

THE TOWER



THE MAGAZINE OF
PORTOBELLO SECONDARY SCHOOL

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JUNE 1961

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THE TOWER

EDITORIAL

COME with me into the tomb of Conversation. Do not be afraid; there is nothing horrible to see; nothing repulsive to smell; no cobwebs to cling to the unwary face. Conversation has died but recently: her realm usurped by a new goddess, Television. Once she was fat and dark brown. Now she is slim and gay, although judging by the lines on her face she would seem very old. In fact, she is only forty. During these two score years she has become the idol of millions, worshipped in a dim irreligious light. In her presence all speech is forbidden and most forms of creative thought are discouraged. In many households where she reigns supreme, eating and sleeping are governed by her.

She welcomes everyone, wooing the young with Bill and Ben, and the older with Saturday Spectaculars. Her campaigns for more converts involve enormous sums of money as she tempts unbelievers with Outside Broadcasts from Moscow or Cape Canaveral.

Our lives are being altered. Individuality is frowned on as we all rush to conform. Our opinions are moulded by our invisible masters. Indolent idols are worshipped by unthinking young people who are told what is good by such authorities as disc jockeys and publicity men, whose concept of life seems to be expressed in the maxim, "a pretty face can hide a multitude of vocal sins."

Not content with vitiating our mental responses by making our decisions for us, Television is stifling our creative abilities. That homework which was to be done, was never finished because there was a good play to be seen.

But we must have time to work. Even Television cannot deny us that, and so, every fifteen minutes, she permits us two minutes freedom during a "natural" break. For the uninitiated, this is a term used to define advertising intervals. It usually occurs at the most exciting part of a programme: "If you don't tell me where the money is, I'll—I'll . . . Try Grandma's own Old Fashioned Humbugs. They're delicious and only 1s. 6d. a quarter."

And so to the moral of all this. Release yourself from subservience to this exacting goddess with base of plywood. Break the chains which bind you. Tear yourself away from . . . "Anyone for Children's Hour?"

Better still, read this edition of *The Tower*. It has been written by those who sought other channels into which to direct their energies.

STAFF NOTES

EARLY in the session, we were reminded that our own School is not exempt from the disastrous state of affairs consequent upon the shortage of Mathematics teachers. With the promotion of Mr W. Ross to a principal teacher's post in Bathgate, an assistantship in the Mathematics Department was filled by a succession of interim teachers, the names of whom it is impossible to record. We congratulate Mr Ross on his promotion and welcome his successor, Miss Watt. Perhaps we should say that we commiserate with Miss Watt, since it cannot have been a very pleasant experience to have to discipline five classes in a subject which above all requires the careful supervision of one teacher over an extended period of time.

The Mathematics Department has not been the only one to be affected by changes in personnel. The Homecraft Department lost, first, an assistant, Mrs McKelvie, who resigned, and then the Principal Teacher, Miss Linkie, who retired in December. To the latter we offer our best wishes for a long and happy retirement. Mrs McKelvie was succeeded by Mrs Anderson from Washington State, and in Miss Linkie's place has come Miss Hughson, formerly Principal Teacher of Homecraft in Niddrie Marischal Secondary School.

The Department of Modern Languages, too, has been affected by retirement, and with the departure of Miss Thomson, the School has lost a much loved and respected colleague. May she, too, be blessed with a happy retirement.

The departure, for various reasons, of members of staff, can evoke feelings of regret even when the reasons for their departure are matters for congratulations. This is especially the case both with members of staff of long standing, and with those who have given themselves so whole-heartedly to the School that they seem an indispensable part of it. Such, indeed, were three members of staff all of whom left to take up new appointments. Firstly, Mr McLennan, Department of Physical Education, left to take up an appointment in Gracemount Secondary School; next Mr Baillie, Art Department, was appointed lecturer in the College of Art; and finally, Mr Christie, Principal Teacher of Classical Languages, was appointed Lecturer in Humanity in Glasgow University. We rejoice at the tribute which these appointments pay to their accomplishments, but we are sorry to lose their company in the staff-room.

In their places we welcome Mr Smith, Physical Education Department, and Mr Cuthbertson, Art Department. Mr Christie's successor, Mr Robertson from Campbeltown, has not yet joined the staff, but we assure him that we look forward with pleasure to his arrival, a pleasure not unmingled with curiosity at

this stage concerning any member of the teaching profession from the West.

There are others, too, to whom we extend either a greeting or a farewell. Mr Gallacher, Mrs Dods, and Mrs Plumbe, Art Department; Miss Hampton, Modern Languages Department; Mrs Herrington and Mr Sanderson, Commercial Department; Mr Hay, Technical Department; and Miss George, Mr MacPherson and Mr Matheson, Preparatory Classes.

So many departures from the staff have entailed a number of pleasant little tea parties, and of these we would like to record one which did not, fortunately, involve the departure of a member of staff. At the end of the spring term the Staff met to present a wedding present to Miss Richardson, now Mrs Wadsworth, whom we congratulate on the double distinction of entering into matrimony and into the English Department.

To our great regret we have to record, as last year, that our Lady Adviser, Miss Darling, has had to be off School for some time. We assure her that we have heard with pleasure of her progress, that we hope she will soon be restored to complete health, and that we look forward to seeing her amongst us before the end of term.

MISS I. LINKIE

MISS ISABELLA LINKIE retired from her past as Principal Teacher of Homecraft on 23rd December 1960, after more than twenty-seven years service in Portobello. She joined the Staff in September 1934, as a part-time teacher of Needlework and soon became a permanent member of the Department. In January 1957, she succeeded Miss Balfour as Principal Teacher and served in that capacity until her retirement.

She organised and supervised her department successfully and harmoniously, with a close and sincere interest in the girls whom she taught, but her service to the School went far beyond the limits of her own subject. She gave valuable and willing assistance in many School activities, in the making and fitting of costumes for dramatic productions and concert items, and in catering for Staff functions and School parties. No Sports Day or Staff v. Pupils match would have been complete without tea in the pavilion with Miss Linkie and some of her staff on duty.

It was with regret that we learned that she had decided to retire rather earlier than had been expected, but we hope that she will enjoy the leisure that she has earned so well.

MISS A. A. THOMSON, M.A.

SOME, it has been said, are born linguists; the rest have French thrust upon them. Thousands of Portobello pupils, past and present, will, however, agree that under Miss Thomson's teaching the thrust was replaced by a gentle, but firm, guidance.

Miss Thomson's talent for giving the pupils a real interest in French was especially valuable to us in the French department, for she dealt mainly with the first three years, the most impressionable and the most important. We could build securely on the foundations she laid.

Miss Thomson started her teaching career in Moray House Practising School, when, at the end of the normal spell of four years, she stayed for another two at the request of the Training College authorities. Thereafter she taught for seven years in Towerbank, in the qualifying class and the advanced division—now the Junior Secondary classes. In 1934 she came to Portobello Secondary, to teach English, and remained to teach French till she retired in April 1961.

The above information was given to me by Miss Thomson in a letter, and she gave it in about five lines. Generations of school children and her many colleagues, however, will be able to read between those few lines and to appreciate the constant hard work, the firm establishment in her pupils of habits of study and self-discipline, her untiring patience and cheerfulness, the mental agility that made French a living subject to the children—all the vast effort of a full and dedicated teaching life, and never a hair out of place!

As a colleague of Miss Thomson's I am able to report that, even within days of retirement, Miss Thomson refused to slacken off. I have a feeling that she felt quite mischievous when she told me, on her last afternoon in Room 6, that she intended to take it fairly easy that afternoon. Miss Thomson was no inexorable machine—she could grant herself an easy afternoon once every forty years.

She has now retired to Peebles, where she is relaxing among the hills and trees and in her garden.

All her former colleagues and pupils join in wishing her, most sincerely, a long, well-earned and contented retirement.

J. McG. D.

MR W. J. L. BAILLIE, D.A.

IN October 1960, Mr Baillie was appointed to the Staff of the Edinburgh College of Art.

During his association with the School, Mr Baillie established a friendly relationship between himself and the pupils, through a

personal approach of understanding and sympathy. This manifested itself in the classroom where the eager response to his humour and pleasantries led to a high standard of work.

Mr Baillie took a keen interest in the social circles of the School where he had a beneficent influence which is greatly missed.

An enthusiast for the Rugby code, he did much to establish the game in our School so that we can now match the other Senior Secondary Schools in friendly rivalry.

From colleagues and pupils alike, we would convey to Mr Baillie, our congratulations and best wishes in his new post.

JOHN D. CHRISTIE, M.A., B.A.

HOW easy it seems to write an appreciation of John Christie's scholastic and pedagogic career! One by one the details present themselves in impressive array: Dux and Captain of the Royal High School; M.A., 1st Class Honours at Edinburgh University; B.A. Honours Classics, Oriel College, Oxford. His teaching record is just as impressive. During his fifteen years in charge of his department, he achieved a 100 per cent pass for his candidates.

To have said all this, is still to leave much unsaid. His range of interests is prodigious. In addition to the subjects which he professes, he has a profound knowledge of Modern English Literature, Italian Language and Literature, Philosophy, Art and Music. He is a more than competent swimmer, and we suspect, a more than competent squash player. The key to his personality is to be found in the fact that his learning and scholarship are not substitutes for life; they are the means whereby it can be enjoyed, understood, and interpreted. His intellect "can spin the gossamers as well as forge the anchors of the mind." It is this willingness to meet life at all levels that makes him such a brilliant teacher and interesting companion.

When to all this is added a sense of vocation, it becomes no exaggeration to say that the School has unquestionably lost a most valuable member of staff.

We congratulate him on his appointment as Lecturer in Humanity at Glasgow University, and wish him well. There can be no doubt that if he gives to Glasgow University what he has given to Portobello School, that institution will be the richer. Of two things he may be certain: many of his pupils, past and present, will remember him with gratitude and pleasure; many of his colleagues will look forward to renewing his acquaintance whenever he comes to visit them.

"Satis superque me benignitas tua ditavit."

MR C. H. S. McLENNAN

THE Physical Education Department in Portobello has been singularly fortunate in the quality of its recent assistants. Of these, the subject of this appreciation was no exception. Immensely capable and efficient, he handled his classes firmly and skilfully, encouraging the boys with his own zeal and efficiency. Although he contributed freely to the athletic and sporting activities of the School, he will best be remembered by those who had from him, their first lessons in rugby football. Here, he excelled himself. His training methods were systematic and interesting, and much of the success of the older boys was due to his initial coaching.

He is himself an accomplished sportsman, and his cheerful good humour, which made him so popular a member of the men's staff-room, is greatly missed. Indeed, there are those from whom, since his departure, the *Guardian* Crossword has lost some of its savour.

We know that he is enjoying his new work and we offer him our best wishes in his future career.

FORMER PUPIL NOTES

THE amount of information concerning Former Pupils this session has been very small. We appeal to all F.P.'s to keep the School informed of any piece of news of interest concerning themselves or others.

We would like to congratulate ALEXANDER GOODALL, 1956, on his graduation last summer, M.A. Hons. in History, 2nd Class.

It is with deep regret that we record the death recently of Mr H. D. G. PATON, 1912-21. Mr Paton contributed an article of reminiscences in the 1958 edition of *The Tower* and in the following year addressed the opening meeting of the Literary and Debating Society.

2,000 A.D.

When in the future we live on blue pills,
And above us great spaceships are seen,
When green men from Mars set foot on Braid Hills
Will there still be a School Magazine?

When we carry a space-gun to atomise foes
And robots our houses do clean,
When the moon is a place where everyone goes
Will there still be a School Magazine?

When homework delights us and Latin excites us
And exams as a pleasure are seen,
When books are remembered without any fuss
Will there still be a School Magazine?

ELIZABETH STEWART, 3A2.

DOUNAN'S 1960

"Partir c'est mourir un peu."

ONE hot day last summer, two young people jumped eagerly off a bus just inside the entrance to Dounan's School Camp. Exactly a fortnight later, the same two young people clambered regretfully on to the same bus; the girl was crying, sad at leaving so many wonderful friends, never to see most of them again, and the boy, although he did not show any emotion was not unmoved.

