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(Nicol), I. R. N. SIMPSON (Simpson).

W. E. Ward, Esq., B.Sc.

TO MANY of those who read this tribute, the news of Mr. Ward's retirement from Strathallan will come as a surprise; by all of us, I know, it has been, or will be, received with the deepest regret. For his leaving means not only the termination of a headmastership of over five years, but also the closing of a chapter which opened as long ago as 1922, when our School was still very young, and which embraced the years between until the present day, when Strathallan ranks among the public schools of Scotland.

During those 26 years, many of them trying and difficult, particularly the war years, and those during the economic depression in the late twenties and the early thirties, Mr. Ward saw the School's fortunes fluctuate, but ever gave not only his best, but his all to the School. Imbued as he was with such loyalty and devotion, he achieved much for which every Strathallian must want to say, very sincerely: "Thank you, sir."

Some of us will best remember him for his genius in imparting to us his masterly knowledge of mathematics and physics. Never could there have been a better teacher of these subjects. Many of us even to this day must bless our good fortune at having been privileged to learn under him. Others will remember him as second master to Mr. Riley at a time when the Founder was stricken with ill-health and Mr. Ward carried the burden on his own shoulders. Others more recently will remember him as our headmaster, on whom fell the unenviable task of assuming the mantle of the Founder at the most difficult period of the war, when the School had virtually only a skeleton staff and when the running of any school was beset with the thorniest of problems. However, he succeeded not only in keeping the School in being, but in re-establishing our position during the post-war years.

But for whatever reasons we remember Mr. Ward we all know him as a good and faithful servant of the School, which owes to him an infinite debt of gratitude. Moreover, each and every one of us knows him as an inspiring teacher and a true friend, who will be missed by the staff and parents as well as by the boys.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ward we wish most sincerely good health, success and happiness in the future, and assure them that we look forward to opportunities to extend to them a warm welcome whenever they can come to visit us either in our homes or at Strathallan.

GILMOUR LEBURN,

Chairman of the Board of Governors,
President of the Strathallian Club.

A Farewell Message

I LITTLE thought thus early, this Summer Term of 1948, I should be writing words of farewell to my numerous friends — staff, old boys and present pupils — at Strathallan. It is doubtless well that we are left in ignorance of what fate has stored up for us round the corner; we are thus enabled to laugh, to love and to live in serenity and contentment in our present environment with “no thought for the morrow.”

The environment of Strathallan has, I feel, particularly this happy atmosphere, and all who live here even for a comparatively short time, catch something of its character. Having dwelt here for so long, it is natural that I have grown to love everything that is Strathallan — the fine old house, the verdant lawns, the trees, the shady woods, the playing fields, even the laboratories and class rooms, for I know them all. I have grown to cherish still more those intimate associations which are the essence of the spirit of Strathallan, those friendships which exist between all its inmates and which are not denied to a headmaster or his staff. They mature gradually and become cemented by contacts all over the school — in the dormitory, at the class room desk, on the school playing field and in those multitudinous activities which make up the daily life. Those many friendships I have formed I shall remember and treasure, and only hope that I shall have the opportunity of renewing them from time to time. For the loyalty which has always been extended to me by the boys of Strathallan I am deeply appreciative; I know that my circle of friends is very wide.

Nearly twenty-six years is a long time to spend in one school. If one felt discontented it would be impossible; but if one felt that it was not worth while, that one was not contributing something to the common good, it would be equally impossible. I hope that my sojourn at Strathallan has given a message to the School, although mere words could never accomplish such an aim. Looked at from one point of view, the purpose of every school is the same, to educate its pupils in the truest sense of the word and to make them worthy of taking their place in a progressive Christian society. Yet every school is unique, for it imposes its own personality and its own distinctiveness, sometimes almost unconsciously, on the life to which it is guiding its children. St. Paul, although he was so fully aware of the universality of the gospel

he was teaching, and although he so frequently stressed the unity of purpose, of faith and creed behind it, spoke in one epistle of the message he was giving to his converts as "my gospel." In a very small degree, I have endeavoured to leave behind at Strathallan my own contribution to the magnificent work of education which goes on, in unity of purpose, at all good schools. That contribution has been at the outset to introduce you to the liberal culture which we as a twentieth century Christian society inherit, the culture which embraces all that religion, music, art, literature, science and the many activities of man, all gifts from God's eternal providence, contain. But to sample such gifts is not enough, and our modern civilisation is sick largely because of the tendency to flit lightly from one thing to another, leaving so much unfinished. We have to work at all things, to struggle in our games and manual activities, to study hard to comprehend the mysteries of science, to read and read again the treasures of literature before their beauty becomes apparent, to learn the technicalities of art and music before we can really appreciate their finest forms; even the stirrings of the soul in religious feeling and thought can be stifled if we do not provide constant opportunity for their expression. That is my message.

I do not wish to talk about the difficulties of the last eight years; the times have been unkind to many other places besides Strathallan. It is to the future that we must look—a future which holds out for all the boys of this school, about to start the enterprise of living, such wonderful opportunities; and a future, too, which offers the School, securely established, magnificently housed, well known by many Scottish people, and guided by men who love it, a chance to rise to heights undreamt of in the past. It is the School's opportunity to educate and house in its portals many boys who in the years to come will be the accepted leaders of our country in their respective fields of activity. Some of the present boys will remember my telling them about the inscription which appeared on the lych gate of one of the bombed churches of Plymouth after one of the worst nights that sadly-afflicted town experienced. The church was destroyed, but the faith of one of its children was such that, in the early hours of the morning, he could chalk on the walls of the gate the single word: "Resurgam." This is how difficulties are overcome.

To all at Strathallan, to the boys at school particularly, but to Old Boys and my colleagues on the staff as well, I say good-bye and God-speed wherever you may go.

W. E. WARD.

Reminiscences

I AM tempted to start "Once upon a time," which is the approved opening of all good fairy tales, for these reminiscences are to me like passages from Hans Andersen, featuring the fortunes and adventures of a young man who strove for an ideal, and the success which attended these struggles. Fairy tales, fortunately, are invariably delightful figments of the imagination, whilst my story is true in fact and figure.

There were, before the First World War, two private schools dreamily instructing their pupils in the principles of the three R's and both schools facing one another across the the main street of that delightfully peaceful little town of Bridge of Allan. The larger of these schools, on the north side of the road, was "Stanley House," owned at one time by Lord Moncrieff, but at the time this story opens was owned by Mr. Braidwood. The smaller school, on the south side of the street, was "Kelvingrove," owned by Mr. Dilworth. Mr. Dilworth was old, very old, and the task of supervising even a small school was rapidly becoming more than he could manage.

In the Spring of 1913, Mr. Dilworth came to terms with Mr. Braidwood and agreed to transfer all his staff and pupils over to "Stanley House." "Stanley House," whose colours were red, white and black, accepted pupils of all nationalities, and this type of school did not appeal to one or two of the boys at "Kelvingrove," and in particular it did not appeal to one of the young masters. At this time there was no doubt that "Stanley House" was declining. The young master from "Kelvingrove" realised this and, having very decided views on education, was certain that he could succeed in Bridge of Allan where others had failed. With one or two boarders from "Kelvingrove," and the promise of a few day boys from the surrounding district, he decided to commence a school of his own. Such a venture, however, required more capital than he possessed; but Mr. Nicol, father of one of the boys who had been at "Kelvingrove," had faith in this young man and the monetary obstacle in the way of realising an ambition was removed.

In September, 1913, in "Fernbank," Bridge of Allan, a half-villa on the hill overlooking the Strath of the River Allan, Strathallan School opened its gates to boarders and day pupils — headmaster, Mr. H. Riley (aged 28).

Mr. Riley, matron, assistant master and seven pupils gathered round the table that night in "Fernbank" and by dim gaslight partook of supper, our first meal in the new school. What visions did Mr. Riley see that night seated at the head of his table? Did those distempered basement walls

of that gas-lit room become the oaken panels of a vast dining-hall, cheery with the chatter of many young voices? Those of us who shared that meal were privileged to know as time passed many of the hopes and ambitions of our young headmaster. The names of those present on that historic occasion were: Mr. Riley, Miss May Riley (matron), Mr. William Wilson (assistant master), George and Charlie Mollison (Shanghai), James and Robert Kelly (Johannesburg), James and Stewart Gowans (Perth), and Alan Harley (Perth).

