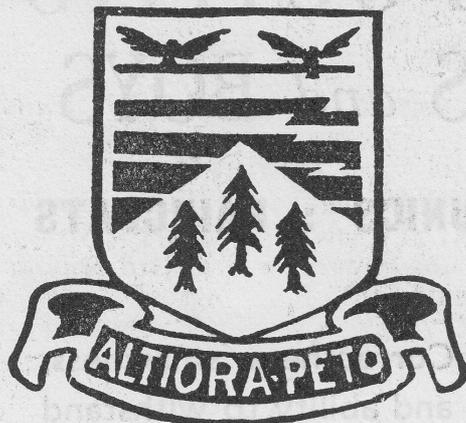


Whitehill School Magazine.

Number 67

Christmas,
1952



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SCHOOL OFFICIALS.

Captains

Ronald M. Cresswell, VI. Elizabeth G. Donaldson, VI.

Vice-Captains

George R. Brown, VI. Marina Fitzgerald, VI.

Prefects

Ian A. MacLean, VI; Fraser Sutherland, VI; Alastair Russell, VI; A. David Hogarth, VI; James Aitken, V; Robert Ramage, V; George Tennant, V; Stuart Hunter, V; John Dekker, V. Janet McDougall, VI; Moira Barbour, VI; Leonora Stewart, V; Margaret Reid, V; Nan McAdam, V; Moira Pinkerton, V; Elspeth Wilson, V; Nancy McAulay, V.

Rugby

Captain: Alastair Russell, VI.

Vice-Captain: Ronald M. Cresswell, VI. **Secretary:** George R. Brown, VI.

Football

Captain: Samuel Cooper, VI.

Vice-Captain: George H. Mackie, V. **Secretary:** William Stevenson, IV.

Hockey

Captain: Nan McAdam, V.

Secretary: Leonora Stewart, V.

Swimming

Captain: Sidney Durk, IV.

Golf

Captain: George H. Mackie, V.

Secretary: Stewart T. Reid, VI.

Chess

Captain: George R. Brown, VI.

Scripture Union

Secretaries: Elizabeth G. Donaldson, VI; Robert F. Graham, IV.

S.C.M.

Secretary: A. David Hogarth, VI.

Treasurer: Andrew J. Scobie, VI.

Literary and Debating Society

Secretary: A. David Hogarth, VI.

Treasurer: Eliz. G. Donaldson, VI.

Committee: George R. Brown, VI; Margaret Alexander, VI; Douglas Duncan, V; Sheila Connell, V; Margaret Hughes, IV; John Wallace, IV.

Magazine

Editors: Elizabeth G. Donaldson, VI; Andrew J. Scobie, VI.

Sub-Editors: Margaret G. Reid, V; Ronald A. Scott, V; Isobel Brown, IV; James Brown, IV.

Committee: Margaret Chisholm, V; Ann Young, V; Myra Milne, IV; Moira Muir, IV.



Here for your perusal is this, the 67th School Magazine. As you read through these pages, please do not be too critical; surely, it is not quite as bad as it might have been; remember there is always something for which to be thankful. This reflection reminds us of the young Member of the House of Commons who had just made his maiden speech, and sat down on his new silk hat which reposed on the bench behind him. There were roars of laughter from the House. Thereupon an Irish member arose and gravely said: "Mr. Speaker, permit me to congratulate the honourable gentleman upon the happy circumstance that when he sat on his hat his head was not in it."

So, in order to lessen our readers' agony, we decided, with all the customary enthusiasm of someone making a good resolution, to introduce into this magazine some new, original, and startling features which would increase the sale at least a hundred fold. Unfortunately, our ideas matured no quicker than your articles, with the result that we present to you once again, for the most part, the same old mag. Still, perhaps the geniuses of the school are lounging in the background waiting to reveal their true brilliance by contributing to the next issue, which will be a special Coronation number. So start thinking now!

Meanwhile, we extend our sincere thanks to all those who have helped us in the publication of this magazine—firstly, to Mr. Meikle, who devotes so much of his time and energy to the service of the magazine, to Mr. Sloss, Mr. Cormac, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Garden, and to all the members of the English staff who helped us in our canvassing for articles. Also we must thank our sub-editors and committee for their stout support.

And now, as it is customary to end an editorial with some such topical words as "A Merry Christmas" or "A Guid New Year tae ye a'," continuing our policy of originality we shall end thus:

"Remember, remember the 5th of November"—everything that blows up must come down—and as Guy Fawkes said—*Altiora Peto!*

THE EDITORS.

School Notes

On 13th and 14th June Whitehill School was *en fete* and displaying flags and bunting. As the Fête is fully described in another article we can proceed to the next historical event, viz., the advent of the painters with revolutionary plans to brighten up the school in the modern style. Dazzling effects are now to be seen in all the rooms, making a complete breakaway from the dark and solemn interiors of earlier times. The completion of the Armadale Street building adds point to these changes, for it also illustrates the modern emphasis on bright surroundings. It remains to be seen what effect this will have on the human factor. All we need now (apart from a new and modern school) is to plan that in 1953 we shall have, in suitable places,

“ . . . flowers that their gay wardrobe wear
When first the white-thorn blows.”

At the Staff v. Pupils match the Pupils won 2-0, but this result was rendered invalid owing to variation in the position of the goalposts at the Staff end—for which the goalkeeper was *not* responsible. There was a good turnout at the Sports held on 31st May with weather favourable and organisation running very smoothly. Mr. Thomas D. Sneddon presided and Mrs. Sneddon handed over the Trophies. Mr. Sneddon, an F.P., is a former President of Queen's Park Football Club, of which he was at one time a distinguished player. At the Prizegiving on 27th June the Rev. Dr. W. J. Baxter of Dowanhill Church was Chairman and Mrs. Baxter presented the prizes. Occasion was taken thereafter to have a social meeting of Staff at which presentations were made to Miss Rennie, who was retiring from the post of Principal Teacher of Needlework, and to Miss Olive Hay and Mr. Joseph McKean, who were to be married on the following day. We were pleased to know that Mrs. McKean was to remain on the Physical Training Staff.

We have the pleasant duty of welcoming the following new members of Staff:—Miss Agnes McK. Paterson, Principal Teacher of Needlework, Miss Rosena S. Gow, Mrs. Gertrude Kivlichan and Mr. Jack Scruton (Mathematics), Mr. Kirkland C. Craig and Mr. W. I. Brown (Classics), and Mr. Ian Brebner (Art).

To our great regret we have had to part with eight of our colleagues. Miss Mary W. Rennie as already mentioned retired in June after eight years' duty as Head of the Needlework Department. She gave the school faithful service and in her own sphere inculcated high ideals. Of Miss Jean C. Muir who left in September to take up the position of Principal Teacher of Classics in John Street Senior Secondary School we can just say here that we have lost a very distinguished teacher. Fuller reference is given on another page. On 2nd October we took farewell of Messrs. James Miller and John M. Hamilton of the Mathematics Department, the former of whom, a Former

Pupil, is now one of the Principal Teachers of Mathematics in the Stow Collegess, and the latter now in the Boys' High School. In addition, we have lost through transfer the services of Mr. Donald Mackenzie (English), Misses Margaret C. Paton and Annie McL. MacNicol (Transition Classes), and Mr. John T. Thomson (Art), to whom the Cricket Club owes a debt of gratitude for much valuable coaching. To all these friends of the school we send best wishes for great success in their new duties.

In addition to the social events already referred to, we have to mention the Staff Reunion held on 12th September on the lines of the previous social evening on 1st February and just as successful, and the Swimming Gala in Whitevale Baths on 28th November. Mr. Howard Garvan, a Former Pupil who has always taken a keen interest in the school, presided, and Mrs. Garvan presented the prizes. We appreciate their presence amongst us and we admire their success in achieving a degree of safety from the waves and audibility from the spectators.

Life at Moray Sea School

On arrival at the school we were issued with uniforms, divided into five watches and then shown round the school.

Life began at 6.45 a.m. with a dip in the briny and a brisk run before breakfast, after which we had colours. The rest of the day was split up into six periods, two each in the morning, afternoon, and evening. The first four periods were allotted to sailing, rowing, athletics and general seamanship. The two periods in the evening were given over to lectures concerning sailing in general. Each day we went sailing in cutters round Burghead Bay. In athletics we had all field events and also swimming in the harbour.

On Sundays after church we visited places of interest in the district such as Gordonstoun College, where Prince Philip was educated, and Pluscarden Abbey, which was built in 1230 and which is now nearly in ruins. The monks who live in part of it informed us that they are going to rebuild it and that they reckon it will take them 25 years to complete it. On these outings we either walked there and cycled back or vice versa.

