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School Notes.

THE Annual Retreat for the boys of the College, took place, as in former years, on the first three days of Holy Week and was conducted by Father O'Sullivan, O.M.I. We are sure all profited from his solid discourses and derived much spiritual good from the Retreat. He complimented the boys on their congregational plain-chant singing at Mass and Benediction.

* * *

Over 90 boys from the College helped in the sorting and distribution of the Christmas Mail. The Postmaster of Liverpool, writing to the Headmaster, states that "the assistance given by your boys was most valuable. They were interested and willing and they worked hard. Matters would have been very difficult without them and they can claim a fair share in the success of our special arrangements."

* * *

The Centenary of the death of Brother Edmund Ignatius Rice, founder of the Christian Brothers of Ireland will occur on August 29th, 1944. The event will be celebrated with appropriate religious ceremonies in every country throughout the world where the Christian Brothers are established. St. Edward's College celebration will consist of a Solemn High Mass at which His Grace the Archbishop of Liverpool has kindly consented to preside; the Mass will be celebrated by a distinguished Old Boy of the College, Right Rev. Monsignor J. Macmillan, D.D., Ph.D., Rector of the Venerable English College. The Sermon will be preached by Very Rev. B. Patten, D.D., L.S.S., Upholland College. The music of the Mass will be rendered by the boys of the College. An account of the educational aims and ideals of Edmund Ignatius Rice appear elsewhere in this issue of the magazine.

* * *



EDMUND IGNATIUS RICE

FOUNDER OF THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS OF IRELAND

Born 1762.

Died 1844.

At the recent examination in Religious Knowledge for Prospective Teachers, the following names appeared on the list of successful candidates :—A. Bolger, A. Croft, W. Davies, F. Finnetty, L. Ludden, D. McGinn, C. MacMullin, J. Massey, T. Merivale, A. Thomas.

* * *

A short time ago Rev. Br. W. D. Forde celebrated his Golden Jubilee as a Christian Brother. We offer him our congratulations and wish him many more years of health and happiness. He taught with marked success in the Catholic Institute, and subsequently as Headmaster and Superior guided the destinies of the establishment in Hope St. and in Everton. He was outstanding as a teacher and organiser, and the educational and material progress made by the school were due in great measure to his work.

* * *

The collection for the Good Shepherd Fund, which established a record total last year, has this year reached the highly creditable total of £143 12s. 9d. The Very Rev. Canon Bennett in a letter expressing his thanks for the contribution from the College writes :—“The interest which your staff and boys have taken in this fund is again reflected in their great response to the Archbishop's

letter and I would ask you to convey to them my warm appreciation of their efforts.”

The collection for the Foreign Missions of the Christian Brothers, and that for the St. Vincent de Paul Society were also well supported.

* * *

Father Hart of St. Joseph's Missionary Society (Mill Hill Fathers) on June 1st, addressed the boys of the Senior School on the work of his Society. He will be pleased to hear from any boy who feels called to the life of a Missionary Priest.

* * *

Grateful thanks are due to the following who have made generous gifts to the Reference Library :—Messrs. J. B. Burke and W. Parry ; J. Daybell, F. Johnson, J. Massey, E. O'Leary, A. Thomas F. X. Walker., and J. E. Burns.

* * *

The Magazine, as its cover indicates, is the “Organ of the pupils and ex-pupils.” With the exception of the Form Notes, the members of the Middle and Junior School contribute at present scarcely anything. Articles, poems, etc., will be welcomed from all Forms of the school. We appeal to more Old Boys to swell their already interesting contributions.

The Educational Aims and Ideals of Edmund Ignatius Rice.

EVEN if they only remind us of the aims and ideals of the Institutions which thus emerge for a while from the shades of the past into the glare of a rather dazzling attention, yet anniversaries may serve their purpose admirably. In August of this year occurs the centenary of the death of Br. Rice who instituted the Congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools of Ireland. Here was a man who even in his own life-time was destined under God without State assistance or noble patronage to do so much for the moral and intellectual regeneration of boys and men.

His foundation had been in existence for forty-

two years when Br. Rice died ; as Superior-General he had the knowledge that his Institute, having been confirmed by the Holy See, had been established on a sure basis. He had seen it extend its work to other countries and its scope to include Secondary Education. Such assurance itself was compensation for all those labours and sacrifices which had only begun when he resolved to dedicate his life and wealth to the education of youth. Such consolation has not been granted to the Founder of every Order or Institute.

Edmund Rice had been a married man. When his wife died, his thoughts, now less concentrated on earth and directed to a more generous offering

of his being to his Creator, turned to the religious life. A prosperous merchant, he had remained a devout Catholic. When in 1790 or thereabouts a pious association had been formed in Waterford to encourage young men to receive the Sacraments frequently, Edmund Rice was remarked as being one of its most zealous members. "At that time he received Holy Communion every Sunday. Weekly Communion was then rare and even monthly Communicants were regarded as very devout people."

(*"Edmund Ignatius Rice and the Christian Brothers."*)

Edmund Rice earnestly prayed, and diligently sought advice from his friends in the dilemma that now confronted him. "Ought he to become a Priest, or remain a layman?" was the question he had to answer. A period of six years 1794-1800, elapsed before a final decision was taken. His call had crystallised; and there grew in time the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools of Ireland.

Br. Rice's main concern was to educate. To prepare boys for this world only would be a proposal at variance with Catholic Philosophy. As Sienciewicz has well said "Hear, Sir an Atheist—knowledge without God breeds merely thieves and bandits." This insistence on moral worth may be noted in the testimony of Charles Bianconi who instituted a transport system of coaches in Southern Ireland: "Mr. Rice not only helped me in my business with money and advice but also earnestly and frequently exhorted me to be honest in my dealings and observant of my religious duties." To save one's soul by serving God in this world by all the means He has left us is the aim in time as the knowledge of God will be the happiness of eternity. It was Br. Rice's desire to provide in some degree those means, to co-operate with the Hierarchy and pastors of the Church, a participation of a layman in the work of the Hierarchy—Catholic Action—and catholic too, for not even non-Catholics were hindered from attending his schools. One of the early companions of Br. Rice issued instructions that reflect the Founder's own mind: "Teach charity and

good will to mankind without distinction," and again we read that "the conscience is so delicate that we would not wish to interfere with the child of any person." When charged with nefarious proselytism before his death, the Founder was able to challenge one instance to be adduced. None was forthcoming.

His schools were intended for those who could not pay for an education. In fact fee schools were long delayed—even in 1841 a General Chapter decided against opening pay-schools. When they were set up it was at the earnest wish and entreaty of the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Murray, though a strong desire for such a step had been for some time making itself articulate among some of the Brothers.

If the schools were for all, rich and poor, Catholic and non-Catholic, quite as universal for those days were the curricula. Elements of Arithmetic, English, Grammar, Book-keeping, Navigation, Algebra, Trigonometry and Geometry were as stable subjects as Reading and Writing; in a short while would be introduced languages and music. Practical—nay cultural, too!

Let it not be thought that the sons of Edmund Rice taught only children of Irish birth. Their mission, more widespread now than in the early days, though at the Founder's death they were to be found in Ireland, England and Australia, includes natives of South Africa, Italians, Indians, Australians, Americans, Canadians, etc. Youths, indeed, of every race were welcomed as pupils in the schools of the Institute as were postulants into the Order. Englishmen vied in its early annals with the fame of Irishmen—hearts united not only in allegiance to Christ but in loving devotion to a man whom they revered with filial respect.

Young and old were free to come. It was not unheard of for seamen to attend classes. To ensure that the schools' influence should be as widely diffused as possible libraries were established in each foundation. Arrangements were made for pious and other books to be loaned to apprentices and others who were not able to attend the classes. All the school-boys were encouraged to borrow books and to take them home. Many

parents were not able to read ; in these families the children read to their parents—a delicate thoughtfulness on Br. Rice's part. These libraries of course were thoroughly Catholic and National in tone. To achieve somewhat the same end, evening continuation classes were held in many of the schools ; particularly was this innovation characteristic of the schools established in England ; and the school in St. Patrick's Parish, Liverpool, enjoyed the distinction of being the first to have evening classes of this nature. In 1842, the first year of its foundation, it had over 120 adults.

The day classes were all the more unwieldy in size as the Brothers were few. The classes usually consisted of one hundred and twenty or even more pupils. In 1820 there were but twenty-two members of Final Profession. Hence to control the boys, rigorous discipline was all the more necessary as most of the children, turbulent and uncouth, had never before been formally instructed or regularly educated. Hence the insistence on silence, which soon became environmental. To offset the potential danger of military discipline, emphasis was laid on the respect due to the child : the living temple of the Holy Ghost was the object of the Brothers' work. If even a pagan could challenge parents and teachers alike with his "*maxima debetur puero reverentia*," what loyalty to Christ's little ones was to be expected from a Religious educator ? A quotation from M. Jacques Maritain is apposite : "What is of most importance in educators themselves is a respect for the soul as well as the body of the child, the sense of his inner-most essence and his internal resources and a sort of sacred and loving attention to his mysterious identity which is a hidden thing that no techniques can teach."

But on the material side recourse was had to the monitorial system of Bell and Lancaster. The attitude to religious education of these two men was of course discounted. Actually the monitorial system is of ancient origin—employed by the Hindus and popularised in the Jesuit system of education as expounded by Comenius. It was an expedient used by the early Brothers to overcome a shortage of teachers.

Whatever the staffing difficulties might be, the Founder was extremely careful in his preparation of the boys for the Sacraments, especially that of the Holy Eucharist. He encouraged the frequent reception of the Sacrament by those to whom their confessors had given their consent ; and in order to obviate any false sense of shame that poorer-clad youngsters might feel, he often gave clothes to the indigent, and provided a breakfast after the Mass for the needy. Four times a year, at least, the boys were to have the opportunity of receiving the Sacrament of Penance. The Sacraments are efficacious means of grace ; and Br. Rice realized that they are necessary to each one if his life is to be vitally Christian. Apart from its influence on the individual the Blessed Eucharist is a social Sacrament by nature and by origin, and as Fr. Martindale remarks, "the virtues it should foster are precisely union, charity and peace not only between individuals but between classes, nations and races." Such virtues were no less necessary then than they are imperative now in this fifth year of global war.

Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary has been a precious heritage amongst the Brothers. At all times and in all places have they fostered love and reverence for the Blessed Mother of God. The school evening prayers contain her Litany, and her month of May in keeping with the liturgy of the Church is especially consecrated to her honour. Altars in each classroom help to symbolise and enshrine this tender feeling of filial respect for our own Most Blessed Mother. No prayers would have been more pleasing to Br. Rice, who so loved "the Memorare," than those beautiful petitions for the Conversion of the Dowry of Mary. "May her sweet name be lisped by little ones, and linger on the lips of the aged and the dying ; and may it be invoked by the afflicted, and hymned by the joyful ; that this Star of the Sea being their protector and their guide, all may come to the harbour of eternal salvation. Who livest and reignest, world without end. Amen."

To remind the children of their obligations to so good a God, Br. Rice instituted the practice of saying the "Hail Mary" when the clock struck the hour. A quotation from the Founder's

writings will give the emphasis : " We have a clock in each class-room and every time it strikes, a moment's silence is observed all over the room ; then each boy makes the Sign of the Cross, says the " Hail Mary," and makes a pious aspiration . . . All then bless themselves and resume work"—a practice which still obtains in all the schools conducted by the Brothers.

With this little example before us demonstrating so clearly the Founder's wish to help each child to sanctify every moment of the day, it may reasonably be asked why did he not become a secular or Religious Priest. It will therefore, be advisable to sketch in some detail the course of Br. Rice's vocation.

At seventeen, he had been put to business in Waterford, and at least within the next eleven years had inherited this very prosperous mercantile firm from his uncle. While on a very long journey with a Friar on one occasion, he was edified by this priest's earnest colloquies with God at night. " Why should not I become like this servant of God, entirely engaged in the thought of God and forgetful of the trivial and transient things of earth ? " Such was his reflection. One of his younger brothers was a priest of the Augustinian Order, later as Archbishop-Elect to die before Consecration. To him he confided his desire to become a priest and an Augustinian. His brother discouraged his leaving the secular state, as many a little later discountenanced his sacrificing his wealth to what they considered a mad venture . . . a school to educate the ignorant poorer classes. His very close friends, Miss Power and her brother, Fr. John Power, P.P., St. John's, Waterford, later Bishop of the Diocese, concurred in Fr. Rice's advice ; Miss Power directed his attention to the boys of his own adopted town, rude, unlettered, unamenable, denied, as a penalty for their Faith, a regular education. He had remarked their piteous condition earlier when, as a member of the " Distressed Room Keepers' " Society (a charitable organisation not unlike the Society of St. Vincent de Paul—but of course, only local) he had visited and relieved the poor. As a further stimulus there was the recently established House of the Presentation Sisters in Waterford. This

Institute founded by Nano Nagle and known as the Sisters of the Presentation since 1791 was doing noble work in educating girls. It is an interesting digression to remark that the early Brothers were often called " Monks " ; indeed there were other modes of address, but the Holy See, too, in the document referred to the members of Br. Rice's foundation as " Fratres Monachi." However, by 1822 the present title had been established in common usage. The Schools were called " Christian Schools"—and the transition to the now familiar " Christian Brothers " was as natural as it was generous of the Irish people. The Congregation, too, in common with other teaching Orders and Congregations owes a debt to St. John Baptist de la Salle and the Brothers of the Christian Schools, although at the foundation of Br. Rice's Institute (1802) the Society was still suppressed (1790—1802) and, indeed, was then almost unheard of in Ireland.

Br. Rice knew that the Priesthood had been and could be joined with the duties of educating children ; but he thought that the call of God as he understood it, was a call to the Religious Life apart from the priesthood ; for, properly so called, the Religious Life can exist without the reception of Holy Orders being a *sine qua non*. He considered that his followers were called to a life led by Religious. Proof that the Religious Life of itself is no obstacle to a zealous apostolate in the class room is seen in the solemn confirmation by the Holy See of so many Congregations similar to that of Br. Rice. The sacred dignity of the Priesthood would be for the Brothers a means ; they would not be called upon to act as secular or Religious priests in charge of parishes. Br. Rice wittingly and advisedly did not prepare for the priesthood : that honour and responsibility was not for him. Mgr. Fleming, Bishop of Newfoundland, had as a young priest applied for admission into the Institute ; Br. Rice did not accept him " because he thought it desirable to have in the Congregation only men who would be entirely free to give all their time and energies to the education of children."

(*"Edmund Ignatius Rice and the Christian Brothers."*)

Why then did Edmund Rice found a Religious Institute? To give permanence to his work? No doubt. To enjoy in the domestic life of each Community the familiar companionship of men of the same noble ideals? Yes; but surely, too, because he realised that an ever closer intimacy with God is the quality of soul that alone will enable a teacher to have an abiding influence for good. "Christ will only live where He reigns," thus Abbot Marmion. Succinctly put in the words of M. Jaques Maritain—words that re-echo a sentiment of St. Thomas Aquinas: "When a man is called from a contemplative to an active life, his vocation does not come by way of subtraction, but rather by way of addition," we have the truth upon which Br. Edmund Rice acted. His was not to be a philanthropic organisation. Gradually the inspiration dawned on him that he must start a new Religious Institute—one which the Holy Father would not hesitate to approve and bless—one, therefore in which, and by which, faithful observance of vows and rules would lead the more easily to heroic sanctity on the part of both the Congregation and its individual members.

Those who followed him in his vocation were, for at least the first twenty years, men of judgment and experience when they answered the call. Many had been professional men, others had been engaged in business. They were led, humanly speaking, by the personality of the Founder, who during critical years kept his Brothers united through love and devotion, and through the zeal for their calling with which he had enthused them. Anxious indeed, were those years before the Congregation was confirmed by Rome and united under one common head.