Dounan's International Youth Camp, 1960, will long be remembered by the two hundred and forty young people from eight different countries, who attended it. The party from Edinburgh made the two-hour journey to Aberfoyle with the French contingent from Nice, and were accordingly plunged straight into the atmosphere which was to prevail for the next fortnight; the foreign tongues rising sharply above our own language; the hesitant conversations carried on in broken English.

Evi, a German girl, whose English was almost fluent, insisted on being "forgotly" when she overlooked something, and a term of abuse used in the camp was "Kusowitsch." This was the invention of Bent, an irrepressible Danish boy, and no girl ever found out exactly what it meant!

The main theme of the camp was, as in previous years, "Citizenship," and each morning we had a lecture pertaining in some way to this subject. Our resident lecturer, Mr Wilkie, was quite a character and soon proved himself immensely popular with everybody; he could lecture equally competently on Jazz (this was a non-compulsory evening lecture) or on "World Poverty." Our visiting lecturers were also very good and Mr Stuart Hall, a coloured man who talked on "Teenage Culture," was so drawn by the camp atmosphere that he stayed for three days! The Camp Headmaster, Mr Christie, ran the Camp most efficiently and earned the deepest respect both from the students and from his hardworking colleagues, our group leaders.

After each lecture we broke up into discussion groups of twenty. Many interesting facts were brought to light during these group discussions and the foreign students coped admirably with their language difficulties. Question time in the main hall followed this, and the lecturers were stumped more than once by the depth of the questions.

We had two hours of compulsory activities in the afternoon and a very wide range was offered to us—swimming, hockey, netball, volleyball, football, tennis, art and photography, sketching, country and social dancing, music appreciation, debates, dramatics, hill-walking and map and compass reading. After 4 o'clock we were free to do as we liked. There was a

library, we had film shows and table tennis, and many of the afternoon's activities were carried on in the evening. There was dancing every night, either in the main hall or in one of the classrooms. We made our own music with pianos, guitars, recorders, accordions and not a few dustbin lids! We had a camp concert which was almost completely unrehearsed and in which nearly everyone had a part. More than one person literally fell off the seats with laughter! The Camp was surrounded entirely by woods and fir plantations, and with this ample fuel provided, we built a magnificent fire and sang songs round it one very clear and still evening. On this evening I think we all realised more than any other, how wonderfully simple harmony between people from so many different lands really is.

A whole day was spent by each group on a tour of Loch Katrine and Loch Lomond, and the Lord Provost of Glasgow very kindly chartered a steamer for us to spend a day sailing down the Firth of Clyde and the Kyles of Bute. Visits were paid by smaller groups to many famous shipyards, and shopping expeditions to Glasgow were organised. Two theatre excursions to the S.N.O. summer concerts in Glasgow were enjoyed by enthusiasts of classical music and a whole day was spent by the Camp *en masse* in Edinburgh. It was quite an experience for us, the Edinburgh party, to see our City from a visitor's point of view.

Both of us who represented Portobello School at the Camp will forever be indebted to the organising authority, the Corporation of Glasgow Education Department, and to our lecturers and group leaders for the wonderful fortnight. We both still write to many of the friends we met there and no doubt will do so for many years to come, but never can we all meet in the same way as once we did, and we leave you with the same sentence with which we started—

“Partir c'est mourir un peu.”

E. W. and T. P., VI.

THE CAIRNGORMS

ON the first day of the summer holidays, a party of pupils, eleven boys and two girls, under the leadership of Mr Connor, and accompanied by Mr Baggaley and Mr Weaver, settled down—if that is the right word for such a strenuous holiday—for a week at Derry Lodge in the Cairngorms.

Preparations for the holiday went on throughout the latter part of the summer term. All taking part had been broken in to lengthy walks in a series of enjoyable hikes over the Pentland Hills. When we hear so often about hill-climbing accidents, it is good to know that our boys and girls have the opportunity of

learning hill-craft and the need to be properly prepared. Preparations, of course, involved the ordering of seemingly vast quantities of food, for we were to be ten miles, six of winding road and four of unpaved track, from the nearest shop.

The main body arrived in mid-afternoon, having journeyed by train, by bus and on foot. How pleasant to be relieved of that weighty pack! The first task was to prepare a meal, then allocate rooms and finally to explore over immediate surroundings. The Lodge is situated within the shelter of a little wood on the banks of the Derry. In the evening the deer come down to within yards of the house. It is altogether so different—this silent world without the noise of traffic or the chatter and flicker of television. At Derry Lodge the track forks. To the north, up the Derry appear soon the rocky heights of Corrie Etchachan, round Beinn Mhead Loir, and remote Loch Avon. To the west, an hour's walk away through the pass is the Lairig Ghru, the gloomy cleft, which leads after a climb to 2,783 ft. and a walk of yet another fifteen miles, to Aviemore. These two paths we grew to know quite well in the next six days, for, of our daily average of $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles, a good 5 miles was accounted for by one or other.

Wisely, our walks in height and distance were graded, starting with a mere ten miles and climbing height of 2,720 ft. to the top of Derry Cairngorm, 3,788 ft., and a return by Loch Etchachen and Glen Derry. For those who do not know this mountainous terrain, a description is called for. At the lower levels, the way runs through deep heather, often over boggy ground to the steeper slopes with their unusual grasses, mosses and little berry-bearing shrubs. The hills begin to flatten out near a plateau of frost-shattered granite slabs and gravel, in which grow moss-campion and even rarer plants. From the plateau rise the summits, huge, featureless piles of boulders which make it difficult to know by the shape of the hills just which is which. If there is a little mist we soon find out why we were made to take bearings with the compass and use our maps and aneroid barometer in clear weather, though it all seemed so unnecessary in bright conditions.

The weather this year was not so kind as last, and compasses were necessary to find the top of Ben Macdui, 4,296 ft., the second highest mountain in Britain. We had quite a bit of excitement in our too steep descent from this hill over the boulder slope to the Tailors' Burn before we reached the River Dee and the long walk to the Lodge. Next day an attempt was made on Beinn a' Bhuid, but cloud and pouring rain forced us to turn back when we had reached a height of only 3,000 ft. We shall not go into details about the two companions who, deep in conversation and bog, forgot to consult their maps and were saved from a long walk to nowhere by the early descent of the main

party. We arrived not only tired and hungry but soaked through.

On the Wednesday, we had a less strenuous day. In the morning, after breakfast, some wandered over to the stalker's cottage to see him summon the deer by banging on an old tub. Two stags came bounding down the hillside for the tit-bits he provided. Later, some of us sauntered up the Derry burn and back over the moors gathering specimens of different flowers. In the evening an hour or two passed enjoyably in trying to identify them. I think we counted nearly seventy different kinds.

The highlight of the holiday was Thursday's hike. We set off up the Derry, heading for Beinn Mheadhoin and carrying climbing ropes, waist-ropes and snap-links, the paraphernalia of the true rock-climber. The more intrepid did some scrambling on the steep side of the hill up into the mist to the strange "haystacks" of rock on the summit. We descended on the north side to the head of Loch Avon and the Shelter Stone where we had our picnic lunch. The Shelter Stone is a huge granite boulder, fallen from a 1,000 ft. precipice and wedged upon other rocks so as to form a sort of cave underneath. This is a Mecca of the Cairngorm hill-walker. On Hogmanay, I believe, so many climbers turn up that other boulders have been pressed into service to provide a night's shelter. It can be cold enough in July in these hills. A midwinter visit must demand considerable stamina. From this point, we climbed again to the plateau, this time, on to Ben Macdui to the very edge of the precipice. Here, rises the Forefinger Pinnacle, a stack of rock, with nothing but air all around and below. On it, we were introduced to the climbing-rope and, under Mr Connor's direction from above, climbed up to this airy seat. This was a hair-raising experience for the novices and a cold one for Mr Connor, who had to sit on top, belayed to the rock for well over an hour, as each made his ascent, while his friends photographed him as a real mountaineer.

The next day was cleaning-up day and so only a short walk was arranged to Devil's Point on the west side of the Dee. Back in Derry Lodge, "do-as-you-would-be-done-by" was the motto. Carpets were beaten, floors scrubbed and blankets shaken. I am sure that the party following us in occupation found the rooms as never before.

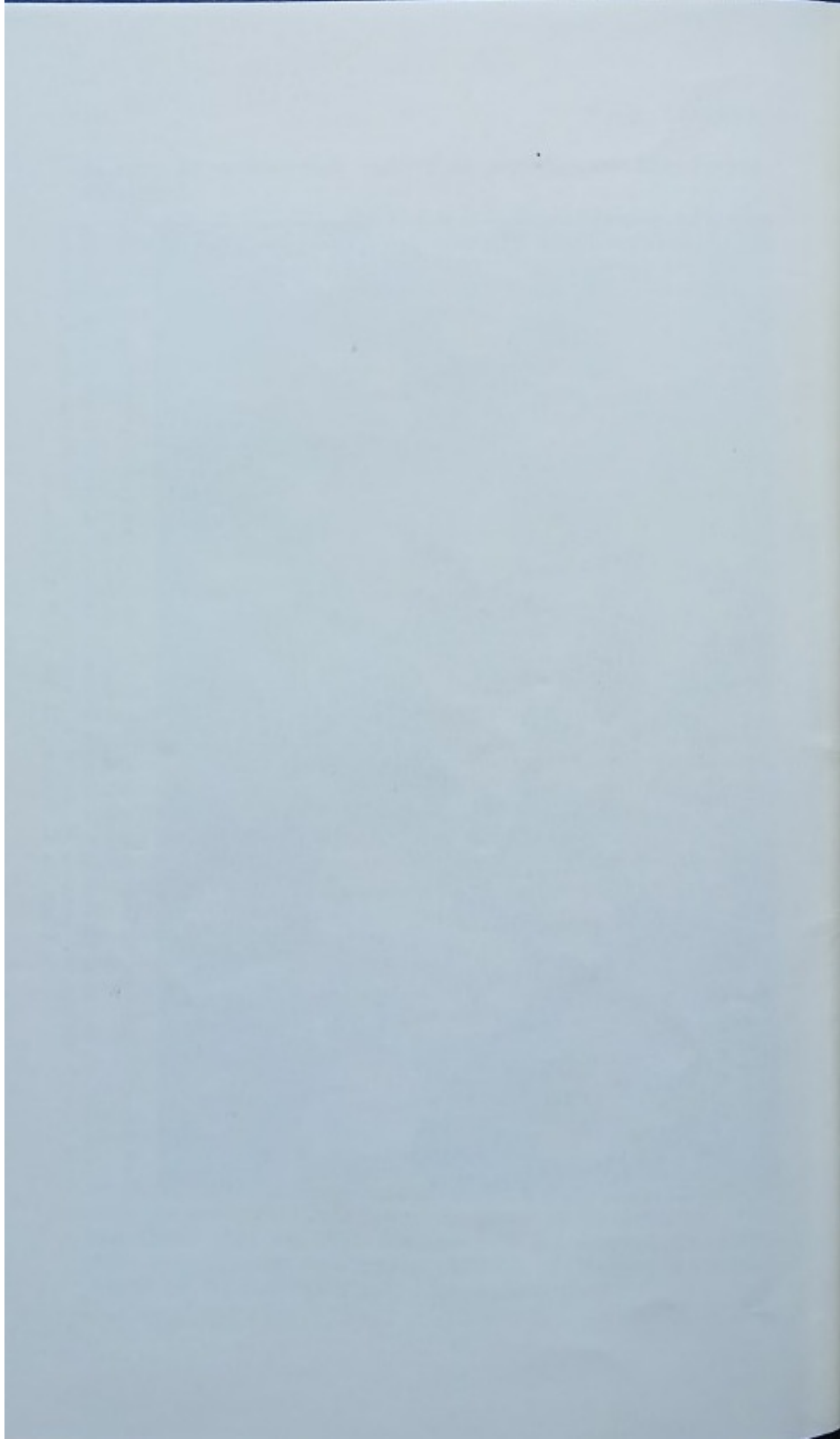
To sum up, we had the grand experience of living together harmoniously and with tolerance of the other fellow, the sense of the majesty of the hills and of the power of the elements. We had shown that we, town-dwellers, had the stamina for sixty-three miles of rough walking and 15,225 ft. of climbing in a week. Above all, we had had a jolly good holiday.