One of the highlights of our stay was our three-day cruise on the 60-ton schooner, "Prince Louis," from Burghead to Invergordon. While on board we had to swab the deck, polish the brasses, and trim the sails. Each boy in turn was given a chance of steering the ship. This is quite a responsible job but a very enjoyable one.

Another highlight was our 50-mile land excursion, 32 miles on foot and 18 miles on cycle, amidst the beautiful Findhorn country.

One day we visited a coast-guard station, where we had a very interesting talk by the head coast-guard on how the station is operated.

To finish off our stay we held a small service in the Gordons-toun Church one afternoon and in the evening certificates and badges of merit were presented in our common room.

Looking back, I find the experience gained at Moray Sea School to have been beneficial to health and mind and something to treasure for future memories.

JOHN HENDERSON, IV2.

Miss Jean Curr Muir, M.A.

After close on twenty years' devoted service in this school Miss Muir left us in September to become Principal Teacher of Classics in John Street. May happiness and success be hers in her new sphere.

When she came to Whitehill in 1932 she had already held short-term appointments in Renfrew High, Airdrie Academy, Queen's Park, and Eastbank. Strangely enough, it was about this date that I was told of a lady who sat with a Greek Testament in Cambuslang Old Parish Church. This person of distinction, I learned later, was Miss Muir whose brilliant student career had culminated in the degree of M.A. with First Class Honours in Classics at Glasgow University.

In Whitehill she made her mark from the beginning. The depth and width of her knowledge made her outstanding even in a Department where high standards and exact scholarship have been traditional. Her own work was meticulous and her trenchant criticism left no doubt in pupils' minds as to what was expected from them. But Miss Muir never forgot our motto as teachers of the Humanities—*non scholae sed vitae discimus*. She took a warm interest in her pupils as individuals and in this way won their affection as well as their respect. Her activities extended far beyond the confines of the classroom and her versatility and wide sympathies were apparent in the generous support which she so readily gave to Whitehill's varied projects.

Miss Muir inherited the manners and the ideals of a generation that is passing. Her outlook was classic, liberal. The pupils have lost a first-rate teacher whose influence deserves permanence.

M. W. T.

Winter

In winter-time when there is snow,
I think of Christmas-trees aglow
With fairy lights and trinkets gleaming,
And children's happy faces beaming.

When home from school I run
I hope to find Mum at the door
Beyond, a table set for tea
For Mum and Dad and children

Before I close my eyes at nine,
I gaze out at the bright moonsh
I think of the Babe in cradle sn
And pray to Him to guard us al

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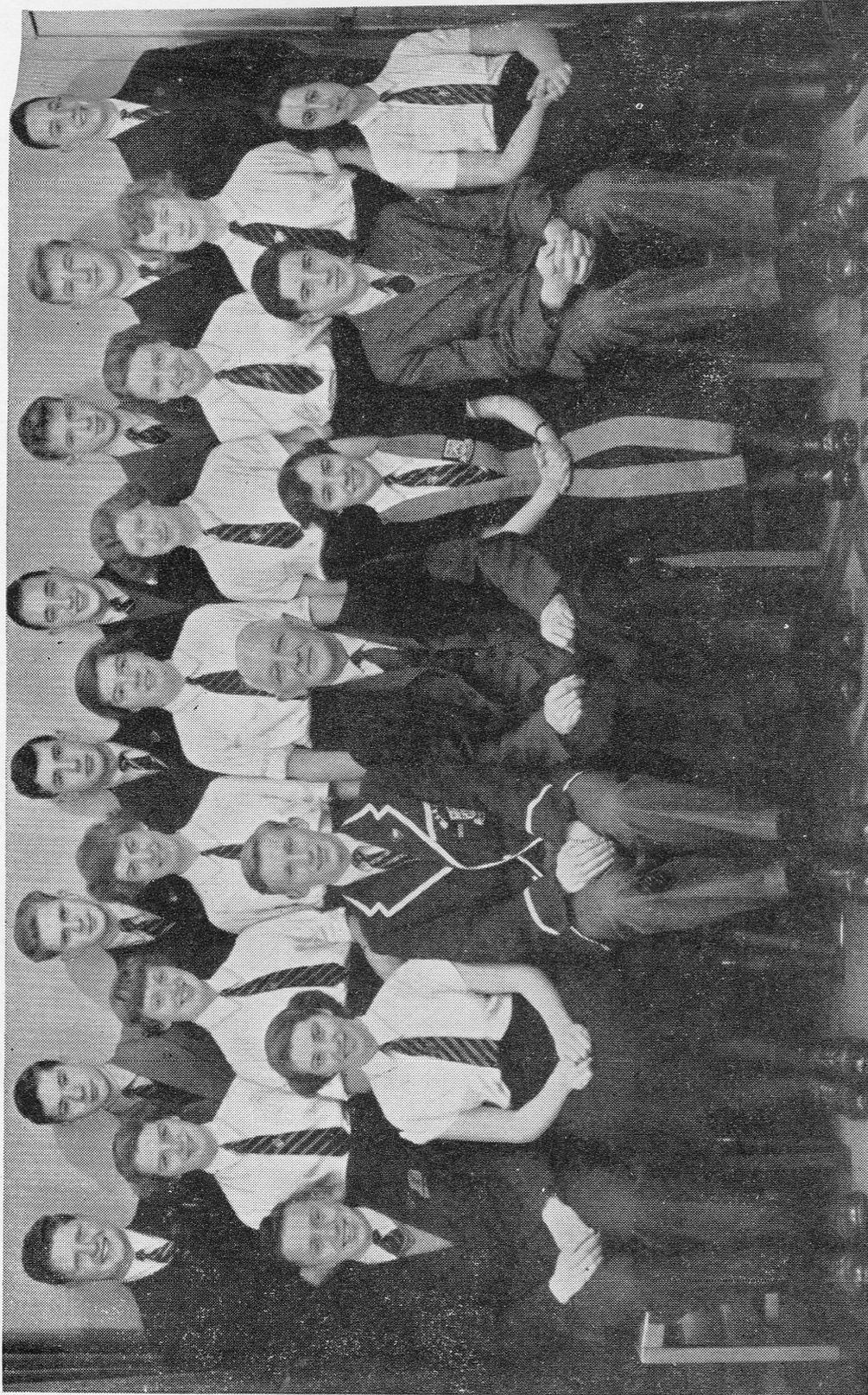
Front Row
Whitehill
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Prefects

On the opposite page are arrayed the official representatives of the school, the élite, the chosen people, the cream of our collegiate community—the prefects. There they are, transfixed by the eagle eye of the camera, which I am told cannot lie. But they are assembled in formal attire and posture, and however charming and impressive their teguments may be, we know that they do not tell us all. And having observed how other periodicals increase their sales to undreamed of figures by the method of offering their readers ruthless disclosures concerning celebrities, we resolved to take the lid off the prefects. So here we present to you your prefects, decorticated.

Our method was disarmingly direct. We asked them questions about themselves. As we had anticipated, they found the subject much to their taste, and answered our queries by their respective Cub and Brownie honours. Only a few dared to include a little crude humour (even cruder than that of this article!) in their replies. And the following irrefutable facts emerged:

The prefects weigh 1 ton, 7 cwts., 0 st., 1 lb., 7 ozs. Our scientific friends would call that a solid body. They are 39 yds., 0 ft., $3\frac{1}{2}$ ins. high and profess to have 588 teeth. Sixteen of them have exercised these implements on haggis, which seven of them declare they like. Scottish Nationalists (pupils and staff) will be interested to learn that fourteen of them take porridge—six of them, distressingly, with sugar. Nine of the boys are able to darn their own socks and eight of the girls can “turn a heel.” The average time for going to bed seems to be 11 o’clock. Three Spartans, all of them boys, claim to use no hot-water bottle, even in the depths of winter. Friday is the girls’ favourite bath night and Sunday the boys’. Our wit here explained that she only had one when the water was hot. Seven boys, but only three girls can cycle “no hands.” The prefects’ ambitions vary considerably: one hopes to be a lorry driver, another a train-driver, and one actually wants to return to school and be a slave-driver. Some of the other ambitions are not quite so noble—for example, one wishes to climb the ladder in the library. With the same mathematical precision employed throughout this revelation we calculate they each have $\frac{5}{7}$ ths of a brother and $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of a sister. Under no circumstances have any of them had occasion to enter a law-court, not even the fortunate character who has “visited” the cells. (N.B. The Habeas Corpus Act.) When we asked these poor misused prefects their pet peeves, we got a perfect stream of answers, many of them concerning their respective well-meaning teachers. Lastly, to complete this heterogeneous selection of information, we asked them their telephone numbers—so if you want to phone the prefects and find out any more of their peculiarities which you cannot discover either from their photograph, or from this article, dial WHItehill 32795. Oh! By the way—please let us know who answers!