Mr. Harry Riley, known to the boys as "H.R.," was a native of Bradford who entered the teaching profession as a second choice; originally his heart was set on a career with the Royal Navy. His first examination for entry was, however, his last, for the disability which he had tried so hard to hide was ultimately detected—he was colour blind. Undeterred by this disappointment, Mr. Riley started to study and gained his Teacher's Diploma L.C.P. His teaching career started in a little English school, but the reputation of Scottish education interested Mr. Riley and he crossed the border to accept a post at Kelyingrove School, Bridge of Allan. Mr. Riley's capacity for work was amazing. He taught himself shorthand and would practise by taking down the sermons in church. A prize in Astronomy, open to Britain, attracted his attention whilst struggling for recognition in the scholastic world. Night after night for months he carried his camp-bed into the garden and studied the movements of the stars, and in the little spare time at his disposal worked at his paper on Astronomy. He had set his mind on winning that prize, and win it he did. His determination to attain success and enthusiasm for work was an inspiration to all who worked with or under him.

A tower of strength to Mr. Riley in those very early days was Mr. W. Wilson, our assistant master. Small in stature, but big of heart, he was affectionately known among the boys as "Wee Willie." It was indeed a sad day at Strath. when Mr. Wilson left to accept an important post at one of the large English Public Schools. We had lost more than a master: we had parted with a great friend.

Our first day at school introduced us to our day boys—Arthur Terriss, Charles Binnie, Tom Dalrymple, Struan Bain, Renton Haldane, Robert Scott, Rowland Boswell and Ashley Wilson. The day was spent unpacking books, blackboards, etc., and so Strathallan commenced to study. Those were happy days and the boys were grand. In such a small school there could be no room for quarrels. We were one united little family; everything we possessed we shared around, even our joys, sorrows and home news. During the holidays the boys from abroad spent their holidays with those of us who

lived in Scotland; so we even shared our home life. This homely spirit has, I think, been handed down through all these years and will, I hope, never perish. When some of the boys from "Stanley House" one night cut down our Strathallan School board at the gates, we sallied forth as a righteously indignant family and retaliated in no uncertain manner — then we shared the punishment. Years later, when recalling memories with Mr. Riley, he remarked on this escapade: "I had to punish you for bounds, but tell me, did you make a good job of it?" I assured him we had.

At the beginning, as we were too few in number to muster a rugby team, we played soccer. Mr. Riley was our coach, having played as an amateur for Bradford City, where he received his knee injury. Our jerseys were dark blue with a yellow "V" back and front; our captain was Jimmie Gowans. It was left to the boys — owing to Mr. Riley's colour blindness — to decide the School colours. The colours chosen were light blue, navy blue and gold, and the tie, a narrow end silk one, was similar to the F.P. tie at present. The School cap was navy blue, with the School letters S.S. arranged as a monogram in yellow inside a light blue shield. The School motto, "Labor Omnia Vincit," was chosen by Mr. Riley as it had been that of his own school.

Those early days were days of hard work. A small, unknown school was fighting like a seed dispersed by the wind for a foothold on the earth. Our first success was Jimmie Gowans passing the Cambridge Senior exam. with honours in December, 1913, to be followed up a few months later by passing the London Matric., taking second place in Britain. Then for three years followed a series of 100 per cent. passes in the Cambridge exams. During this time Jimmie Gowans had distinguished himself at King's College by taking both the Tennant Prizes in Geology and Mineralogy for the first time in the history of the College. And so the seedling secured its roots and began to grow.

In early 1915 our first annexe was added — Wolf Crag, and others rapidly followed — Glenronald, Birkenward and Grahamville. We were becoming known; our roots were spreading and our branches assuming healthy growth. Unfortunately, the war began to call away the older boys — Jimmie Gowans from King's College (A. and S.H.), George Mollison (R.A.), Charlie Mollison (R.S.F.), Alan Harley (B.W.), Charles Binnie, Struan Bain, Alex. Thomson — all heard the call; and Jimmie, George and Alan gave their lives fighting for the ideals they had cherished during those early days at Strathallan.

(To be continued.)

S. I. G.

The Bruce Mackay Cup

EDWARD BRUCE MACKAY came to Strathallan in 1927, the eldest of three brothers whose combined record of service to the School is an outstanding one.

Bruce was a good all round athlete. He was a keen swimmer and played rugby and cricket with enthusiasm. His main interest, however, was in tennis, at which he captained the School team and did much to foster the spirit of the game.

Apart from sport, Bruce had many interests. He was an active member of the Dramatic Society and in 1931 became the first secretary of the newly formed Debating Society, nursing it through its initial teething troubles with care and dexterity. He was a staunch supporter of the 73rd Perthshire Scout Troop and gave wholeheartedly to every branch of scouting.

These are the facts of Bruce's school life, but they do not include his chief contribution to the life of the school, namely his pleasant personality and his gentle nature which, linked as they were to a strong character admitting only the highest ideals, made him a good companion and an excellent influence upon the traditions of Strathallan.

On leaving school in 1931, Bruce took the two years Bakery Science Diploma at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, before joining his father's firm. As a member of the R.N.V.R. he was mobilized in the Autumn of 1939, and in 1941 he joined the cruiser "H.M.S. Dunedin" as Gunnery Officer. He had under his charge a main armament of 6-inch guns, three 4-inch anti-aircraft guns and a varied selection of smaller weapons, and these he soon built into a composite and formidable fighting unit. Towards the end of 1941 "Dunedin" was on patrol in the South Atlantic when she was attacked by a U-boat and struck with two torpedoes. The first put her wireless cabin out of action, the second caused a list of 35 degrees; and so "Dunedin" sank without sending out any distress signal and before any boats could be lowered. Several days later survivors were picked up from rafts and life-floats by the U.S. merchant ship "Nishmaha" and more than three hundred officers and men were found to be missing, amongst them Lieutenant Bruce Mackay, R.N.V.R.

This Cup is presented to Strathallan School in the hope that the fine ideals which Bruce and other Strathallians gave their lives to defend will be remembered and cherished by those who follow in their footsteps. J. A. MONTGOMERIE.



The donor of the beautiful "Bruce Mackay Junior Victor Ludorum Cup," J. Alastair Montgomerie, Esq., D.S.O., who came to Strathallan in 1928, spent the first three years of his school life as a contemporary of Bruce Mackay. There is, therefore, no one better qualified to write the moving tribute which appears in this issue of "The Strathallian." Nor is there anyone who could better understand and appreciate Bruce Mackay's sterling qualities, for Alastair Montgomerie, too, had the very highest influence upon the traditions of the School, and his personality will always be remembered by the boys who were privileged to know him during the four years of his stay at Strathallan.

Since he left in 1932, Alastair Montgomerie has always taken the keenest interest in the welfare of the School, and there are probably few Old Boys who have followed more closely and more devotedly the fortunes of Strathallan.

May the names of Bruce Mackay and the generous donor of this Cup, thus linked together, be an inspiration both to the present and future generations of Strathallians, and may the junior members of the School, competing annually for the honour of the Cup, live up to the standards that have been set.

A. J. S.

Rugby, 1947-48

1st XV.

Played 9; Won 4; Lost 5; Points for, 112; Points against, 94.

				For	Against
Oct.	1	P. S. Morris's XV	Home	0	24
"	4	George Heriot's School	Away	3	20
"	11	Old Boys	Home	8	14
"	15	Scottish Wayfarers	Home	13	16
"	25	Morrison's Academy	Away	19	3
Nov.	1	Allan Glen's School	Home	8	0
"	8	Morrison's Academy	Home	16	0
"	12	George Watson's College	Away	0	14
"	15	Madras College	Home	45	3

2nd XV.

Played 6; Won 5; Drawn 1; Points for, 58; Points against, 17.

				For	Against
Oct.	4	Stirling High School 1st	Home	12	8
"	25	Morrison's Academy	Home	15	0
Nov.	1	Allan Glen's School	Home	14	3
"	8	Morrison's Academy	Away	3	0
"	15	Harris Academy 1st	Away	3	3
"	22	Trinity College, Glenalmond	Home	11	3

Under 15½ XV.