H. W.

SCHOOL PREFECTS 1960-61



Back Row—R. BRUNTON, P. TWADDLE, A. STEWART, J. O'DONNELL, S. MOTTRAM, I. RODGERS, A. COWAN,
J. SUTHERLAND, J. MILNE, A. CURRIE.
Centre Row—D. BLOWS, E. MCFARLANE, D. ROBB, S. BROWN, N. THOMSON, S. COX, G. HOLLIDAY, M. MORGAN.
Front Row—I. MCQUE, R. GRAHAM, M. SMITH, T. PATTERSON (*Captain*), THE HEADMASTER, E. WILLIAMS
(*Captain*), C. BURTON, M. BRASH, P. MACDONALD.



ABOARD THE "DUNERA"

Diary of a Scandinavian Cruise

FRESH from a thirteen-day cruise on the s.s. *Dunera*, I feel prompted to write about my experiences.

Friday, 28th April

This was the first day of a long anticipated holiday; a day to be spent learning the routine of meals and emergency drill. Not much sleep that first night; a shower and a meal next morning and up on deck to watch the Shetland party arriving—then on to Norway.

The three days at sea were spent using the library or playing games. Our time was also occupied by attending films and lectures concerning the places we were to visit.

Sunday, 30th April

Arrived in Bergen where we received a warm welcome from the local teenagers: attractive city: the contrasting styles of architecture and the efforts taken to preserve its colourful past left behind a deep impression: went also on an excursion to Grieg's House and enjoyed a trip on the funicular railway.

Tuesday, 2nd May

Spent lots of time in Oslo; found the Town Hall particularly interesting; visited the Kontiki raft, a Viking ship, and the famous ski jump.

Thursday, 4th May

Copenhagen, a city of palaces, museums and the world famous "Little Mermaid"; a town of lovely parks, especially Veigland Park.

Saturday, 6th May

Arrived in German waters and called at Hamburg. Uninteresting as a tourist centre, but, nevertheless, we enjoyed our short stay immensely.

Monday, 8th May

Our last port of call, Amsterdam, a city of canals and waterways; by far the most interesting place on our tour which had ended all too soon.

Wednesday, 10th May

A memorable trip, with gratitude for all who had made it so enjoyable; pleasurable thoughts of next year.

I. C., V.

SWITZERLAND, 1961

THIS year's Swiss trip was to a small town called Hospental near the St. Gotthard Pass, and about 4,000 ft. above sea level. It is situated on the main road to Italy, but we saw very little traffic as the road was blocked with snow higher up.

When we arrived at our destination, we found that another party was occupying the Hotel Meyerhof, so that only some of our party could stay there. The others were accommodated in two other hotels in the village and it was not until three days later that we were all able to move into the same hotel. All the hotels in which we stayed were very up to date and the food was excellent.

Hospental, we found, shared the same mild winter as was experienced in this country, so that there was very little snow except in corries screened from the sun.

After a few days' practice on the ski slopes at Hospental, we decided that we needed more snow; so every morning, we boarded the train to Oberalp, 1,000 ft. higher up. Here, the snow was eight to ten feet deep—splendid for our requirements!

The next few days took on a regular pattern: breakfast at eight o'clock, train to Oberalp at nine o'clock, ski instruction in the morning, lunch, more ski instruction and then back to Hospental at four o'clock. Towards the end of the holiday, our muscles began to feel the strain and the heat was becoming a little too much for some of us. So about half of our party began to come home on the twelve o'clock train in order to go to Andermatt in the afternoon, while the remainder stayed at Oberalp until four o'clock.

On another occasion we made a trip south by rail through the St. Gotthard Tunnel and passed through Bellinzona to Lugano, a beautiful city with shopping arcades, fountains and lovely botanical gardens where we spent the day.

Our second last day in Switzerland was spent in attempting to pass our ski-ing tests for the award of the bronze medal. This meant repeating all the ski techniques in which we had been instructed in the past week. Unfortunately, the conditions on the day of the test were unfavourable, but despite this, all of the twenty-one candidates successfully gained the required number of marks for the awards.

All too soon, our holiday, so immensely enjoyed, was over. Our thanks are due to the members of staff and the School Travel Service who contributed to make our holiday such a memorable one.

A. L., 2A1.

BERGEN

ON 30th April, we arrived in Bergen, travelling in the cruise ship *Dunera*. It was a Sunday morning and everything was quiet and peaceful save for the sound of the tugs that were pulling us into the dockside. The countryside was wonderful beneath the early morning sky, with its wooded hills and its pretty little painted villages, all standing out clearly against the dark blue waters of the Kors Fjord.

At last we docked and, to the delight of everyone, there was a band of about fifteen small sunburnt boys playing their instruments with great zest to give us a warm welcome.

About ten o'clock our party disembarked, the girls separating from the boys. As we walked towards the town, we had our first glimpse of what Bergen was like. We looked at the little shops with their daintily carved ornaments and sealskin figures, but since it was Sunday, all the shops were closed, except a few cafés here and there.

We were lucky enough to get a guide who showed us round the parks, where we were able to get some photographs, but time passed quickly and we found ourselves having to hurry back to the ship for dinner.

In the afternoon we were taken on a bus tour through the town and shown the places of interest. Then we went to the famous composer Grieg's House where we were shown some of his works and told a good deal about him and his wife.

Next we visited a quaint old Church named Stavekirk, dating from the twelfth century A.D. After that we were taken by bus to the funicular railway which we found quite exciting. On reaching the top of this railway we bought drinks and admired the marvellous view. But again we found that time ran short and that we had to return to the ship where we had a dance that night.

At 8 p.m. we left Bergen to a great send off, and, as we slowly moved away from the little harbour, I wondered what lay in store for me in the other countries.

PATRICIA RICHARDSON.

OBERAMMERGAU, 1960

OBERAMMERGAU, a small village in Bavaria, was crowded with holidaymakers from all over the world, who, like ourselves, had come to see the famous Passion Play which the villagers vowed to perform every ten years to signify the extent of their gratitude for God's protection during the time of plague.

Simplicity is the aim, and therefore neither make-up nor

scenery is used. This emphasises the fact that it is the work of dedicated villagers and not a production by a professional company. In order to achieve the highest degree of authenticity possible, the men let their hair grow down to their shoulders as befits the period.

At the beginning of each scene, the voices of the choir, magnificent in their flowing robes, echoed round the large open-air theatre. The trials and suffering of Jesus, from His entry into Jerusalem to His Crucifixion on Calvary, were portrayed with such profundity of emotion that the most stubborn atheist could not remain unmoved.

Undoubtedly the most stirring part of the performance was the Crucifixion scene. The simple words, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do," emphasising the supreme sacrifice of Christ, at the same time created a feeling of humility and shame among the audience.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Miss Pendreigh and Mr Trotter for their patience and understanding, which made this truly wonderful holiday possible.

E. M., IV.

SCRABSTER

SCRABSTER—the very name suggests fish, especially crabs and lobsters.

Scrabster is a small, picturesque fishing harbour situated in a natural bay just outside Thurso, in the County of Caithness. When the trawlers return in the early morning to land and sell their fish it becomes a very interesting place. The noise is tremendous. The men in the boats are shouting at the men on the quay; the different dealers are arriving in their trucks; the auctioneer is bellowing out the prices of the fish that had been landed previously; and last, but not least, the seagulls. On top of this, the morning that I was there, a diver was working on the sea-bed and the machinery in his boat seemed determined to outdo the racket on the quay.

Catches are varied (with very few crabs or lobsters in them, however) and on the day of my visit an enormous monk-fish had been enmeshed. It was horrible, having a long, thick, brown body, a broad, flat head and a mouth the whole width of its ugly face! To think that such a monster was to be sold made me shudder.

The auctioneer was a tall, very weather-beaten, middle-aged ex-fisherman. With his cap set on the back of his head, he was roaring out the bids made by the dealers for the fish at such

express train speed that all I could make out was "and sixpence" every few minutes. This worthy was working in the middle of the big shed, walking between (and sometimes on) the boxes of fish on the slimy, concrete floor, in his boots and rubber apron and gloves.

At another end of the long shed, a man was cutting open and cleaning fish, mainly skate. It was strange to watch him and his huge knife. He seized a fish, cut out the necessary (or was it unnecessary?) parts and threw them into a box beside him, tossing the waste into another box. The floor area surrounding him was even more slimy than the auctioneer's section. In fact, it was possible to see the slime sticking to everybody's footwear as they moved. The slime looked rather like frog's spawn.

Eventually, when all the fish had been sold, the dealers and their loaded trucks departed. The man in the corner ceased wielding his knife. The auctioneer stopped bellowing. The crews desisted from shouting. Only the diver's equipment, the satisfied cries of breakfasted seagulls and the sounds of clearing up could be heard.

PATRICIA MCKENZIE, 1A2.

HOSTELLING IN ARRAN

DURING the Easter holidays, Mrs Mackenzie took a party of pupils on a hostelling holiday to Lochranza in the Isle of Arran.

After a comfortable journey, we arrived at Brodick, where a bus was waiting to take us to the village of Sorrie, nine miles from Lochranza. We walked the rest of the way and covered the distance of nine miles in approximately three and a half hours, but eventually, thoroughly tired, we reached the hostel. That night we went to bed early, but none of us could sleep for excitement.

For the next few days of our holiday we had bad weather, but this was not to make our outlook dull, for during this time we continued to walk an average of twelve miles per day, enjoying every minute of it, despite the rain and snow.

The days hastened by, and all too soon our wonderful holiday came to an end. After saying good-bye to the new friends we had made, we began the journey back home.

When we returned to Edinburgh, we thanked Mrs Mackenzie, who had so kindly taken us. Then we made our way home, full of happy memories of our hostelling holiday in Arran.

M. A., 3A5.

LIFE WITH THE LYONS

WHILE many were risking the uncertainties of a typical British summer, a party of forty-five pupils and staff from the School enjoyed three weeks glorious weather in La Baule, a comparatively small holiday resort in Loire Atlantique, France.

After an uneventful train journey and a blustery crossing, many of the party set foot on French soil for the first time. Eventually, we reached the Lycée de Grand Air which was situated among sand dunes, five minutes walk from the Côte d'Amour. As the seven mile long beach is one of the finest in Europe, it naturally commanded much of our attention, as did the colourful Breton souvenir shops.

During our stay, visits to the peninsula of Quiberon, to the small sardine fishing town of Periac and to Les Alignments at Carnac—the French equivalent of Stonehenge—were also included and thoroughly enjoyed.

Sharing the "lycée" with us was a party of Continental youths, all members of the Lyons Club—which may account for our rather unusual choice of title. Immediately, many of our party established new friendships with them. Surprisingly, the differences in language provided more amusing incidents than difficulties. An example of this occurred when a German boy made a too literal translation of "allumette" when wanting to light his cigarette, and perturbed a group of senior boys by shouting "Fire! Fire!!"

The seamen's strike prolonged our holiday and necessitated visits to Paris and Calais. This, as well as other unforeseen difficulties, must have caused many anxieties to the accompanying staff, and we would like to express our appreciation to Miss Duncan, Miss Marshal and Mr Brown for making our holiday so interesting and enjoyable.

A. C. and R. J. S., VI.

TODAY THEY ASK

Where is this one of whom they say
 "He gave his life for me?"
 Where is this God who paved the way
 By dying on a tree?

Can He exist in this small world
 Of "have" and "I love me,"
 Where Satan's ensign flies unfurled
 And Sin laughs loud and free?

What good are morals, ethics, laws?
 Who cares what habits do?
 The wretchedness that Lust can cause
 Alas, if they but knew.

T. PATTERSON, VI.

TO TRAVEL HOPEFULLY IS BETTER THAN TO ARRIVE

IN the fertile plain of one's imagination thoughts are sown and mental pictures spring up with amazing speed. These images, separate at first, are soon bound together to form, as it were, mental sheaves, which we, the reaper of the thoughts, may gather at will. A word, which blossoms in the brain, lets its seed fall and soon is surrounded by a group of verbal flowers, each of which has a strong connection with its begetter. In this way a composite idea, suggested by that word, is born.

A country, the name of a person, perhaps unknown, a town, all at once become the parents of thoughts, and soon these are fashioned into our own idea of the place or person. Human as we are, it is only natural that when we harvest our thoughts we choose only the best and most colourful. Thus we are apt to construct a highly idealised portrait of where we are going or whom we shall meet there.