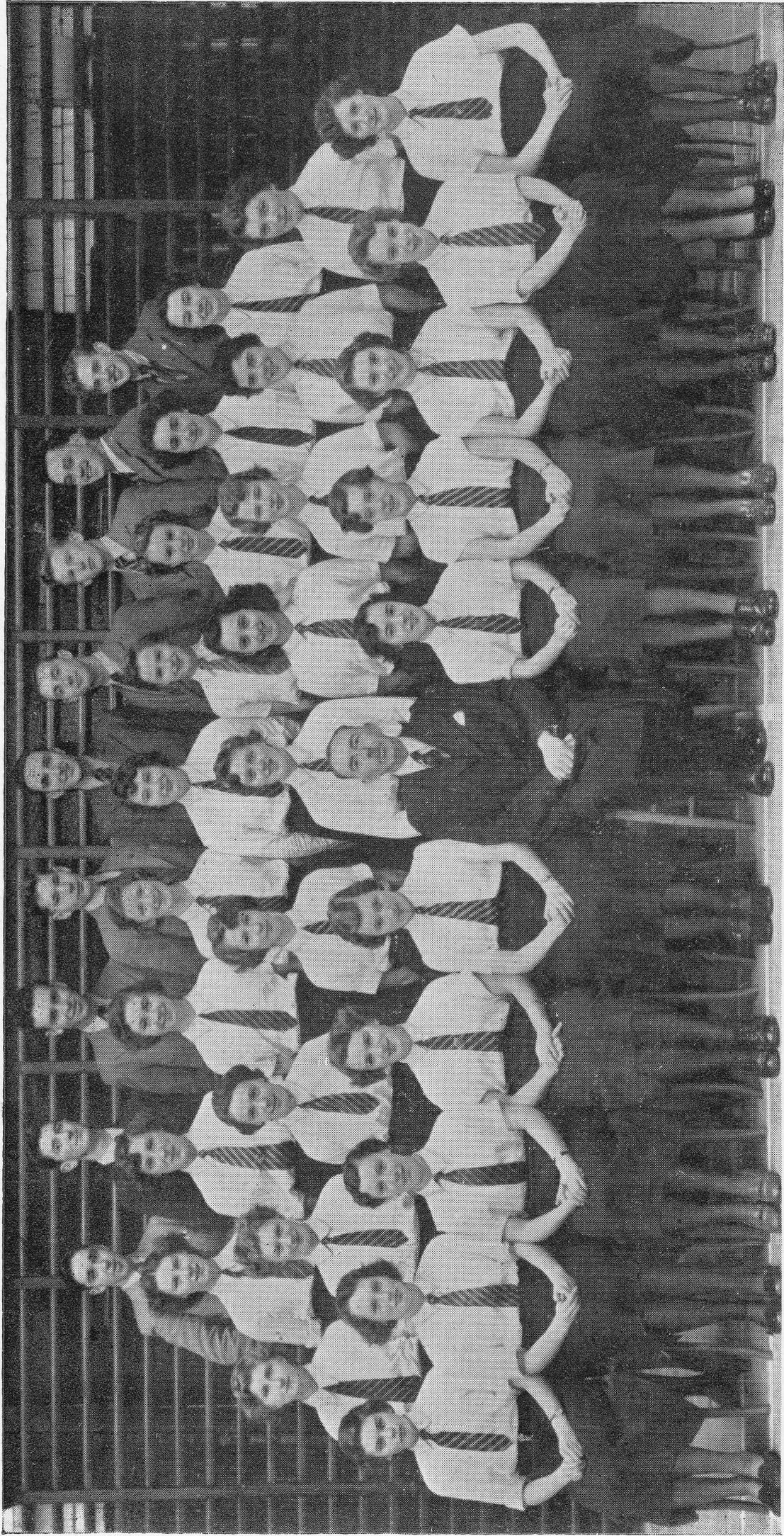
[Photo by Lawrie

THE PREFECTS.

Back Row: F. Sutherland, A. D. Hogarth, R. Ramage, J. Aitken, J. Dekker, S. Hunter, G. Tennant, J. A. Russell.

Middle Row: M. Pinkerton, N. McAdam, E. Wilson, N. Stewart, M. Barbour, N. McAulay, M. Reid.

Front Row: I. MacLean, M. Fitzgerald (Vice-Captain), Mr. Cresswell (Captain), Mr. McEwan, E. G. Donaldson (Captain), G. Brown (Vice-Captain), J. McDougall.



[Photo by Lawrie

SENIOR MIXED CHOIR.

Mr. A. E. Meikle, Conductor.

Under the Editors' Table

The school mag. comes but twice a year,
And when it comes it brings great fear
To all the editors, who frown
For fear the pupils let them down,
And do not now become inspired
To write the articles desired.

So writes H.R., III1. And unhappily, H.R. has described the situation. You have never been less inspired. We got fewer articles than usual, and very few that gained serious consideration. Come on, lads and lasses. We cannot have a magazine without contributions. And that's where you come in.

One or two classes kept the flag flying. I am asked to pass bouquets to III1, III2, II2, II3, and I6. But where are the seniors? I suppose the Fifth and Sixth will plead the conflicting demands of examinations. M.M., I6, has a pertinent observation:

Winter is coming,
And so are exams.
By this method
They find out the "Hams"!

Let us hope you have not been found out.

If you are placed like L.H., I6, you will not want to be found in either:

The children stay and play indoors
As the wind howls through the floors.

That reminds me of a building with equally uncomfortable orifices differently placed—see p. 21.

From E.P., also of I6:

Dogs bark, cats mew, and little ducks they quack,
Parrots screech, wolves howl, and, that's that.

We cannot quarrel with any of these views, though they do not seem to get us very far. But, despite the apparent finality of the second line, another verse follows:

Mice squeak, horses neigh, and cows they moo,
And that's all I've got to tell you the noo.

The animal kingdom would seem to be pretty well exhausted. But not quite; here is G.M. from—would you believe it?—I6, who starts off:

Wouldn't it be funny
If all of us were goats?

It's very comforting to think we aren't.

R.G., III2, has a more serious article with a lot of information in it, but it just fails to be sufficiently lively. E.McC., II3, has a very sincere poem, but we felt it would not have been in place in our magazine. Other near misses: A Nonny Mouse, IV1; I.M., III2; R.S., III2; J.W., III4; M.D., II3; A.R., II3; M.C., I6; I.D., I6; J.R., I6.

Come again, all of you—and the rest.

OSWALD THE OFFICE-BOY.

Whitehill and the University Bursary

[A postscript to the Jubilee articles.]

The name of Whitehill School first appeared in the Bursary Distinction List as early as 1896. It was no apologetic entry, for we had five places in the first 50, three of them in the first 20. Dugald MacQuistan heads the contingent at 5th place, accompanied by Peter Ramsay at 6th, and closely followed by Alexander Strachan, James Jack, and Theodore D. Lowe. Whitehill did not appear in 1897, but was only gathering breath for an even higher leap. In 1898 there were again five names in the list and three in the first 20, James P. Mackay taking 3rd place. Again came a recuperative year, and once more a strong representation in 1900. This time we had four champions, including our first girl, Margarett C. Paterson, in the very high position of 14th, at a time when girls took fewer places in competitive scholarship than they do now.

By now Whitehill had decided to make this kind of thing an annual occurrence, and in 1901 George D. C. Stokes was 7th, and Robert Browning 10th. The supreme achievement came in 1902, when John C. Rollo was First Bursar and John McWhan third.

Until 1911 the University published each year the names of approximately the first 50 competitors; within this period Whitehill scholars secured 45 places. In 1912 began the practice of publishing 100 names annually. Whitehill signalled the change by taking nine places in that year and the same number in 1913. Since then we have appeared exactly 100 times. In recent years we have led the schools of our own type five times—in 1943, 1946, 1948, 1949, and 1950. The scholars who gained this distinction were respectively Alasdair I. Macdougall, Kathleen M. H. Pryde, George H. Parker, Robert D. Kernohan, and Jennie D. Ronald.

We cannot name all our eminent bursars in this short article, but we pick out a few whose names are most likely to be recognised by present pupils. William E. Muir, whose photograph as a Snell Exhibitioner hangs in the hall, was First Bursar in 1923. He became a Lecturer in Greek at Glasgow University, but died before his career had well begun. Another of our Snell Exhibitioners took second place in the Bursary—David C. Browning, M.A., B.A., B.Litt., who has published several works, including two dictionaries. His two brothers represented us in earlier lists: Robert Browning (mentioned above), a London Editor, and Andrew Browning, Professor of History at Glasgow. In the same list as David Browning we find John H. Young, who also won the Snell Exhibition. Mr. Young fell in the First World War. Still in the same list was Dr. Andrew Barr, Chairman at our Prize Distribution in 1951, whose brother, Professor Allan Barr, led the Whitehill group of nine the previous year. A little later

comes a fourth Exhibitioner, Christian J. Fordyce, now Professor of Humanity in Glasgow University.