Played 6; Won 3; Lost 2; Drawn 1; Points for, 80; Points against, 34.

				For	Against
Oct.	4	Stirling High School	Home	30	0
"	18	Morgan Academy	Home	36	0
"	25	Morrison's Academy	Away	0	25
Nov.	1	Morrison's Academy	Home	0	3
"	8	Morrison's Academy	Home	0	0
"	15	Harris Academy	Home	14	6

Under 12 XV.

Played 2; Won 1; Lost 1; Points for, 12; Points against, 6.

THE most unsatisfactory part of this season was an outbreak of mumps which prevented any fixtures, apart from one Under 12 game, being fulfilled in the Spring term. The most satisfactory part was the great improvement in enthusiasm and technical ability throughout the School; and this was maintained even without the attraction and inspiration of outside fixtures in the Spring term. Undoubtedly much of this general improvement can be attributed to the general example displayed in the various team matches during the Christmas term, and to the exceptional weather which enabled us to use the "halves" to their full advantage throughout both terms. Nevertheless, the chief explanation must be found in the spreading of the coaching over the whole School, and to the zeal and enthusiasm of the members of the staff who gave so freely of their time and energy.

The Under 12 XV played two games against Drumtachty Castle and generally displayed a sound standard of rugby and unlimited enthusiasm. If results against other schools are any criterion, then the Under 15½ XV set an excellent standard indeed. Their play generally is the most satisfactory element of the School rugby and, provided they can maintain their keenness and willingness to learn, Strath. need have no fears about their rugby two years hence.

The 2nd XV results were highly satisfactory, all the more so because the bulk of the team were young and gaining experience which should stand them in good stead next season. The foundation of the victories was laid by the forwards, whose worth was proved in the fact that they held their own against the first pack throughout the season. Outstanding in this able pack were Robertson, Stewart, Brechin and McLelland, and behind them perhaps the most improved player was Blair at full-back. He modelled his play on that of Whyte and discovered the value of positioning himself and also that a full back must learn to kick as well as tackle.

The 1st XV suffered greatly from the lack of games in the Spring term, since the first half of the Christmas term was spent searching for a scrum-half and in bedding down as a team. It is significant that after the 15th October, they won all their games except the one against Geo. Watson's, when a better team gave us an object lesson in tactics. We had gained in confidence, experience and team-work by the end of the term and had high hopes of concluding a very successful season: and then came the Spring and the mumps. Generally the team was fairly well balanced, with a powerful pack and a set of backs who proved capable of seizing an opening when it was presented. However, there were two significant weaknesses. The forwards were apt to have short spells in every game when they ceased to hunt as a pack and became rugged, and very ragged, individualists: in such moments even the exhortations of the leader of the pack were often blankly ignored. In the threequarters there was a tendency to go high in a tackle and to place too great a reliance upon orthodox movements. Nevertheless, let it be said to the credit of all in the senior game that their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn were always well to the fore and surmounted even the mumps which, week after week, held off an outside fixture and left only the prospect of playing game after game among themselves.

Finally, before I pass on to individual criticisms, I must mention three innovations which were welcomed in the rugger world at Strath. Firstly, the Rugby Tea given to all members of the 1st, 2nd and Under 15½ teams at the end of the Christmas term—an event greeted with much enthusiasm and

accompanied by a great deal of undoing of buttons, to everyone's satisfaction. Secondly, the arrangements whereby all members of these teams and a great many others, made their way to Murrayfield to watch one or other of the international games. The benefits of such visits were soon evident on the sports field, and it is a great pity that we cannot develop other opportunities of seeing good football played by experts. Finally, at the end of the Christmas term, the ceremony of awarding caps before the assembled School was introduced. In this instance 1st XV caps were awarded to the following: C. Whyte, I. Ritchie, D. McHarg, R. S. Hill, R. D. Hunter and J. Semple, and 2nd XV caps to the remainder of the 1st XV. It was hoped to award further caps at the end of the Spring term, particularly to grant 2nd XV caps to members of the 2nd XV, but once again the mumps won the day and nothing could be done because no outside rugby was played.

Individual criticisms of members of the 1st XV read as follows:

C. R. Whyte, captain. Played throughout as full-back and set out to make himself safe and steady without being spectacular. Handling and kicking extremely reliable: tackling sound: in positioning is apt to "crowd" his threequarters and consequently find himself chasing the ball instead of waiting for it. Generally speaking, gave reliable service and played a captain's part, mixing censure with praise and keeping enthusiasm and eagerness alive.

J. P. Allardyce. Started as full-back, but found to be too fond of trying to link-up with threequarters, a move which made his play erratic and usually ended with his being caught in possession. On the left wing was a relative success, prepared to go hard and straight for the flag. Unfortunately, never looked for support until tackled and it was too late—and could never appreciate the value of a cross kick.

C. E. Allardyce. Played on right wing and there used every ounce of speed and strength to become one of most thrustful and dangerous of our threequarters. Perhaps too thrustful, for he was apt to run into trouble, relying on speed rather than a cross kick or a short punt ahead. Must always remember that the maxim of attack is "to keep the ball open and rolling."

M. S. Wyllie, right centre-threequarter. On his day, speedy, thrustful, and with a keen eye for the chance of a dummy or an opening that made him really dangerous to opponents. However, his handling is extremely erratic and tends to spoil his game altogether. Needs to develop the short punt ahead

rather than rely on the long kick ahead which, too often, is easily reached by the full-back.

N. G. Brown, left centre-threequarter. Intelligent and constructive player with a keen eye for an opening. Possesses strong and accurate place kick which is a valuable asset to any side. Three weaknesses — too fond of kicking ahead, of going in high to tackle, and of passing erratically and sometimes carelessly.

R. S. Hill, stand-off. Quick on feet and off the mark: very safe hands and strong hand-off. Curbed tendency to be selfish and became real spearhead of attack and "find" of season. However, must learn to use kick to nurse forwards, to strengthen and improve tackle, and to control a "quick" temper which flares up when things are going wrong.

J. R. Gilchrist, scrum-half. Filled gap admirably and ably fulfilled function as vital link between forwards and three-quarters. Needs to develop more accurate service and must not rely so much on Hill's safe hands. Above all needs to develop own pattern of play and no longer be content to be merely a link.

I. M. Ritchie, Vice-captain until Christmas. Fly-forward and leader of pack who did much to give them drive and direction and whose absence through injury and final departure was sadly felt. A sound constructive player, always on the ball and a tower of strength in both defence and attack.

R. D. Hunter, hooker. Ably supported by a good pack and was always able to obtain more than his fair share of the ball. In the loose proved to be a constructive player with an eye for opening and attack, and one of those forwards who is invariably found to be at the bottom of a loose maul.

D. B. Guy, outside front row. Another player who left at Christmas and whose enthusiasm and keenness made up for a tendency to lose his head and disregard the leader's instructions. Line-out work improved steadily and was always well to the fore in a loose rush.

J. E. Semple, outside front row. Play marked by steady improvement week after week. Easily the best forward with his feet in the loose and outstanding in his general supporting and covering work.

I. P. Johnston, outside front row. Unfortunate with injuries which kept him on touch line, and perhaps with our various attempts to play him as centre-threequarter and fly-forward. Chief weakness is inability to get rid of the ball when opening has been made, and failure to be and keep really fit.

D. McHarg, Vice-captain after Christmas. Second row forward. An unobtrusive hard-working forward whose every

move reveals an intelligent appreciation of the game. Solid scrummager in both tight and set scrums and never failed to look for an opening in the loose.

J. T. M. Hart, second row. Marked by enthusiasm bordering on over-eagerness, and unbounded energy which never flagged. Latterly line-out work became excellent, but shows an unfortunate tendency to use a vicious and very suspect hand-off which makes his play rather dangerous. Remedy this fault and the over-eagerness, and he has the makings of a first-class forward.

A. Stephen, lock forward. Height, weight and a surprising turn of speed made him outstanding in loose and line-out. Developed into one of the best of our forwards, particularly in Easter term. Chief weakness was tendency to remain on edge of a tight scrum instead of using his weight and strength to bind and gain possession of the ball—a fault which he largely overcame by end of season. At the moment chief criticism must be directed towards habit of breaking too soon from set scrum and seriously interfering with freedom of scrum-half.