What training as teachers was he to give to his disciples? What had he, this enthusiastic tyro in the ranks of pedagogues at the age of forty? In those days (it would be impertinent to stress the point) there were no training Colleges. All that was needed was a sufficiency of knowledge and a competency to impart it—and, of more importance, a desire to educate. The early Brothers were dependent upon the methods they had seen used in the schools, such as they had been, which in their youth they had attended—methods modified

and adopted for their purposes. A sincerity of endeavour in each, a firm attachment to their vocation, a strong love of study and opportunity to indulge it, joined with the stimulating influence that close association with others of similar aspirations ever yields—all constituted in some measure to form in the aggregate a "training college" which none would deny could adequately compensate for a more regular period of formative training, perhaps less experimental and practical, and certainly less fervid and intense. For this in simplest sense is the life of the Christian Brother—"to do and to teach."

Conscious of its obligations the Institute in its very early General Chapters stressed school management and discipline. In 1822 the General Chapter then assembled outlined the aim of the Institute, recently blessed and approved by the Holy See,—this Institute founded for the gratuitous instruction of poor boys under the protection of the Infant Jesus and the invocation of His Virgin Mother." In its deliberations may be seen where its preoccupation lay: "the main end as well as the spirit of this institute must be an anxious solicitude to educate youth according to the maxims of the Christian Law." Br. Rice himself differentiated between "education" and "instruction." In 1825 a Superior of one of the Communities stated in evidence before a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the condition of Primary Education in Ireland that "although the first object of the Congregation is the education of children and instruction in the Roman Catholic Religion, they are not prohibited from giving literary instruction to Protestants . . ." Words, indeed which reflect the Founder's own strong convictions. In a practical way the General Chapter discussed the problems of the treatment of children, and the method in which they were to be corrected. At the time this General Chapter was convened the delegates were thinking in terms of some 4,000 children. By 1844, at the death of Bro. Rice there were well over 12,000, of whom some 4,770 were being educated in England, to-day there are throughout the world more than 100,000.

In 1841 was regularised a procedure which had

been customary for many years. The General Chapter then decided to have the schools annually inspected by five Brothers stationed in the locality not attached to the school under inspection. The Report of Inspection embodying suggestions of improvement were to be sent to the Mother-House for detailed study and was generally accepted as practical direction for the future.

The duties that educating children would entail were, of course, made manifest by time and experience. In the very early days the Brothers visited the sick, consoled the imprisoned, and held classes for adults—evening and day, as well as those for boys. But as early as 1825 when there came a request from Manchester for a new opening the General Council had decided that one of the obligations it was proposed the Brothers should assume—to visit the sick and prepare them for the Sacraments—was outside the sphere of activity in which they were called to labour. They readily assented to the other duties they were requested to perform: (2) to prepare children for First Communion, (3) to instruct adults and others in the duties of Religion, (4) to superintend day and Sunday Schools. That they still preserve intact and inviolate the ends of their foundation may be seen from this citation from the Constitutions of the Congregation as approved by the Holy See: "The Brothers conduct schools in which they teach the poor gratuitously; Institutions for orphan and neglected children; Day Schools and Boarding Schools which are maintained by the fees of the pupils; and other educational works."

Religious teaching was not therefore to be a meretricious aid to bolster up an imperfect discipline. The child was to be taught to live a full Christian Life by fulfilling his duties to God, to himself, and to his neighbour. The boy was to be respected. The maxim "Respect the child" of that devoted son of Br. Rice, Br. James Dominic Burke, is fully in accord with the Founder's own teaching, whose usual mode of greeting a pupil "God bless you and may He ever protect you, my child" was as sympathetic and disarming as it was sincere and engaging. The teacher's attitude determines the tone of the class and the influence

the teacher is to wield. There is more than a grain of truth in the assertion "almost any decision will be right if the child feels that the teacher likes him."

The Institute has always endeavoured to employ all means, reconcilable with Catholic Doctrine, to educate the child. As in 1835 it printed for its own schools, books that could replace those it regarded as harmful and pernicious, so it is prepared to enter into any plan which will profit a boy spiritually and materially. Hence its work for the Deaf and Dumb; hence, too, its work in Australia to-day with its Tardun plan to settle scientifically-trained farmers on estates of their own, with herds and flocks and a homestead as a nucleus of what they hope and believe will be a thriving farm. The same spirit of educational endeavour can be seen in the Scientific teaching of a Br. Burke or a Br. Wiseman in the last century. At one period, 1903, the only two "establishments" in Ireland recognised as "Schools of Science" by the Department of Science and Art of South Kensington, London, were in Cork under the direction of the Brothers.

This spirit was inherited from Br. Rice. As St. Charles Borromeo was led to a more perfect love of God through riches and prosperity so had Br. Rice been led "to invest the whole of his means in the foundation of the invaluable Institution that constitutes so much to the good of his country" (Bianconi c. 1840). Human prudence was seemingly despised. He had, indeed, made friends with the mammon of iniquity, storing up as it were by a perpetual annuity the merits that his lavish sacrifice of wealth must surely deserve from the hand of merciful God. The Communities were dependent entirely on the charity of the people. Such little sums as the boys contributed weekly, if they could afford to contribute, were used wholly to defray the cost of school requisites. Catholics—Irish in particular, are traditionally generous. Edmund Rice found them thus. And so have countless others. He had sought the "Kingdom of God," first for himself and then he had endeavoured to promote the spiritual good of the "estate of the Crucified." That the promise

" all these things shall be added unto you," has been fulfilled we clearly recognise when we ponder over the words of the late Holy Father, addressing the Spiritual sons of Edmund Ignatius Rice : " Your Institute by the bounty of God, from small beginnings, has spread so widely

in the course of time, that to-day, it has many foundations in almost every part of the world." Begot in the love of God, nurtured in the trust of God, may the Congregation which he founded shine forth with the love of God—and of man for His sake !

Literary and Historical Society.

THE Session has been disappointing. Irrelevancy and lack of really adequate preparation have marred meetings which otherwise would have been worth the attending. Public speaking demands from the speaker qualities which have their influence or character. To note only two—disciplined thought and emotional restraint will suffice. Again, many speakers failed to realize that they had obligations to their audience ; of which lucidity of expression and clarity of thought were of the utmost importance. It is, however, refreshing to be able to state that some improvement was made, and that towards the end of the Session all could be relied upon to be at least relevant and felicitous in proposing or seconding a vote of thanks, and even sincere.

The New Year's first meeting heard a paper read by Mr. R. Thomas. Mr. Thomas spoke at great length on " Town Planning." He emphasized the need for " friendly houses," built on garden city models. He attacked squalor in slums, demanded pit-head baths, differentiated between multi-storied factories for light goods and single-storied premises for heavy manufactures. The paper was comprehensive and enthusiastically delivered, but it lacked the strength of unity. Mr. Forde-Johnston and Mr. Burns proposed votes of thanks in somewhat fulsome and unguarded terms. Mr. Chairman deplored the absence of examples taken for Continental cities and commented on the indistinct delivery.

Mr. Davies at the next meeting discussed the " White Paper on Education." The Assembly was rather subdued under the shadow of the impending Education Bill. The lecturer failed to

do justice to his subject and to himself. The lecture deteriorated into a reading, not always clearly articulated, from the " Paper," Mr. Davies's zeal for Catholic Action was of course to the fore ; but it at times savoured of indiscretion. Mr. Massey and Mr. Boggan displayed a tendency towards insincere and uncritical votes of thanks.

The third meeting of the Society met to discuss the motion " That this Society suggests that the U.S.A. and Britain should unite after the War."

Mr. Croft (Pro) suggested that our relations with France had been cordial, and no doubt similar ties with U.S.A. would equally be beneficial. Free Trade between the two countries would help the poor and tend to a lasting peace. Mr. Thomas (Con.) deplored the idea of a Teutonic bond between the Americans and us. He pointed out the mixed origin of the American people, and belittled the French Alliance. Mr. Davies (Pro) countered with the argument that friendship in time of war is good reason for friendship in days of peace. Mr. Massey (Con.) ended by asserting that the Empire would not welcome such a union. Time did not allow the debate to be thrown open.

Open speaking was the next entry on the Agenda. Various speakers championed the views of different parties. Mr. O'Leary posed as an absolutist, Mr. Croft as a communist. The speaking was rapid and showed lack of perspective.

That " This Society agrees with the dictum that History is Bunk " was the next debate.

Mr. McGinn (Pro) argued that the present state of affairs in the world shows that we have not learnt any lesson from history. He further asserted that historians were notoriously biased. Mr. Ludden

(Con.) countered by deprecating the judgment of the man to whom the statement : History is bunk is ascribed. The speaker advocated a wider application of the term history than is usually accepted. Mr. A. Thomas (Pro) reiterated Mr. McGinn's claims ; and asked whether we had learnt from history " to keep our noses out of the continent." Mr. Boggan (Con.) urged that history was conducive to the pride of nations. The meeting was slightly more interesting than the former, but the set speeches were still far below standard.

Mr. O'Leary held two Intelligence Bees between VI B Moderns and Science. The latter's team won in each, while both sides succeeded in providing a pleasant half hour as a relief from the Society's more serious activities.

That Liverpool should continue to use Trams after the War.

The Debate was lively with Mr. McGinn (Pro)

expressing his hope for " express cars " after the war, while Mr. Thomas (Con.) mournfully detailed his own experiences on the present trams. Mr. Davies (Pro) complete with secret knowledge pointed out the long life of old trams. The cost of " laying a tram route " was Mr. Daybell's counter thrust to the defence.

The Society which attended " en bloc " Mr. Boraston's lectures on " The Dream of Gerontius " takes the opportunity of publicly appreciating his efforts. He not only gave us an insight into oratorio construction, but put us in a position to mentally enjoy Elgar's masterpiece. As Modern Students we can admire his reading of Cardinal Newman's poetry, to which Mr. Boraston gave the most delicate feeling. We welcomed with delight, on two occasions the spirited performance of Miss Davies and Mr. Furness Williams ; as an accompanist Mr. O'Brien also, showed his worth.

F. X. WALKER, Hon. Sec.

French Literary and Debating Society.

SINCE the last report of our activities, the VI B's have been introduced into the debates. On November 26th, M. Roose, M. Davies, and M. Daybell supported the motion "*Que la presse a beaucoup plus de valeur que le cinéma,*" against the opposition of M. McMullin, M. Kennedy, and M. Duggan. After the Pros had propounded the claims of the press with regard to such points as its speed in presenting news, its cheapness making it accessible to greater numbers, its interest in local affairs, the Cons replied by pointing out the more lasting effect of the cinema, its greater attention to detail, and its impartiality. In summing up a lively debate, M le Président awarded the decision in favour of the Pros, 14—10.

Debates were resumed on February 11th, when the motion "*Que les enfants de la campagne sont plus instruits que ceux des villes,*" was supported by M. Loughe, M. Merivale, and M. Massey against M. Martin, M. McAleer, and M. O'Leary. A lively debate ensued, in which the Pros pointed out that the country child is self-reliant, lives in

healthier surroundings, is healthier, more honest, and better equipped to face life. The Cons argued that the town child is better educated, has better opportunities for acquiring knowledge, and has the advantages of modern scientific education on his side. In awarding the decision to the Pros, 14—13, M. le Président complimented M. Massey and M. O'Leary on their ability in participating at short notice.

On February 25th, the question, "*Est-ce que le transport par l'eau est plus utile que le transport par chemin de fer ?*" was debated by M. Thomas (R), M. Pennington, and M. Grownney, against the opposition of M. Ryan, M. Jones, and M. Potts, who was speaking at short notice on behalf of M. McDonnell, absent. The speakers in favour of water transport pointed out that while ships are costly to produce, they can carry considerable cargoes. Water costs nothing and needs very little attention, while rails are costly, and need constant replacement. It was also pointed out that rail transport is possible only between towns which are

joined by land, and that much preparation, involving large numbers of men, is necessary before a railway can be opened. To these arguments, the Cons. replied that rail transport is faster, a very important asset in modern commerce. A train can also go in a straight line between two points, whereas a ship must make detours. Rail transport is more comfortable, and safer, there being more ships sunk than trains derailed. In summing up, M. le Président gave his decision in favour of the Cons, 13—10.

The final debate of the year took place on March 24th, when the question "*Est-ce que les pensionnats sont supérieurs comme établissements et d'enseignement aux collèges où tous les élèves sont externes ?*" was debated by M. Osborne and M. McDonnell who were opposing M. O'Dwyer and M. Growney. Unfortunately this debate had to be cut short after M. le Président had awarded the decision 7—5 in favour of the Pros.

On May 2nd, the Society assembled for the last meeting of this year, to be treated to a highly interesting and entertaining paper on "A Fort-night's Holiday in France," by M. Daybell and M. Ludden. Speaking first, M. Daybell commenced his imaginary tour at Calais, proceeding thence to Paris via Boulogne. After a brief sojourn in the Capital, spent in visiting such world-famous places as Notre Dame, the Pantheon, and the Sorbonne, he proceeded to Rouen, the birthplace of William the Conqueror and scene of the death of

John of Arc. From Rouen, the speaker proceeded to Caen, where he visited the Abbaye aux Hommes and the Abbaye aux Femmes built by William the Conqueror. Thence M. Daybell went to Nantes, via Angero, and ended his journey in Bordeaux.

Here M. Sudden took over and the first place to be visited was Toulouse in Languedoc, whence he proceeded to the independent state of Andorra in the Pyrenees. Then began a lightning tour of the South and South-East of France, visits being paid to such places as Avignon, Marseilles, Nice and Monte Carlo, Cannes, along the Côte d'Azur to Grenoble. Leaving the district of the Alps, M. Ludden proceeded to Lyons, where a visit was paid to the Cathedral, through Dijon to Strasbourg, and on to Nancy. Leaving this pleasant provincial city, he returned to Paris, which he left next day on the journey through Amiens, Soissons, Arras and Cambrai, to Calais and home.

Altogether, M. Daybell and M. Ludden provided us with a most ample and illustrative account of their journey through France, and it was evident that much research and labour had gone into the preparation of this paper for which M. le Président thanked them warmly.

This was the final meeting of the year, so we shall close this report of our activities with the hope that future speakers will maintain and, if possible, improve on the quality of this year's members.

ARTHUR G. THOMAS,
Hon. Secretary.

Scientific Society.



R. BROWN delivered the first lecture of the term with the life of Newton as subject. He dealt very fully with the various aspects of Newton's life :—as schoolboy, student, scientist, mathematician, and even Master of the Mint. He brought out clearly the great genius of Newton, his mental superiority over his contemporaries, and the diversity of his researches. Sir Isaac Newton made outstanding discoveries in Geometry, astronomy, gravitation, optics, and

pure mathematics. The lecturer also made his subject interesting by many anecdotes from Newton's life.

Mr. Rossiter gave the second lecture which was on the internal combustion engine. He explained carefully the action of the four-stroke and two-stroke engines and the method of fuel supply and ignition. He clarified the subject immensely with the aid of diagrams to illustrate the various processes.

This was followed by a lecture on the popular subject of poison gas in war, delivered by Mr. Ryan. He described the preparation and properties of mustard gas, chlorine, phosgene, tear gas, and arsenical gases. He also included such aspects of the subject as, the use of mortars and other projectors, and the counter measures taken against gas attack. For his lecture, Mr. Ryan used the history of gas in the Great War as a background.

The subject of narcotic drugs has many aspects and Mr. Hughes dealt competently with these in a lecture which he delivered to the society. He described the preparation, appearance, and effects of such narcotics as strychnine, cocaine, and opium. He also dealt with the constituents of opium such as morphine. He succeeded in making this lecture at once interesting and instructive.

A fortnight later Mr. Peel gave the society the benefit of his knowledge of glass. He commenced by giving an account of the method by which glass vessels were made in Egypt in early times. He went on to show the historical development of glass manufacture and how it was affected by such movements as anti-Semitism. He also described in detail the different processes in use

at the present day and made full use of diagrams to illustrate these.