France! At once that name conjures up thoughts of dazzling beaches, casinos, beautiful women, perfume, the Eiffel Tower, noisy boulevards and gay bistros. We have read about them in the glossy magazines and have seen them on posters.

Or London! The Festival Hall, theatreland, bright lights, coffee bars, Cockneys and Pearly Queens, Buckingham Palace.

On a journey to anywhere we naturally start to think of the good things which we shall find there, and the longer the journey, or absence from our destination, the more our imagination deceives us.

At last we arrive in Paris, but where is the sun? It is pouring with rain. Drab buildings sneer at us as we drive along. How many people *don't* comprehend my sixth year French, but when I was in Paris five years ago I could swear that I had no difficulty with the language.

Or London. At least my memories of that cannot be distorted. After all, I went there only the year before last. I still remember the cultured speech of the office workers; the ease with which the "Tube" conveyed me unfussily to E.10; the coolness of a soft breeze on a hot sticky summer day. All that is just a part of the picture.

But the station is dark and grimy, and it is a sweltering day. Eight million people are trying to breathe air which is scarcely sufficient for six million. Fumes pollute the air. The "Tube" is packed with human sardines, each as greasy as his fishy counterpart. Is this the London I remember? Most certainly not.

My imagination had deceived me. I had travelled hopefully, but my hopes were shattered on arrival at my destination.

CLIVE BURTON, VI.

SPECULATION

OWING to the outstanding success of one of the mathematics staff in teaching his dog advanced mathematics, there was for a time some speculation concerning the probability of this accomplished pedagogue's being invited to instruct the Russian space dogs in dynamics and the Theory of Relativity. The recent achievement of Major Gagarin has, however, rendered canine astronauts obsolete, and so, much to our relief, our revered instructor will be able to continue for a few more years yet his preceptive methods of bribery and corruption in the pursuit of the Higher Mathematics.

J. F., 4A1.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES

THIS session the School Library has been opened for home reading. At the start only pupils in the fourth, fifth and sixth years were permitted to borrow books, but in early May this privilege was extended to third year pupils. The Library continued to be used by senior pupils for private study and was also available for use by the S.L.C. candidates during the first two weeks of the examination.

About two hundred new books, including a considerable number of novels by contemporary authors, have been acquired this year. Many of these were donated by staff and pupils. To cope with the increased number of books, two new bookcases were ordered and have duly been installed.

The display stand has so far mainly been used for selections of "Careers" pamphlets and books of one particular type, e.g. novels, books on sport and scientific subjects. The periodical *Science Horizons*, dealing with modern scientific progress has also been displayed. In future it is my intention to display new books on the stand for a week or two before putting them on the shelves.

The attention of teachers is drawn to the periodical entitled *The School Librarian*, copies of which are kept in the reference book cupboard. This magazine contains book reviews which might be useful to teachers wishing to order library or reference books on their own subjects. Catalogues of books suitable for school libraries will be found in the lower section of the reference book cupboard.

I hope that all users of the Library are conversant with the author and subject catalogues. These are a means of discovering the books by a particular author, or the books on a particular subject of which we have copies. These pupils who feel that the classification system is difficult to understand may find th

RUGBY 1st XV



Back Row—D. WALKER, N. DINGSDALE, S. MCKENZIE, F. SCOTT, I. CHEERS, P. TWADDLE.
Centre Row—P. RIDDELL, N. THOMSON, J. BRADFORD (*Captain*), D. THOMSON, N. HOGG.
Front Row—I. NEILANDS, I. KERR, I. CURREN.

RUGBY C1 XV



Back Row—R. IRELAND, G. RENNIE, D. LEWINGTON, I. MORRISON, D. TAIT, A. WILSON, D. WALKER.
Centre Row—A. FERGUS, P. STEVEN, W. URE (*Captain*), T. SELCRAIG, J. SLOWAY.
Front Row—D. LANGHOLM, J. ADAMS, A. HENDERSON, R. THAIN.



*Above—WILSON ROBERTSON,
Swimming Champions 1961,
Below—JANICE ANDERSON.*



Top and Bottom Left—EILEEN WILLIAMS and JOHN SUTHERLAND, School Representatives in Speechmaking Competition organised by English Speaking Union 1960.

*Centre Left—CLIVE BURTON, Editor of *The Tower*, 1961.*

simplified chart of the Dewey classification system which is displayed on the Library wall, of some assistance.

I should like to express my gratitude to all concerned with the running and maintenance of the Library. So many have contributed generously or have given their services in organising, equipping, cleaning and supervising that it is not possible to mention all their names.

R. M. A.

BOOK REVIEW

“THE QUIET AMERICAN”

“THE QUIET AMERICAN” is one of the many fine novels by the contemporary English novelist, Grahame Greene, contained in our recently acquired School Library.

The story is set in Indo-China, and throughout, the author evokes the exotic flavour of the East. The theme deals with the intrusion of a young American, Alden Pyle, into the life and love of two other characters, Thomas Fowler, foreign editor of an English journal, and Phuong, a lovely, young Saigon girl.

From the very first, Fowler senses the attraction of Pyle to Phuong, and fears that their friendship may eventually develop into mutual love. The older man's fear does, in fact, materialise, although Phuong is rather doubtful about which of the two men she really loves. The issue is confused even farther by Fowler's discovery that Pyle is secretly introducing drugs and plastic bombs into Saigon. He is suspected by the local police of sabotage and attempted assassination.

Gradually, Fowler's mind becomes more confused. His wife, in England, refuses his divorce plea. He is resentful of Pyle's modest personality, and youthful alacrity which have won over Phuong. The two men argue constantly together, with Pyle always coming off best. The aggressive Fowler becomes dispirited; indulges in self-pity; eventually becomes confused with the turn of events. It is at this point that one detects the author's mature knowledge of morality and his insight into the complacency of the human mind. We sense the moral problem implicitly portrayed.

Perhaps the one flaw of the novel is a tendency for the plot to slow down. However, this slight failing is tempered by Greene's immense capacity for discovering new variations of human imperfection and for building up dramatic suspense; his remarkable mastery of situation; his brilliant, original technique.

This is, indeed, an excellent choice for those who enjoy mature, intelligent writing enhanced by vigorous character studies.

D. R., VI.

THE PAVEMENT ARTIST

WE found him crouching on the pavement outside the crowded baker's shop. His tousled hair was uncut and faded; his weak mouth was hidden by a short, untrimmed beard; but his eyes, in contrast to his scraggy, lined face, were blue and twinkling, and reflected what was around him like two brimming ponds. A cloth cap, much the worse for wear, was pushed back over his hair, showing his high-domed forehead and, his whole appearance suggested a foreign birthplace. His shoulders were covered by a threadbare jacket, which did not match his trousers, and his shoes were almost worn through. A brightly-coloured silk scarf was wound round his throat, for the sun's rays shone like flickering candles that day. A riot of chalk-stumps lay on a folded sack beside him.

As we approached, he was adding the finishing touches to a magnificent sketch of Exmoor. A grey, sombre waterfall tumbled down black, glistening rocks, the gorse and heather-dotted moorland in the background. But no one, it seemed, could spare a moment from their useless labours hither and thither to admire his work. His tin plate did not hold as much as a solitary sixpence. Feeling sorry for him, we dropped a florin into the plate, where it spun round and plopped suddenly on to the bottom.

"My thanks to kind ladies," he said in a soft, cultured voice. Looking up, he smiled, and told my sister: "I shall paint your portrait, my child."

With swift, deft strokes, he crayoned in my sister's face. Her jet-black hair he made seem as silken as a pony's back; her skin he painted in light, feathery colour, olive and pink.

But her shoulders were swathed in white tulle and round her neck she wore a gleaming rhinestone, set in fine gold.

"That is not my portrait!" my sister exclaimed, surprised.

"No," he admitted, his voice even softer. "Last night, in a dream, I relived the carefree moments of my Russian childhood. I was playing with my mother on the sunlit terrace of our happy home. We were always laughing, then." Here he stopped, as if overcome by his memories, and went on: "My mother and father often held parties. Sometimes they would let me stay up to sip warm, flat champagne, and stare, fascinated, at the gay cloud of swirling dresses, silk and satin, besequined and bejewelled.

"Then ominous rumblings of thunder were heard in the distance. The Revolution was approaching. No more laughter, only the cries of the mourners as they shuffled through streets littered with the massacred dead. No more parties, only secret flights made in darkness, men fleeing in terror from the brutal Cossack horsemen.

"I saw all this, although I did not understand, for I was too young. For a time we stayed in Vienna. Then my mother died, her young face scarred with the stamp of Time. She died in the city where she spent most of her life, for she was a famous concert pianist. At her last performance she wore white tulle and a rhinestone set in gold.

"The time is over when the world rang with the sound of her playing, but she has been remembered in you. The eyes, the nose, the hair . . ." He broke off, musing. He seemed to be about to speak again when a stout policeman tramped along and in his most authoritative tone ordered firmly: "No cluttering up the pavements! Be off with you!" Sadly and slowly, the pavement artist packed up his chinks and wandered off. The policeman scrutinised the portrait and remarked, scratching his chin thoughtfully, "Not bad, that!" Only my sister and I were left, heedless of the crowd brushing impatiently past us.

It is my sister's life-long ambition to be a concert pianist.

SHEILA SIM, 3A1.

THE PERFECT WOMAN

IT is my firm belief that "a woman's place is in the home," for the well-being of a family depends upon the mother. This fact is borne out by Goldsmith—"The prudent wife, and the careful matron are much more serviceable in life than petticoated philosophers, blustering heroines, or virago queans. She who makes her husband and her children happy, is a much greater character than ladies described in romances, whose whole occupation is to murder mankind with shafts from their quiver, or their eyes." Thus, in my search for the perfect woman, I had to find someone possessing all the qualities of a good cook, an efficient housekeeper, a successful hostess, and a sick-nurse.

After much research, I have discovered all these virtues in only one woman, Mrs Isabella Beeton, authoress of "The Book of Household Management." Before I had opened this volume, I could never have believed it possible for such a paragon of domestic virtue to exist. For within its sixteen hundred pages, Mrs Beeton has described, with dazzling perspicuity, almost every task likely to be carried out in the home.

Her culinary prowess is exhibited in her ability to prepare a six course dinner for eighteen people, the menu including:—turbot, roast sirloin, foie gras salad and an iced Nesslerode pudding, which contains eight eggs. Certainly few housekeepers could match her skill in engaging a good servant, or few hostesses her finesse in managing a dinner *à la Russe*; while she possessed superlative skill in the diagnosis and treatment of:—cholera

(British and Indian), typhus, diphtheria, typhoid, small-pox and other common minor ailments.

I shall now end my panegyric by showing my readers one of Mrs Beeton's innumerable pearls of wisdom, which never fails to raise my spirits to the heights of ecstasy, her brilliant depiction of hysteria:—"This may manifest itself by intense sobbing or immoderate laughter. There is frequently wild tossing about of the arms, the hair is dishevelled, the face is generally pale, and complaint is made of suffocating feeling in the throat.

"*Treatment*:—the patient must be spoken to kindly, yet firmly, and be told to stop any eccentricities. Loosen the dress and remove anything tight from the neck. If no heed is taken in regard to what is said, dash cold water upon the face."

J. F., IV.

PREFECTS, 1960-61

"Huddled like sheep in the mist."

- E.W.— "If Colin's weel and weel content,
I'll have nae mair to crave."
M.B.— "Fish, bird or beast was never so unfaithful."
S.B.— "One smile of light across the empty face."
R.B.— "Nothing is innocent now."
A.C.— "To err is human and simply divine."
S.C.— "Great is thy power and great thy fame,
Far kenn'd and noted is thy name."
E.McF.— "The loud laugh that spoke the vacant mind."
I.McQ.— "Words, words, words."
J.M.— "The coy maid half willing to be pressed."
M.M.— "Calm as a cradled child in dreamless slumber bound."
S.M.— "Cannie wee thing."
M.S.— "The wisest fool in Christendom."
A.S.— "The lass with the delicate air."

Clowns. Clowns. Clowns.