D. A. Biggart, fly-forward. Another player who improved rapidly in Easter term. Covering and tackling very good, but needs to develop ability to pass the ball on the run. Chief weakness is a tendency to be too spectacular and to be too ready to fall over the man who drops on the ball. He should remember the South African saying, "A man on his feet is worth two on the ground."

L. J. McCarrol, fly-forward. Intelligent and untiring forward whose covering and tackling was sound enough from set scrums, but apt to be slow off the mark in the line-outs. As with Biggart, he too could pay more attention to passing the ball on the run—undoubtedly the weakest department of his game.

I. P.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SPORTS DAY:

Thursday, 3rd June, 1948.

OLD BOYS' DAY:

Saturday, 26th June, 1948.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Saturday, 9th October, 1948.

NOTE: Old Boys will find information affecting any arrangements made for them on any of the above days on the notice board in the Front Hall.

The Dramatic and Operatic Society

On the whole the Society had a successful year, the highlight being the production of "Merrie England" on Parents' Day. This production was the first Strathallan performance to be attended by a representative of the National Dramatic and Operatic Society.

During the Christmas term two one-act plays, "The Old Bull" and "The Bishop's Candlesticks," were produced; three evenings were devoted to readings and short excerpts from certain plays; and one evening was given over to a talk by the President. In addition, three acts of "R.U.R." were produced on two evenings.

In the Easter term two acts of "Quiet Week-end" were produced on two consecutive Wednesdays, but by far the most interesting event was a mock trial which lasted three consecutive Wednesdays.

In addition, the Society provided entertainment on more than one occasion while the ciné projector was being repaired, and also on the afternoon of the Royal Wedding (November 20th).

Mr. Broadhead, a frequent visitor to Strathallan, agreed to become an Honorary Member of the Society.

Briefly, the future policy of the Society is to continue to give the best possible entertainment on Wednesday evenings throughout the Christmas and Easter terms, and to produce a play or an opera on Parents' Day. A temporary arrangement has been made whereby if an opera is performed at Christmas, a play will be produced at Easter.

J. C. S.

"Merrie England"

Of the Strathallan production of this opera, the N.O.D.A. representative, Mr. A. J. Miller, wrote:

"This was definitely a most excellent performance of a difficult work. The chorus, cast, stage management, lighting and orchestra were all 'manned' by boys of the School. The

chorus, both males and 'females,' carried themselves extremely well, and all parts were extremely well cast. The singing was good, and in one or two cases in the cast, excellent. The dialogue was well spoken and clearly heard, even at the back of the hall.



BETTY THROGMORTON AND SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

"The scenery for both acts was designed and painted by the boys in such a way that it had the effect of being both striking and giving an effect of space to a small stage. Some excellent lighting effects were obtained.

"I can say that most members of the cast showed a real sense of the stage and should be a great help to some Societies in the future. I can only hope that many more schools will follow the example of Strathallan and encourage the production of opera in school, as it is certainly well worth the effort for all concerned."



"MERRIE ENGLAND."

[By courtesy of the Perthshire Advertiser.

Behind the Curtain

FIFTEEN minutes before the show starts, the dressing-rooms are alive with the babble of voices and the rustle of dresses. The make-up artist is putting the finishing touches to the grease-bedaubed faces of his charges. On stage, behind the massive folds of the curtain, the producer is whispering frantic directions to the stage technicians, who are putting the last piece of scenery in place. The electrician is testing his lights, throwing the stage into alternate brightness and shadow, and the prompter, already in his secluded position behind the wing, is pencilling a note on his copy of the script.

Five minutes to go. The actors tip-toe on to the stage and take up positions for the opening chorus. From the other side of the curtain comes the subdued murmur of the audience and the discordant sound of the orchestra tuning up. The cast talks and jokes nervously in whispers, and every now and then there is a warning "Sh!" from the producer, who is going round giving last minute instructions to all.

Then the murmur of the audience fades as the first bars of the overture ring out. The cast tenses, striving to don the "fixed smile" which the producer has so painstakingly taught them. Then, as the overture reaches its crashing crescendo, the producer somewhat apprehensively leaves the stage and nods to the stage manager as the warning lights wink at his side. The lights leap into full brilliance, the curtains swing back, and the show is on.

A. L. H.

The Easter Concert

THE Easter Concert was held in the gymnasium on the last Tuesday of term. It says much for the enterprise of Mr. Mordecai, ably assisted by Mr. McConnell and the orchestra, that such an evening's entertainment was prepared and produced in the space of only one term.

The first half of the concert was devoted to items of a very varied nature, ranging from that delightful little piece from the "Pirates of Penzance," "With Cat-like Tread," to Kriesler's "Lieberslief." These were rendered respectively by the Senior Choir, in four parts, and by the orchestra alone. Others items included "Spring's Return" and "Song of the Night" by the Junior Choir, both in two parts. The Seniors sang in unison, with obvious enjoyment, both "Come to the Fair" and "Lord Protector."

"Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" by S. T. Coleridge formed the second part of the programme. It would be ridiculous to pretend that the School rendering of so difficult a subject was entirely without fault, for one cannot expect complete maturity amongst schoolboys; but the standard of performance was generally high.

It seems a pity that so enjoyable an evening's entertainment should be missed by the parents of the boys, though the main object of such a performance remains—the teaching of a real appreciation of good music. Those of us who are older can remember with Shelley, after an evening like this, that "Music, like running water, has power to pour over the soul the anodyne of forgetfulness and peace"; and we are quietly thankful.

E. A. P.

Scout Notes

DURING the last two terms the Troop has been glad to welcome the following new members, the greater number of whom have passed their Tenderfoot tests and have started Second Class work: N. Howie, A. C. Durie, J. Paton, H. A. Macmillan, J. P. Genasi, P. J. Genasi, A. A. Arneill, E. Inglis, D. B. Robb, I. Stewart, I. Píngland.

The following promotions have been made: D. Brown to Patrol Leader of the Eagles, D. Wightman to Second of the Beavers, D. C. Rossie to Second of the Eagles.

Meetings have usually been occupied in doing the work required for First and Second Class badges and it is expected that, before the end of the Summer term, the Troop will be proud to have amongst its members some who have become First Class. Proficiency badges have, however, not been neglected: a number of Scouts have been attending for instruction in the Handyman badge and have almost completed their work, while some others are to take the Meteorologist badge.

The most important news, however, is that the Troop has benefited from the gift of a fund from Mr. R. A. Hunter, to provide for the best patrol an annual prize in memory of his son, W. R. Hunter, who was a Second Lieutenant with the Frontier Force Regiment, Punjab, and who died while a prisoner of war. W. R. Hunter, who was at the School from May, 1936, to July, 1940, was School captain in his last year and awarded the Houston Medal for outstanding services. He took a keen interest in the Debating Society, of which he was the Secretary, as well as in the Dramatic Society, of which he

was Chairman, and was an outstanding figure in the 73rd Perthshire Scout Troop, having worked his way up to King's Scout and being awarded the Senior Scout Medal. W. R. Hunter was one of the most devoted, and will remain one of the most lovingly remembered, members of Strathallan.

It has been decided that the competition for this prize shall be based on all tests up to Second Class and shall also include inter-patrol week-end camps. This term, then, promises to be a good one for the Troop, with the emphasis upon camping, for it is hoped that three week-end camps will be held, so that the Scouts will be to some degree experienced and prepared for the annual camp which will be held this year, as last, at West Tullybanocher, near Comrie, from 15th to 26th July. It is expected that as many Scouts as possible will attend.

F. S. L.

A.C.F. Notes

THROUGHOUT the past two terms continued progress has been made in the basic training for Certificate A, but the activities of the Signal Section have been restricted.

All cadets have responded to the higher standards in basic training which were forecast in the last account. Nine cadets who had been unsuccessful last year passed the Pt. I examination in November, and went on with the others to sit the Pt. II examination at the end of February. Twenty-one passes out of twenty-two in this examination was a very creditable effort, and proved beyond doubt that cadets are prepared to face up to the new standards demanded.

There were fewer recruits than last year, but a good start has been made by these cadets. All ten recruits were successful in the Pt. I examination in February. Record should be made of the work and energy put in by Robertson with these cadets, during a period when instructors were scarce.