The next lecture was given by Mr. Murphy and was concerned with the science of Alchemy. This lecture also had a historical background. The lecturer laid stress on the gradual change from gold to medicine as the object of the alchemists' researches. He also dealt with the alleged processes for changing the baser metals into gold : a topic of intense interest to certain members of the society. The philosophers' stone and the elixir of life also received attention, and, allowing for the limited time available, the subject was well covered.

This was followed by a lecture on ammonia, given by Mr. Brennan. The lecturer dealt in turn with the chemical history of ammonia, its properties, uses, occurrence, and commercial preparation. Under the last heading he described the direct, and indirect processes and the Serpek process. This was the last lecture delivered before going to press. Two more lectures were scheduled before the end of term, however. Mr. Finetty had promised to speak on the rare elements and the subject of Mr. Burd's lecture was bird migration.

F. BRENNAN, Hon. Secretary.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

THIS session of the St. Edward's Aspirant Conference has been active. The brothers attended very regularly, and a keen interest has been aroused by the lectures delivered by one brother each week. Bro. President, introduced these as an experiment, and they have been most successful. The collections of money were high, both the Annual Collection and the Secret Collection. The former attained a record of £35 15s. 0d. To all we are extremely thankful. This money was disposed of to various worthy causes in the Arch-diocese, viz., the Apostleship of the Sea, the Catholic Service Bureau, Hospice for the Dying, &c.

The other side of our work, the distribution of pamphlets, was extremely well supported and widespread, but numbers dropped somewhat towards the close of the year. On our work, we

were greatly complimented by Bro. Gavin, a representative of the Old Swan Particular Council, who paid the conference a visit on the 14th February. A number of books entitled the "Life of Frederic Ozanam" were purchased to be read at each conference so that we might learn something about Frederic Ozanam and of the struggle he had to found the Society : they also serve to show the brothers what is expected of them. The books are very popular and are read keenly. Ten of the brothers went on an enclosed retreat to Loyala Hall and it is generally agreed, much spiritual benefit was attained. The brothers regretted to hear of the death of Kevin Prendergast and a Mass was offered up for the repose of his Soul. May he rest in peace. We look forward to the next session when we hope the high standard of this year will be maintained. D. PEEL, Hon. Sec.

Music Notes.

WE are pleased to notice that the two sections of the Violin Class (Senior and Junior) and also the orchestra are progressing most satisfactorily under the able direction of Mr. Eugene Gevin.

We are most fortunate in having him with us at St. Edward's.

We should be more than pleased to welcome to our ranks players of instruments other than the violin. Are there no boys in the school who are

able to play the Double Bass, the 'Cello, or the Viola? If there are, we hope that they will give their names to Mr. Boraston.

The whole school is busy rehearsing the Music for the Mass in honour of Brother Edmund Ignatius Rice (the founder of the Christian Brothers) which is to be sung on July 17th. We shall spare no pains to make the music worthy the occasion. Mr. Boraston will direct the music, and Mr. O'Brien will preside at the organ.

A.T.C. Notes.

CADETS of St. Edward's College A.T.C. Flight are now looking forward to their week's camp to be spent at one of the Air Stations in Cheshire together with cadets from St. Mary's College, Crosby. In the Proficiency Examination recently held, nine of the ten candidates passed in Calculations and seven passed in navigation, all passed in Physical Training, Morse, and Aircraft Recognition.

We welcome the following cadets, enrolled since our last notes were written :—Cadets Curtis, Edge, O'Hagan, Shaw, Whearty, Murphy, Gould, and Crossley. Boys aged 15 years 3 months or over, in the school who wish to join us, should do so at the beginning of next term. Their first three months are probationary.

Eric Handley is now our Flight Sergeant, other N.C.O's are Sgt. Sinnott and Cpls. Massey and Potts. During the Spring Term Cadets visited two Air Stations ; about thirty cadets were fortunate enough to have flights. Ft./Sgt. Handley, Cadets Parry, Hunter and Massey spent three pleasant

days on a course ; each of them had several hours flying. Following Cadets have entered the Services recently :—Ft./Sgt. D. Healey (R.A.F. Queen's College, Belfast), Lt. Cdt. T. Ambrose (R.N.), Cdt. B. Ormond (R.A.F.), Cdt. N. Keough (R.N.), Lt. Cdt. P. Sharples (R.N.) and K. Mulhearn (F.A.A. St. Andrew's University).

St. Edward's will be sending a representative team to compete in the Inter-Schools A.T.C. Sports to be held at Holly Lodge on June 14th. We wish to thank Mr. Henry for the great help he gave us as Morse Instructor to the Old Boys, but due to pressure of other duties he was compelled to leave us. Thus Mr. Barter is our only Civilian Instructor and Mr. Maher our Warrant Officer.

Word has just been received of the death on Active Service of F/O. Archie Dey. Officers, Instructors and Cadets of St. Edward's College A.T.C. Flight, of which Archie was one of the first cadets, deeply regret the loss and wish to sympathise with his Father, Mother and other relatives.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following magazines :—Prior Park College Magazine, Upholland College Magazine, The Oscotian, St. Francis Xavier's College Magazine, Preston Catholic College Magazine, The Cottonian, St. Bede's College Magazine, Alsop High School Magazine, Oulton, The Edmundian (Shillong), The Wallaseyan, The Quarry

National Savings.

"**S**ALUTE the Soldier" Week has come and gone. We are pleased to record that our Group managed to double the target set and so did their share in the task of inspiring the soldiers of our land at this momentous time

"Turn your Savings Stamps into War Savings" is a call that none should ignore. We take this opportunity to remind our members that Savings Stamps earn no interest, and that if they are lost, stolen or destroyed, the holder gets no compensation. It is to be feared that too large a proportion of the Savings Stamps bought is changed back again into cash.

It may be of interest to know that Savings Certificates may be bought for friends or relatives serving with H.M. Forces, or for a prisoner of war.

Congratulations to Kevin Craig McFeely, who was one of the prize winners at the Art Competition arranged by the Social Savings Committee during "Salute the Soldier" Week—and a word of thanks to Francis Kane for his admirable posters which have adorned the College notice board.

Early in February we were the recipients of yet another Certificate of merit for successful and consistent work in support of the National Savings Campaign. The Hon. Sec. is at present wandering where he will set up the Certificate of Honour to be presented in connection with the "Salute the Soldier" Campaign!

Collectors, you have a thankless task to perform—may be, but your "little bits" do count, so keep at it till the "dogs of war" have been subdued.

Sailor, take care!

IN war-time we are apt to forget the every-day dangers at sea. By all means praise the merchant sailors for running the gauntlet of U-boats: but let us not forget to praise them for their normal duties. Fire and fog are the constant dread of seamen. On land fires are dangerous enough, but at sea when no Fire Brigade is at hand, how much more dangerous fires must become? How many times have you collided with a lamp standard when the atmosphere was cloudy? You think the lamp standard very unsympathetic but what must a collision with an ice-berg or with a ship be like?

However, cargoes themselves are often dangerous. Sugar and coffee for example are obnoxious without being dangerous. As soon as the temperature rises, the sickly smell of sugar permeates the ship. The odour infiltrates into every nook and cranny of the vessel. The sugary taste pollutes everything, while the crew are overcome with an insatiable desire for anything sour, like limes or lemons. Perhaps the most dangerous of cargoes is cotton. Should a drop or two of oil find its way

amongst the bales, then the ship might as well be under the fire of a battle-ship. A chemical reaction between the oil and cotton takes place: heat is generated and shortly the hold rivals Dante's Inferno.

Dynamite is one of the safest cargoes a vessel can carry. This seems paradoxical, but it takes a hot flame to explode dynamite. So unless the ship catches fire the cargo is safe, although there was a steamer, the "Strathcona," which once raced against time to avoid an explosion. Off the coast of Nova Scotia the vessel caught fire, and within a short time it was seen that nothing could save the ship with its forty cases of dynamite aboard. The passengers were sent forward to the bow, a few officers put in charge to prevent panic. Then the ship was headed shorewards at full speed. Several men descended into the hold and heaved the explosive overboard. Heat forced the engineers and firemen from their posts but the steam was left full on. Eventually the ship grounded, lifeboats were lowered and all aboard safely landed.

Oil-tankers are always in danger of fire because

of the inflammable nature of their cargoes. The crews of oil-tankers wear rubber boots to minimise the fire-risk. Smoking is forbidden on board except in specially appointed places and at fixed times. Moreover the tanks themselves are so constructed as to allow for expansion or contraction.

In mid-winter, all ships crossing the North Atlantic are in danger from ice-bergs. Passengers gaze, with fascinated eyes, at the mountain of ice ; not realising the danger of these glittering monsters in foggy weather. I suppose most of us are conversant with the "Titanic" disaster of 1912. The "Titanic" grazed an under-water excrescence of an iceberg and "sprang" the bow under-plates. Of the 2,340 passengers only 705 were saved. To-day "cutters" patrol the danger-zones to warn vessels of any imminent disaster. Still, however, these icebergs remain one of the greatest dangers at sea. Even Newfoundland fishermen, who boast that they can smell an iceberg, perish.

The danger of derelicts can be appreciated when

we realise that, because they drift aimlessly, they are very difficult to sink or destroy. Some years ago the U.S. cruiser "Atlanta" was sent to "find, fix," and sink a derelict which was drifting off the coast of Maine. The ship was located and torpedoed but did not sink. It was decided to "ram" the vessel. The "Atlanta" withdrew to a distance of half-a-mile and a full speed struck the derelict amidships. The derelict sank taking with her the major portion of the cruiser's bowplates.

Waterspouts, tornadoes, typhoons, hurricanes and cyclones add still further to the perils at sea. Waterspouts are common in tropical seas and although they can be avoided, cause much damage. Even in the North Sea these waterspouts carry on their deadly toll of shipping. In 1907 the German steamer, "Marie Maschmann" was struck by a waterspout in the "Narrow Seas." Her deck-cargo was swept away, and the engine room flooded to a depth of fifteen feet. It was with great difficulty that the vessel made the port of Leith.

R. THOMAS, VIB Moderns.

Examination Results.

CHRISTMAS, 1943.

VI A. Science, Religion : T. Murphy.

1. F. Rossiter. 2. D. Peel. 3. F. Finetty.

VI B. Science, Religion : M. Kelly.

1. R. Crawford. 2. F. Hewitt. 3. M. Kelly.

VI A. Moderns. Religion : F. X. Walker.

1. F. X. Walker. 2. J. Forde-Johnston. 3. A. Croft.

VI B Moderns. Religion : R. Thomas.

1. J. Lough. 2. J. Pennington. R. Thomas.
3. J. Osborne.

U V Alpha. Religion : P. Frayne.

1. C. Pickering. 2. R. Sadler. 3. S. McNamara.

U V Beta. Religion : J. Dorgan.

1. J. Dorgan. 2. B. Browne. 3. H. Delamere.

U V A. Religion. J. Lavery.

1. A. Allen. 2. R. Edge. 3. J. Lambton.

L V Alpha. Religion : E. Domville.

1. B. McFeely. 2. J. Davidson. 3. F. Short.

L V Beta. Religion : D. Maher.

1. P. Mulville. 2. D. Adair. 3. F. Walsh.

L V A. Religion : J. Berry.

1. J. Berry. 2. R. Hammonds. 3. R. Decrop.

IV Alpha. Religion : C. Brown.

1. E. Croft. 2. M. Bennett. 3. J. Dryhurst.

IV Beta. Religion : M. Hennessy.

1. T. Donnelly. 2. J. Harrison. 3. M. Hennessy.

IV A. Religion : W. Doherty.

1. T. McGrath. 2. G. Ludden. 3. D. Blackburne.

IV B. Religion : P. Keenan.

1. J. McQuaid. 2. A. McNally. 3. V. Murphy.

IV C. Religion : A. Harper ; D. Hartley.

1. D. Hartley. 2. D. Mooney. 3. A. Harper.

III Alpha. Religion : J. Sloan.

1. G. Gogerty. 2. J. Sloan. 3. J. Hillman.

III Beta. Religion : J. Sheman.

1. J. Shennan. 2. M. McGowan. 3. E. Johnston.

III A. Religion : M. Jeory.

1. J. Higgins. 2. A. Boyle. 3. F. Malone.

III B. Religion : G. Pope.

1. R. Murray. 2. T. Maguire. 3. F. Dorr.

II. Religion : M. Donleavy.

1. A. Gilbertson. 2. J. Cookson. 3. J. Lamb.

I. Religion : R. Ahearn.

1. G. Slater. 2. R. Ahearn. 3. P. Evans.

Preparatory Religion : B. Wilson.

1. B. Wilson. 2. M. Edge. 3. F. Mawdsley.

* * *

EASTER, 1944.

VI A. Science, Religion : F. Finetty.

1. F. Rossiter. 2. J. Brown. 3. D. Peel.

VI B. Science, Religion : D. Ferguson.

1. R. Crawford. 2. L. Gould. 3. F. Hewitt.

VI A Moderns : Religion : F. X. Walker.

1. F. X. Walker. 2. J. Forde-Johnston.

3. A. Thomas.

VI B Moderns. Religion : J. Pennington.

1. J. Loughe. 2. D. O'Dwyer. 3. A. Ryan.

U V Alpha. Religion : P. Frayne.

1. B. Boggiano. 2. C. Pickering. 3. R. Sadler

U V Beta. Religion : J. Dorgan.

1. J. Dorgan. 2. H. Delamere. 3. F. Curtis.

U V A. Religion : J. Kieran.

1. A. Allen. 2. J. Kieran. 3. J. Lambton.

L V Alpha. Religion : B. McFeely.

1. P. Mulville. 2. K. O'Callaghan.

B. McFeely.

L V Beta. Religion : F. Walsh.

1. F. Walsh. 2. D. Adair. 3. R. Hawkins.

L V A. Religion : A. Carroll.

1. J. Berry. 2. E. Harrison. 3. R. Decrop.

IV Alpha. Religion : P. Monaghan.

1. E. Croft. 2. J. Dryhurst. 3. F. McGrail.

IV Beta. Religion : M. Hennessy.

1. M. Hennessy. 2. B. Wardley. 3. F. Green.

IV A. Religion : D. Blackburne.

1. G. Ludden. 2. D. Blackburne.

3. A. Doherty.

IV B. Religion : J. McQuaid.

1. J. McQuaid. 2. A. McNally. 3. P. Fitzgerald.

IV C. Religion : D. Hartley.

1. D. Hartley. 2. A. Harper. 3. J. Wilson.

III Alpha. Religion : G. Gogerty.

1. G. Gogerty. 2. C. Atherton. 3. J. Sloan.

III Beta. Religion : A. Hunt ; M. McGowan.

1. J. Shennan. 2. M. McGowan. 3. E. Johnston

III A. Religion : K. Gorman ; J. Higgins.

1. J. Higgins. 2. A Boyle, K. Gorman.

3. V. Guilfooy, A. Parr.

III B. Religion : J. Dillon.

1. T. Maguire. 2. F. Dorr. 3. J. Loftus.

II. Religion : A. Scott.

1. J. Cookson, M. Donleavy. 2. A. Gilbertson.

3. J. Morgan.

I. Religion : R. Ahearn.

1. G. Slater. 2. R. Ahearn. 3. K. C. Keegan.

Preparatory Religion : Anthony Johnson.

1. B. Wilson. 2. W. Cookson. 3. Anthony Johnson.

Form Notes.

Form VI A Moderns

AFTER Christmas, the class was divided into so many sections that we were seriously considering whether we should arrange code numbers to distinguish them. Thus the timetable might read :—Group A, Section B2—English Group C, wing 4, subsection 7,—Library. Numbers for individuals would be quite useful, too : thus—Z3/451 and BP/100 will see CW/1211 by order of YT/235. Nor was this all.