- T.P.— "Thou takest all young hearts captive with thy beard."
N.T.— "Veni, vidi, vici."
D.B.— "The man has his failings."
C.B.— "Acting younger than I am and thinking older."
A.C.— "Has aye some cause to smile."
R.G.— "Robin is a rovin' lad."
G.H.— "O never say that I was false of heart."
P.McD.— "Ful longe were his legges and ful lene."
J.O'D.— "His heer was by his eres yshorn."
C.R.— "His stomach was his master and proclaimed it."
D.R.— "And Melancholy mark'd him for her own."
I.R.— "It is not my nature to talk."
J.S.— "For e'en tho' vanquished he could argue still."
P.T.— "Thou source of all my bliss and all woe."

A VALEDICTION

AS this term rapidly comes to its end, so does my school career. Nostalgically looking back, I can vividly recall many aspects of my lengthy stay in Portobello School, for not only has my secondary education been obtained here, the fundamental knowledge was gleaned in what was once our Primary Department.

Though almost thirteen years ago—has that number some ominous significance?—it seems only yesterday that my mother left me in the capable hands of Miss Bannerman. So started my primary instruction which culminated when Miss Neilson wished us luck before starting our secondary education.

It was not surprising that under the adroit supervision I received during my early years that much of this inexplicable atmosphere and pride prevalent in Portobello School, so obvious among staff and pupils alike and so renowned throughout the city, had been instilled by the time I entered the secondary department. Indeed, once this has been acquired, it never subsides, but increases, as I have noticed as I have progressed through the School.

When I leave, I shall take with me many unforgettable memories, not only of incidents but of personalities. To mention some may cause embarrassment—and not only to myself—but permissible ones include, among innumerable others, “Revusical” and a wonderful holiday in La Baule, though I know full well that on re-reading I shall remember others which I have omitted.

I would like to think that my extended school career has not been wasted. If I have gained any education—either in subjects such as Maths, English, etc., or in Life itself—I know it has been derived not only from my patient pedagogues but from this inimitable environment and I am greatly indebted.

Some may think it strange that this pen, often the implement used when writing caustic comments and splenetic diatribes which have been described as cynical, egotistical and sarcastic, as well as many other defamatory adjectives, could panegyrisse, but this ineffable atmosphere has surmounted even greater obstacles.

R. J. S., VI.

Our school magazine owes a great deal to our advertisers. Without their support the magazine would be a very much less ambitious production.

We would, therefore, ask our readers to patronise those firms whose advertisements appear in our pages.

MERIT LIST 1959-60

Dux of the School	-	-	-	-	DOROTHY M. MOORE.
Proxime Accessit	-	-	-	-	MAY KIVLIN.
Fifth Year	-	-	-	-	MARGARET SMITH.
Fourth Year	-	-	-	-	FRANCES TORRANCE.
Commercial Course	-	-	-	-	JOYCE FARQUHAR.
Dux of Third Year	-	-	-	-	EILEEN MURPHY.
Second Year	-	-	-	-	JAMES CAMPBELL.
First Year	-	-	-	-	SHEILA DUNCAN.

CLASS PRIZE WINNERS

3A2	-	-	-	-	-	AVRIL THOMSON.
3B1	-	-	-	-	-	MICHAEL POWER.
3B2	-	-	-	-	-	CHALMERS NEIL.
3D1 (Nautical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	GEORGE CLELAND.
(Technical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	BRIAN LITSTER.
3D2	-	-	-	-	-	MARJORIE LAMB.
3D3	-	-	-	-	-	GRAHAM HORSBURGH.
2A2	-	-	-	-	-	SANDRA WEIR.
2A3	-	-	-	-	-	ISOBEL WALKER.
2B1	-	-	-	-	-	RAYMOND McMATH.
2B2	-	-	-	-	-	ANDREW PURVES.
2D1 (Nautical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	DAVID RENNIE.
(Technical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN HANDYSIDE.
2D2	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN WATTERS.
2D3	-	-	-	-	-	ALICE MCGREGOR.
1A2	-	-	-	-	-	ADELIA BUTT.
1A3	-	-	-	-	-	DOUGLAS WILSON.
1B1	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES WILSON.
1B2	-	-	-	-	-	DOUGLAS LANGHAM.
1D1 (Nautical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	CONRAD BURT.
(Technical Section)	-	-	-	-	-	ANDREW HUGHES.
1D2	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN CAVANAGH.
1D3	-	-	-	-	-	MARGARET HASTON.

SIR WALTER SCOTT CLUB PRIZE

IVA1	-	-	-	-	-	FRANCES TORRANCE.
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PUBLIC SPEAKING PRIZES

(Presented by Portobello Rotary Club)

1st Prize	-	-	-	-	-	JOYCE CROOKSTON, VI.
2nd Prize	-	-	-	-	-	SARAH BROWN, V.
3rd Prize	-	-	-	-	-	TOM PATTERSON, V.

PRIZE FOR SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL

(Presented by the East Edinburgh Branch of the Women's Citizens Association)

MARLEN RENNIE, VI.

SINGING PRIZE

KENNETH WILSON, VI.

SCOTTISH LITERATURE COMPETITION

(Prizes Presented by Portobello Burns Club)

IVA1	-	-	-	-	-	-	SANDRA NICHOLSON.
1A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	SHEILA DUNCAN.
1A2	-	-	-	-	-	-	GERALDINE BRUCE.
1A3	-	-	-	-	-	-	ANDREW MCGREGOR.
1B1	-	-	-	-	-	-	ELIZABETH NICOLSON.
1B2	-	-	-	-	-	-	DOUGLAS LANGHAM.
1D1	-	-	-	-	-	-	WILLIAM LETTICE.
1D2	-	-	-	-	-	-	ARNE COLQUHOUN.
1D3	-	-	-	-	-	-	MARGARET D. HASTON.

MEDALS FOR ATHLETICS

Senior Champion—Girls	-	-	-	-	CATHERINE WILKIE.
Boys	-	-	-	-	JUSTIN TOGHER.
Junior Champion—Girls	-	-	-	-	MARGARET McCASKILL.
Boys	-	-	-	-	ALAN WHITSON.
House Shield	-	-	-	-	CRICHTON.
Cup for Swimming	-	-	-	-	BRUNSTANE.
Cup for Athletics	-	-	-	-	CRICHTON.

EDEN

Down craggy hills to deep and distant caves
 Through boiling cauldrons seethes the mirrored gold
 Of leaping foam and trembling bronze-flecked waves
 That plunge in tumult, caught in icy cold.

A shimmering curtain veiled in green and blue
 Reflects the rainbow glow of day's clear light
 Wherein is seized and held each myriad hue
 That vanishes at last with sombre night.

And from the torrent comes sweet Echo's song
 Each limpid note a softly fluting call
 Which summons those who live the woods among
 To sport and play in spring's sweet verdant hall.

This then is Eden, free from guilty sin
 Those few who keep hearts pure, reward may win.

JENNIFER BEAVAN, 3A2.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

THE resignations of some of the senior Office-Bearers necessitated a General Meeting at the beginning of the session, at which the following Committee was adopted:—

<i>President</i>	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN SUTHERLAND.
<i>Vice-President</i>	-	-	-	-	-	TOM PATTERSON.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	EILEEN WILLIAMS.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	SUSAN MOTTRAM.
<i>Treasurer</i>	-	-	-	-	-	ALEX. CURRIE.

This year has been a very busy one for the Society and also a successful one. Debates, of course, claimed the larger part of the Syllabus, but our other meetings this session were varied and interesting.

The Joint-debates with Musselburgh Grammar School, Leith Academy, Trinity Academy and the Former Pupils, were perhaps the best we have ever had, and attendances were well up on last year.

This year we had our first meeting with the Quill Toastmasters' Club and we found it very entertaining. The Toastmasters also held a Speech-making Competition for Edinburgh Schools in which Miss Patricia Jamieson, one of our Third Year Committee members, took third place.

A Speech-making Competition was also held within the Society, and prizes were won by Miss Patricia Jamieson, Mr Alister Robertson and Miss Eileen Williams. Miss Williams and Mr John Sutherland also competed in the English-Speaking Union Debating Competition and won an eliminating round but were defeated in the next round.

The staff, as usual, gave their willing support and provided us with a hilarious Staff Brains Trust and Staff Debate. Miss Pendreigh, Mr Trotter and their fellow-travellers also gave a symposium on the School's visit to the Passion Play at Oberammergau.

Our other meetings included a Musical Evening, a Mock Election, and a Mock Trial. The Mock Trial, which had been abandoned in recent years on account of the amount of preparation, was a tremendous success and must surely become a regular fixture.

The Burns Supper was the highlight of the session's activities and this was voted the best of recent years. Mr Herrington, the Divinity student husband of Mrs Herrington, the young American assistant teacher on the Commercial Department, proposed the toast "Land o' Cakes," and Mr W. Johnstone proposed "The Immortal Memory." Mr Weaver toasted "The Lasses," and Miss Jamieson replied. Miss Susan Mottram replied to "Land o' Cakes." A programme of dancing followed the speeches and recitations.

The Junior Society also enjoyed a very busy year and held two inter-debates, apart from the Senior Society, one with Boroughmuir and the other with Broughton. These meetings were well attended with no lack of willing speakers, although the Juniors showed themselves rather reticent during debates with the Seniors.

The Committee for next session was elected as follows:—

<i>President</i>	-	-	-	-	-	SUSAN MOTTRAM.
<i>Vice-President</i>	-	-	-	-	-	JANICE ANDERSON.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	ROSALIND BRUNTON.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	PATRICIA JAMIESON.
<i>Treasurer</i>	-	-	-	-	-	WILMA GILFILLAN.

EILEEN WILLIAMS, *Secretary*.

CRICKET 1st XI



Back Row—S. SHERRY, B. JERRAM, A. WHITSON, N. THOMSON, M. POWER,
R. GRAHAM.
Front Row—J. SUTHERLAND, D. ROBB, S. HAMILTON (*Captain*), G. CLARK,
N. HOGG.

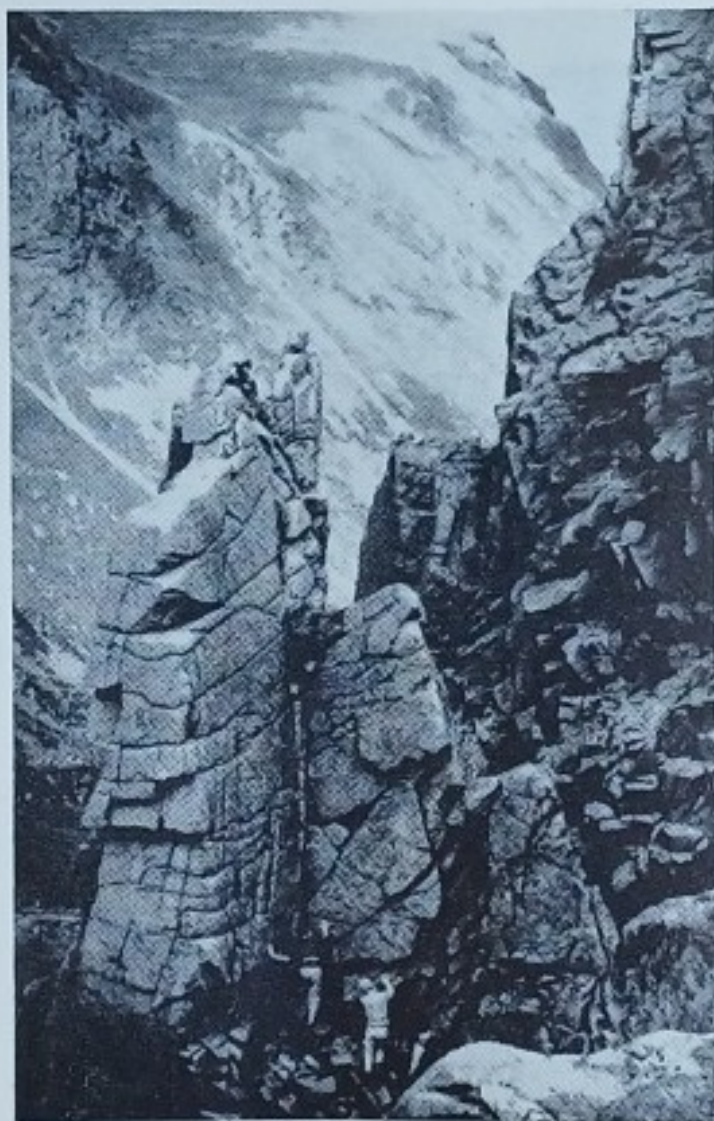
CRICKET 5th XI



Back Row—P. WARRILOW, B. COOPER, J. PINCHES, G. BLISS, A. MCCALL,
R. PRIOR.
Centre Row—P. LAURIE, C. AITCHISON, I. SAWERS, D. CLEMENTS, D. MASSEY.
Front Row—J. DOW, R. MAY, C. DEWAR, A. ROBERTSON.