The prospects seem bright for a large Signalling Section this Summer term, while others in the Platoon will, we hope, enjoy the out-door activities for their Pt. II.

The annual Summer Camp is to be held at Fraserburgh, and it is hoped that this year there will be a record attendance. May we once again extend a hearty welcome to any Old Boys at present serving in the Army, to accompany us to this camp. Any volunteer should contact the O.C. Platoon at the earliest date.

J. R. B.

A.T.C. Notes

SINCE the magazine last went to print, Mr. Robb's place in charge of the School Flight has been taken by Mr. Potts. Numbers have remained stationary at twenty-six, but it is hoped that a good representation will be sent to camp during the Summer vacation. Congratulations must go to A. A. Chisholm on his promotion from Sgt. to F/Sgt.

There is unfortunately a scarcity, at the moment, of qualified instructors, though officers from Scone Aerodrome help in this direction once a week. Seven cadets will be attempting Part B of the Proficiency Test.

Cadet C. R. Whyte has brought further credit to the School Flight by being selected to play for Scotland in two A.T.C. International Rugby Football Matches. On 29th December he travelled to Raven Hill, Belfast, in the most bleak weather conditions, to play against Ireland. A sleet blizzard was raging and there was snow on the ground. Despite this, the visitors managed to win 11-0. In striking contrast to this, the match against Wales at Murrayfield on 24th April, was played in sub-tropical conditions. There was a June warmth about the sun as 3000 people watched Scotland draw with Wales 9-9. Whyte, according to newspaper reports, covered himself with glory as the last line defender at full-back.

On 14th February, the Flight visited Turnhouse Aerodrome, Edinburgh, where the cadets had an opportunity of taking one hour's flying. Conditions were not too favourable and the second lift was nearly cancelled. As it was, some trips were not a little bumpy. It is hoped to arrange another trip to Turnhouse this term.

E. A. P.

Lectures and Entertainments

DURING the Christmas term we welcomed once more Mr. Edward R. Broadhead, of whose impersonations the School never seems to tire. A few sticks of grease-paint deftly handled in full view of the audience, a wig, a hat, a stick, an old pair

of gloves perhaps . . . and there is your Dickens character who springs to life the moment Mr. Broadhead rises from his chair.

Lecturers by two eminent explorers provided two more red-letter days. Mr. F. S. Smythe, armed with slides of his photographs which have brought him almost as much fame as has the story of his exploits, talked on "The Attempt to climb Mount Everest." He was succeeded by Admiral Lord Mountevans, K.C.B., D.S.O., who shared with us his memories of "Scott's Last Expedition." Such tales of endurance must waken in a boy all his proclivities for hero-worship, and it is astonishing to think that Lord Mountevans could enhance still further his popularity, as undoubtedly he did, by requesting and being granted a half-holiday for the School.

Mr. F. H. Grisewood, who visited us in the Easter term and gave us a glimpse of what goes on "Behind the Scenes at the B.B.C.", provided a complete contrast. "Freddie" is an extremely gifted man. During the war, when he fought on the Kitchen Front, Freddie could be heard any day advising the housewife how to make tiffes out of stale bread and powdered milk. To-day, as a lecturer, he holds his audiences enthralled by turning mere trifles into hilariously funny stories.

We returned once more to mountain heights and snowy wastes when Mr. Cecil J. Allen described to us "The Amazing Railways of the Alps." Mr. Allen is a railway engineer and has a firm grasp of his subject. May we compliment him on the beauty of his slides, which showed up to perfection through the new School projector, and may we thank all our guests for what they gave us: a few hours of delightful and instructive relaxation. Au revoir!

A. J. S.

The Portrait

THE ball progressed with painful slowness. Why I had gone to it in the first place I could not imagine now. But was it so boring? I glanced round at the cobweb-hung oaken rafters blackened by the passage of ages; the lattice windows, the gloomy alcoves and the panelled galleries. Why, the place

simply oozed mystery and set one's imagination roving in the wild realms of the impossible. That curtained door, for instance, at the end of the corridor intrigued me. To take one peep at what lay behind could not possibly do any harm.

The door swung open with a protesting squeak from the rust-encrusted hinges and it was then that I saw it—the portrait, I mean. It was the portrait of a woman, ravishingly beautiful, a questioning look haunting her eyes. Underneath I read: “Lady Hilary, who murdered one of her guests in this room.”

At the sound of a rustle of silk I swung round. I could have sworn that it was Lady Hilary, so closely did this girl resemble the portrait. Yes, there was the same questioning air about her. She withdrew an ominous glittering object from a fold in her dress and raised it slowly—oh, how slowly. With horror-filled eyes I stared at the cigarette case, fascinated.

“Got a light?” she said.

I. M. W. (S4).

Green Eyes

Green eyes watching me
Pour milk out of the jug,
I'll have to feed the hungry cat
In her saucer on the rug.

Green eyes watching me
Stir the fire in my room,
It will comfort the sleepy cat
And brighten up the gloom.

Green eyes watching me
Sit down in the old armchair,
Then up will climb the purring cat
And rest herself just there.

Green eyes watching me?
She can't see me any more:
She's gone to sleep—a long, long sleep
Which she's never had before.

R. A. G. (Class I).

The Making of our Sugar

ALTHOUGH sugar is a much-rationed commodity at the present moment, it will probably be of interest to the readers of "The Strathallian" to learn how the sugar which is so important a constituent of the sweets that they buy in the "Strathallan Arms" is made. (This article, by the way, only refers to cane sugar).

The source of the sugar is, of course, the sugar-cane, and if any reader feels interested enough to find out what this valuable plant looks like, there is quite a good specimen growing on a mound of earth in the middle of the goldfish pond in the Botanical Gardens in Glasgow, where it rejoices in the Latin name of *Saccharum Officinatum*. This cane, when ripe, is popularly supposed by its growers to be the staple article of diet of the labourers who work in the fields. Although this is an exaggeration, it is nevertheless true that the bigger growers lose several thousand pounds a year owing to people taking the cane for sucking. Chewing cane, incidentally, is supposed to be very good for the teeth and gums, and to be beneficial in certain gum diseases. Another property of the juice is that it acts as a mild laxative, as I have found from bitter experience.

The cane is grown in fields separated from each other by cart-tracks called traces. When it is ripe (it takes about two years for this), the field is set on fire to get rid of dead leaves, weeds, etc., and cut. The burning does not harm the cane, if it is cut right away. When cut it is loaded into carts which drag it out of the fields, and from the carts it is loaded into lorries or on to trains, which are owned by the sugar company, and by these they are carried to the factory.

At the factory, the cane is dumped on to the cane carrier, which is a conveyor belt usually operating at the bottom of a trough-shaped pit between four and eight feet deep, depending on the size of the factory. This conveyor takes the cane under the cane knives, which are short steel blades attached to a central spindle which is rapidly rotated by a high-speed steam engine. These knives shatter the cane into a state fit for crushing, which is done by solid iron rollers about thirty inches in diameter and six feet in length. There are usually five sets of rollers, each set consisting of one roller above two others. The whole crushing apparatus, together with its driving machinery, etc., is known as the "mill." When the cane leaves the mill, it is in the form of a slightly damp, evenly crushed fibre. This fibre is used as fuel in the boilers

that generate the steam for driving the mill-engines, pumps, electric generators, etc.

The juice from the mill is far from clean, as is only to be expected, for the cane is not washed before being dumped into the cane carrier, so that quite a large proportion of dirt is in the juice as it comes from the mill. The juice is rid of these impurities by being mixed with slaked lime and heated in large tanks called clarifiers, when the mud falls to the bottom of the clarifiers and is scraped away, to be returned to the cane-fields as fertilizer.

From the clarifiers the juice goes to the evaporators, where it is evaporated under reduced pressure. When the juice is a certain strength, it is poured into cylindrical, horizontal tanks called crystallisers, where it is slowly stirred and left to crystallise. The resulting mixture of crystals and molasses, called "massecuite," is then boiled in vacuum pans until the crystals of sugar are the correct size and is then led to the centrifugals. These consist principally of a steel basket with holes in the side of it, these holes being too small to let the sugar crystals go through. The baskets are revolved rapidly by either a belt driven or individual motors. The massecuite is spun in these baskets and the centrifugal force shoves the liquid molasses out through the holes in the basket, while the sugar is, of course, retained. The sugar is then bagged and stored for shipment to the consumers.