Certain members of the class took to rushing out of the room whenever there was a French lesson ; perhaps they wished to escape from the reach of a telescopic arm. On other occasions, these same individuals might be seen hurrying along the corridors with books in one hand and—of all things—a stool in the other. Later it was found that they were actually going to a French class ; it was generally agreed that the stools must have been the only available weapons.

The accepted wag of the class is Croft. He is

ready, on the slightest notice (usually his own jokes) to go off into gales of superhuman laughter. He is, however, a man of many parts. His reputation as a poet is great and increasing; all were frankly amazed at what he put into his poems.

During the past two terms we have been given lectures on music by Mr. Boraston which have led to a detailed study of Elgar. Mr. Boraston made the talks extremely interesting and lucid, and we would like to render him our sincere appreciation for all the trouble he has taken.

Salute-the-Soldier-Week gave us the opportunity to prove our superiority to the rest of the school. We allowed only two individuals to buy stamps yet Mr. Burns managed to sell £15 worth of stamps, one member alone actually buying £10 worth.

Several of the class went to see "Dr. Faustus" at the Playhouse; they were excused homework to enable them to do so. Many would sell as much as Faustus did if they could get off exercises every night.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Massey and Potts on their having attained the rank of Corporals in the A.T.C. The class is well represented in this movement and when the cadets have withdrawn and the "Flying Squad" has sped on its way, the classroom has something in common with Bunyan's wilderness. It is noticeable that the intelligentsia of the class remain aloof from these frivolous pastimes.

Congratulations are also due to W. Davies on gaining his school colours; a word of sympathy, too, for being subject to many an indisposition. Yet he has courageously endeavoured to break the record for attendance. That he has not succeeded is merely a matter of profound regret.

D. McGinn is still deeply interested in mines—the deeper the better! At present he is keenly reading the financial page of *The Times* and often quotes the price of cereals. This interest in economics seems likely to flourish; it may even lead to certain members of the form taking positions in the Ministry of Economic Warfare.

We could wish that the Scientists would find some less obnoxious way to obtrude themselves

upon the general notice. Though gamely enduring most Friday afternoons, on one occasion we had, in the interests of humanity, to remove to the Library. We prefer to be gassed by our enemies rather than by our friends.

Despite our strongly worded and vehement denunciation of the apotheosis of brute force in our last notes, we have received not one word of encouragement or congratulation. We have not received one farthing in support of our views. Mindful of the local topography we were not surprised at this. The subscription list is, however, still open c/o. VI A Mods. Comfort Fund for Brain-fagged Students.

The hard tennis-courts were made available for the VIth form this year. (At long last Mc.Mullin has found a game to suit his temperament; no accident to bicycle or appliance hinders his tennis). We look forward to Croquet, Bowls and Hopskotch in the near future.

We would like to make mention of other notables of the form who, through bashfulness, seem to prefer to live in dim obscurity. Bruce, Daybell and Forde-Johnston play for the school second team at Cricket—the last named having recently snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. Ludden still dazzles the class by wearing variegated hues and by his bluff, Lancashire wit. John Roose is busy counting teeth and reckoning up what his future income will be. Boggan has suddenly leapt to fame as a batsman, his average at present being one of the highest of those of the first team. Bolger, variously known as "Flash," "Mick" or "Tarzan" is a dark horse. To quote a member of the staff, he is one of the "embryo teachers" and is at present hard at work preparing for his departure to Simmaries.

To all who contributed in money or in kind to the June Altar we wish to offer our sincerest thanks. It is a melancholy thought that this is the last time we shall be in print. To quote Milton, we will be heading "Tomorrow to fresh woods and pastures new."

We wish to thank you, Reader, for ploughing through our contributions for the last six years. If you appreciate literary worth, you will cancel

your order for the magazine, and read of us in the Agony column of the daily press.

We understand that we are expected to take the H.S.C. in a few weeks; you will pardon our indiscretion if we make this eternal parting abrupt and just say

"If forever, still forever fare thee well."

J.F.-J., L.L.

* * *

VI B Moderns

Really to look at us, our cheeks so rosy, our eyes so lively, our physique so powerful you'd have some justification for disbelieving that we are Sixth-formers. But we are. See here the influence of milk, hot meals, little homework, less preparation and more fresh air. Of course, we have heard that intelligence was formerly essential to a Sixth-former, but, undoubtedly now the emphasis is on youth . . . and perhaps on plausibility!

The hot meal scheme has had our enthusiastic support; the ordering of the meals on Saturday is a further unquestionable motive for attendance on what should be a "*dies non*." The arrangements work as smoothly as the Milk scheme. In fact the organiser(s) could easily have evolved a D. plan! We were gratified to note that thoughtfulness on someone's part has precluded our fetching our own meals: they are brought to us. We commend this instilling of respect for their elders in the very young quite sincerely, and are convinced that it will be productive of much good. If only we dictate our homework or be issued with correct versions life would indeed be endurable. Now take those scientists with answers supplied . . . !

Our enthusiasm for Salute-the-Soldier-Week can be gauged from our total of nearly £70, almost £5 per head. This was regarded as rather amazing, and strengthened the convictions of those who consider that our opulence has no bounds. Our charity has not, but wealth apparently eludes our grasp.

It is not an uncommon sight to see a cap being passed around the class for some deserving cause . . . well might even a Boy Scout in an agonised

whisper plaintively ask: "What's this one for?" A collection to end collections! We gallantly supported the Good Shepherd Fund. The May Altar reflected the generosity of each, Many thanks are due to those who so kindly provided cloths and flowers.

On two occasions when collecting was on the wane we treated ourselves collectively to Theatre seats. It may be noted that the selection of evenings was a point of much controversy and dissension; but, as the odds were 16 to 1, the evenings were chosen to the restrained delight of the one!

Again, we have been indulging in Singing Lessons, and form a select choir. The VI B Science to the delight of all are seen with us but are not heard. Thoroughly enjoyable have been Mr. Boraston's lectures on Music, ending as they did with a detailed study of the "Dream of Gerontius."

Most of us have been to Loyola Hall and have enjoyed a week-end with a difference. We did hear of one of the A's who has been three times. *Cras nobis!*

To Kevin Prendergast's relatives we renew our sympathy and our promise of prayers. We were glad to be present at the Requiem Mass and funeral service of a class-mate whose heroic patience and indomitable cheerfulness during months of depressing suffering have inspired us with admiration. May he rest in peace! A word of deep thanks to Mrs. Prendergast for her thoughtful attention to us on the funeral day.

To Dennis Martin and Joseph McAleer who leave us this term to carve their names on the tree of fame we offer our best wishes and Godspeed! We solemnly remind ourselves that the happiest days of life are our schooldays (not even a twitch of conscience, yet) and we shall have to face the studied insincerity and crushing realism of post-school life.

We look forward, however, to the day when we shall see our successors nursed in Government hostels, fed with Government milk—and hot meal schemes, instructed in Government schools, living in Government houses, carried to and fro to

Government offices by a Government transport system, retiring on a Government pension to enjoy a brief and dangerous period of independence before being buried in a Government cemetery! Such so far has not been our fate. We have only lived through one year of Vith Moderns; of what remains who shall say?

POSTSCRIPT: Our efforts to encourage a certain form to be a little more self-assured and self-confident have been deliberately misunderstood. We feigned ignorance in the spelling Bees so convincingly twice that it has been bruited abroad that we actually were ignorant. Contemptuously we retort: Ho-Hah-Ho!

Cheerio; we shall be writing again; until then keep smiling.

A. RYAN.

K. KENNEDY.

* * *

Form VI A Science

We find it very difficult to spare time to write a few notes for the magazine! We doubt if it is love for study as we should be doing maths now—any excuse! In the course of our hard uphill struggle to the H.S.C. one of our number has fallen by the wayside. Throbbing fingers, bad eyes, blood pressure and other mysterious ailments are continually thinning our ranks. Though various members of our class have been prostrated the S.V.P. regards such with callous indifference. However the "residue" push nobly onwards bearing aloft the flaming torch of science.

Our illustrious prefect excels as a collector, always giving the example himself. We have been regaled from time to time with spicy lectures (see Science notes). It is obvious that the War office takes a keen interest in our welfare—various Senior officers of H.M. forces have been to see us. Catholic missionary lectures have also been a feature of the term. The standard of our singing during May and June was high—much too high for the veterans of the back benches. Of course, it was led by a tremulous warble from the left front desk. To all those candidates taking the public exams. we wish the best of luck.

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Form VI B Science

This term we stood "at the threshold of a new world, a world of entrancing beauty and surpassing interest" but as we advanced deeper into this new world we began to doubt the sincerity of these words. Besides organic chemistry there is the brighter side of our Studies, Maths!! After being told, at the end of last term that we had completed our list of integrals, only just over twenty of them, we found ourselves confronted with several pages of trigonometrical formulae, to be learnt. Our numbers have now reduced to thirteen and as one member of the staff puts it we are too superstitious to allow every member of the class to be present. At least one must always be away.

The series of music lectures continued through the term culminating in the "Dream of Gerontius" which was sung by Miss Davies and Mr. Furness Williams to whom we extend our best thanks. We also take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Boraston for his zeal in inculcating in us a knowledge of music. Some short time ago our vocal powers in the music room were tested. The Moderns accompanied us and we are sure that we sounded like a choir of angels but some people seem to doubt this.

In studies we do tolerably well—in mathematics very "well" our daily walks are becoming more and more invigorating. We nevertheless strive against heavy odds.

We have heard many Science lectures given by VI A Science. We all appreciated them and our knowledge of such things as drugs, etc., was increased. Perhaps some bright person even remembers the formulae for cocaine! About mid-term the B Moderns challenged us to an intelligence test. The result was a foregone conclusion. Another of our comrades has succumbed to the charms of an A.T.C. uniform. Our May and June (?) altars were very well maintained. We extend good wishes to S.C. and H.S.C. candidates in the coming exams.

* * *

Upper V Alpha

Lo! The golden portals are opening, and your inquisitive eyes behold only a shadow, a faded hierarchy. Do not mistake me. The rich treasure of genius amassed within the confines of our abode has not tarnished with the passage of time; but my jaded senses refuse to be stirred by its lustre. I long to revel in the shade of a fragrant grove of ignorance.

Ignorance m-m-m; we are occasionally provided with amusement by the explosive snorts of disgust, issuing from the farthest corner of the form. J.M. is also notorious for his appreciation of the delicate works of Ludwig Van Beethoven, Johann Sebastian Bach, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and other eminent composers.

The present conflict seems to be having very little influence upon the students and other objects ornamenting the classroom, except for an exclusive clique dominated by S Lo—, who appears to be possessed of an obsession to lay waste the whole of Germany by fire and, as some stubborn historians will tell you, the sword.

The literary genius of the form, "Horace," is praying that in a few years he will secure a contract to write for the "Wizard" or "Hotspur."

Perhaps the most reasonable member of the community is O'T—, who has no inclination whatever to work and is patiently awaiting a legacy or some other source of unearned income.

Carter, Molloy, and McGowan wile away the golden hours misrepresenting the form's prowess on the field. Unfortunately such a congenial occupation reflects glory upon their fellows.

"Where the songs of Spring? Ay! Where are they?" Screams of unreasoning rage and the heart-rending wails of anguished pupils combine to form a symphony, the theme of which appears to be "S.C." I am afraid this mournful dirge will be the swan song of many a youthful rebel.

The *laissez-faire* policy of the class is, however, occasionally interrupted by events such as the recent triumph of K. McFeely upon which we most heartily congratulate him.

We should not like to finish without first

conveying our deepest sympathies to the relations of Kevin Prendergast and to P. McCormick on their recent bereavements.

It is not because the omission would be a breach of etiquette, but because our gratitude demands us, that we tender our sincere appreciation of all that our masters have done for us during the term.

The curtains fall—the puppets fade away, Ta, Ta.

U.V. Alpha.

* * *

Upper V Beta

We have a few moments to spare to make out our usual contribution to the magazine. It would not be complete without our effort and some people are anxious to see if we will let slip our real attitude to work. We won't deny them. "Merely drifting to work. We won't deny them. "Merely drifting" from day to day appeals to us but stern are our taskmasters so we slave night and day without appreciation or thanks. Everyone of us has been admitted to the O.V.B. though an occasional G. is reluctantly substituted. No wonder we long "To cease upon the midnight with no pain."

Anyway though certain people close their eyes to the presence of genius in our class, let us introduce some of our "poor players." In fact we will inscribe their names in imperishable ink. (New invention by Browne). Culture, as distinct from mere ability to solve a few problems in Chemistry or Maths., has laid her hand on Tighe, Foley and Peters who "breathe soft warble from the Dorian flute" or sometimes hammer out music from a piano. Devotion to the brush and pencil is the passion of Curtis, Jones and Browne while Auld has lately decided to follow suit. And Almond emulates the nightingale at odd moments during the day; but justice is done afterwards to the Nightingale. Dorgan finds not enough in class work so has taken up psychology as a hobby.

Science is not without its adherents. The strange objects that occasionally clutter up desks and overflow on to the floor betray a keen interest in the practical side of Science. Preston is the

man to solve any little difficulty with electric switch or wireless-set. And then there is Dick Graham, whose patience and rock-like immobility we often admired until we discovered that he spends days and days baiting the trout. And, now, attention! Here marches in Sgt. Thomas leading his squad of death-and-glory men. They tramp; they wheel, they disappear, and Fagan and Thompson open wide their eyes at such efficiency.

Still some people say we have no need of "Morphean amulets." But we are not done. Is there anybody in the school taller than Joe O'Shea? Not at all! And Joe isn't finished yet. Has anybody ever seen Andy O'Hagan without Jimmie? If you have, call at our door for a prize offered by Stevens. We won't say too much about Games as our Rugby stars—Crossley, Fearon, Whearty and O'Hagan—have not taken kindly to wartime cricket, so that Echavé is our only representative in School teams this season.

We offer our sympathy to Patrick McCormack and his family on the death of his father and to Mrs. Prendergast on the death of Kevin (R.I.P.). To those who are leaving school this term we wish every success and blessing and to the Brothers and Masters a very pleasant holiday far from "the weariness, the fever and the fret" of U.V. Beta.

* * *

Upper V A

There is an air of growing tension: an uneasy silence punctuated by an occasional rat-tat . . . "D. Day" is approaching—the culmination of some of our scholastic careers.

To turn to lighter topics: our cricket team is an unqualified success (ask the umpire, who never fails to run us in and out). It is as yet unchallenged. We are even represented in the 1st XI, for the jovial Lydiat production—who still insists that "come" is "cum"—graces the side. 'Tis whispered he occasionally scores—and sometimes in his wrath hurls dangerous projectiles; results not yet observed. We had a game—miniature civil war; the mites v. the others. The others also ran. Complaints were voiced, however, that

special practice had been put in—on Sundays too, though he blushed to be seen at it.

Mr. . . . ' political and "modern youth" talks were abruptly concluded owing to the oral exam. It is on record that our fair haired visitor (who sometimes considers us beyond "calling distance" put in an unwonted shift of eight hours.

We have learnt with interest that there were once poor "fellahs"—who suffered the three C's. How far have we advanced? Or is progress a myth? Could collections chemistry and the courbash be the answer? And to make matters worse the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not yet completed the budget. Someone has missed his vocation—H.M. Inspector, (Collector?) of Taxes.

The maths' specialists D . . . n, Da . . . s and the rest are working out the latest equation:

$$E + H = O.$$

Solutions are coming in but it looks as if overtime is the outcome.

Due thanks must be tendered to the generous offerer of an hour's musical delight—was it a dream? Did we read the board aright on our return?

To return to our original theme: so we come to H. Hour. We trust casualties will be few; to the victors we offer congratulations; to the wounded we promise a year's rest cure in the base hospital; we mourn the departed. With a prayer for all in the assault barges we close.

* * *

Lower V Alpha

Two terms have almost passed since we last recorded our deeds both good and bad to the general public. We now hasten to make amends for our seemingly lack of consideration and most earnestly do we assure the tolerant and sympathetic public that close attention to our work (assisted by the judicious use of a certain "persuader") has been the predominant cause of our enforced retirement.