Our record includes three members of the English Department at Glasgow University—Professor Peter Alexander, Miss Hannah A. Buchan, M.A., B.Litt., and Mr. John A. M. Rillie, M.A.; Mr. Vincent R. Paling, B.Sc., Lecturer in Engineering; Miss Helen M. Hodge, M.A., of the University Library; Mr. James Scotland, M.A., LL.B., Ed.B., Head of Education at Jordanhill Training College; and Mr. S. L. McKinlay, M.A., Assistant Editor of "The Glasgow Herald" and former Walker Cup golfer. Even more familiar are the names of Mr. John M. Hutchison, M.A., L-ès-L., Mr. Robert H. Small, M.A., and Miss Kathleen M. H. Pryde, B.Sc.

We now look to the Sixth Form to take their places in this illustrious company, and remind the rest of the school that they will in their turn provide the celebrities of the future.

Whitehill Days, 1930-1940

[We are much indebted to Mr. Andrew G. Murray, School Sports Champion in 1934, who recalls in the following article a period which had not been sufficiently covered in the two Jubilee Magazines.]

I should like to recall some of my friends in the years that I personally regard as the Golden Era of Whitehill, namely, 1930-1940.

This was a happy period in our history—we played hard, but on the whole we accomplished our work well. I have yet to meet former Vth and VIth year pupils who have not fared well in their careers. Possibly the reason for this is that we had grand teachers—giants in the scholastic sense—like Dr. Merry, the "old" and the "young" Miss Youngs, Hugh Higgins, John E. Campbell, "Paddy" McGill, J. C. Williamson (I had almost used a more familiar appellation), David McCulloch, Miss Foster (Bless her!), "Daddy" Philips, and John G. H. King, who often "booked" us for being late.

They patiently—how patiently at times—guided us through the stormy seas of tests, exams, and finally the "Highers," sending out lads like Bill Scott, Colin Boal, Alastair Paterson, and Bill McLachlan into the medical profession; and Andrew Jenkins, Harry Smith (who fell in action), Bill Johnstone, and Andrew McCosh for the ministry. Their style and method of teaching played a large part in turning out grand teachers like Joseph Hamilton, Tom Barclay, James Hamilton, James Scotland, Nessie Turnbull and Robert Gardiner.

We claim for our Golden Age lads like James Drysdale (he still holds the school high-jump record, won when he was under Mr. Wm. McMurray); and John Noble and John Mair, now doing well in the C.I.D. Many like myself own their own businesses—David Lind, well known in Dennistoun; the Blackadders (a fine family of swimmers with the best of the lot—Willie

—honoured in our War Memorial); Tom Campbell, Robert Dunbar, and Sam Green; and finally, Margaret Simpson, resident in Portrush and taking an active interest in bowling greens!

We have by the score administrative and production managers to our credit, like Jack Brand in engineering, Archie Bookless (constructional engineering), Alex. Guthrie (civil engineering), "Bunter" Black in insurance, and George Bowman in chemistry.

In sport, J. C. Wilson stands out as one of Scotland's top-rank golfers; Jack Barton, the Motherwell brothers and Tom Frod as first-rate cricketers; and in water-polo, lads like Ross Blackadder, Alastair Paterson and Ian Gibson have represented Scotland in international contests.

Mr. Thomas Nisbet was our Headmaster in the early Thirties and in his quiet way controlled the school unobtrusively. His retiral speech was a model of brevity and wit—"Those gowns cover a multitude of patches." Mr. Robert M. Weir, his successor, toned up the school by introducing those same gowns and on ceremonial occasions like the Annual Prizegiving it was quite stirring to see the colourful array presented by our teachers in their multi-coloured hoods and university gowns. I remember that Mr. Weir's pet aversion was boys' ankle-clinging stockings. Many a ruler whack we received through not having stronger elastic!

How many of the F.P.s reading this article will remember the numerous activities in connection with raising money for the Craighend Fund! Spray baths and dressing facilities were badly needed, since the tin basins were beginning to leak and rusty nails were falling out of the walls. Five-a-side soccer tournaments, poster-spotting and slogan competitions, dances in the Gym., shows by "Les Harmonies" Concert Party, sewing bees and fêtes were all organised. It was a memorable day (26th May, 1934) when Sir John Cargill, accompanied by Sir D. M. Stevenson, opened the new pavilion at Craighend and we proudly showed our parents the results of our endeavours. A rather embarrassing situation occurred when an escorted parents' party burst in on the junior rugger team having a bath. After that the doors were snibbed!

Yes, grand days, which made grand friends.

The Scottish Youth Hostels Association

During the session visits to Youth Hostels within easy distance of Glasgow will be made. Parties, 15 in number, go straight from school on Friday and return on Sunday evening, thus giving two nights in the Hostel. Boys and girls are welcome, and normally 4/- covers all expenses, apart from food which is carried and cooked.

There is no need to join! The Youth Hostels extend a welcome to all who love the open air, good comradeship, healthy recreation, and the beauty of the countryside.

Whitehill Special

Amina Hurry set the pace
In Whitehill School's 4.15 race,
As down the corridor she bounced
When freedom-time the bell announced.

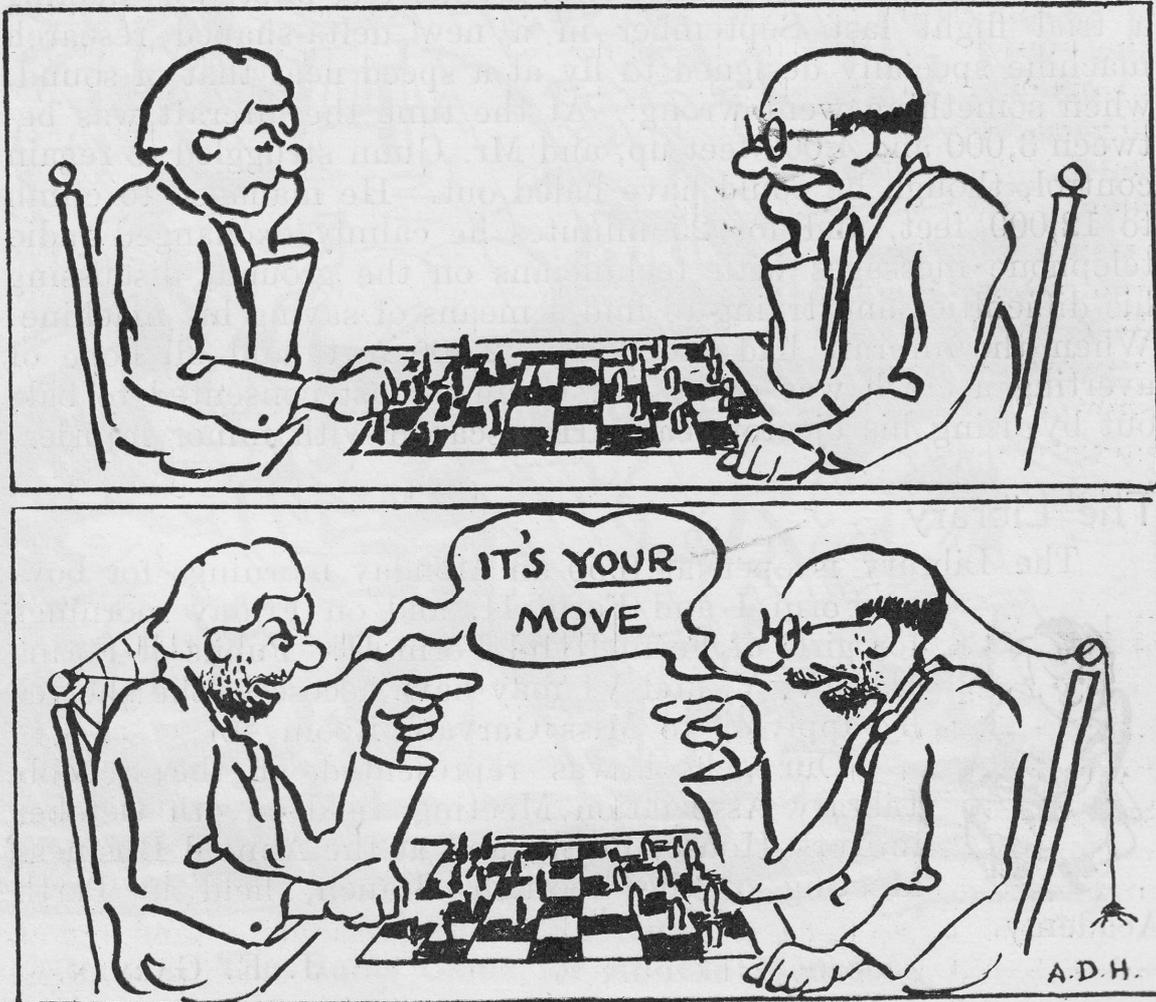
Out through Whitehill's gates she flew
To join the never ending queue,
And when at last the bus did come,
The queue looked like a rugby scrum.