The sugar from the centrifugals is the type called Demerara sugar—brown sugar. If white sugar is desired, the juice is bleached with sulphur dioxide at the clarifying stage. The white, everyday sugar is made by further refining of the brown sugar at the refinery. This is done by melting down the sugar, decolourising the solution, and recrystallising. As the crystals resulting still have a faint yellow colour, a very small proportion of a substance similar to washing blue is added, on the same principle as washing blue is added to white material in the laundry.

The brown sugar is about 98 per cent pure sucrose, the other 2 per cent being molasses, which gives the crystals their colour. White sugar is over 99.9 per cent pure.

The molasses from the centrifugals is used chiefly for making rum, though a little of it is purified further and sold as treacle. The sugar factory is thus very efficient in that it supplies its own fuel, i.e. the fibre (which is called "bagasse," by the way) from the mill, and that there are no waste products, the molasses bringing in a tidy profit as alcohol and the mud from the clarifiers being used as fertiliser.

Chapel Fund, Session 1946-47

INCOME.

Balance in hand being amount paid into Chapel			
Fund by School on January 20th, 1947	...	£466	17 9
To Collections:			
Christmas Term	£33	14 0
Easter Term	21	3 0
Summer Term	18	11 3
			<hr/>
		73	8 3
		£540	6 0
			<hr/>

EXPENDITURE.

To Christmas Fund, Thimble Row Mission, Perth		£15	0 0
.. Forgardenny School Treat	5	0 0
.. Earl Haig Fund (Collection 10/11/46)	6	4 1
.. Five Million Club (Collection 6/7/47)	2	2 0
.. Fees (Rev. A. Cameron)	14	14 0
.. Bibles and Hymnaries (Sessions 1945-46-47)	33	1 0
.. Chapel Hymnaries (Session 1946-47)	3	10 7
			<hr/>
		£79	11 8
Balance (in Bank)	460	14 4
			<hr/>
		£540	6 0
			<hr/>

11th October, 1947.

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) D. J. BOGIE, C.A.

BOOKS — AN APPEAL

OLD BOYS — each one of you — here is the chance to do the School a good turn. There are fewer books in the School Library than there should be. Please have a look round and send on those books you no longer require; there must be dozens hidden away in odd corners — neglected, forgotten (perhaps even a little dusty). The School as a whole, and the Library Committee in particular, will be very grateful.

Cricket Fixtures, 1948

1st XI.

Date.	Opponents.	Ground.
Wednesday, 28 April	— Forgardenny Cricket Club - - -	Home
Saturday, 1 May	— Robert Gordon's College - - -	Home
Wednesday, 5 „	— Meigle Cricket Club - - -	Home
Saturday, 8 „	— Morrison's Academy - - -	Away
Saturday, 15 „	— Glasgow High School - - -	Home
Thursday, 20 „	— Cupar Cricket Club - - -	Home
Saturday, 22 „	— Hillhead High School - - -	Away
Tuesday, 25 „	— Trinity College - - -	Away
Saturday, 29 „	— Allan Glen's School - - -	Home
Wednesday, 9 June,	— P. S. Morris's XI - - -	Home
Saturday, 12 „	— George Heriot's School - - -	Home
Wednesday, 16 „	— Royal High School - - -	Home
Thursday, 17 „	— Mr. H. B. Rowan's XI - - -	Home
Saturday, 19 „	— Dunfermline High School - - -	Away
Wednesday, 23 „	— Perth Academy - - -	Away
Saturday, 26 „	— Old Boys XI - - -	Home
Saturday, 3 July	— Daniel Stewart's College - - -	Home
Wednesday, 7 „	— Meigle Cricket Club - - -	Home
Saturday, 10 „	— Musselburgh Cricket Club - - -	Home
Tuesday, 13 „	— Masters XI - - -	Home

2nd XI.

Date.	Opponents.	Ground.
Saturday, 1 May	— Robert Gordon's College - - -	Away
Wednesday, 5 „	— Perth Academy - - -	Away
Saturday, 8 „	— Morrison's Academy - - -	Home
Saturday, 15 „	— Allan Glen's School - - -	Away
Saturday, 22 „	— Hillhead High School - - -	Home
Saturday, 29 „	— Glasgow High School - - -	Away
Saturday, 12 June	— George Heriot's School - - -	Away
Wednesday, 16 „	— Royal High School - - -	Away
Saturday, 19 „	— Trinity College - - -	Home
Saturday, 3 July	— Bell-Baxter School 1st XI - - -	Away
Saturday, 10 „	— Staff and Colts XI - - -	Home

Old Boys' News

OUR PRESIDENT FOR 1947

MR. THOMAS IRVINE of Glasgow was elected to the office of President of the Club at the Annual General Meeting held in December, 1946. Mr. Irvine was at Strathallan from 1922 to 1926. After leaving School he served for some time in the office of a firm of Civil Engineers in Glasgow and later



THE PRESIDENT.

joined the firm of John McGregor & Sons Ltd., Furniture Manufacturers, Renfrew, where he now holds a responsible position. At School Mr. Irvine was the ever-popular "Tweedle," and though small in stature was a giant on the field of sport. He was honoured with both 1st and 2nd XV Rugby Caps and in 1925 won the open 100 yards and 220

yards races. For nine years after leaving School he was a prominent member of the Club's Rugby XV in the annual matches. During the war he served with the 8th Survey Regiment, Royal Artillery, which saw service in the North African, Sicily and Italian Campaigns. He was twice wounded and received a Mentioned in Dispatches. From the inauguration of the Club Tom has taken an active part in its administration, and his election to President was a well-deserved tribute by members for his services. During his term of office he was instrumental in the resuscitation of the pre-war annual events with the School and also had the satisfaction of finding at the termination of his year of office that the list of Old Boys seeking admission as Life Members was an all-time record. Mr. Irvine holds a place second to none in the already lengthening line of our worthy Past-Presidents.

Strathallian Club Annual Dinner, 1947

THE fourteenth annual dinner was held in "The Marlborough," Glasgow, on Saturday, December 20th, when an excellent meal was thoroughly enjoyed by numbers again limited to one hundred.

After the toast of "The King," proposed by the chairman, Mr. D. B. Melrose, proposing "The Club," declared that that evening was a momentous occasion, as they were celebrating the twenty-first birthday of the idea of the Club, although it was not officially formed until 1933. He then recalled how, at that first Club dinner, when he himself was invested with the Chain of Office as the Club's first President, Mr. Riley had coupled with the gift of that insignia his blessing and good wishes for the Club and its members, and the charge that each successive President should pass on in unbroken sequence the benediction of its founder. He concluded with tributes to the zeal and efficiency of Mr. J. B. Cowan, who after fifteen years had retired from the Club secretaryship, and to the excellent service rendered during his year of office by the President, Mr. T. Irvine.

In reply, the President stated that all the events of the year had been carried through very successfully, though he appealed to the younger members to make their presence felt in a more practical manner. He mentioned the success of the Old Boys on Old Boys' Day; the good attendance and impressive service on Founder's Day; the winning of the Thompson Cup for rugger by the Old Boys, despite the very valiant efforts of the School team; and the annual dance held

in the "Burlington," when the Bogie Trophy (played for at Gleneagles on the day after Old Boys' Day) was presented to the winner, Mr. J. Turner Johnston.

The toast of "The School" was then proposed by Mr. R. D. Linton. He wished, he said, to consider the future of the School and the part to be played by the Club in that future. The bond between the Old Boys and the School, undoubtedly very strong with the older members, was not so clearly marked with the younger; and it was the Club's duty to see how the strengthening of that link could best be ensured.

As the Founder had planned, Strathallan had become a public school, and it had therefore now to assume a greater role in the scholastic world. On how this could be accomplished, however, there was within the Club a divergence of opinion. For his part, he agreed that that aim could not be achieved by making the School a mere copy of any other well-known public school—Mr. Riley himself had obviously not desired that. On the other hand, Strathallan had already the main essentials on which a great school could be built; what was required in addition was the fostering of a Tradition—and by the Club especially, since the greatest of all the traditions of a school was the following on of a son after his father. He felt that some Old Boys were reluctant to contribute to this tradition, but maintained that, since they had both gained from Strathallan and also contributed to its growth, there was surely an implied moral duty to allow their sons to do the same.