We now proceed to take our good humoured readers on a "ramble" through our exclusive Form. Nolan is a real martinet; between classes

he effectively maintained a good tone in our classroom. Murphy who captained the Farm's Second Eleven has ambitions of becoming wicket keeper for the School First Eleven in years to come. One solitary member of the A.T.C. graces our Form, other would be aspirants are not as yet of age. Keith is considered to be the "star" bowler of the Lower Fives (Lower Five A please note) and of the "Chicks." Aeronautical experts, birds' eggs collectors, and a geometrical professor help to give variety to our hard working Form.

Contact with our American allies has been firmly established evidently, as the chewing of gum took on formidable dimensions not so long ago, some jaws must have been overworked, as they were unable to function when poetry was being examined.

It may be of interest to members of the Junior School to know that music and art are not completely thrown overboard by us members of the Senior School, between classes is an excellent time for exercising the vocal chords (as we have found out); then again take Art, throughout the live-long-day this enticing subject is pursued on material of various descriptions, so that ways and means "to beguile the lagging hours" (with apologies to Ovid) have been successfully overcome by the Lower Five Alpha boys.

Tremendous enthusiasm prevails in this Form with regard to House matches. Will Mersey (winners of the House Shield for Rugby) also carry off the Cricket Shield and so complete the "double?"—their House master seems to think so, but "there's many a slip . . ."

The usual collections have and are being generously supported. "Salute the Soldier" Week was well supported, the holiday ensuing therefrom being a really practicable method of acknowledging our bountifulness. Contributions from this Form come in slowly and steadily, to one and all our grateful thanks are due. We do not forget in our thanks also all who assisted us in the erection of our May and June altars, gifts of flowers, candles, vases, etc., were all generously contributed.

Success to all in the forthcoming examinations

and let us offer up a silent prayer for the welfare of our Old Boys wherever they may be.

* * *

Lower V Beta

It is pleasant to record that we are now on our way to passing out of the Lower Fives en route to the Upper Fives where we hope to amass that knowledge which is considered to be essential for the obtaining of the much over-rated School Certificate.

Our Form prides itself on the amount of work it manages to avoid; excuses for Homework omitted seem to fall naturally from our lips. Still, for all our apparent laziness we do manage to allow a certain percentage of knowledge to penetrate our heads which have been compared to sieves plus innumerable unmentionable objects, whilst occasionally we have had thrown at our illustrious heads Shakespeare's ringing words.

"You blocks, you stones, you worse than senseless things!"

—but all to no avail, because dear reader, this modern world of ours provides under the name of the government all our needs, therefore why worry?

But we do not intend to hide our light under the proverbial bushel, our rivals the Alphas have been soundly thrashed by us at the manly game of Rugby and that noble game called Cricket. Then take courtesy, yes, it may be old fashioned but we Betas are noted for our unfailing good manners. Take for instance the sudden arrival of two newcomers to the Lower Fives; which of the Forms received the new arrivals with out-stretched arms, not the A's nor the Alphas but our dear old Form the Betas.

A certain talkative youth from Widnes, small in stature but high pitched in voice has the annoying habit of giving information to stern interrogators; we frown upon such conduct as it is down right bad taste. This same youth is supposed to play Cricket for Widnes, if so we should like to issue a challenge to the Widnes C.C.

Our prowess on the cricket field needs no

journalist to describe, the Alphas will testify to our all round capabilities in that branch of sport. Model aeroplanes have been experimented with, but the class room is not the place to try them out ; this we have found out to our cost.

Appeals for financial assistance have never been made in vain to our Form ; heroically we take the plunge—into our pockets and so help on the innumerable good causes brought to our notice.

Finally, we should like to convey to J. Keown our good wishes for his speedy recovery to health and promising not to forget him in our prayers. Just a few more words Betas. Don't take the Summer examinations too seriously, let the masters do that.

Cheerio now everybody and enjoy your "Holidays at Home."

* * *

Lower V A

We have not, we hope, come to the end of another successful term of work ! The individual opinion to the contrary of any particular master must be entirely ignored.

We have survived, throughout the long winter, attacks both from above and below. Various concerts, having an underground origin were unintentionally staged for us for a complete fortnight. Our music fans were delighted. Music rose "in one voluptuous swell" time and time again, as we bravely fought our way through the last chapters of the "Civis."

Whites were a very grave problem to one of our members at the first game of cricket. But "Daddie" has an indomitable spirit. Next games day he bravely appeared in the short "longs," the twelve inch deficiency being substituted for in a manner that could be devised only by a person with "landed" interests. Wren, Dolan and Hughes have made a name for themselves in the School Second XI.

We still hold our "public" meetings. (Actual quotation ; context known only to Form members). Yes ! and we still give a sigh of relief when Monday has passed. Time is now very insignificant in our Form-room. Crises have

time and again been smoothed over and stormy scenes averted by the inevitable "shooting hand" "What is the Latin word for —?" A sullen silence reigns. Shaw carefully hangs his head and Donald looks warily from behind his spectacles. But last a lone hand cuts the air. "Yes, Carroll. What is the word?" "It's 11 o'clock, sir" Guardian Angels again !

Southport trains as K.F. will tell you, are usually late in Autumn, practically always late—in Winter, and rarely up to schedule—in Summer ! Two of our one time aero—modellers have now become chemistry enthusiasts. R.R. can now produce a new unauthorized edition of the four conjugations. Shaw and Murphy have been eventually enticed (?) into the A.T.C. Our acting auxiliary able seaman is still puzzled about the word "main." Alfie has just returned from a tour in the Welsh mountains.—Raymond has every hope of being back in his native Belgium very soon.—Ernest will hardly accompany him this time. Incidentally, Louis's energy is returning with the summer.—During the "Salute the Soldier" week our mysterious Collector did both saving and collecting.

We take the opportunity to express our deep sympathy with A. Treanor on the death of his father.

Wishing everyone happy holidays and success in the coming ordeal.

Q.P.Mc.

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Forms IV A. and B.

Combined operations being now the order of the day, we in IV A. and B. have decided to make these notes a joint effort.

Since the last appearance of the College Magazine, our numbers have decreased and the only increase we received, though certainly fairly substantial, has not restored the balance. Though thus reduced in strength, we continue to "plod our weary way" towards the end of a long and hard road, which is at last in sight. The prospect of a seven week's holiday makes our present difficulties seem small.

The casual visitor to IV A. is immediately impressed by the studious appearance of the occupants and their "knowing" (?) looks. He can see at once that here are boys who think a lot but say little! Passing on to IV B. he would notice a complete change. Instead of a solemn, wise-looking group of boys, he now sees a class of restless boys, always eager to impart information of various kinds. These are boys who say a lot but think little!

As can be very easily imagined, both classes are much keener on study than on games, and here cricket seems to find more favour than Rugby, affording as it does, more opportunities for occasional chats. IVB. easily defeated IVA early in the term, thus making amends for their lack of success on the Rugby field.

A certain budding admiral has founded a flourishing "Young Seamen's Society" in IV A. Many of the class are already members. We have been asked to publish an official denial of the rumour that the reason for the popularity of this Society is that most of the class is constantly "at sea!"

Not to be outdone in this respect, IV B. have developed an unofficial "debating society," which functions in the all-too-brief periods between lessons. J—M—who occupies a central position in the class, seems to regard himself as a central figure in this "society, which has lately been forced 'underground,'"

After finding ourselves, surprisingly in many cases, promoted to Form IV, many of us are hoping to go a step higher next year. We forecast keen competition for promotion, but everything points to a large number of unsuccessful candidates. So, though IV A may think they're the very "salt of the earth," they must be prepared for surprises.

The exams., which on our return after a very short Easter holiday, seemed so far away, are now quite close. Once they are over, we hope to enjoy a long Summer Vacation, and so until next September, we bid everybody—Au revoir!

W.D., J.Mc.Q.

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Form IV C.

As a result of our success in the Easter exams. it was decided that we were fully prepared for D. day. We were no sooner back than a huge invasion of "*Civis Romanus*" and "*Valentin*" began—the first days were terrible but we did survive it and are now advancing steadily. A second front began in the Geometry where we met with several reverses and only took Pythagoras' Theorem after many counter-attacks, strong opposition is expected at the Loci lines.

We finished well in the Rugby but we were unfortunately beaten 22—12 in the last quarter by the combined forces of IV Alpha and IV Beta. Henderson, McClemens, Burrowes, Dunn and Quirk starred.

We lost ground in the sense that we had to evacuate from our old Rugby pitch on the hill, to allow it to recuperate after the last few ordeals. The College also *lost ground* in a more literal sense because we laid the pitch bare before quitting it.

The cricket season was hailed with delight. McKenna, Nolan and Hopkins have represented us in the "chicks." Jim was supposed to make a fine "chick" but alas! plumes quickly sprouted in the game and he made a "duck."

T.M. has followed Ivor's example and clambered into the longs. Our George grinned happily at the most disconcerting situations. T—y sees stars (in groups of five or ten) before 9 a.m. and while admiring them he fails to catch that elusive bus. He goes home daily minus some "toy" ranging from a straight pin to a yo-yo.

Ah! if Shakespeare only knew of the whereabouts of "ye olde cellars," he wouldn't say, "Tell me where is fancy bre(a)d." Yes, and there's something to drink also and IV C is nearest to them!

Well we are dreaming of holidays—and having nightmares about our exams. ! so we sign off.

D.D. & F.W.

* * *

Form II.

We were glad to change over from football to

cricket after the Easter holidays. The weather was usually bad on our games afternoons, but Dolan, Harvey, McCoy and O'Hagan were stars at the game. Lent came bringing the usual collection for the orphans. Someone we know very well was a champion at emptying our pockets in what he calls a just cause.

We know more about the Reverend Brother Ignatius Rice now than ever before. We were surprised to hear that he sent his Christian Brothers to teach boys in Liverpool more than a hundred years ago. We have quite a lot from Form II in the orchestra. O'Brien and Nugent are "big noises" there, we hear. Someone asked another of our musicians what he can play and he answered "Oh I can play a whole lot of things, but the best thing I can play is "Pop goes the Weasel."

JOHN MORGAN.

* * *

Form I.

We are now on the last lap so we want to tell you what we think of this form before (we hope) we advance to Form II.

We read in our History Book: "Woe to the kingdom whose king is a child," which C. D. changed to "Woe to the class whose prefect is a baby": when K.K. was elected "prefect" in his stead as the class thought the previous one was too long in office. But C.D.'s own saying hasn't so far come true, and there's little likelihood that it will.

Our master was puzzled what to do with those who came along with the excuse "Didn't do my homework left book in School" or "left exercise at home." But now the difficulty is solved as the books necessary for each evening's homework are placed on the desk and inspected so our lazy boys will have to find some other excuse.

Dictation is liked by most of us but some spell in the most appalling way.

J.J. is keeping a list of all the "planes which pass over whilst A.—A.—. (not Anti-aircraft) takes the salute from the platform on which he and two other good boys are stationed.

The disappearing comic is quite common with one boy for when the master approaches to seize

it he is met with "Pardon, Sir," or "What's the matter, Sir."

Every Monday morning four moving violin cases appear but after a while we notice that it is Large, Kehoe, Meyers and Downing who carry them.

Cricket is too quiet for some especially J.D. and P.K. who run except when coming to School late. Would some reader be so kind as to present an alarm clock to the former so that we could have him in School at 9-0 a.m.

Our May and June Altars were very well decorated and we hope our prayers for peace will be answered.

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Preparatory Form Notes.

Hello! this is Prep. calling with plenty of things to tell you this term. We have a favourite—Poetry. We like a lot of other lessons, but Poetry is the best. Our teacher always shows or tells us about the pictures in the Encyclopaedia. We have been told some interesting stories from Shakespeare. Then we have Geography on Tuesday, which is all about trips around the world. We had football in winter against Form I, and Prep. were nearly always the winners.

This summer we have cricket which we like very much, and as well as cricket we have rounders. In June we brought a lot of flowers for the Sacred Heart Altar. In the garden of the school we have a large cave which we play in when we have Nature Study.

Now for a few things about the boys in our class. P.H—s is a very timid boy; A. D—l always has his mouth open; G. P—ty is always telling us that two and two make a hundred; M. W—ms is one of the best bowlers at cricket; Tony J—n is a curly haired boy, and he says his tables so quickly that he doesn't know where he's up to; A. D—ls is always forgetting his books when they're needed; R. M—ng frowns when he comes to a word he can't spell. At cricket S. McC—ck gave the ball a high overhand and it hit poor K. G—ns on the head; M. E—ge gives a funny giggle when the master's out. Next time we write Form Notes we hope to be able to call ourselves "Form I." Goodbye and a happy holiday to everyone.

BRIAN WILSON.

KEVIN PRENDERGAST

Born 1-5-1928

Died 19-1-1944

After a long illness, borne with that patience and resignation which we always associated with him, Kevin Prendergast went to his eternal reward on the 19th January, 1944. Though it was not unexpected, we felt the parting and are the poorer by his death.

Kevin came to St. Edward's from St. Joseph's, Wallasey, in September, 1939. He went with the College to Llanelly and later returned to progress to the Upper Fives when his last illness forced him to give up studies just a few weeks before the School Certificate examination.

At first there was no undue cause for alarm but a burglary at his house while his mother was shopping upset him so much that he was removed to the Victoria Hospital. Here for five months he suffered and wrestled with Death which on two occasions almost claimed him. Still he never lost his cheerfulness nor his interest in School and his schoolfellows. But it was an unequal struggle. In the dreary days of January, Kevin, fortified by the Last Rites of Holy Church, left us to meet the God he loved so much.

Even though he has gone from amongst us, he has left to us an example and an inspiration. His devotion to his work, despite all the obstacles that recurrent illness put in his way, his constant cheerfulness and anxiety to please are traits of his character we will remember. But a greater influence will be his innocence of life and his personal love of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. For love of Him he frequently broke his long journey from Wallasey to assist at Holy Mass in one of the City Churches and from that love too sprung the resolution he had made of devoting himself to God in the Religious State.

The Requiem Mass at St. Alban's, Wallasey was attended by the Principal and Kevin's classmates who bore his remains to their last resting-place in Rake Lane Cemetery. To his mother and sister we offer our sympathy on their bereavement and, while praying to God to have mercy on his soul, we thank Him for having given us one who unobtrusively showed us the way to higher things. *Requiescat in pace.*

The Christian Brothers in England.

(1826—1882).

AT the close of the eighteenth century very few indeed were the facilities afforded poorer class parents to give their children a regular education. Such endowed schools as existed were in general of no advantage to them. Andrew Bell and Joseph Lancaster, who founded the National Society, and the British and Foreign School Society respectively in the late eighteenth century, aroused some interest in popular education and proposed plans whereby it might be carried out. To conceive a correct impression of the state of education in England at the time there is need only to read the authoritative Report published in 1845, and to remember that some

forty years earlier the condition of education was even more appalling. The Report stated that less than half of the children who went to school left with the ability to read; barely one in every five, even after years of schooling, could write; and only five per cent. of the population attended school, whereas the percentage should be nearly eighteen. In 1841 the estimated population of Manchester was 24,000, and over 3,000 of the town's children were without daily instruction. Again, in 1821 there were in Bethnal Green, 40,000 inhabitants; at the lowest estimate there would have been a school population of 6,000. There was one school for 120 scholars.

Many factors contributed to this lamentable state of affairs : usually the schools were so overcrowded that efficient teaching was impossible ; many schools were merely buildings in which the children were supervised for a limited number of hours each day ; the teachers were generally drawn from a supply which included miners whose health was too broken for their being allowed to work in the mines further, invalided regular soldiers, permanent cripples and consumptives. The instance of a school being conducted by a widow of seventy who by teaching eked out the miserable pittance she was allowed by the Union to 3/9d. per week, is no isolated example. Such teachers could not be expected to rise to the heights of self-sacrifice and duty that the profession exacts. There were, too, some private schools started by adventurers ; but the value of their educational worth is doubtful, and in most instances highly suspect.