The ones behind her didn't wait,
And pressing on at fearsome rate
To board the bus all were intent,
Amina tripped, and down she went.

Amina did not have a chance
To rise and stop this body dance,
They kicked her hard and left her flat,
They broke her bones and that was that!

Now you should walk at steady rate,
Or soon you'll share Amina's fate.
At 4.15 don't make a fuss,
And you'll all get *safely* on the bus.

ELINOR MATCHET, III 1.



F.P. Distinctions

The following degrees have been gained by our former pupils:

T. D. VEITCH LAWRIE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B. (1931-37)—M.D. (with High Commendation).

HERBERT L. DUTHIE (1944-47)—M.B., Ch.B. (with Distinction in Obstetrics and Gynaecology).

DAVID H. NIMMO (1938-43)—M.B., Ch.B.

ARTHUR C. WILSON (1943-47)—M.B., Ch.B.

GORDON B. HULME (1939-44)—M.A. (Hons. Geography).

GERALD A. FISHER (1942-47)—M.A. (Hons. Economics).

HELEN L. HOWES (1943-49)—M.A.

THOMAS W. W. WOOD (1939-45)—B.Sc. in Forestry (Aberdeen).

MARGARET M. ALLINGHAM (1942-47)—B.Sc. in Applied Chemistry

JOHN MACKINTOSH (1943-48) has won the Sir James Guthrie Book Prize for Drawing and Painting at Glasgow School of Art.

ALEXANDER KENNEDY (1946-52) has gained the Colman Prize awarded by Trinity College of Music, London, to the candidate attaining the highest position in the L.T.C.L. examination. Mr. Kennedy has also taken the licentiate diploma of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music.

A very remarkable distinction has been gained by ALASTAIR E. GUNN (1935-1941). Mr. Gunn, a chief test pilot, was making a trial flight last September in a new delta-shaped research machine specially designed to fly at a speed near that of sound, when something went wrong. At the time the aircraft was between 3,000 and 4,000 feet up, and Mr. Gunn struggled to regain control, though he could have baled out. He managed to climb to 12,000 feet, and for 25 minutes he calmly exchanged radio telephone messages with technicians on the ground, discussing his difficulties and trying to find a means of saving his machine. When the aircraft had dropped to 2,000 feet, and all hope of averting a crash was gone, Mr. Gunn at last consented to bale out by using his ejector seat. He escaped with minor injuries.

The Library

The Library is open at 8.50 on Monday mornings for boys of Form I and Form II, and on Friday mornings for girls of Form I and Form II. Pupils of Forms III, IV, V, and VI may have access to the shelves by applying to Miss Garvan, Room 46.



Academy.

Our school was represented at the Schools Library Association Meeting, held on 4th October in York House, Perth, and at the Annual Business Meeting of the Scottish Branch, held in Perth

J. E. GARVAN.



The Rains Came, or Annexe Monsoon.

Some Impressions of the Sale of Work :

Fete Marks in the Sands of Time

The gods were good to us on the 14th of June last when the grand Sale of Work, Fête, Bazaar or what-have-you to bring our Diamond Jubilee year to a close was duly carried through.

With the precision of a military operation Mr. and Mrs. Jack House arrived, made a lightning tour of the grounds, declared the proceedings open, received gifts of flowers, attended a session of the Café Chantant and were dispatched to another engagement all within 35 crowded minutes—and that was typical of a very crowded afternoon.



There is insufficient space within the limits of this short notice to describe the event as fully as it deserves, but certain memories must be recorded. Pride of place goes to the picture of a much respected principal teacher heroically stemming the outgoing surge from Room 4 at the end of a staff meeting and enquiring of each member, "Have you an egg-timer that goes 'Ping'?" Then, too, the Annexe, or rather that part of it devoted for the afternoon to culinary operations, lived up to its wet-day reputation—but with one significant change. On this occasion the moisture (from an inferno of boiling urns) went OUT through the sieve-like structure which serves as a roof. We remember, too, the Third Former sitting amid the littered paper round the ice-cream table, muttering, "Oh, my dogs! They're killing me."—and also the Treasurer, sitting amid a much more valuable litter of

paper, muttering unprintable imprecations at the crass stupidity of the Convener in mixing up the money bags.

The boulevardiers strolling around the outside of the Café Chantant, gazing through the bars (window variety) and enjoying the side shows, the enthusiastic crowds at the various displays and parades and the tumultuously received concluding concert all remind us of a highly successful social occasion.

What of the stalls, you ask?—and rightly so, for we must not forget the terrific amount of work put into the Sale by everyone concerned. The truth is that the stalls were so busy that by the time we had pushed our way to them they were sold out.

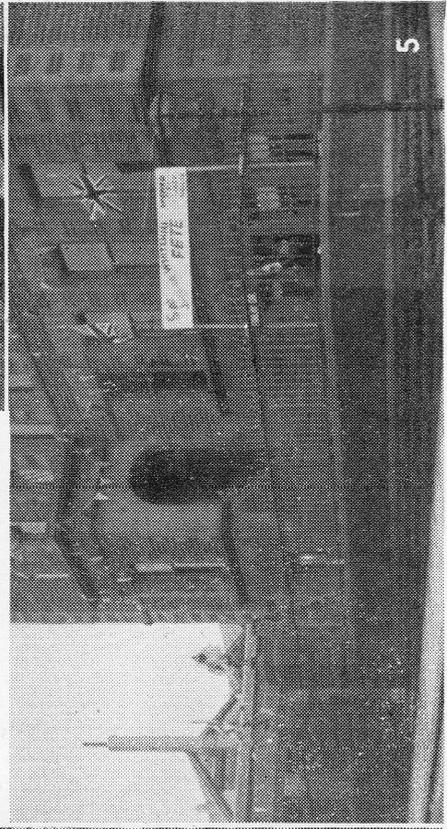
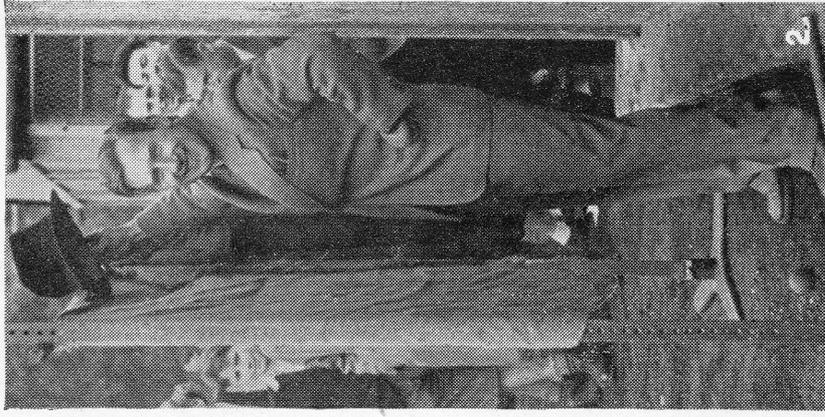
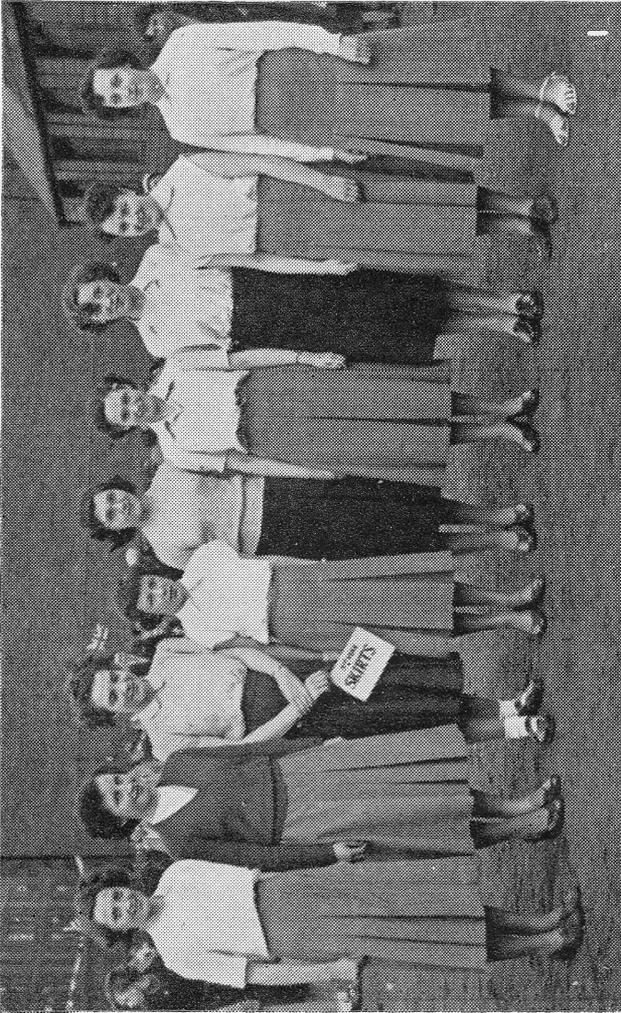
Final verdict? A thoroughly enjoyable day: and we made over £520 into the bargain.