The speaker then went on to remark that, though there was that divergence of opinion on the future of the School, what was common ground must be established, since School and Club must work in harmony. Strathallan had gone far in thirty-four years, and though there must be some changes in the School with the passage of time, those changes should be made with caution; it would be almost sacrilege to spurn the Founder's ideals and methods. It was, in fact, the Founder's words, spoken at the 1936 dinner, which gave the Club its charter of moral responsibility towards the School—"Strathallan is my present to you. It is a trust which I am placing in your care, and I do it with implicit confidence and faith that you will not let me down." Those words, the speaker said, were a challenge which the Club must answer; but they must take care that any criticisms of the School should be made to the Governors, not outside, for the Club, the Board and the School must present an unbroken front.

In conclusion, Mr. Linton coupled with the School the name of Mr. Ward, to whom he paid tribute, remarking that it was not possible that one who had worked with Mr. Riley so long and so closely should not have assimilated the aims of his Chief.

Mr. W. E. Ward, in reply, said he was going to strike a rather more personal note than was usual on such occasions. As a diner, he thoroughly enjoyed the company of the Old Boys and looked forward more and more to each successive dinner. As Honorary President of the Old Boys' Club, he thanked the Club for giving him that honour, and declared that the Club was an integral part of the School and that he would do all he could to foster its interests. As Headmaster of the School, he then said how grateful he was to the Old Boys for their share in the presentation to him after twenty-five years' service. His devotion to the School was his life's work—the School was almost a part of himself. He was glad to be able to say that the difficulties of 1942 had now largely disappeared, and that 1947 had been a year of steady progress, thanks largely to the interest shown by the Governors. He then recalled to the Old Boys the two aims he had put before the parents on Sports Day—the first, that education at Strathallan should be a liberal one: there should be a diversity of subjects inside the classroom and a wealth of interests outside; the second, that the boys should be taught not to despise hard work, but be encouraged to tackle all their activities thoroughly. With regard to this second point, he was pleased to mention the improvement in the team spirit in the Rugger XV, the praiseworthy examination results, and the very successful performance of "Merrie England" before 350 parents. In conclusion, Mr. Ward thought that some words of General Marshall's were peculiarly applicable to Strathallan—"Our traditions run more to the practical than the abstract. We tend to rely on common-sense and judge by results."

The President here interrupted the toast list to present a painting to Mr. Cowan, as a token of the Old Boys' appreciation of his long and valued services to the Club. The Old Boys, he declared amid applause, were unanimously of the opinion that Mr. Cowan had done more than any individual member in the creating and the successful running of the Club.

Mr. A. S. Headrick then proposed the health of the guests. In a pleasantly humorous speech, he welcomed each guest in turn, mingling flattery with oblique references to certain

idiosyncrasies obviously well known to the majority of the diners.

In reply, Mr. A. J. Shaw thanked the Club for their kind invitation, and caused much amusement by his subsequent description of the hardships of a schoolmaster's life in his efforts to turn "little animals into human beings." Schoolmasters, he went on, quoting again from Professor Joad, were "the builders and makers of mankind," and he concluded by remarking that, from that point of view, he derived considerable satisfaction from seeing that night what a good job had been done at Strathallan.

The President then expressed his grateful thanks to the Old Boys for their loyal support and assistance during his year of office, and the official proceedings terminated with the investing of Mr. W. G. Leburn with the Chain of Office as President for 1948 and the customary rendering of "Auld Lang Syne."

FROM OUR CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY CORRESPONDENT

GORDON LOWDEN has returned to St. John's College after his demobilisation from the Navy, to resume his Law studies. He has been the most distinguished athlete to come from Strathallan since the days of John Forrest, as between October, 1944, and March, 1946, he played rugby for the LX Club and then for the University XV as scrum half, and was awarded his Blue against Oxford in December, 1945. A member of the Hawks Club, he is the third Strathallian to be elected to this well-known Cambridge Sporting Club.

His brother, Mr. James S. Lowden, went up to St. John's College in 1947 to read mathematics, but so far, he assures us, he has failed to achieve any public distinction. An enthusiastic squash player, he is Secretary of the College Squash Club. Both brothers intend to play cricket this summer.

Mr. Donald Common, also of St. John's College, has had the distinction of representing Cambridge in their match against Oxford for the Heslop Cup for small bore rifle shooting. On the academic side he is busily preparing to take an Engineering degree.

Lt. John Hall we hope to see returning to resume his studies next Michaelmas term, after a period of army service. He was selected to play for "Scottish Command" against "Scottish Universities" on March 24th this year.

**FROM OUR ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY
CORRESPONDENT**

MR. D. SCOTT ANDERSON has been successful in his Class Examinations and is now studying for Degree Examinations in the second year of his Arts course.

We congratulate Mr. James Anderson on passing his first year Professional Examinations in Medicine.

Mr. Kenneth M. Anderson, now returned from the Services, is studying Science at University College, Dundee, and is a stalwart of the University Cricket Team.

**FROM OUR EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY
CORRESPONDENT**

THE University has quite a strong contingent of Strathallians gracing its portals, among whom are Mr. D. Hastings and Mr. J. C. Paterson, who are in their third year Medicine. Mr. Paterson has distinguished himself by rowing for the University Boat Club and was one of the crew which beat Durham University, who until that occasion had been "top of the river."

Mr. D. McLeod, of Stornoway, is a third year Dental student and is now secretary of the British Dental Students' Association. In his spare time he is an active member of a well-known Dramatic Society in Edinburgh.

Mr. J. M. Burnet, of Newtyle, and Mr. R. G. Rodger, of Cupar, have just completed their final examinations for the Scottish Diploma of Agriculture. They both intend to start farming for themselves.

Mr. M. M. Milne is in fourth year Medicine, while his brother, Mr. V. G. Milne, is in his final year. We are looking forward to either or both playing cricket for the University in the coming season.

Mr. Edgar Yates is in his final year for the B.Sc. in Agriculture. We congratulate Mr. A. R. Pate (of Glasgow University) on being chosen to play for the Scottish University XV against "Scottish Command."

**FROM OUR GLASGOW UNIVERSITY
CORRESPONDENT**

UNIVERSITY news does not present anything worthy of great notice—even the Rectorial Election (the cause of many a great fight, we are told) was conducted upon a very quiet

note, the actual fight being merely an excuse for those otherwise lethargic people, whose only recreation and exercise consists of playing billiards and walking from one lecture theatre to another (sometimes), to rid themselves of the energy which they had accumulated since Daft Friday. Certainly, no known Strathallian took part.

The Rectorial address was a considerably more boisterous affair and even Col. the Rt. Hon. Walter Elliott seemed a trifle perturbed as to whether he would be given a hearing. Eventually, of course, he was, although his speech was subjected to many interruptions from both voices and instruments.

Charities week was a big success, a new record being set up for the collection. Again, Strathallians were not noticeable, except Ian England, who organised a number of "stunts," in particular the ceremonial inauguration of the drive by Glasgow's Lord Provost.

Of individuals, G. W. Pate was one of two Glasgow students picked from a large number who applied to go to Metro-Vickers during the Summer as sandwich apprentices. Ronald Fraser, second year Arts student, takes a keen interest in politics and has been out canvassing in the Camlachie by-election. He and Douglas Simpson are regular attenders of the Union parliamentary debates. Douglas Simpson, in first year applied Chemistry, and James Crawford, in first year Arts, have been sharing "digs" along with some other people and the two seem to have had long and interesting discussions, presumably after working hours.

Mention may also be made of Alastair Headrick, who, although a matriculated Law student, has been playing no small part in the Glasgow Academicals 1st XV. This practice, by the way, is to be deplored. "When in Rome . . ." etc.

The impression may have been given that University life is all play and no work, but proof of the fact that Strathallians do sometimes attend lectures is afforded by the success of Drummond Stevenson and A. R. Pate in their first professional examinations held recently. Stevenson has been playing rugby for Ayr until recently, when he cracked a bone in his thumb (one of). Robert White is in his first year Science and is a notable performer in the Ardrossan Rugby Team.