HOUSE CRICKET SHIELD.



CLIMBING THE FOREFINGER PINNACLE, CAIRNGORMS,
JULY 1960.

RUGBY

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Points</i>	
					<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
1st XV	18	7	10	1	126	126
A2 XV						
B1 XV	22	15	7	—	294	141
B2 XV	14	6	7	1	201	142
C1 XV	21	18	3	—	478	75
C2 XV	16	4	11	1	122	223
C3 XV						
D1 XV	19	13	6	—	223	111
D2 XV	18	11	4	3	210	47
D3 XV	12	5	7	—	106	86

Even a quick glance at the table above will make my readers fully aware that this has been a splendid season for C1. Their play has always been full of the essence of good rugby—accurate and unselfish passing, intelligent positioning for a pass, and an eye for the opening.

The first opportunity I had of seeing them play was against Scotus Academy early in the season. I had never seen a School team which handled and passed so well. Never was the ball held for more than a few paces before the pass was given to someone better placed to carry on the attack. Soon the ball reached a player in the open, and with a clear run to the opponents' line a try was assured.

This type of play gives pleasure to players and spectators alike and brings results.

Players of C1 now take over the distinction—held until now by C1 of 1959-60—of having the finest record of any Portobello rugby team in the last five years.

The previous holders of this distinction are anxious to know how they compare with the present incumbents.

Rather than participate in the fray I shall let the results of each team speak for themselves!

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Points</i>	
					<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
C1 (1959-60)	21	17	1	3	411	80
C1 (1960-61)	21	18	3		478	75

It may be that many of my readers will not stay with me to the end of this article and so perhaps I should digress at this point to mention two factors to which I feel, players should give some thought.

The first was brought home very forcibly to me, when I watched B2 cross the playground at Duns on their way from the dressing-room to the field. Jerseys and shorts were quite presentable, but below the knees I saw the most odd assortment of woollen garments encasing their legs.

Is it too much to expect that a pair of *Portobello* rugby stockings be included in every player's kit?

The second item also concerns dress but I am very glad to say is not quite so universal as the stocking problem.

Many players fail to realise that, when they report for games on a Saturday morning they are representing the School; and those who play for 1st, B1, C1 and D1 XV's are doing so at the highest level they can in their own particular year.

There is no other School activity where boys are so regularly in contact with boys and masters of other schools.

Our reputation as a School is formed largely by the impression created on Saturday mornings. If all my many "cowboy" friends are still reading, will they please stop here and give this a thought?

While you represent the School try to leave at home the jeans, the high heeled "cowboy" shoes with "winkle-picker" toes, the flashy jerkins and pullovers, shirts that never need to be washed, because they are black when purchased, and the weird assortment of ties that are thought to be so much smarter than a School tie.

Dress on a Saturday as you would dress for School.

Fortunately, most players know how to represent the School and never let themselves down.

Now let us move to C2 and C3.

C2 have not had a very good season. With such strength in C1 it must be that little is left for C2 and C3! They have had an enjoyable if not a brilliant season and have supplied players for C1 when their stronger brother has required help.

Little can be said of C3. I find it is impossible to obtain more than four scores from those who have played.

Team Captains must submit scores to me at 8.45 on Monday mornings!

The fortunes of the 1st XV have fallen rather low this year. This is the first in the last four seasons when they have not won at least twice as many games as they have lost. It has, however, been a very enjoyable year, for despite their losses, the boys have played with the determination to win which will always give pleasure in rugby.

The Fettes game ended in a scoreless draw as the light was fading at Hunter's Hall. This is a game which all our boys enjoy and we look forward to its continuance.

To our fixture list this season was added the Berwickshire High School, Duns. We had a most enjoyable trip through the lovely Berwickshire countryside and, although the game did not end in our favour, we greatly appreciated the hospitality of the Berwickshire High School and look forward to entertaining them at Portobello next season.

We would offer our congratulations to James Bradford on his able captaincy during a difficult season.

Just as little can be said of A2 as of C3.

Only a few scores have been submitted and therefore a true picture is not available. Very few players attended practice with any regularity yet all felt extremely fit to play on Saturdays! The few results which were submitted certainly belie this assumption.

B1, with the second highest points total, have had a very good season. However, the lure of football, the inability to decide whether to play or not, the sudden desire to stop playing for no apparent reason, all contributed to

weaken the team during the Christmas term. In time these difficulties were resolved and after Christmas a more stable team emerged.

One of their most exciting games was the return match with Broughton when our boys, out to avenge their previous defeat, pressed hard to win by one point.

Many of these players will be returning to School in August and we look forward to their further participation in the game. Some will undoubtedly find a place in the 1st XV.

The record of B2 is very much stronger than last season. If their play has not had the dash and vigour of B1 it has been steady and rewarding.

One regrettable thing about 1st Year rugby is that very few of the boys in classes A1 and A2 took part.

It is particularly regrettable as these are the boys who will fill our 5th and 6th Year classes in years to come. I hope they will find their way to the field next season.

Enthusiasm is always high among the 1st Year boys and many good players are emerging.

The results of D1 compare very well with last year while a points total of 223, marks an increase of 73 over last year's figure.

D2 and D3 have scores which are very close to the corresponding teams of last season.

In the Meggetland Seven-a-Side Tournament an under 15 team played exceedingly well and only lost to Dalkeith in the final round after a period of extra time. Our congratulations to Mr Cuthbertson and his team.

We were very sorry to lose Mr Baillie and Mr McLennan from the staff, but to each of them we would extend our very grateful thanks for the many hours of their spare time which they have given so generously and so willingly over the years and would wish them every success and happiness in their new appointments.

We welcome Mr Smith of the Physical Education Department and Mr Cuthbertson of the Art Department and already appreciate very much their contribution to School rugby.

The Rugby Club also extends its thanks to Mr Chalmers who is now assisting with the training of 1st Year teams and to Mr McArthur and Mr Henriksen who are doing such fine work with the 2nd Year.

To all members of staff who have assisted with the duties of supervision, the Rugby Club is most grateful.

I should also like to convey my thanks to our Former Pupils—Ian Mitchell, John Reid and David McGrowth who have given such valuable assistance in refereeing throughout the season.

Team masters join with me in extending our best wishes to those of our players who will be leaving at the end of the term. We wish them every success and would assure them that the Former Pupils' Rugby Club extends to them a warm welcome.

Results of House Matches

Senior: DUDDINGSTON.

2nd Year: DUDDINGSTON.

1st Year: CRICHTON and DUDDINGSTON.

Winning House: DUDDINGSTON.

A. D. C.

SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA

THE Annual Swimming Gala was held this year in February. As the Summer Term is overcrowded with other activities, we felt from our experience last year that a date earlier in the session was desirable. Unfortunately, we selected an evening on which Cliff Richards was entertaining his fans in the Usher Hall and this may in some measure account for the smaller number of spectators at Portobello!

Competitors, however, remained unmoved by this counter-attraction and large numbers participated in the various events.

I should again like to stress that the most important events of the Gala are the handicaps. All boys and girls who can swim one length of the pond, however slowly, can take part, and even the very slowest swimmer has an equal chance in helping to gain points for his House with those who are faster.

The standard was again high in the individual events where nine records were broken. Three of the records for the Inter-House Team Races were also broken.

Abercorn deserve our congratulations on winning the House Championship with a very commendable lead of 68 points over their nearest rivals.

The Individual Championships were won by Janice Anderson and Wilson Robertson who gave splendid performances.

Each was presented with a miniature cup at the end of the Gala.

Thanks are due to the Portobello Amateur Swimming Club who very kindly gave us a display of water polo.

All boys and girls who took part are, I am sure, grateful to the many members of staff who once again gave of their spare time so willingly to ensure the success of the Gala.

We also appreciate the assistance given by some of our Former Pupils.

In the list of results which follows, new records are indicated with an asterisk.

Girls' Events

OPEN—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Anderson, 40.6 secs.; 2, J. Lyall; 3, M. Dixon.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, P. Jamieson, 31 secs.; 2, J. Anderson; 3, M. Dixon.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

1, J. Anderson, 35.5 secs.; 2, P. Jamieson.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES

1, J. Anderson, 37.2 secs.; 2, J. Lyall and M. Dixon.

(Timed over three lengths of small pond.)

DIVING

1, J. Anderson; 2, B. Moodie; 3, J. Thorburn.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 16.8 secs.; 2, Brunstane; 3, Crichton.

3RD YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, L. Forrester, 42.4 secs.*; 2, P. Cochrane; 3, A. Thompson.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, L. Forrester, 35.9 secs.*; 2, N. Adamson; 3, A. McRae.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 3.8 secs.*; 2, Duddingston; 3, Brunstane.

2ND YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, H. Cairns, 48.5 secs.; 2, J. Thorburn; 3, S. Duncan.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, G. Nicholson, 38.1 secs.; 2, S. Duncan; 3, H. Cairns.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Brunstane, 1 min. 25 secs.; 2, Abercorn; 3, Crichton.

1ST YEAR—

25 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, H. Watson, 20.9 secs.*; 2, S. Baikie; 3, I. Robertson.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, A. Laidlaw, 17.4 secs.; 2, H. Watson; 3, E. McCaskell.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 21.5 secs.; 2, Duddingston; 3, Crichton.

Boys' Events

OPEN—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, C. Aston, 35.3 secs.*; 2, W. Robertson; 3, J. Barbour.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, W. Robertson, 26.4 secs.*; 2, N. Thomson; 3, C. Aston.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

1, W. Robertson, 33.4 secs.; 2, D. Blows; 3, D. Walker.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES

1, W. Robertson, 51 secs.*; 2, C. Aston; 3, N. Thomson.

DIVING

1, W. Flockhart and W. O'Brien; 2, A. Fraser; 3, R. Chapman.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 54 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Crichton.

4TH, 5TH AND 6TH YEARS—FREE STYLE

1, K. Marshall, 33.2 secs.; 2, F. Scott.

3RD YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, G. Johnston, 39.6 secs.; 2, R. Chapman; 3, A. Whitson.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, W. Flockhart, 31 secs.*; 2, R. Lampard; 3, H. McLean.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 60.3 secs.; 2, Crichton; 3, Duddingston.

2ND YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Wilson, 39 secs.*; 2, K. McAlpine; 3, D. Lewington.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, J. Wilson, 28.4 secs.*; 2, K. McAlpine; 3, I. Morrison.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 65 secs.; 2, Brunstane; 3, Crichton.

1ST YEAR—

25 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, D. Cossar, 20.7 secs.; 2, W. Flockhart; 3, I. Sawers.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, A. Fraser, 14.6 secs.; 2, W. Flockhart; 3, J. Dow.

INTER-HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 63.8 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Crichton.

INTER-HOUSE LIFE SAVING—

GIRLS

1, J. Anderson and P. Jamieson, Brunstane; 2, Crichton; 3, Abercorn.

BOYS

1, W. Robertson and J. Barbour, Abercorn; 2, Brunstane.

WINNERS OF THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS—

GIRLS—Janice Anderson.

BOYS—Wilson Robertson.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP—

1, Abercorn, 237 points; 2, Brunstane, 169 points; 3, Crichton, 120 points; 4, Duddingston, 56 points.

INTER-SCHOOLS TEAM RACES—

GIRLS

1, Boroughmuir; 2, Leith Academy; 3, Portobello; 4, Gillespies.

BOYS

1, Royal High School; 2, Portobello; 3, Boroughmuir; 4, Leith Academy.

We gratefully appreciate the assistance given to us by Mr H. Smith, the Pondmaster, and his staff.

A special word of thanks is due to Mr N. Reid who has acted as our Starter at all our Galas. Members of staff, and girls and boys who know him will join with me in extending to Mr Reid our very best wishes on his recent appointment.

