey, 1.

In the second half our side as a whole played much better, and though playing against the wind they did most of the attacking. Indeed, Garner had little to do during this half. At length O'Reilly equalised with a long shot from the left wing. Again we attacked; O'Reilly aided by Flaherty took the ball along the wing, from near the flag O'Reilly sent the ball across the goalmouth; Lloyd rushed forward and slammed the ball into the net. Play was now transferred into our half, but Ryan and McKeown kept the Wallasey forwards well in hand. Again we pressed and Monk scored a fine goal from a difficult angle. Thus ended the last game of the season.

Full-time:—St. Edward's, 3; Wallasey, 1.

1st XI:—Played 15, Won 13, Lost 2.

2nd XI:—Played 10, Won 7, Lost 3.

CRICKET RESULTS.

St. Edward's v. Collegiate. May 10th.
At Holly Lodge.

St. Edward's.	Collegiate.
Swainson, run out..... 0	Gavorta, b Swainson... 1
Callender, b Manifold.. 8	Dennison, lbw, b Swainson..... 8
Rogan, b Manifold.....11	Hollinghurst, b Byrne 40
McHale, b Parker..... 5	Coldwell, b Swainson... 3
O'Reilly, b Manifold... 0	Parker, b O'Reilly..... 3
Kershaw, b Manifold... 0	Sympson, b O'Reilly... 0
O'Brien, not out..... 9	Price, not out.....18
Lloyd, c (sub) Lipson, b Manifold..... 2	Lattersall, b O'Reilly... 0
McGrath, b Parker..... 0	Ellis, b Byrne..... 1
Fallon, b Manifold..... 3	Manifold, c McHale, b O'Reilly..... 1
Byrne, b Manifold..... 3	Gibbs, b O'Reilly..... 0
Extras..... 0	Extras..... 0
Total.....41	Total.....75

St. Edward's v. Birkenhead Institute. May 14th.
At St. Domingo Road.

St. Edward's.	Birkenhead Inst.
Kershaw, b Lea..... 0	Mason, b Swainson.... 3
Swainson, run out..... 4	Robinson, b Swainson 0
O'Reilly, c Ovens, b Lea..... 6	Andrews, c Byrne, b Swainson..... 6
Rogan, lbw, b Lea..... 2	Burnet, not out.....19
McHale, b Lea..... 4	Ovens, b O'Reilly..... 3
Ryan, b Burnet.....16	McBride, run out.....21
O'Brien, c Ovens, b Burnet..... 2	Allsopp, lbw, b Byrne. 0
Lloyd, b Burnet..... 2	Richards, b Byrne..... 0
Byrne, b Burnet..... 8	Currie, run out..... 0
Fallon, not out..... 0	Minns, run out..... 1
McGrath, c Mason, b Burnet..... 0	Lea, b Byrne..... 0
Extras..... 1	Extras..... 4
Total.....45	Total.....57

St. Edward's v. Holt Sec. School. May 28th.
At Calderstones.

St. Edward's.	Holt Sec. School.
Kershaw, c Penny, b Ellwood.....14	Dawson, lbw, b Swainson..... 0
Swainson, run out..... 0	Ellwood, c Kershaw' b Byrne.....24
O'Reilly, b Ellwood.... 1	Preston, b Swainson... 0
Rogan, c & b Ellwood 0	Slack, c Ryan, b O'Mahony.....10
McHale, c & b Ried....21	Berry, c Fallon, b O'Reilly.....13
Ryan, b Ellwood..... 4	Ried, b Swainson..... 4
O'Brien, c Ellwood, b Ried..... 4	Pugh, b Swainson..... 1
Lloyd, b Ellwood..... 0	Thorefall, lbw, b Swainson..... 2
Fallon, b Ried..... 0	Smith, run out..... 8
Byrne, not out..... 0	Penny, b O'Reilly..... 2
O'Mahony, c Pugh, b Ellwood..... 0	Crabtree, not out..... 0
Extras.....12	Extras..... 2
Total.....55	Total.....66

St. Edward's v. St. Francis Xavier's. May 30th.
At West Derby.

St. Edward's.	S.F.X.
McHale, b Brennan.... 3	Collins, b Swainson....10
Swainson, b Brennan... 1	Doran, b Fallon..... 0
O'Reilly, c Elliot, b Brennan..... 5	Hayes, lbw, b Swainson..... 4
Rogan, c & b Price.... 0	Brennan, played on, b Swainson..... 5
Ryan, b Minahan.....43	Elliot, b Fallon..... 0
Kershaw, b Doran..... 5	Gillick, b Swainson.... 1
Lloyd, not out..... 4	Price, c Ryan, b Swainson..... 8
O'Brien, did not bat.	Tryers, c Lloyd, b S'son11
McGrath do.	Montgomery, not out.. 9
Fallon do.	Minahan, b O'Reilly... 1
Byrne do.	Johnson, b Swainson... 0
Extras..... 8	Extras..... 1
Total (for 6).....69	Total.....50

St. Edward's v. Alsop High School. June 4th.
At Long Lane.

St. Edward's.	Alsop.
Kershaw, b Farrington 1	Collis, b McHale.....38
Swainson, b Farrington 0	Porter, c Readon, b Swainson.....13
O'Reilly, b Farrington 16	Godsill, played on, b O'Reilly..... 0
Rogan, b Sharp..... 0	King, c Byrne, b McHale..... 6
McHale, b Farrington.. 9	Banks, c Fallon, b O'Reilly..... 1
Ryan, c Boydell, b Williams.....11	Boydell, c O'Reilly, b Rogan.....22
O'Brien, b Farrington. 4	Dyson, c McHale, b Rogan..... 0
Lloyd, not out.....13	Farrington, c Ryan, b McHale..... 0
Fallon, b Williams..... 0	Newton, not out.....16
Byrne, not out..... 3	Williams, not out..... 5
Readon, did not bat.	Sharp, did not bat.
Extras.....18	Extras..... 8
Total (for 8).....76	Total (for 8)..... 109

St. Edward's v. Bootle Sec. School. June 7th.
At Orrell.

St. Edward's.	Bootle Sec. School.
Kershaw, b Lacey..... 4	Elkerton, lbw, b Swainson..... 3
Rogan, lbw, b Lodge... 1	Lodge, b Swainson..... 3
O'Reilly, c Lancaster, b Lodge..... 6	Lancaster, b Swainson 14
Swainson, b Lacey..... 6	Edwards, b Byrne..... 8
McHale, std Ries, b Lacey..... 8	Ries, c O'Mahony, b McHale..... 0
Ryan, b Lacey..... 1	Lacey, b McHale.....12
O'Brien, b Lodge..... 1	Braddock, c O'Reilly, b McHale..... 2
Lloyd, b Lodge..... 8	Eaton, b Byrne..... 0
Fallon, b Lodge..... 0	Myerscough, lbw, b McHale..... 4
O'Mahony, not out.... 3	Thompson, c O'Mahony, b McHale..... 4
Byrne, c, b Lacey..... 0	Taylor, not out..... 1
Extras.....13	Extras..... 4
Total.....51	Total.....55