Such was the educational background in the early 1820's when several Priests in England acquainted with the work of the Congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Ireland pleaded for the inclusion of England amongst the missions of the Brothers. The first request to reach Br. Rice in Waterford came from Preston. Although his Institute had only been confirmed by a decree from the Holy See five years earlier, Br. Rice was willing to send his sons abroad if by so doing he could help to better the conditions of youth in this world and help them to sanctify their souls. In 1826 the Brothers opened their first school in Preston—one isolated community. Before long so flourishing would this mission become that over the tombs of Br. Rice there would be placed a tablet with the inscription : "The Founder of the Christian Schools in Ireland and England." This claim was a true one ; for in 1844 when Br. Rice was dead England with its seventy-three Brothers teaching in nineteen schools could count more establishments than Ireland.

Br. Rice enthusiastically supported any proposal to educate the young. On good authority it is reported that even years before founding his Congregation he used to invite boys to his home

and instruct them in Religious and secular knowledge. Hence we find after 1826 schools being opened in rapid succession in other centres, sometimes in different parishes within the same town ; for all of these schools were established for a parish and catered for its needs. A fillip was given to the expanding Missions of the Brothers in England when the General Chapter of 1836 decided to sever the connection six of the schools had formed with the National Board of Ireland. This affiliation had been made on strong representations from responsible Ecclesiastics. The connection had always been irksome to the Brothers ; and when a fair trial of the scheme had been made they felt in duty bound to withdraw from a Board whose regulations would not allow them to perpetuate religious practices they held dear and of importance educationally. Thus in 1836 Br. Rice expressed the opinion that the labours of the Brothers would be for the future in England, Scotland, and other foreign countries as their schools would now all be ineligible for Government aid. He was correct in his opinion. Between the years 1836—1846 there were opened only three houses in Ireland ; in the same period eleven foundations were made in England.

During the sixty years under review the Brothers taught in Birmingham, Bolton, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Preston and Sunderland. By 1841 there were sixteen Brothers teaching 1,600 boys in the various parishes of Liverpool. Many of these English schools were situated in uncongenial and unattractive surroundings. For one school building a wooden shack the roof of which afforded no shelter from the rain was used, and in it there were taught 300 boys. Yet another was a cellar, eleven feet below the ground ; here were taught 120 pupils. A third was so near to a soap factory that great irritation was experienced from the persistent and penetrating odours from the vats. A school in London, barely a stone's throw from a forge, wherein twenty-four blacksmiths and their apprentices worked, was taught to the accompaniment of the sounds of ringing iron. The only quiet spell was during the dinner hour of the forgesmen ; and the Brothers availed

of this opportunity to give Religious Instruction.

The work which the Brothers were called upon to perform in England was far more strenuous than that which devolved on their confrères in the sister Isle. The horarium of the Preston School in 1839 will serve as an example of the general daily and weekly routine. The morning session was from 9.00—12.00; the afternoon from 1.30—4.30. For boys and adults who were unable to attend the day school there were evening classes five times a week, from 6.00—9.00, on two of which evenings Religious Instruction was given from 6.00—7.00. In this school in 1844 there were 470 attending the day school, and 200 (mainly adults) in the evening school. The boys and men usually came straight from the factories "reeking with sweat, oil, hot air and dust," as a Brother writing of his teaching days in England expressed it. Even with the provision of evening classes there was still a large residual number who were not able because of their employment to attend day or evening school. Therefore facilities were offered on Sundays not only for moral and Religious Instruction but also for secular study. The Brothers considered Sunday to be the most laborious day of the week. They rose at 5.00, said their private prayers, made their meditations, recited their office and breakfasted; then they had the children assembled soon after 8.00 for the 9.00 Mass. After Mass they returned to the school with the boys for lessons and religious teaching until 12.30. At 2.00 the pupils assembled again until 4.30. After tea the boys were brought to the Church for Vespers and other parish devotions at 6.00.

When it is learnt that each Brother was expected to teach efficiently 100 pupils, or, at the most, 130, and that some of these years were years of great distress and rife with fever, there will be no difficulty in understanding why the incidence of early deaths was so marked among the Brothers in England. Between 1843, November, when the first death occurred and 1851 no less than seven Brothers died. None was over thirty-nine, and only three were in their thirties; the remaining four were in their twenties. With such exacting daily tasks and with the "sole luxury of the week,"

a walk on Saturday, a day less occupied with school business, it is no wonder that many Brothers were not able to stand the strain nor to husband their strength, and many had to be sent back to Ireland to recuperate after only a comparatively short residence in England.

In Ireland the Brothers were usually supported by the alms of the parishioners. Pay schools were a slow development. In England, however, the Brothers were relieved of the burden of collecting themselves. They were supported, provided with a house, and allowed complete authority over the school; but the school was not their own. They enjoyed no permanency; they depended for stability on the goodwill of the Parish Priest. Too often when he died difficulties arose with his successor which necessitated the withdrawal of the community. Despite this lack of any fixity of tenure in the terms of agreement and the closing of several schools on this account, the Superiors-General and their Councils were still willing to open houses on the old conditions. Apparently a lack of prudence, but it may also show such a desire to help to win souls for Christ as to be forgetful of self-interest. The funds, out of which the Brothers were paid, were created by the offerings of the parishioners and the gifts of the Catholic gentry. Many Priests wished to avail of the Government grants which were made available for education in terms acceptable to Catholics in 1848; but to make the position clear a paragraph or two, seemingly digressive in nature, must be interpolated.

The two main non-Catholic Societies engaged in educational endeavour at this period were the National Society, and the British and Foreign School Society. These alone were recognised by the Government in 1833 as channels for the disbursement of money to be used on education. Up to 1839 the grant was £30,000 per annum. In that year it was decided that grants would be made to schools not dependent on the two Societies provided that the Bible was read in school every day as part of the Religious Instruction. In 1848 a Minute was adopted which permitted grants to be made to Catholic schools. The conditions were

that all enquiries, etc., should be passed through one Committee, that the appointment of Inspectors would be subject to Catholic approval, that the Inspectors would examine secular subjects only, and, lastly, that no salary or gratuity would be given to teachers who were in Holy Orders. Those who were bitterly opposed to Catholics enjoying equal rights of citizenship attacked the measure ; and there was an outcry specifically against the Brothers benefiting from the grant. "*The Manchester Guardian*" on 18th April, 1849, published a leader, generous in tone and commendable in its defence of the rights of minorities. One offending passage in the polemics had run : "The Protestants are warned at this dangerous crisis to obstruct by all lawful means public countenance and support from the public funds being given to the extension of Popish education by means of a monastic (*the Brothers*) and Jesuitical Order among the neglected multitudes in this Protestant land." "*The Manchester Guardian*" drily pointed out : "The education is not "Popish" nor do we find that the medium of its conveyance is a Jesuitical Order. The Christian Brothers are not in Holy Orders ; but those teachers have taken the vows of celibacy, poverty, and obedience, and this constitutes the grievance. We have heard the concurrent testimony of several intelligent writers on education, all of them, Protestant in favour of the Brothers' system of education."

The Brothers did not avail of this grant. But before in brief outline the reasons for this refusal to accept financial aid from the Government are given it will be of advantage to recall on the eve of official encouragement to Catholic education how far the Congregation had spread. There were in 1846 five schools in London, six schools in Liverpool, one in Birmingham, two in Manchester, one each in Preston, Bolton, and Sunderland. Proof of the healthy development of the mission lies in the opening of a Novitiate in Preston in 1839. In 1843 there were nineteen novices, a year later the number was thirty. Many of these novices were ex-pupils of the schools in England or in Ireland. In 1845 Dr. Wiseman, (later

Cardinal), President of Oscott, Co-adjutor to the Midland District suggested opening a Novitiate in Birmingham as well, so promising the prospects seemed.

With the advent of Government aid for denominational education many Priests who found it difficult to support the various schools from the money collected by and subscribed to the Parish School Committee wanted to accept the offer. There was nothing repugnant to Catholic theology or Canon Law in the acceptance of a grant. The Brothers had only one pay school. In Preston from 1826 onwards the parents had been encouraged to contribute directly to the upkeep of the school and Community as they were known to be more well-to-do. The Superiors-General and the General Councils preferred to withdraw the Brothers from the various schools rather than to accept the grant. It was not that they were unwilling to submit to Government regulations. They had often been praised by competent judges of educational worth long before the inspectorial system was introduced in England in 1839.

It would require more space than is at the disposal of the writer to recount and estimate the reasons why the decision which eventually caused the closing of all the Schools of the Congregation was taken. Suffice it to say that those who composed the Governing Body of the Congregations were with very few exceptions men who had had experience of the English Schools and were conversant with the multitudinous details and circumstances that so often cumulatively change an attitude to any problem.

The last house to close was in London, and the year was 1882. Manchester had ceased to have schools conducted by the Brothers in 1880. Liverpool had seen the Brothers depart in 1878 from their last parish school. The establishment in Bolton was closed in 1847, Sunderland in 1849. The other schools had all ceased to be under the control of the congregation by 1880.

It would be difficult, as it always is, precisely to estimate the value of the work done by a school. Its influence is often so intangible and so extensive. Although only at the bar of the Judgment can a

definite summing-up of the worth of the education given by the Brothers in England (1826-1882) be expected yet there were evident signs which pointed to a spirit existing in the schools which could be called of God. There were, for example, many vocations to the Secular Priesthood and to the Religious life ; two ex-pupils were raised to the sacred purple ; many ex-pupils took a vital interest in civic affairs ; and many more gained for themselves and for their schools a reputation for integrity of life. It was a pleasure for one Superior in Liverpool to be able to assert in his annual report that the ex-pupils had so conducted themselves in their employments as to deserve for their honest, manly and Christian bearing, high honour. That is only one of many instances which go to show in general the character of the boys the Brothers had been engaged in teaching. If one of Brothers writing of the Liverpool boys wrote that they were very friendly and talkative, he pointed out a characteristic trait of youth, not a fault indigenous to the youth of Merseyside. Moreover, the epithet "friendly" speaks of a relationship that was not formal but one springing from mutual respect. In fact no influence, salutary and permanent, could ever be wielded without some such mutual sentiments. If we are to judge from such evidence as the written testimony of a Sir Daniel McCabe, Lord Mayor of Manchester, an Old Boy, or the Altar of Our Lady erected in memory of Br. Phelan by grateful ex-pupils then the feelings of regard and admiration entertained by the Brothers for the pupils of their English schools were heartily and sincerely reciprocated.

Few, indeed, if any of the Brothers who had

left England before 1882 thought that within fifty years of the date of the closing of the last schools there would be once again a flourishing mission of nine foundations with 120 Brothers teaching some 4,000 pupils, and that there would be a large Juniorate and Novitiate. In point of fact some were to return a second time to England and to be engaged actively in the education of the youth of the country. No one can doubt but that the labours of those who struggled during those fifty odd years, their prayers and sacrifices on behalf of the Catholic and non-Catholic young boys of their own time is in great part responsible for whatever work the Brothers are now doing in Bath, Birkenhead, Blackpool, Brentwood, Bristol, Great Crosby, Liverpool, Plymouth, and Stoke-on-Trent.

When the first school had been established in Preston in 1826 a circular was sent out to the parents of the boys attending ; from it we quote : "The Religious Brothers . . . direct their attention in a special manner to impress on the tender minds of their pupils the duties and obligations of a Christian, to train them up to early habits of solid virtue, and by a suitable education, to qualify them for business, and for the various departments of commercial life." That two-fold aim is still the purpose of a school conducted by the Christian Brothers, and only in so far as that aim is striven after may the present schools claim to be of the same noble lineage as those that were established by men who had lived with Br. Edmund Ignatius Rice and had imbibed his love for the little ones of Christ's flock.

EXTRACTS FROM A CYNIC'S DICTIONARY.

ABSURDITY. Anything advanced by VI A, contrary to our own opinions, or above our comprehension.

ANCESTRY. The boast of those who have nothing else to boast of.

ARGUMENT. With fools, passion or violence ; in Parliament, a majority ; with men of sense, a sound reason.

BAIT. One animal impaled upon a hook in order to torture a second for the amusement of a third.

COMPLIMENTS. Dust thrown in the eyes of those we want to dupe.

COURAGE. The fear of being thought a coward.

CRITIC. One who is incapable of writing himself, and therefore contents himself with condemning others.

ENVY. The way in which we punish ourselves for being inferior to others.

GRATITUDE. A lively sense of future favours.

Old Boys' Letters.

UPHOLLAND LETTER.

UPHOLLAND COLLEGE,
WIGAN, LANCs.
June 11th, 1944.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I have just been reading some of the back numbers of your magazine, and I notice in one of the Upholland letters that it is stated that "your request for a letter arrived just after Upholland's greatest day of the year: Ordination Day." It is quite traditional now that this should happen, hence it is only fitting that the main purpose of our Summer Letter should be to chronicle the part played by St. Edward's on that day.

First of all I think you will join us in congratulating Fr. Bernard Wyche, an old boy of St. Edward's who went from Upholland to the Venerable and was ordained there last February—*Ad multos annos!* Among the ordinati here were Gerard Gilbertson, Kevin Ashton and William Boyle who received the subdiaconate; F. Goulbourn and Kevin Walsh received the 3rd and 4th Minor Orders, Exorcist and Acolyte, while J. Higham received the Orders of Porter and Lector. You see that St. Edward's is still playing its part.

Well, I suppose like us you will be getting ready for exams. and afterwards an ever welcome rest. We wish you every success and a very happy holiday.

Best wishes to all Edwardians serving with His Majesty's Forces.

Oremus pro invicem.

Yours sincerely,
UPHOLLAND.

* * *

SIMMARIAN LETTER.

June, 1944.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Amidst the terrific tension produced by the opening of the Second Front, preparations for Finals, Inter-Coll. Athletics, etc., it is rather

difficult to compose oneself sufficiently well to give you all the news about Edwardians at Simmarics. I'll do my best.

Before I commence reporting on the "residents," there is some news about past-men. We had a visit from Barney Ludden during the Whit-break—who has not long returned from Canada, as a Sergeant Bomb-Aimer. R.A.F. Ken Keith, who was here with Barney, is also in the R.A.F. I'm sure all Edwardians will join with me in wishing them both "Bon Voyage."

That is all I can tell you about the Past—not very much, I'm afraid. At Simmarics now we still have seven Edwardians, three of whom J. Callander, L. Ludden and B. Walsh will be taking finals this June, leaving McGrail, Gill, Doyle and Mc-Loughlin to carry on. So far they have lived up to their predecessors high standard—McGrail and Gill, shining in both Rugger, and Soccer activities. I hope their number is increased next term.

To all those unfortunates taking S.C. and H.S.C. this Summer, we wish the very best of luck, and may they obtain good results. And now, brief though my letter is, I must close, I am in a state of "pleasant" anticipation of Final Exams., so Cheerio, Edwardians,

SIMMARIAN.

* * *

OLD BOYS' LETTERS.

THE UNIVERSITY,
LIVERPOOL.
Summer, 1944.

Dear Mr. Editor,

When life here under wartime conditions tends towards the monotony of all work and no play, it is truly a happy duty to write that the Edwardian spirit, never quenched, lives on among the large number of students from the Alma Mater. Although the sword of Damocles of being "sent down" for failure in examinations hovers continually over our heads, and study continues with

feverish intensity, more especially in the week before exams., Edwardians continue to gather in little groups to engage in a conversation from which eventually arises the well-known formula of, "Do you remember . . . ?" The happy memory of pleasant days shared in common forms a bond which unites us into an affectionate fraternity.