A. D. C.

Farquhar

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Boys' Swimming Club

At the Boroughmuir and Leith Academy Galas our boys' team won the Inter-Schools team events. This team comprised Wilson Robertson, Norman Thomson, James Wilson, Richard Lampard and James Barbour.

I am happy to record that excellent results were also achieved by the boys at the Edinburgh and District Schools Swimming Association Gala.

UNDER 13—**50 YDS. FREE STYLE**

1st William Flockhart, 33.1 secs.

This gave William a place in the Area Team at the National Championships.

UNDER 15—**100 YDS. FREE STYLE**

1st James Wilson, 62.8 secs.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1st James Wilson, 28.3 secs.

This result gave James a place in the Area Team at the National Championships.

The Under 15 Team consisting of Richard Lampard, Kenneth McAlpine, William Flockhart and James Wilson which took part in the 4×50 yds. team race gained 1st place. A very handsome cup was presented to the team.

OVER 15—**100 YDS. FREE STYLE**

2nd Wilson Robertson, 59.6 secs.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1st Wilson Robertson, 26.4 secs.

This result gave Wilson a place in the Area Team at the National Championships.

100 YDS. BREAST STROKE

2nd Colin Aston, 77.1 secs.

100 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE

3rd Colin Aston, 87.7 secs.

Boys were also represented at the National Championships.

UNDER 13—**50 YDS. FREE STYLE**

William Flockhart was third in his heat but faster times in other heats debarred him from the final.

UNDER 15—**100 YDS. FREE STYLE**

2nd James Wilson, 61.1 secs.

OVER 15—

The Edinburgh Area Team in which Wilson Robertson had a place were 2nd in their event.

It will be appreciated that competition at the level of Area and National Championships is exceedingly keen and great credit is reflected in the ability of our girls and boys who are chosen to participate.

The School extends warmest congratulations on such splendid results.

A. D. C.

SWIMMING REPORT

THROUGHOUT the year teams of swimmers take part in various functions where they represent the School and where they maintain a very high standard.

Girls' Swimming Club

At the Edinburgh and District Schools Swimming Association Gala our girls gained the following successes.

UNDER 13—

25 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE

1st Hazel Watson, 18.1 secs. (a new record).

UNDER 15

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

1st Patricia Jamieson, 35.6 secs. (a new record).

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

4th Patricia Jamieson.

This gave Pat a place in the Area Team at the National Championships.

50 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE

3rd Patricia Cochrane, 39.8 secs.

Our condolences go to Linda Forrester who unfortunately was disqualified for a faulty turn in the 100 yds. Breast Stroke.

The Under 15 team consisting of Patricia Jamieson, Alison McRae, Norma Adamson and Linda Forrester which took part in the 4×50 yds. team race won 2nd place.

OVER 15

100 YDS. BACK STROKE

2nd Janice Anderson, 81.2 secs.

100 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1st Janice Anderson, 83.8 secs. (a new record).

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

4th Janice Anderson, 31.6 secs.

On this latter result Janice gained a place in the Area Team at the National Championships.

At the National Championships of the Scottish Schools Swimming Association held recently in Glasgow these swimmers gave excellent performances.

UNDER 13—

50 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE

2nd Hazel Watson, 18 secs.

UNDER 15—

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

4th Patricia Jamieson, 36.4 secs.

The Edinburgh Area Team, of which Pat was a member, came in 4th.

OVER 15—

100 YDS. BREAST STROKE

2nd Janice Anderson, 80.3 secs.

The Area Team won its event and Janice as a member of the team was awarded a medal.

HOCKEY 1st XI



Back Row—M. PIRIE, P. BURNS, J. ANDERSON, B. SIMPSON, S. FOULNER,
J. LYALL.

Front Row—W. OSBOURNE, R. CROCKETT, E. WILLIAMS (*Captain*), J.
CALDER, M. AITKEN.

HOCKEY 5th XI



Back Row—M. McKEAN, M. RAMSAY, G. ARSCOTT, I. WRIGHT, E. DAY
G. NICOLSON.

Front Row—J. CAMPBELL, J. DAVIDSON, J. THORBURN (*Captain*), D.
ARTHUR, J. SCOTT.



YOUTH CAMP, ABERTOYLE, 1960.



BUCHAU ON THE ACHENSEE, AUSTRIAN TIROL.

BOYS ATHLETICS

Records broken at School Sports, 1960

		<i>New Record</i>	<i>Previous Record</i>
UNDER 13			
220 Yds.	A. Wilson.	26.5 secs.	30 secs. (1955).
440 Yds.	A. Wilson.	1 min. 2.3 secs.	1 min. 6.8 secs. (1959).
Relay	Crichton.	59.3 secs.	64.1 secs. (1957).
Long Jump	A. Wilson.	15 ft. 3½ ins.	14 ft. 7 ins. (1956).
UNDER 14			
220 Yds.	G. Johnston.	27.3 secs.	28.2 secs. (1959).
440 Yds.	G. Johnston.	1 min. 2.5 secs.	1 min. 5.2 secs. (1958).
Cross Country	G. Johnston.	9 min. 11.2 secs.	9 min. 24 secs. (1959).
UNDER 15			
220 Yds.	A. Whitson.	26 secs.	26.4 secs. (1959).
Hurdles	A. Whitson.	11.1 secs.	11.9 secs. (1959).
Discus	A. Whitson.	90 ft. 2 ins.	86 ft. 5 ins. (1958).
Cross Country	G. Hamilton.	8 min. 51 secs.	9 min. 8.9 secs. (1960).
UNDER 16			
440 Yds.	I. Curren.	59.5 secs.	61.2 secs. (1959).
880 Yds.	I. Curren.	2 min. 23.2 secs.	2 min. 34 secs. (1958).
High Jump	D. Walker.	5 ft.	4 ft. 10 ins. (1958).
Cross Country	A. McCulloch.	8 min. 48.5 secs.	9 min. 19 secs. (1958).
OPEN			
440 Yds.	J. Togher.	55.5 secs.	56.5 secs. (1958).
High Jump	J. Togher.	5 ft. 5½ ins.	5 ft. 4½ ins. (1959).

Inter-Scholastic Sports, 1960

Unfortunately only the placings of our competitors in the various events is available.

UNDER 13		
100 Yds.	A. Wilson.	3rd.
Relay	A. Wilson.	} 1st.
	W. Ure.	
	J. Sloway.	
	J. Dickson.	
UNDER 14		
220 Yds.	G. Johnston.	1st.
UNDER 15		
880 Yds.	G. Hamilton.	1st.
Relay	A. Whitson.	} 3rd.
	R. Lawson.	
	L. Gibson.	
	J. Craig.	
UNDER 16		
Discus	B. Litster.	2nd.
Javelin.	G. Wall.	4th.
OPEN		
Discus	P. Riddell.	3rd.
Javelin	K. Scott.	3rd.

GIRLS ATHLETICS

The following are the records broken at the School Sports in June 1960.

		<i>New Record</i>	<i>Previous Record</i>
UNDER 13			
100 Yds.	L. Tait.	13.9 secs.	14.2 secs. (1959).
High Jump	L. Tait.	4 ft. 1 in.	3 ft. 10 ins. (1959).
Long Jump	L. Tait.	13 ft. 4 ins.	13 ft. 3½ ins. (1959).
UNDER 14			
100 Yds.	M. Robertson.	13.5 secs.	13.8 secs. (1959).
Discus	M. Cameron.	63 ft. 6½ ins.	New Record.
UNDER 15			
100 Yds.	J. Hogg.	13.4 secs.	Equal (1959).
High Jump	M. McCaskell.	4 ft. 4 ins.	4 ft. 3 ins. (1959).
UNDER 16			
100 Yds.	S. Shiel.	13 secs.	13.3 secs. (1959).
220 Yds.	S. Shiel.	29.2 secs.	30.1 secs. (1959).
High Jump	M. Henderson.	4 ft. 8 ins.	4 ft. 3 ins. (1959).
Long Jump	M. Henderson.	15 ft. 8½ ins.	14 ft. 6 ins. (1959).
Discus	M. Crichton.	70 ft. 2 ins.	60 ft. 4 ins. (1959).
Javelin	M. Crichton.	45 ft. 2 ins.	37 ft. 4 ins. (1959).
OPEN			
Hurdles	C. Wilkie.	12.0 secs.	12.3 secs. (1959).
High Jump	C. Wilkie.	4 ft. 4 ins.	4 ft. 2 ins. (1959).
Discus	J. Dunnet.	68 ft. 1½ ins.	61 ft. 10 ins. (1959).

Inter-Scholastic Sports at New Meadowbank

The following places were gained by the girls at the annual Inter-Scholastic Sports.

UNDER 13			
High Jump	L. Tait.	2nd.	
UNDER 15			
Long Jump	D. Wilson.	1st.	
UNDER 16			
Long Jump	M. Henderson.	1st.	
High Jump	M. Henderson.	1st. New Record.	
Relay	S. Shiel. M. Henderson. M. Pirie. M. Laurenson.	} 1st.	
OPEN			
100 Yds.	J. Dennett.		3rd.
High Jump	C. Wilkie.		3rd.
Discus	J. Dunnett.	2nd.	
Javelin	J. Dunnett.	3rd.	
Relay	I. Carey. J. Dunnett. C. Wilkie. J. Dennett.	} 2nd.	

CRICKET

FOR season 1960 the results were:—

	<i>P.</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>L.</i>	<i>D.</i>
1st XI	12	7	4	1
2nd XI	13	3	9	1
3rd XI	12	5	7	0
4th XI	11	3	8	0
5th XI	11	9	1	1
6th XI	9	5	4	0

The 1st XI were the best team we have had in the School for some time. Although mainly a bowling side their fielding was good, and the general field discipline was excellent. As far as the batting was concerned all players had mastered the straight bat but their weakness lay in the inability to distinguish between the good and bad balls, too many wickets being lost in trying to hit a good length ball over the boundary, with the usual fatal results. The bad ball must be picked out quickly and hit hard while all others should be treated with respect. Until we have mastered this technique the scores will seldom be beyond 50. Impatience to "break the duck" may have been the trouble, but good advice is—take your time and the runs will come. Top batting averages were B. Curtis 9.7 and K. McKenzie 6.7. Bowling averages were S. Hamilton 2.3 and B. Curtis 6.5.

The 2nd XI were again affected by lack of support but after a shaky start settled down to become quite a good side, much better than the results suggest.

The 2nd Year Teams, the 3rd and 4th XI's, contained some promising cricketers, while the 5th XI are to be congratulated on losing only one game. The 6th XI although not doing so well at first, became a well-knit side towards the end of the season.

The House Competition was won by Brunstane, and the Pupils romped home easy victors in the Staff Match.

Icy blasts and squally showers have heralded the present season upon us. Generally speaking, however, there seems to be a keenness which hasn't been evident for some time. Much of this is due, of course, to the coaching and encouragement given by members of staff in charge of teams. Players should always remember and appreciate this fact.

This year we are running seven XI's, that is an extra First Year team. The response from the Third and Fourth Years, although better than last year, is still rather poor. We should be able to raise a purely Third Year team with the 2nd XI being drawn from the Upper School and not as at present consisting mainly of Third Year boys.

During the past year we have had made a House Cricket Shield, a photograph of which appears in the Magazine. The woodwork was done by A. Alexander and W. Duncan, members of last year's Class VI, while the design for the engraving was by B. Curtis, Class V. The Club sincerely thanks these boys for their efforts. The trophy itself should add more competitive interest to the House matches.

Finally we must thank again all those members of staff and former pupils who help with the coaching and supervision of games. Also, as this may be our last season in the field at Duddingston Road, our thanks and appreciation are due to Mr Ross, the groundsman, who has mown and

watered for us (the rolling we do ourselves!) and without whose efforts the cricket square would not have been one of the best of the Corporation wickets.

The Office-Bearers for 1961 are:—

<i>Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	STEWART HAMILTON.
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	DOUGLAS ROBB.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN SUTHERLAND.

A. Y. G.

TENNIS

THE Club had a very successful season last year. Ten matches were played, and of these nine were won. Unfortunately all the members of last year's boys team have now left School but we hope the new team members will be successful under the following Office-Bearers:—

<i>Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN O'DONNELL.
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	ALEX. CURRIE.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	SHEILA COX.

This season it is hoped to arrange a School Tournament and Inter-House Matches.

The Club could not be run without help from the members of staff, and we wish to thank, in particular, Mr Henrikson who takes a keen interest in the Club's activities.