I. WILSON, Convener.

The Whitehill Fete

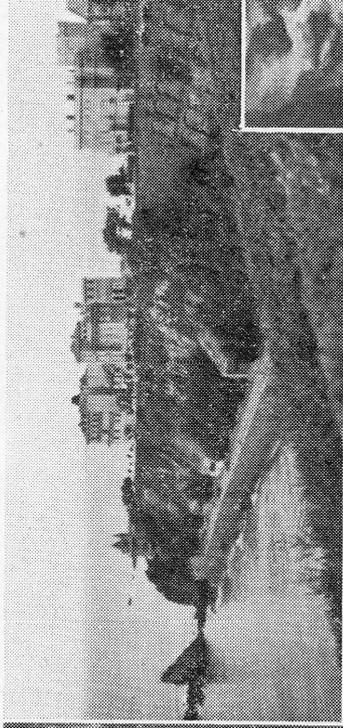
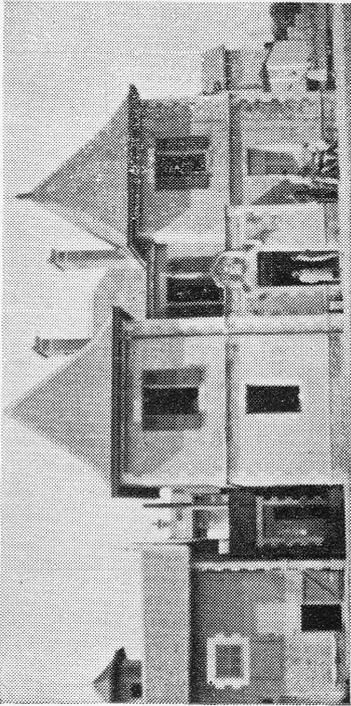
1. Mannequin Parade.
2. "Aunt Sally."
3. Mr. McEwan introduces our guest.
4. Jack House opens the Fête.
5. Up goes the bunting.

June, 14,
1952.



Whitehill Holiday in France

July, 1952



Excursion to France, 1952

In the Summer issue of the Magazine a short outline of the itinerary was given. It will suffice to say that the object of the excursion—an educational holiday—was achieved.

The Deep Shelters, clean, excellently organised and comfortable, won new admirers, particularly after the comprehensive tour of London on 30th June. Despite the blazing sunshine Trafalgar Square, Horse Guards Parade, Downing Street, the Houses of Parliament, the Tower of London, the British Museum and the precincts of Buckingham Palace were all visited.

Biarritz welcomed us with a full-scale Atlantic storm, but drooping spirits revived with the sunshine of the next eleven days. Exhilarating bathing, pleasant excursions, and games in the field made the days pass all too quickly. The magnificent bathing-pool is typical of the modern resort but the features that attracted the Empress Eugenie still remain—the splendid beaches, the high rugged cliffs, the great masses of flowers, and the wild pine-forests. Many excursions were made to the old harbour, La Barre, Bayonne, St. Jean-de-Luz, Lourdes, the glacier at Gavarnie, and the mediaeval town of St. Jean-Pied-de-Port.

In the "Centre" many friendships were made with parties from Sweden and Finland. Here, once again, the Whitehill party acted as worthy ambassadors of Scotland; their Scottish dances, their choral and solo singing delighted and surprised. It is possible that this aspect of the annual excursion may be developed.

Three nights in Paris in the popular Lycée St. Louis, numerous visits to the Arc de Triomphe, Sacré Cœur, Notre Dame, the Eiffel Tour, and Montmartre, and a bus tour of the city, completed the holiday.

Our thanks are due to Miss Taylor, Miss Hetherington, Mrs. Craib, Mr. Bennett, and some enthusiastic friends for ready help in all circumstances. And whereto in 1953? Almost certainly to Nice on the French Riviera.

Holiday in France

On 29th June, anyone who was brave enough to be out at seven o'clock on a Sunday morning might have seen the party which was going from Whitehill setting out for London. We arrived there at about half past nine (just an hour and a half late) and wearily went straight to Clapham Deep Shelter, where our sleeping quarters were. We spent only one day in London, but we made the most of it, as we saw all the famous sights, such as Buckingham Palace, the British Museum, where we saw the Magna Carta (which was of great(?) interest to all students of history), and the Houses of Parliament.

We left London on the morning of 1st July, and, by way of Newhaven and Dieppe, we reached Paris at six o'clock and had

dinner there at the Lycée Saint Louis. Reading this, one might think that everything was carried out effortlessly and that there were no hitches, but we had our share of troubles—one or two people, who were not good sailors, were sick, and many of us found our cases were a *little* too heavy. After we had been in Biarritz for about an hour we decided that it had been well worth the long journey, for Biarritz is a lovely place and our accommodation was very good.

As soon as we arrived in Biarritz, the weather, as if to spite us, changed, and there was a thunder-storm, but we did our best to ignore it by going to the baths in the town instead of bathing in the sea and by entertaining the Swedish, Finnish and French people, who were staying at the same house. After this little show of temper, the weather decided to be good, and there were a great number of burned backs after our first day in the sun. A few of us went to the Pyrenees along with some Swedes and some even penetrated into Spain.

We spent two days in Paris, where we had narrowly missed the Bastille Day celebrations. On the first day we saw Notre Dame, the Arc de Triomphe and many of the other famous buildings of Paris, and the next morning we made a tour of the city by bus. We arrived home in Glasgow, safe but not quite sound (as we had had a very stormy crossing of the Channel) on the 19th July.

MARGARET G. REID.



"MUST YOU PLAY DARTS HERE, GEORGE?
DASH IT ALL!—YOU MIGHT HURT SOMEBODY."

Tangled Teachers

See how long it takes you to work out the following.

Each phrase is an anagram of the name of a gentleman on the Staff.

1. DEAR RING.
2. FIRE! GO!
3. RIDE, JAN.
4. LIKE ME.
5. IF HERS.
6. WITH LOG.
7. TOUCH HENS.
8. MOSS PIN.
9. SUN-COT BERTH.
10. I MILL AS NOW.

(The solution, if you need it, is on page 49.)

JOHN SWAN, III 2.

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Visit to O.W.S. "Weather Recorder"

Thirty boys and three teachers travelled to Greenock Great Harbour in a bus kindly provided by the "Weather Recorder's" ship's company and were received by two of the officers, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Robinson, since Captain Ford was on leave. They arranged us in two groups and led us off on a tour of the ship.

The group I was in clambered after Mr. Robinson up companionways till we reached the bridge. On it we saw the latest devices for aiding navigation, for example, the "Echo Sounder" and "Radar Observation." Mr. Robinson carefully explained how these devices work and what their uses are.

Then we proceeded to the fo'c'sle where the operations of anchoring a ship and raising anchor were shown, as well as the uses of the Blake Ship of which there are smaller examples all over the ship.

On moving off we saw the enclosure in which the meteorological balloons are blown up and have Radio-Sonde cans attached before they are launched into the air. These cans contain apparatus which looks simple but is very complicated, for it records measurements of barometric pressure, temperature and humidity of the upper air, and transmits these measurements to the meteorologists' cabin in the ship. A balloon is released every six hours. The radar station on the ship keeps track of it till it either bursts or is carried out of range.

Meanwhile the "met" staff work out reports on the information received and send them to the "met" offices in Somerset from which the B.B.C. weather reports are issued. Transatlantic planes get in touch with the weather ships for weather reports and aid in direction.