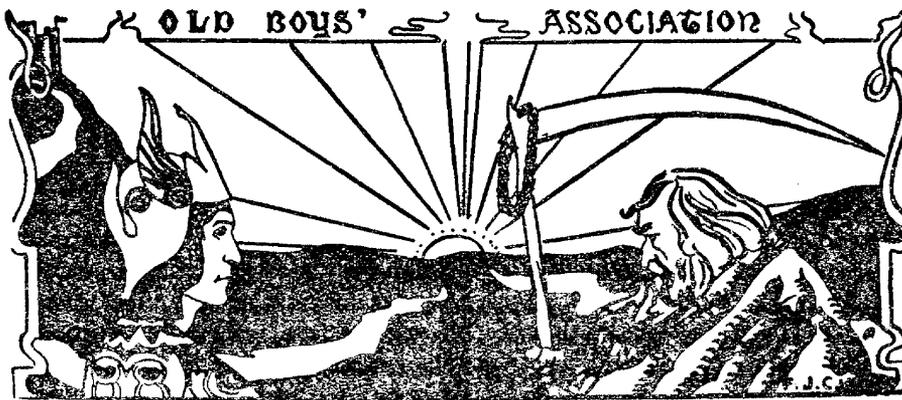
It is not often that we see John Bates, who is now fast approaching his final examination, having passed his Final M.B. Part II with his usual success. Roger O'Donnell, on the other hand, is a well-known figure in sports circles ; once again he won the Lord Derby Victor Ludorum and he has played no small part in recent 'Varsity sports successes. But Roger's achievements also extend to the academic sphere in which, with Frank Irving, he has been admitted to Honours for final B.Eng. In the Arts Faculty, now that Aubrey Yates has taken up his Army course at Edinburgh, John Begley and Brian Burke are left in the pursuit of sweetness and light, and, like Joe Brown and Harry Dunne in Science, are busy preparing for exams. Gus Cunningham in Medicine, and

James Connolly and Peter Broadbridge in Engineering are also following in the tradition of successes set by our predecessors.

It was a great pleasure to see once again the happy faces of Brendan Cunningham and Ernie Shield, both on leave from the R.A.F. They both looked well, and, despite the fact that their studies were cut short, are thoroughly enjoying life.

While these visits of past students remind us that many more will be leaving us for the Forces or for new appointments, it is a great consolation to us to remember that the coming term will bring the usual number of Freshers to fill the empty spaces. Despite our apparent preoccupation with our own studies, such thoughts are often in our minds. We do frequently think of those who are dreading the approach of S.C. and H.S.C. examinations, and, indeed, Mr. Editor, we can think of no more fitting conclusion than the wish that they may have every success, and the prayer that it may in truth be so.

Yours sincerely,
'VARSITY.



THE EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1944-45.

- President :** Mr. A. CUNNINGHAM.
- Vice-President :** Mr. G. J. ALSTON.
- Hon. Chaplain :** Rev. Fr. J. KIERAN.
- Hon. Treasurer :** Mr. FRANK HOWARD.
- Hon. Secretary :** Mr. B. WHALLEY, Ph.D.

Executive Committee :

- Messrs. G. GROWNEY, M.Sc., T. BURKE, G. SUTTON, J. F. MULLEN, M.A.

House Committee :

- Messrs. F. NAVEIN (Secretary), W. PARRY, J. NAVEIN, G. HUNTER.

Subscriptions :

Life Membership	...	...	...	£3 3s. 0d.
Association	...	...	...	5s. 0d.
Club Member	...	...	...	3d. weekly.
H.M. Forces	...	...	...	2/6 per annum.

Club Headquarters :
 BISHOP'S COURT,
 SANDFIELD PARK,
 LIVERPOOL, 12.

We are writing these notes in the second week of the Invasion. Naturally our thoughts are of those Old Boys who may be taking an active part in the one now in progress or will be doing so in those that are imminent. That does not mean, of course, that we are thinking less of those who by land, sea or air are already engaged in other theatres of war. The present days do but emphasise their need of our earnest prayers for their safety and well-being.

This is also that time of the year when a number of boys will be taking their School and Higher School—we wish them every success!—before entering on the great adventure. Once again, no doubt, Messrs. Cunningham and Alston will have made their appeal for their support of the Old Boys' Association and Club at Bishop's Court. May we, in these notes, again remind them of the value their support will be? For five years the Club has weathered the storm. Now that the prospect is so much brighter, do not think we are pessimistic if we say that financial difficulties may bar our path to post war security. The fact that we are still a going concern is due in a very large measure to the generous consideration shown to us by the Cheshire Lines Committee. We are deeply grateful to them for the way in which they have been assisting us to meet the difficulties incidental to a seriously depleted membership. The time no doubt will come, and perhaps has already come, when we shall have to stand on our own feet. If that should happen the Club will need the support of as wide a membership as it can possibly attract.

The exigencies of the times of course reduce Club attractions to the barest minimum. During the winter months there are Socials which have shown a marked improvement and a welcome, though small, source of Club revenue. The Table Tennis team has repeated last year's success by winning a second time in succession the Bartholomew Cup. New blood is required to set going a second and third team.

During the Summer months hiking on foot and

wheel has been a popular activity. Pleasant trips to the Wirral over Whit week-end were much enjoyed, the party returning to Bishop's Court for light refreshment.

Intending new comers should not wait till the official reception at the Annual Freshers' Social in October but should make themselves known without delay. They will be assured of a hearty welcome.

* * *

A. G. M.

No annual meeting was held this year as the difficulty of bringing together a sufficient number did not justify holding one. The Committee, substantially as it stood in the past year, will endeavour to carry on for a further period.

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IN MEMORIAM.

Since the last issue of these notes the sad news has been received of the death on Active Service of six Old Boys.

Pte. John Charles Dunne, R.A.M.C.

Mr. P. H. Dunne (1919-1925) writes that his brother Private John Charles Dunne, R.A.M.C., (1925-28) (Ushaw College 1928-34) was killed in action in Hong Kong on December 18th, 1941. "An appreciation," writes his brother, "of his work in Hong Kong and words I have had with his superiors who knew him there leaves no doubt that he was carrying on as would become an Old Edwardian."

Corporal W. C. Fives, Royal Ulster Rifles was at St. Edward's from 1934 to 1939. In November 1943 he was killed in action in the Central Mediterranean Forces.

Vincent T. Shaw, R.A.F.

Vincent Shaw was at St. Edward's from 1925-29. In 1940 he volunteered for the R.A.F. and served in the Far East for two and a half years. He was

reported missing after Singapore. His family received news on the 25th of February that he had been lost on 29th of November in a transport ship while being moved from Java to Japan.

F./Lt. Thomas Shaughnessy, R.A.F.

Last January the sad news was received that Tom Shaughnessy was killed while operational flying on the East Coast.

Sg.-Pilot Francis V. MacFarlane, R.A.F.

We have just heard that Francis MacFarlane has been killed on active service. He came to St. Edward's in September, 1933, and left in March 1939 to take up a post in H. M. Office of Works, London. He joined the R.A.F. in 1942 and has been with the British North Africa Forces for two years.

Flying Officer Archibald Dey.

We have just learned with deep regret of the death on Active Service of Archibald Dey. He came to St. Edwards in 1935 where he stayed till July, 1940. As an Old Boy he joined the College Flight of the A.T.C., from which he later entered the R.A.F.

To the parents of these Old Boys we offer our deepest sympathy in their sorrow. They will be remembered in our prayers. R.I.P.

* * *

MISSING.

Leonard Smith, R.A.F.

John McQuade, R.A.F.

We have had no further news since January last of these Old Boys. To their families we offer our heartfelt sympathy and assure them of our prayers for their safety.

* * *

PRISONERS OF WAR.

We have heard that Luke Hogan has been wounded and is a prisoner of war.

In the last issue we reported receiving a p.c. from Andrew Welch, P.O.W. Italy. We have since heard that he is now in Switzerland. We hope that news is true.

* * *

DECORATIONS.

For work in a Russian convoy James Miles Goodwin has been awarded the D.S.M.

Maurice John Spencer ('23-'27) of Wallasey, serving in the R.A.F. has been decorated with the D.F.C.

To both Old Boys we offer our warmest congratulations.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS.

We congratulate Lt. Dermot Doyle, R.N.V.R. and Miss Winifred Gallagher on their engagement.

Congratulations to F./O. George Adamson on his marriage to Miss Diamond.

Congratulations to the following Old Boys on their marriage :

Lt.-Cdr. Raymond Pratt, D.S.C., R.N.V.R. ;

P./O. H. A. Shennan, R.A.F. ;

Gerry Sutton ;

J. Banks.

* * *

GENERAL.

Here are some interesting items of news that we have received from time to time.

Fr. William Briscoe, has arrived in Hospital in England from Normandy. He landed with Airborne Troops and received wounds from which we sincerely hope and pray he will soon make a complete recovery.

We have had news recently from Paddy Richardson who has reached Italy via North Africa. He had many interesting things to say of the nomadic peoples he met on his way and one or two reflections on his nomadic habits when in the "Sixth" at St. Edwards'.

An interesting Old Boy we met very recently is H. Rogers to whom we offer our congratulations on getting his Second Mate's ticket. Whilst in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, he visited a Church and was invited to a meal at the Canteen. There he met Sgt. Obs. McGrail and Maurice Dillon of the R.A.F. and exchanged news.

From Richard Greene (R.A.F.) we received the "gen." on himself and twin brother Joseph (R.A.F.). Richard is in Egypt, Joseph in North Africa. Thanks, Richard; Good Luck, Twins!

Sub. Lt. Herbert Langley, R.N.V.R., sends news of Old Boys which we gratefully acknowledge.

Tommy Maher must be in "hot water" somewhere if one may judge from the delightfully perforated letter the censor passed on!

Two interesting visitors lately were Frank Molyneux (R.N.) and Sgt. Signaller T. Reilly (R.A.F.). Both have been seeing much of the world.

Frank Loughlin and his brother Fr. Loughlin, O.S.B. have been round lately. Frank is now a Major in the Home Guard.

Frank Jones (R.A.F.) prisoner of war in Germany has, we hear, been promoted Fl./Lt.

Lt.-Commander Buckley, R.N. "having had a bit of a mawling in this war" has now retired to the country to settle down and wants to renew associations through the School Mag.

Among recent recruits to H.M. Forces are Tommy Ambrose and John O'Brien. Both go to the R.N. as coders.

We have also heard that Bernard Haslam is in the Royal Corps. of Signals and has been in Italy since September, 1943.

We trust that these notes will revive happy memories.

* * *

OLD BOYS IN THE FORCES.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST V.

Ambrose, Thomas, R.N.
 Bradford, Michael, R.A.F.
 Rev. Fr. Briscoe, William, C.F.
 Lt. Cdr. Buckley, D.M., R.N.
 Cadley, Leo, R.N.
 Clementson, Peter, R.A.F.
 Cunningham, R., R.A.S.C.
 Dunne, J. C., R.A.M.C. (R.I.P.)

Fives, William C., Royal Ulster Rifles, (R.I.P.)

Fox, R. T., R.A.F.

Gilmore, Fred, R.A.F.

Goodwin, James Miles, D.S.M., M.N.

Greene, Joseph, R.A.F.

Greene, Richard, R.A.F.

Haslam, Bernard, R.C.Sigs.

Hogan, Frank, K.L. Regt.

Jackson, Tom, A. Tank C.

Jenkins, Bob., R.A.F.

Sub. Lt. Langley, Herbert, R.N.V.R.

MacFarlane, Francis V., R.A.F. (R.I.P.)

McGowan, John, R.E.M.E.

McGowan, Terry, R.A.F.

McGrail, W., R.A.F.

Molyneux, Peter, R.N.

Moran, Frank, R.A.F.

O'Brien, John, R.N.

O'Neil, Terry, Army Dispatch Rider.

Rafter, V., R.A.F.

Rimmer, R. P., R. Armd. C.

Rimmer, William, Lowther and Border Yeo.

Shaw, V. T., R.A.F. (R.I.P.)

P./O. Shennan, H. A., R.A.F.

Shennan, Tom, A.C.P. (Comb. Ops.)

P./O. Shaughnessy, Tom, R.A.F. (R.I.P.)

Smith, Leonard, R.A.F. (Missing).

P./O. Spencer, Maurice, D.F.C., R.A.F.

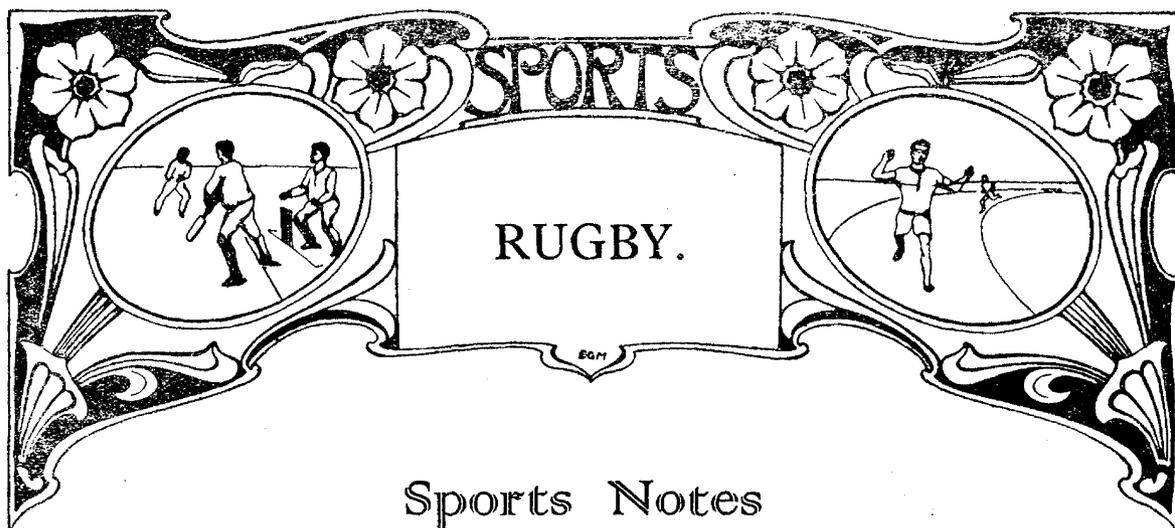
Welch, Andrew, R.C.Sigs.

Welch, Denis, R.A.F.

Winstanley, Frank, Wireless Op.

Winstanley, Gerard, R.A.F.

While compiling these notes we have observed many names of Old Boys who have been serving in the Forces for two or more years. We cannot but think that there are many more whose names have not been added to our lists. It is our earnest wish to make our record as complete as possible. Once again, while thanking those who have been so helpful, we ask the co-operation of readers and should like interesting items of information of serving Old Boys.



Sports Notes

RUGBY NOTES

This has been a disappointing season for the two senior teams. This was due in part to the lack of weight and height—resulting in many injuries to the sides. No less than thirty names appear on the list of those who played for the 1st XV alone; only one, M. Wren, played in all games. In fact, it was not uncommon to have to field a side half of which were “reserves.” Naturally the 2nd XV suffered very severely as a consequence.

The lack of success was also partially due to the fact that no regularly competent pair of “feet” could be found in the side. Up to now we have been blessed with able place-kickers; this year we had none and no less than five games were lost which might otherwise have been won. Further there were occasions when the side certainly did not produce the “go” traditional with Edwardians.

J. Brown was a very resourceful scrum-half and made the most of the few opportunities which came his way. No matter what the score he played full-out to the final whistle. As a referee on one occasion remarked—when we were playing away—“I like your captain; he never gives up.” The score was then near the thirties against us. School Colours were awarded as a tribute to his services.

W. Davies was an especially useful member of the pack, his experience serving him in good stead. With the captain, he was the chief scorer of the side and by his quick thinking and acting was always a threat to opponents. School Colours were awarded to him also.