It has been learned that Nicol Low will be returning to the haven of learning next October and his re-appearance for the University Rugby Team is keenly awaited. He will be resuming engineering studies which he was forced to leave during His Majesty's pleasure.

The last, but by no means least, two Strathallians known to be attending University for any length of time during the week — there are one or two who pretend to work by going to one lecture a day and then retiring to an office and coffee — are Gordon Marshall and Eric McCracken, after having been in the Services.

There is thus a large Strathallian population in the University, but any newcomers will be a welcome addition. It is hoped that the inflow of Strathallians to the University will increase.

FROM OUR LONDON UNIVERSITY CORRESPONDENT

MR. D. J. WHITTON is at present reading a B.A. (Hons. Classical Arabic) course in the School of Oriental and African Studies.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. J. Fyfe Waterston is now doing a post graduate course at Edinburgh University for the degree of F.R.C.P.

Horace Thomson has now qualified as a Doctor and has taken up an appointment as Managing Director of the cod liver oil firm of Thomsons of Elgin.

Ian Turner, "Phyllis" to many of his contemporaries, manages to fit in a great deal of hard work as secretary and treasurer of the Scottish Ski Club along with his accounting activities.

William Carrie is with an Aberdeen Advocates' firm. During the war he served with the Commandos. He is married, with a son aged one year.

Grant Carrie has been demobilised from the Seaforths and is at present apprenticed to Baillie & Gifford, W.S. He holds the degree of B.L. of Edinburgh University. He is married, with a boy aged five.

J. J. Beatson sends his warmest greetings to members of the Club from Palestine, where he is at present District Food Controller at Haifa.

We learn with regret of the death of T. A. N. Forsyth. He was employed by the Bristol Aeroplane Co. during the war as a test pilot, and was killed near Bristol on a test flight in a Beaufort on June 3rd, 1943. Our belated sympathies are extended to his widow and two children.

We hope to provide a more detailed pen picture of Strathallan's most distinguished figure on the rugby field since the days of J. Forrest for our next issue. In the meantime here-with our heartiest congratulations to Oxford Blue J. Cooper (Hamish) Dawson, on his inter-city and three international caps for Scotland this season.

MARRIAGE

FRASER—CALVERT. — At Victoria Road Church, Kirkealdy, on 18th October, 1947, Harry Fraser to Jean Calvert.

BIRTHS

JOHNSTON. — At 4 Bright's Crescent, Edinburgh, on 29th May, 1947, to Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Johnston (née Joan Graham), a daughter.

MONTGOMERIE. — At Green Shutters, The Loaning, Whitecraigs, on 24th April, 1948, to Patricia (née Maturin-Baird), wife of J. Alastair Montgomerie, a daughter.

PATON. — At South Lodge Nursing Home, Ayr, on 10th January, 1948, to Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Paton (née Betty Monteith), Craigwell Pl., Ayr, a son.

SPRING GOLF MEETING

The Spring Golf Meeting was held over Pollock Course, Glasgow, on 21st April. The weather was fair, but there was a strong wind.

There were sixteen entrants.

The meeting took the form of a Bogey Competition, which was won by Mr. J. Turner Johnston. Mr. J. Miller Macgregor was second and Mr. D. O. Melrose third.

Competitors foregathered in the Clubhouse after the competition, when Mr. W. G. Leburn presented the prizes and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the organisers of the competition.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The first of the new series of monthly luncheons was held in the Georgie Restaurant, Union Street, Glasgow, on Friday, 23rd April.

About forty members were present.

Before the lunch broke up, Mr. W. G. Leburn thanked those present for the way they had supported the first of the new series of luncheons and hoped that each would endeavour to bring at least one other Strathallian next month.

CAR BADGES

CAR badges with the School crest are obtainable from the School secretary, price £2 4s. The supply is limited.

STRATHALLIAN CLUB.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th NOVEMBER, 1947

£32 1 2	To General Printing and Stationery	£43 5 4	£19 0 0	By Ordinary Members' Subscriptions	£29 0 0
2 10 0	„ Wreath for Founder's Day ...	2 10 0	30 10 0	„ Net Revenue from Capital invested	31 4 0
0 10 0	„ Insurance premium—President's Chain of Office and Golf Trophy ...	0 10 0	1 2 7	„ Bank interest ...	1 0 8
13 0 0	„ Income Tax on untaxed interest	11 14 0	0 0 0	„ Appropriation to Revenue from Capital Account of 1/50th of Life Members' Capital Account retrospectively for each year from October, 1939, as authorised by A.G.M., 1946	253 0 9
0 0 0	„ Club donation to School Fund for presentation to Mr. Ward ...	25 0 0			
8 11 8	„ Postages of Magazines and Circulars ...	7 7 11			
5 8 9	„ General charges, bank dues, posts, 'phones, etc. ...	17 5 4			
	Surplus for year ...	206 12 10			
		£314 5 5			£314 5 5

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th NOVEMBER, 1947

Capital Account.

Balance at credit at 30th November, 1946 ...	£1905 11 0
<i>Add:</i>	
Life Membership Subscriptions received during year to 30th November, 1947 ...	334 0 0
	£2239 11 0
<i>Deduct:</i>	
(a) Appropriated to Revenue as authorised at A.G.M., 1946 ...	£253 0 9
(b) Honorarium to Secretary as authorised at A.G.M., 1946 ...	50 0 0

(1) Funds invested in the names of the Club Trustees.

(a) £200 3% Conversion Stock at cost ...	£199 11 0
(b) £300 3% Funding Stock 1959-69, at cost ...	304 1 0
(c) Post Office Savings Bank ...	£918 17 1
Added during year ...	286 19 0
	1205 16 1
	£1709 8 1

(c) Engraving President's Medals for period to 1953 ...	6 15 0
	309 15 9
	£1929 15 3

(2) In hands of Treasurer.

In Bank—Savings Account ...	£189 9 5
Current Account ...	48 1 4
	237 10 9

Revenue Account.

Surplus for year as per Revenue Account ...	£206 12 10
Deficit as at 30th November, 1946 ...	189 9 3
	17 3 7
	£1946 18 10

(3) Presentation Fund.

On Deposit Receipt ...	£13 0 11
	£13 0 11

War Memorial Fund.

Sum at credit in 1946 and now transferred to separate Fund ...	£1 0 0
	£1 0 0

Presentation Fund.

Sum at credit ...	£13 0 11
	£13 0 11
	£1946 18 10

£1946 18 10

(Sgd.) J. B. MAITLAND COWAN,
Hon. Treasurer.

9th December, 1947. — Examined with the vouchers and found correct.

(Sgd.) WILLIAM M. SHANKS, C.A. }
(Sgd.) J. M. TURNER, C.A. } *Auditors.*

War Memorial Plaque

THE following is a list of the names to appear on the proposed War Memorial. Will readers of our magazine who are aware of any omissions or necessary corrections please write at once to the Clerks to the Board of Governors (Cowan & J. M. Taylor, Nelson & Company, 180 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2)?

1914—1918.

J. Gowans

A. L. Harley

G. Mollison

1939—1945.

I. Aitken

W. R. Hunter

P. M. Paton

P. G. Anderson

D. M. Irons

R. C. Paul

J. W. Barrie

D. Kirkland

N. Ritchie

J. A. Bell

S. S. Brown

G. W. Leburn

W. J. Robertson

A. M. Bryce

R. V. Luke

A. N. Rogers

A. Carswell

J. M. McBride

A. K. Scott

J. J. Carswell

R. S. McColl

D. N. Scott

P. M. Constable

I. L. McDonald

N. J. W. Smith

J. W. Craig

J. A. McIntyre

D. Thomson

C. Don

E. B. Maekay

W. J. Waldie

J. G. S. Forrest

W. A. McLachlan

J. A. Wallace

T. A. N. Forsyth

D. H. Macnaughton

S. K. White

A. D. Fraser

A. M. Melville

M. Whyte

J. W. Fulton

O. S. Milne

W. Wills

J. W. Galloway

J. Mitchell

I. A. D. Wilson

E. H. Goodbrand

M. Mitchell

J. D. Wilson

H. R. B. Graham

A. M. Moodie

D. Wood

J. F. Harkness

J. R. Orr