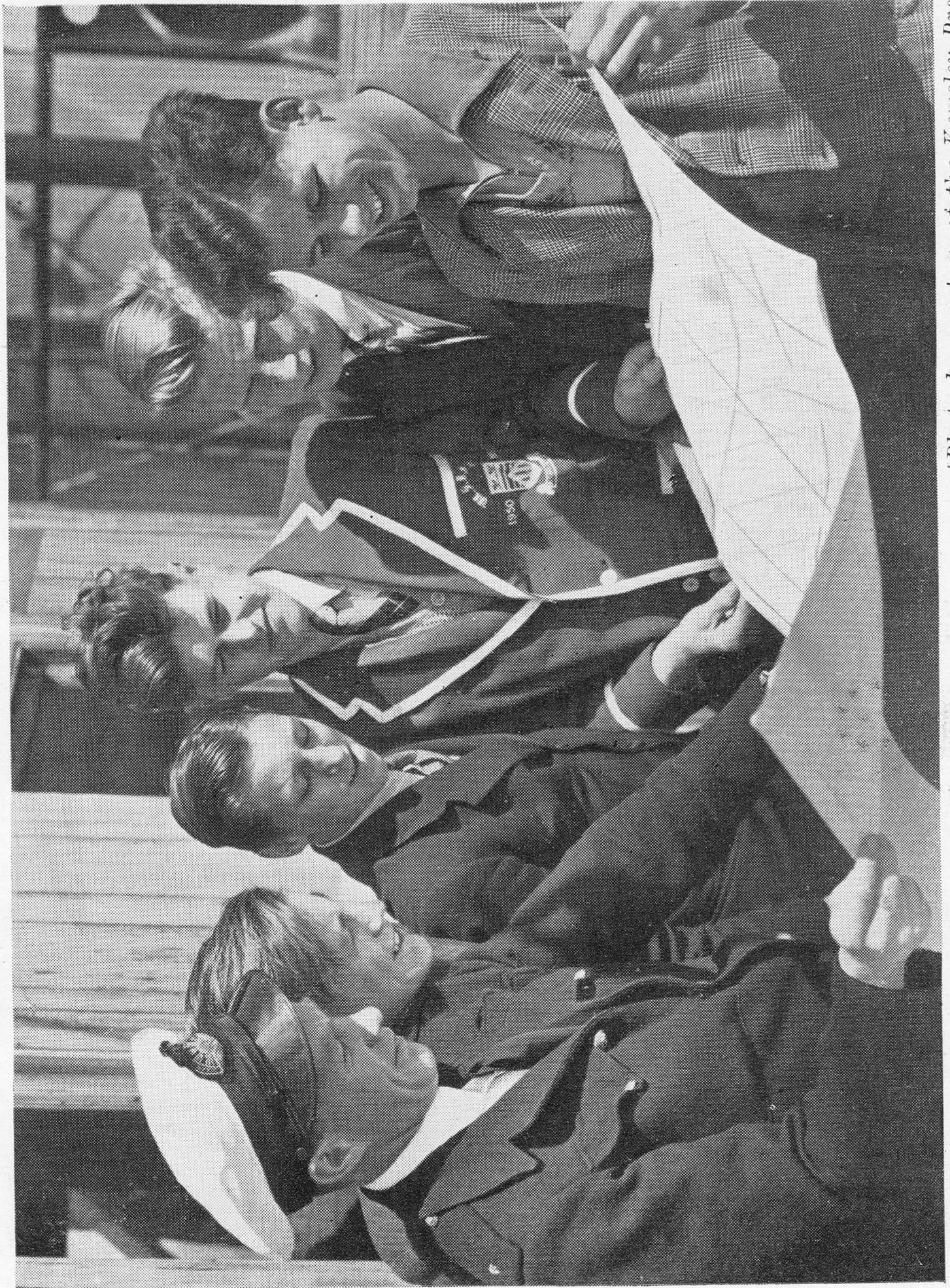
We were then shown a rubber dinghy used in air-sea rescue. The dinghy may be inflated with carbon dioxide or nitrogen.

After this we visited the radar technician's cabin to see radar at work. As radar made a sweep we watched on the screen Greenock, the Firth of Clyde, Ben Lomond, and the television station at Kirk o' Shotts appear. As none of us had had an opportunity before this of seeing radar in action, we were all intensely interested.

We had now spent over two hours on the ship. Mr. Robinson deemed it time to visit the wardroom, where a grand feed of sandwiches, cakes, tea and lemonade had been set out for us. We must specially compliment those who made the lovely currant cake. No doubt they understood, from the speed with which it vanished from the plates, how highly it was appreciated.

Our visit was an unusually interesting experience, and we should like to thank those who looked after us, for a really grand time. We do appreciate their kindness and wish the "Weather Recorder" good fortune during her next voyage.

J. STORIE.



[Photo by courtesy of the Kemsley Press

Visit to O.W.S. "Weather Recorder."]



[Photo by Mr. Simpson and Mr. Garden]
 The Rev. R. Bruce addresses a joint meeting of the Scripture Union.



HOCKEY FIRST XI.

[Photo by Lawrie]

Standing: B. Posnett, S. Connell, N. McAulay, E. Wilson, G. Moffat, M. McKay.
Sitting: M. Love, N. Stewart, N. McAdam (Captain), E. Donaldson, B. Churchill.

The Scripture Union

The opening meetings of the Scripture Union this session have been very encouraging, former members rallying round and others showing a lively interest. New members have been enrolled almost every Friday and there is still room for more. It is heartening to know that we are one of 78 school groups in Scotland, with a weekly total attendance of about 3,500.

We have been very fortunate in having had a great variety of speakers who have all had something interesting and profitable to say to us. For instance, in the girls' section we had Miss Midmer, who has spent 14 years as a missionary in India, working in a school for blind girls in Rajpur; and our last joint meeting was addressed by the Rev. R. Bruce, who is a popular speaker to youth groups.

The aim of the S.U. is to interest young people in the Bible and its message. This it seeks to do by short daily readings which present members have found helpful. It is a pity that this world's best seller is so little known and we can commend the S.U. method of arousing interest in it.

Our meetings, to which every pupil is warmly invited, are held every Friday at 4.15 p.m., the girls in Room 50, the boys in Room 81. Make a permanent date for Friday at 4.15!

ELIZABETH DONALDSON.

ROBERT GRAHAM.

Hockey



Early in September our first Saturday morning practice was held. There was a surprisingly good turnout and it is heartening to see this maintained and the standard of play improve. This gives us high hopes for a strong 3rd XI when matches begin. So far, although only twice successful, the 1st XI has kept up a good standard. The 2nd XI have played well, winning three out of four matches. This year we have a long fixture list and, provided that the weather holds out, all three teams hope to benefit from the games.

There is a standing invitation to girls of all ages to come to Craighend on Saturday mornings to enjoy healthy open-air exercise and the good comradeship which is a prominent feature of mornings on the playing fields.

We thank the ladies of the staff who have kindly offered to accompany teams when the matches are not at Craighend. We feel that their interest will encourage the players to do well, and, more important, to enjoy the games.

LEONORA STEWART.

Corporation Art Competition, 1952

Silver Medal—Geo. Taggart, Peter Miller; Bronze Medal—Alasdair Gray; Highly Commended—Isabella Begg, Wilbert Stewart, James Kinnell, David Hogarth; Commended—Catherine Topley, William Greenock, Elspeth Wilson.

The Junior Red Cross Link, No. 998



The Assistant County Director of the Red Cross Society (Glasgow) wishes me to convey her sincere thanks to the classes who so generously contributed to the donation handed to me by Miss Orr. The sum amounted to £3 16s. 6d. and was collected within the first month of the school session. I should like to thank personally Classes III1, III2, III7, II5, II6, II8, I3, I6, and I8 for their kind gesture and example. The money is being added to a fund which is accumulating in the name of Whitehill Senior Secondary School and when we have a really substantial sum we shall decide on the shape and form of our gift. As in the past, we saved until we were able to buy the much-needed leather-stitching machine for the Red Cross Treatment Centre at Park Circus, Glasgow, so now we shall aim for something bigger. If each pupil in our school contributed one penny each week, for forty weeks, which is approximately one school year, then we would have £200.

Please remember the sanatoria at Tor-na-Dee and Glen o' Dee, which are maintained by the Scottish Branch of the Red Cross and have not been taken over by the Government under the National Health Service Act. The Scottish Branch of the Red Cross must find round about £35,000 a year to keep these sanatoria going. It costs 37/- per day for each patient. They earnestly appeal for funds to carry on the work and donations, small and large, will be gratefully received.

Also, remember the collection of silver paper, and milk tops if cleaned, are a good source of supply. Sacks for the silver paper are in Room 83, Room 34 (Art Room) and in Room 16. Used postage stamps can be collected too, and handed either to Miss Orr or to myself.