Of the other forwards several were noticeable in their own way, but collectively they were not always able for far heavier and taller sides. F. Taylor was very capable as “hooker”—only to see the fruits of his labours often wasted by the scrum being pushed off the ball. A. Crossley was a trojan in his play as a second-row forward and with R. Whearty gave of his best. B. Potts played his part as a typical front-row forward and was

very useful in loose “mauls.” M. Wren was outstanding by reason of his spirit and determination. More than once hard-fought-for tries were his reward.

The backs suffered from lack of many opportunities. D. Martin was a very useful stand-off half, having a neat cut through and strong tackle. J. Massey was many a time a saviour to the side by his cleverdefensive kicking; L. Sinnot was safe in his tackling and improved his fielding of the ball as the season progressed. E. Burns, though lacking the speed, never gave up trying on the wing awhile J. Johnson having the speed, rarely seemed able to cap his efforts.

To all others, and they are many, thanks are due for their services.

HOUSE SHIELD

Soon after the commencement of the competition Mersey established a lead which no House could overtake. Special mention should be made of the three Junior teams of the House which won all their games.

Final Positions

Mersey (W. Davies) ...	140 pts.
Domingo (J. Brown) ...	122 pts.
Hope (F. X. Wallser) ...	93 pts.
Sefton (A. Crossley) ...	77 pts.

We had two games with the Old Boys during the past season. The first was well contested though the Old Boys were below full strength. The second game, in the Spring Term was disappointing. The Old Boys were, again, not at full strength. It did, however, give us an opportunity of seeing that J. McGrail and F. Gill have lost none of their craft. It was pleasing, too, to meet once more R. Lane—a truly loyal member of former sides. To all the others who did their part thanks are due and we express the hope that one day there will be a grand, permanent Old Rugby Club.

Results

1st XV

Nov. 20—(H.)	v. St. Anselm's College	...	13—16
Dec. 4—(H.)	v. Catholic Grammar School, St. Helens	...	3—14
Dec. 11—(A.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	nil—11
Jan. 22—(A.)	v. Liverpool Collegiate	...	5—6
Jan. 29—(H.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	8—0
Feb. 5—(A.)	v. Catholic Grammar School	...	5—22
Feb. 12—(A.)	v. Rock Ferry High School	...	3—35
Feb. 19—(A.)	v. Wirral Grammar School	...	nil—17
Feb. 26—(A.)	v. St. Anselm's College	...	nil—6
Mar. 4—(H.)	v. Liverpool Collegiate	...	3—3
Mar. 11—(A.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	nil—17
Mar. 8—(H.)	v. Wallasey Grammar School	...	5—29
Mar. 25—(H.)	v. St. Anselm's College	...	19—0
April 1—(H.)	v. Old Boys	...	24—3

Summary for Season 1943-44.

Played 21, Won 5, Drew 1, Lost 15, Points 138-277

2nd XV

Dec. 11—(H.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	0—48
Jan. 29—(A.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	0—54
Feb. 12—(H.)	v. Rock Ferry High School	...	3—18
Feb. 19—(H.)	v. Wirral Grammar School	...	6—14
Mar. 11—(H.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	0—26
Mar. 18—(A.)	v. Wallasey Grammar School	...	3—29

Summary

Played 10, Lost 10, Points For 15 Against 335.

Bantam XV

Nov. 6—(A.)	v. Wirral Grammar School	W	15—0
„ 13—(H.)	v. Wallasey Grammar School	W	50—0
„ 20—(A.)	v. St. Anselm's College	...	W 9—0
„ 27—(A.)	v. Collegiate School	...	W 22—3
Dec. 11—(H.)	St. Mary's College	...	W 11—9
Jan. 22—(H.)	v. Collegiate School	...	W 34—0
„ 29—(A.)	v. St. Mary's College	...	L 10—24
Feb. 12—(H.)	v. Rock Ferry High School	W	59—0
„ 19—(H.)	v. Wirral Grammar School	W	25—0
„ 26—(H.)	v. St. Anselm's College	...	W 29—0
Mar. 4—(A.)	v. Collegiate School	...	W 15—0
„ 11—(H.)	St. Mary's College	...	W 3—0
„ 18—(A.)	v. Wallasey Grammar School	W	34—0
„ 25—(A.)	St. Anselm's College	...	W 20—0

A glance at the above list of games played and won ought to be a sufficient indication of the reputation of our Bantam XV, which was ably captained by T. Sharrock. As the season progressed the team blended splendidly whilst one and all could always be relied upon not to let the team down. To G. Hickey, our stand-off, G. Formby our scrum-half, and R. Batin a diminutive but fearless left wing forward special praise is due.

TEAM : T. Sharrock (Captain), R. Hughes, N. Doran, W. Price, R. Flinton, R. Hill, J. Doyle, G. Hickey, J. Dolan, R. Hammonds, R. Batin, F. Short, J. Carter, G. Formby, J. Bretherton.

JUNIOR BANTAMS.

v. St. Mary's College, Crosby

27/11/43	H.	6—9
11/12/43	A.	0—27
19/ 2/44	A.	0—19
25/ 3/44	H.	19—0

CRICKET NOTES.

Considering present day circumstances both senior sides have reasonable records; while the "Chicks XI" has been very successful.

The batting of the 1st XI is very uneven: some good individual scores have come from J. Brown, J. Massey, J. Boggan, D. Martin and A. Rigby. J. Carter has proved his worth by his ability to keep his end up in difficult circumstances while other wickets fell rapidly. On the other hand the tail has too often failed disastrously; once the last four wickets added 1, on another occasion—none. In general it is above the standard of the past two seasons.

The fielding is patchy; some have been very quick.

S.E.C. v. Birkenhead Institute at Sandfield Park.

S.E.C.			
J. Massey, b Binyon	...	...	2
E. O'Leary, caught, b Athol	...	...	16
J. Daybell, played on b Binyon	...	...	0
D. Martin, caught, b Binyon	...	...	17
W. Davies, caught, b Pollard	...	...	0
J. Brown, run out	...	...	13
J. Carter, run out	...	...	3
F. Johnson, caught, b Lloyd	...	...	0
A. Rigby, b Pollard	...	...	2
A. Croft, caught, b Lloyd	...	...	7
E. Burns, not out	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	6
Total	...	...	67

BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE			
Peers, c Carter, b Davies	...	...	6
Owen, l.b.w., b Davies	...	...	4
Binyon, b Brown	...	...	3
Lloyd, b Brown	...	...	0
Pollard, b Brown	...	...	10
Thomas, b Brown	...	...	1
Pringle, b Brown	...	...	0
Hosker, b Davies	...	...	4
Ware, run out	...	...	2
Duckworth, not out	...	...	0
Athol, run out	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	12

S.E.C. BOWLING					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
J. Brown	7	3	9	5	1.8
W. Davies	7	1	21	3	7.0
Result: S.E.C. won by 25 runs.					

S.E.C. v. St. Francis Xavier's College at Sandfield Park.

S.E.C.			
O'Leary, E., c Horan b Saxon	...	...	2
Massey, J., b Horan	...	...	2
Martin, D., b Horan	...	...	6
Carter, J., played on b Saxon	...	...	8
Davies, W., b O'Dwyer	...	...	11
Brown, J., b Saxon	...	...	7
Merivale, T., b Saxon	...	...	0
Croft, A., l.b.w. b Horan	...	...	12
Rigby, A., c McCartney b Saxon	...	...	1
Ryan, A., not out	...	...	1
Daybell, J., b Saxon	...	...	4
Extras	...	...	3
Total	...	...	57

S.F.X.			
Macentaget, b Brown	...	...	21
McCartney, b Brown	...	...	4
Horan, b Brown	...	...	0
Leggett, c Brown b Davies	...	...	3
Kane, b Davies	...	...	2
Riddle, l.b.w. b Brown	...	...	0
Kenny, b Davies	...	...	0
O'Donnell, b Brown	...	...	0
Saxon, b Brown	...	...	8
O'Dwyer, not out	...	...	2
Geary, b Brown	...	...	3
Total	...	...	43

S.E.C. BOWLING					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
Davies, W.	9	5	6	3	2
Brown, J.	10	4	19	7	2.71
Ryan, A.	2	0	13	0	—
Martin	2	1	5	0	—

Result : S.E.C. won by 14 runs.

S.E.C. v. Rock Ferry High School at Rock Ferry.

S.E.C.			
J. Brown, c Sweeney b Sweeney	...	...	8
E. O'Lerry, run out	...	...	2
J. Carter, run out	...	...	0
D. Martin, b Sweeney	...	...	1
J. Boggan, c Slack b Sweeney	...	...	2
J. Massey, b Vaux	...	...	0
W. Davies, not out	...	...	8
A. Croft, b Vaux	...	...	0
A. Rigby, c Griffiths b Vaux	...	...	0
A. Ryan, l.b.w. b Vaux	...	...	0
E. Burns, b Slack	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	2
Total	...	...	24

ROCK FERRY.			
Vaux, c Davies b Davies	...	...	4
Western, b Davies	...	...	0
Creoror, run out	...	...	0
Hogg, b Brown	...	...	5
Ingman, l.b.w. b Brown	...	...	21
Sweeney, b Brown	...	...	0
Griffiths, c Davies b Brown	...	...	4
Slack, run out	...	...	1
Loxham, b Davies	...	...	3
Kerreush, not out	...	...	1
Jones, run out	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	18
Total	...	...	58

S.E.C. BOWLING					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
Davies	9	1	20	3	6.6
Brown	9	0	19	4	4.75
Carter	1	0	1	0	—

Result : Rock Ferry won by 34 runs.

S.E.C. v. Waterloo Grammar School 1st XI.

S.E.C.			
J. Brown, c Jenkins b Maddick	...	...	28
E. O'Leary, b Wright	...	...	0
J. Carter, b Maddick	...	...	14
J. Massey, b Maddick	...	...	2
D. Martin, run out	...	...	1
T. Merivale, b Evans	...	...	4
W. Davies, c Evans, b Maddick	...	...	5
A. Croft, b Evans	...	...	0
A. Rigby, c Cryspin b Maddick	...	...	0
A. Ryan, not out	...	...	0
L. Sinnott, c Jenkins, b Maddick	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	2
Total	...	...	56

At Sandfield Park.

WATERLOO G.S.			
Keelan, c Sinnott, b Davies	...	...	0
Rimmer, b Brown	...	...	0
Mitchell, l.b.w. b Davies	...	...	2
Evans, c Davies b Brown	...	...	0
Franklin, l.b.w. b Brown	...	...	6
Wright, c Davies b Brown	...	...	2
Hoggins, b Brown	...	...	1
Jenkins, b Davies	...	...	0
Charlton, c Brown b Davies	...	...	0
Cryspin, not out	...	...	2
Maddick, c Brown b Davies	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	4
Total	...	...	19

S.E.C. BOWLING.					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
Davies	11	6	11	5	2.2
Brown	11	9	6	5	1.2

Result : S.E.C. won by 37 runs.

S.E.C. v. St. Francis Xavier's 1st XI at Melwood.

S.E.C.			
J. Brown, c O'Dwyer b Horan	...	...	11
E. O'Leary, c Leddy b Horan	...	...	0
J. Carter, c O'Dwyer b Smith	...	...	7
D. Martin, b Horan	...	...	5
J. Boggan, c Leddy b Saxon	...	...	4
T. Merivale, c Kane b Horan	...	...	0
A. Croft, c Leddy b Horan	...	...	6
W. Davies, c and b Horan	...	...	2
A. Rigby, not out	...	...	4
A. Ryan, c McCartney b Horan	...	...	0
L. Sinnott, c Smith b Saxon	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	7
Total	...	...	48

S.F.X.			
Leddy, c Croft b Brown	...	...	43
McEntagart, c Merivale b Brown	...	...	4
McCartney, c Merivale b Brown	...	...	1
Riddle, c Croft b Brown	...	...	0
Leggett, b Davies	...	...	3
Kenny, played on b Brown	...	...	0
Horan, not out	...	...	1
Smith, did not bat	...	...	—
Kane, did not bat	...	...	—
Saxon, did not bat	...	...	—
O'Dwyer, did not bat	...	...	—
Extras	...	...	1
Total for 6 wickets	...	...	53

S.E.C. BOWLING.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
Davies	11	7	14	1	1.4
Brown	12	2	31	5	6.2
Boggan	2	1	7	—	—

Result : S.F.X. won by 4 wickets.

S.E.C. v. Quarry Bank 1st XI at Harthill Road.

S.E.C.			
J. Brown, c Lloyd b Peter	...	...	1
J. Carter, c Cornish b Peter	...	...	0
D. Martin, c Lloyd b Peter	...	...	11
J. Boggan, b Jones	...	...	26
T. E. O'Leary, c Maxwell b Jones	...	...	2
A. Rigby, played on b Maxwell	...	...	17
W. Davies, b Williams	...	...	7
J. Massey, not out	...	...	1
T. Merivale, c Jones b Williams	...	...	0
A. Croft, b Maxwell	...	...	0
L. Sinnott, b Maxwell	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	3
Total	...	...	68

QUARRY BANK.

Bateson, c Davies b Davies	...	...	15
Williams, c Merivale b Brown	...	...	7
Jones, b Brown	...	...	19
Cornish, b Davies	...	...	0
Allen, c O'Leary b Brown	...	...	17
Wilkinson, b Brown	...	...	4
Arden, b Brown	...	...	1
Lloyd, b Carter	...	...	8
Cope, not out	...	...	4
Peter, c Brown b Carter	...	...	10
Maxwell, l.b.w. b Brown	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	3
Total	...	...	89

S.E.C. BOWLING.

	B.	O.	R.	W.	AV.
Brown	16	5	21	6	3.5
Davies	11	1	35	2	17.5
Rigby	2	0	11	0	—
Massey	3	2	2	0	—
Carter	3	0	18	2	9

Result : Quarry Bank won by 21 runs.

S.E.C. v. St. Mary's, Crosby, at Sandfield Park.

S.E.C.			
E. O'Leary, c Swift b Prescott	...	...	0
J. Carter, b Tickle	...	...	2
J. Brown, c Broadhurst b Bishop	...	...	2
J. Boggan, c Lee, b Bishop	...	...	4
D. Martin, c Nolan b Bishop	...	...	5
A. Rigby, b Tickle	...	...	3
J. Massey, b Lee	...	...	29
T. Merivale, b Lee	...	...	4
J. Daybell, b Lee	...	...	0
F. Johnson, b Tickle	...	...	0
B. Potts, not out	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	2
Total	...	...	53

ST. MARY'S.

Lee, b Brown	...	...	0
Tickle, run out	...	...	2
Swift, b Brown	...	...	3
Hughes, c Boggan b Carter	...	...	0
Broadhurst, c Carter b Carter	...	...	0
Nolan, b Brown	...	...	8
Higgins, c Daybell b Carter	...	...	5
Prescott, run out	...	...	1
Murphy, not out	...	...	11
Cronin, c Merivale b Brown	...	...	2
Bishop, c Merivale b Brown	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	7
Total	...	...	39

S.E.C. BOWLING.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	AV.
J. Brown	14	8	11	5	2.2
J. Carter	6	1	11	3	3.6
A. Rigby	8	3	10	0	—

Result : S.E.C. won by 14 runs.

2nd XI.

April 29—(A)	v. Birkenhead Institute	... W	47—31
May 6—(A)	v. St. Francis Xavier's	... L	13—32
„ 13—(H.)	v. Rock Ferry High School	L	51—72
„ 20—(A.)	v. Waterloo Gram. School	W	83—20
„ 30—(H.)	v. St. Francis Xavier's	... L	41—45
June 3—(H.)	v. Quarry Bank High School	W	52—49
„ 10—(A.)	v. St. Mary's College	... L	34—47

“CHICKS XI.”

6-5-'44 (A.)	v. S.F.X.	... ..	83—29
3-6-'44 (H.)	v. Quarry Bank	... ..	38—17
10-6-'44 (H.)	v. S.F.X.	... ..	89—31

Special thanks are due to J. Burns and others who so selflessly “scored” for the various sides and prepared the above list of results.