SHEILA COX, VI.

GOLF

YET another activity for pupils was added to the already imposing list when a Golf Section was inaugurated in the Summer Term of 1960. It was confined to pupils of the Third Year and upwards and consisted of a weekly meeting on the Portobello course, with one or two "friendly" competitions on other venues. A match-play tournament ended with J. Bradford beating M. Power in the final. One fixture, a successful one, was played against Dalkeith High School, but the highlight of the term was undoubtedly the Staff v. Pupils Match, played on a warm, sunny afternoon over Duddingston Golf Course. After a draw of four games each, tea was provided and appreciated in the clubhouse.

This session an even more ambitious programme was undertaken, beginning in October 1960, when Mr Shade, the Duddingston professional, started a weekly series of coaching, under the auspices of the Golf Foundation Limited. These lessons continued for two terms, culminating in a film being made of the boys and girls showing the "perfect swing." The results of this comedy are eagerly awaited! Meantime, the School Championship Tournament progresses and the higher handicapped players will be given their chance in a stroke-play competition later this month.

Already we have had a winning fixture against Leith Academy, and are due to play Trinity Academy, and hope to arrange further matches, including the Staff v. Pupils, before the end of term. If the present interest is maintained, and the same standard of play, then the School can look forward to a thriving and competent Golf Section.

M. P.

HOCKEY

AT the meeting held at the beginning of the session, Eileen Williams was elected Captain of the Hockey Club, and Susan Mottram was elected Vice-Captain. The 1st XI proved themselves very keen but, owing to frequent team changes, were not very successful, winning 8 games, losing 8 games and drawing 1 game. Five games were cancelled owing to unfavourable conditions.

Dates have been added to colours already gained by Eileen Williams and new colours have been awarded to Pat Burns, Wendy Osborne, Beverley Simpson, Janice Anderson, Sylvia Foulner, Margaret Pirie, Jeanette Calder, Rosemary Crockett and Joyce Lyall.

The 2nd XI, captained by Susan Mottram, had quite a successful season, winning 9 games and losing 7.

The 3rd XI, captained by Rosalind Brunton and Jean Cosgrove, did very well, winning 9 games, losing 3 and drawing 1.

The 4th XI, captained by Sheila Duncan and Jennifer Thorburn, had quite a good season.

This year, for a second time, we had a 5th and 6th XI. These teams, which consisted almost entirely of Second Year enthusiasts, did well and their keen support is a very good sign.

Two teams were also formed by the ever enthusiastic First Year. The A Team was ably captained by Eileen Gunn, and the B Team by Carol Thomson.

Owing to a late arrival at the East of Scotland Tournament at Kirkbrae, the Senior Team missed two matches and were unsuccessful in gaining a place. The Senior Team was also unsuccessful in the Tournament at Meggetland, but the Junior Team did very well, being narrowly beaten in the final by Leith Academy.

The House Matches were played in March and the results were as follows: *Senior*—1st, Abercorn; 2nd, Crichton; 3rd, Brunstane; 4th, Duddingston, *Junior*—1st Brunstane; 2nd, Abercorn; 3rd, Crichton; 4th, Duddingston.

The most enjoyable matches of the season were undoubtedly the Staff v. Pupils and the 1st XI v. 1st XV, but unfortunately Mr Connor broke his nose in the first and Mr Trotter broke his glasses (an old pair, luckily, worn in anticipation of just such an accident). The 1st XI were beaten by the Staff but were victorious over the rugby stalwarts.

Owing to the proposed new School which is to be built on the playing fields we lost the use of our pitch for much of the season while the surveyors were at work, but we had the use of two very good pitches on the University ground at Hunter's Hall.

The Hockey Club here accords its thanks to Miss Marshall and Miss Douglas for the time they have devoted to us this season and we would also like to thank our groundsman, Mr Ross.

EILEEN WILLIAMS, *Captain*.

NETBALL

A NETBALL Club has been started this term, and so far practices have been regularly attended by First, Second, Third and Fourth Year members.

We hope to be able to arrange one or two matches with other schools before the session finishes, and House matches will be played before the end of term.

S. DOUGLAS.

ROUNDERS

THE rounders season of 1960 passed with its usual swing, a large number of girls, large and small, attending each Wednesday after school. Despite all odds (the hardness of the ball, the occasional slipperiness of the grass, the not-so-occasional wildness of aim) there were no fatal accidents. At the end of term the usual House Matches were held. The results were: 1st, Abercorn; 2nd, Brunstane; 3rd, Crichton; 4th, Duddingston.

J. C. and M. A.

THE COMING OF DAY

Soft Sunshine spreads her quiet golden light
O'er crystal mountains, tinkling waterfalls
Dispelling shadowy spectres of the night
As quick she wanders through Dark's misty halls.

Pale silver woods awake to blushing skies.
There soars on high the lark whose liquid song
Showers glory where a huddled village lies
And basks in sleepy warmth that knows no wrong.

Frail petals drift to carpet orchard floors,
And secrets whisper gently through the breeze.
Red rambler roses climb the cottage doors,
And hush of dawning lifts from vales and leas.

Light brings repose, lifts fear from Death's black sway
For with her first appearance comes sweet Day.

JENNIFER BEAVAN, 3A2.

RAIN IN A GARDEN

Under the eaves,
Silver blisters of rain,
Chased gold by the sunset sky behind the hill;
The strawberry bed a swamp of straw and paper;
The tortoise sleeping under a cloche,
Among the dry groundsel and lettuce,
Protected under the rain-dripping glass;
Sweet spicy smell of damp herbs;
Marigolds with bended heads
And drooping raspberry leaves,
The berries bedewed with silver,
The berries pink pearly by dew,
And smelling like sharp apple wine;
Gentle, grey, golden raindrops on the unmowed lawn;
An embalmed, gilded sunset
Over the lion-headed hill;
And peace, everything was tranquil;
Time had stopped just for a moment.

E. FLEMING, V.

EDINBURGH SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP ASSOCIATION

THE Edinburgh Schools' Citizenship Association—E.S.C.A.—is affiliated to the Council for Education in World Citizenship and is perhaps one of the most interesting societies of its kind in Scotland. Its many members belong to the pre-certificate, certificate and post-certificate years of Edinburgh's senior schools. Portobello is represented on the Staff Advisory Council by Mr Henrikson.

Though this year has been most successful, unfortunately Portobello can take virtually no credit. It seems apparent that this School no longer takes pride in saying it possesses the highest membership of any co-educational school. This year, our membership dropped to the ignominious total of three—one-third of whom attended meetings regularly. But rather than digress to expatiate upon the prevalent apathy in the senior school, it may be more advantageous to enumerate some of the Association's many interests.

E.S.C.A. is run on similar lines to our own Literary and Debating Society, though on a more ambitious scale, and meets on alternate Saturday evenings in selected Edinburgh schools. Though debates often take precedence, film evenings, political forums, Kirk sessions, Mock trials, lectures, etc., are not neglected, and innovations are frequent. A Christmas Dance is also featured on the Syllabus, and an Inter-Debate with the West of Scotland C.E.W.C. is held near the end of each session.

Usually every meeting, held in an atmosphere devoid of inter-school rivalries, contains something of interest, and I exhort, most vehemently, those pupils eligible for membership next session to give far more support to this gratifying and worth-while organisation.

Because of my position on E.S.C.A.'s Executive Committee, I had the privilege of attending both the C.E.W.C. Conference in London, and the corresponding one for Scottish Schools and affiliated associations at Middleton Camp.

The former was attended by over 2,500 representatives from all over Great Britain. Delegates heard interesting and most informative lectures given by various authorities on the theme "Something New out of Africa." The topic chosen for the Scottish C.E.W.C. Conference was "Russia," the lecturers coming from the Russian Department of Edinburgh University. Though the last mentioned was just as edifying as the corresponding one held in London, it was even more enjoyable, perhaps owing to the restricted numbers—only eighty were selected—the complete lack of unnecessary formality, and the ample opportunities provided for making new acquaintances.

R. J. SUTHERLAND.

STAMP CLUB

A SCHOOL Stamp Club, which meets on Tuesdays after School in Room 5, has been begun. A fee of one shilling is charged for initial membership and threepence for each subsequent meeting. This money is to be invested in stamp catalogues and other philatelic equipment. Donations of stamps by other pupils and members of Staff are always welcome.

EDINBURGH SCHOOLS' SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

PORTOBELLO SCHOOL has been in this Society for such a short time that many of the pupils may not know of its existence.

Pupils from the Third Year upwards are able to join the Society on payment of a shilling subscription, for which they obtain a membership card and distinctive badge.

Meetings are held in different parts of the City approximately once a month and lectures are given on topics which are thought to be of interest to Society members. If the lectures do not appeal to a member, there is a film evening which is sure to impress even the most unenthusiastic member.

In the summer term, excursions are organised by the Committee to places of interest such as power stations, factories, etc.

Unfortunately the School is not greatly represented at the meetings and it is hoped that there will be a larger membership and attendance in the future.

CHARLES BURRELLS, *Representative.*

SIXTH YEAR CONFERENCE

THE theme chosen for this year's Conference, held at Firrhill School, was the topical and highly controversial one of "Great Britain and the New Europe."

Under the chairmanship of Dr Roy Price, head of the London Office of the Information Service of the European Communities, delegates heard speeches from Mr Simon Cohen, head of the Hague Office of the Information Service of the E.C., and Mr Kenneth Lindsay, a former Member of Parliament for the Combined British Universities.

Mr Cohen gave a historical exposition of the European Community, and also outlined its future intentions. In a witty and somewhat satirical speech, Mr Lindsay explained Britain's position as regards the "Inner Six."

During the meetings of the discussion groups which followed, relevant topics were debated, and each delegate had the opportunity to express his own point of view. After lunch, the discussion groups formulated questions of an economic, political and social nature to ask the lecturers.

In all, it was an interesting and edifying Conference, though it was rather ironical to see the advocates of integration with Europe remaining segregated within their own school parties.

R. J. S., VI.

SCRIPTURE UNION

ALTHOUGH the S.U. has few members and seems to count for little in the life of the School, it is a happy fellowship of keen young minds. The enthusiasm of the First and Second Year members is most commendable, while the senior pupils have not only been disinterested but rather hostile. This was noted by Miss Peebles Brown who visited us and brought with her an interesting collection of coloured slides of camps and house parties.

As leader over the last two years, I have enjoyed the friendliness of the junior pupils and been encouraged by members of Staff. To all who have helped me, and especially Miss Betty Wilkie, I wish to express my thanks.

Miss Wilkie is to be my successor, helped by Miss Hughson of the Domestic Science Department. Together, I feel sure they will be able to ensure the successful continuance of the Society in future years.

THOMAS A. B. PATTERSON.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT CONFERENCE

THE S.C.M. held a whole day Conference in Moray House College during the month of March, to which Portobello sent six representatives. Mr J. S. Meldrum, of the Stirling Education Department, addressed a large audience, drawn from most of Edinburgh's senior schools, on the theme of the Conference which was "Looking Ahead, our Life's Work."

The lively discussion groups and the open forum in the afternoon made the day very worth while, especially for Miss Eileen Williams and myself, who were group leaders.

THOMAS A. B. PATTERSON.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

THE Scottish Country Dance Club has, since its founding by Mr Robertson over eighteen months ago, enjoyed the regular attendance of many girls from the First to Fourth Years. At the class, which is held in the large gym on Tuesdays from 4 till 5 p.m., the members have been taught a variety of dances. Among these are Hamilton House, Waverley, the Duke of Atholl's Reel and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

One of the occasions marking this term, has been the selection of teams to perform in the concert, held at the end of the session. One of the dances chosen for this concert is the Shepherd's Crook, in which three girls take part. Another is Miss Jeanne R. Hood, a reel and the third is a square dance in strathspey time called Robertson Rant.

Although the juniors are quite well represented, the attendance of more members of the senior school would be welcomed. It is hoped that many of the new First Year pupils who will be entering the School after the summer holidays, will come to the Club and remain as regular members.

J. A. H., IV A2.

We would like to acknowledge our appreciation of the work carried out each year by Mr Jack Fisher. He has been responsible this year for all but two of our photographs.

R. C. R. HUTCHON

(Prop. A. R. G. BROWN)

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