M. E. CAMERON.

In the Land of Utopia

I arrived in Utopia by means which I do not intend disclosing since I do not think they should be made known to the general public. No man had ever been there before me, except, of course, Thomas More. He wrote of Utopia as the ideal place and it was his writing that finally decided me to make the journey.

When I arrived at Utopia my first impression was that I had never left Scotland. The scenery was rather similar, although the temperature was somewhat higher. What struck me as being unusual was that men, women and children all had the same expression on their faces. I will try to describe it although I find it no easy task. It seemed to be a complacent enough expression but as though they were missing something in life. I wondered. Could there be anything wrong in Utopia? Could there be trouble in Heaven? On questioning several people,

however, I was assured by them of their happiness and contentment. There were none who suffered from poverty and none who were worried. It was the same with all who lived there.

I lived there quite serenely for a little over a week and then a horrible feeling of discontentment gripped me. I found to my horror that I had assumed the expression of the inhabitants of this country. What was wrong with Utopia? Something must be missing. All at once I realised the truth. The people only professed to be happy. How could they be happy if they had never been sad? How could they enjoy riches if they had never known poverty? How I pitied these people! They could never struggle to do something on their own. They would never know the misery of failure or the elation of success. Their lives follow a pattern broken only by death, and generation after generation of this life had deprived the race of their emotions, and so they believed they were happy. I had to escape from this dull, monotonous land and get home, back to where I could stand on my own two feet and fight for happiness; home, to that wonderful country where life was what one made it.

As I boarded my craft I looked back at Utopia and gave a last sigh for its people. Poor, poor people! How much they were to be pitied. Still, they did not know what they were missing. They thought they were happy. With these sad thoughts of Utopia in my mind I waited impatiently for a first sight of Scotland, and as I saw the coastline on the horizon I thanked God that He had made me an individual—a being in my own right. Be happy that you are the same and spare a thought for the people of Utopia.

ENIQU, IV 1.

The Scottish Schoolboys' Club

The Scottish Schoolboys' Club resumed its Sunday night meetings at the beginning of October. This year the club wishes to double its number of members. Whitehill is one of the schools which can provide the new members and already it looks like doing this. The Sunday night meeting which Whitehill boys attend is held in the S.S.C. headquarters at 9 Woodside Crescent, near Charing Cross, at 7 p.m.

Whitehill is usually well represented, and there is plenty of room for everyone who decides to come along. We are fortunate in having Billy Greenock, last year's school representative, who now occupies the position of officer.

By the time the magazine is issued two Whitehill club nights will have been held. We are hoping for a big attendance at both these club nights, and if they are successful we shall hold more in the future.

The real highlight of the S.S.C. year is the Easter Camp, and news about this will be given later.

RONALD M. CRESSWELL.



Student Christian Movement

Last year there was formed in the school an experimental discussion group under the title of the "Student Christian Society." The object of this was to see if there was sufficient interest in the school to warrant the foundation of a full branch of the Student Christian Movement. Although the membership was not large, the standard of discussion was high enough to encourage us to continue with the venture.

A few of those who showed an interest in the Movement attended a highly successful conference in the High School early in October. A few weeks later the Rev. Richard Baxter, B.D., Secretary of the S.C.M. in Schools, addressed a meeting of the 5th and 6th Forms, and it was decided to form a full branch of the Movement in the school. Our meetings are held every fortnight on Wednesdays at 4.15. The membership is quite encouraging but we would like to see many more members who are prepared to voice their opinions in these discussions, and who will provide a firm basis for the movement in future years. In order to promote discussion, we have obtained for each member a copy of a study outline entitled, "What Difference Does It Make to be a Christian?"

The first few meetings have produced encouraging results and we look forward to a highly successful first session.

A. D. HOGARTH.

Be wise

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Ladies' and Children's Outfitter

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Mild Protest

Dear English master, many a time and oft
Within the classroom you have belted me
Because of grammar and bad sentences;
Still have I borne it with a patient shrug,
For sufferance is the badge of all schoolboys.
You called me "Numbskull!" "Stupid!" "Clumsy clot!"
(And many other things which I am not).
Well then, it now appears you need my help;
Go to, then; you come to me, and you say,
"Boy, we'd like something for the magazine!"
You, who could find no language hard enough
To castigate my English exercises.
What should I say to you? Should I not say,
"Could I write anything? Is it possible
I could compose a worthy article?"
Or shall I bend low, and with bated breath
And dutiful humbleness, say this:
"Dear sir, you called me ——! on Wednesday last,
You scorned me such a day; another time
You called me ——!! And for these courtesies
I'll send this contribution."

IAN MURDOCH, III 2.

The Whitehill School Club

The season is well under way now and our eyes are on the Christmas Dance, which this year is on Christmas Eve in the Ca'doro Restaurant. Ever since 1945, when the full activities of the Club resumed, it has been the principal event on the calendar. This is, of course, quite natural, for it is the one Club function which especially attracts those who feel just a little too old for some of the Club's other activities, and those who normally cannot manage to Club nights. It is a great night socially for the simple reason that everyone equips himself with the proper outlook.

The sections are continuing to maintain their records in the appropriate fields, and we may win some sporting honours before the end of the season.

When you leave school do not forget to join the Club and one section at least, otherwise you will be missing a lot of fun. And, if you feel that you would like to come along to the Christmas Dance, contact Miss Pearl McDonald, Hon. Treasurer, 342 Cumbernauld Road, E.1, but do it now rather than be disappointed later.

Homework

Homework is a pastime
We don't like very much,
And if we do not do it
We get that gentle touch.

Swot, II 3.

My Summer Holiday, 1952

I was fortunate enough to be one of those chosen to represent Scotland at the International Guide Camp at Beaconsfield, Bucks., in August of this year.

We left Glasgow and went through to Edinburgh, where we met the other Scottish Guides. There we went into four buses and travelled down overnight most uncomfortably.

On reaching the camp site we were shown where to pitch our tents. The whole camp was divided into groups of approximately thirty British Guides and eight foreign Guides (who represented over thirty-eight different nationalities). Altogether there were about 1,000 Guides and Guiders in twenty-five groups, each of which was run like a company camp.

In the mornings we went to the Arena to watch the different countries doing dances, action songs, and mimes in their national costumes. Between performances we went to the camp shopping centre where we bought ice-cream and lemonade.

One evening we had an enormous camp fire with over eleven hundred Guides present. My most vivid recollection is of everyone singing her best and of the firelight flickering on the swaying body of Zailan, a Malayan Princess, as she danced.

The climax of the camp was when Lady Baden-Powell, the Chief Guide, visited us on the last day. She came round all the groups and spoke to almost everyone—a very strenuous task. We all liked the Chief very much—she seemed so happy and wrapped up in her work.

The following day we struck camp in pouring rain and made our way to the buses which were waiting to take us back home to Scotland.

GUIDE, IV 1.

The Night

But for the wind that howled round the trees,
The night was dark and still;
A wife and daughter sat huddled together,
In a cottage on a hill.

It was on such nights that ghosts did walk,
And fairies and pixies did prance,
And witches flew around on brooms,
And Old Nick got up to dance.

Suddenly there was a knock on the door—
A loud and commanding knock;
The daughter got trembling up from her seat,
Preparing herself for a shock.

Cautiously, slowly she opened the door,
And a horrible face was seen.
Then in a funny voice was heard,
“Can a huv ma Hallowe’en?”

LINDA WYPER, II 2.

Swimming

In the notes printed in the Summer Number it was stated that we had obtained no first places at the Glasgow Schools Gala last November. Actually young Blair Macnab (now of II1) won the 50 yards race (under 13) to record our only first.

In the preliminary heats for the same gala this year, both girls and boys did well, and the following reached the final of their respective events:

Catherine Gracie (II5).	John Henderson (IV2).
Doreen Wyper (II10).	Ross Weir (IV2).
Beryl Marshall (III1).	Blair Macnab (II1).
Eileen Stewart (III1).	Andrew Weir (III6).
Myra Milne (IV3).	Harris Henderson (II1).
Alastair Russell (VI).	William Barr (II4).
Sidney Durk (IV2).	William Sturrock (I1).

In addition, Betty Sproul (II10), Eileen Cush (I6), and William Leitch (I9); though not qualifying for finals, will receive Standard Time Certificates.

By the time these notes are published, our own Gala will be a thing of the past, so let's hope it will then be a pleasant and satisfying reflection.

This year we were unable to retain the Toc H Cup which Sidney Durk won for two years running, but the race for the Robertson Cup has been postponed till alterations at Springburn Baths are completed.

The girls' relay team which did so well at the West of Scotland Schools' Championships last year deserves special mention, and should prove our best team for many years. It was composed of Myra Milne (IV3), Catherine Gracie (II5), Doreen Wyper (II10), and Beryl Marshall (III1). R. GARDINER.

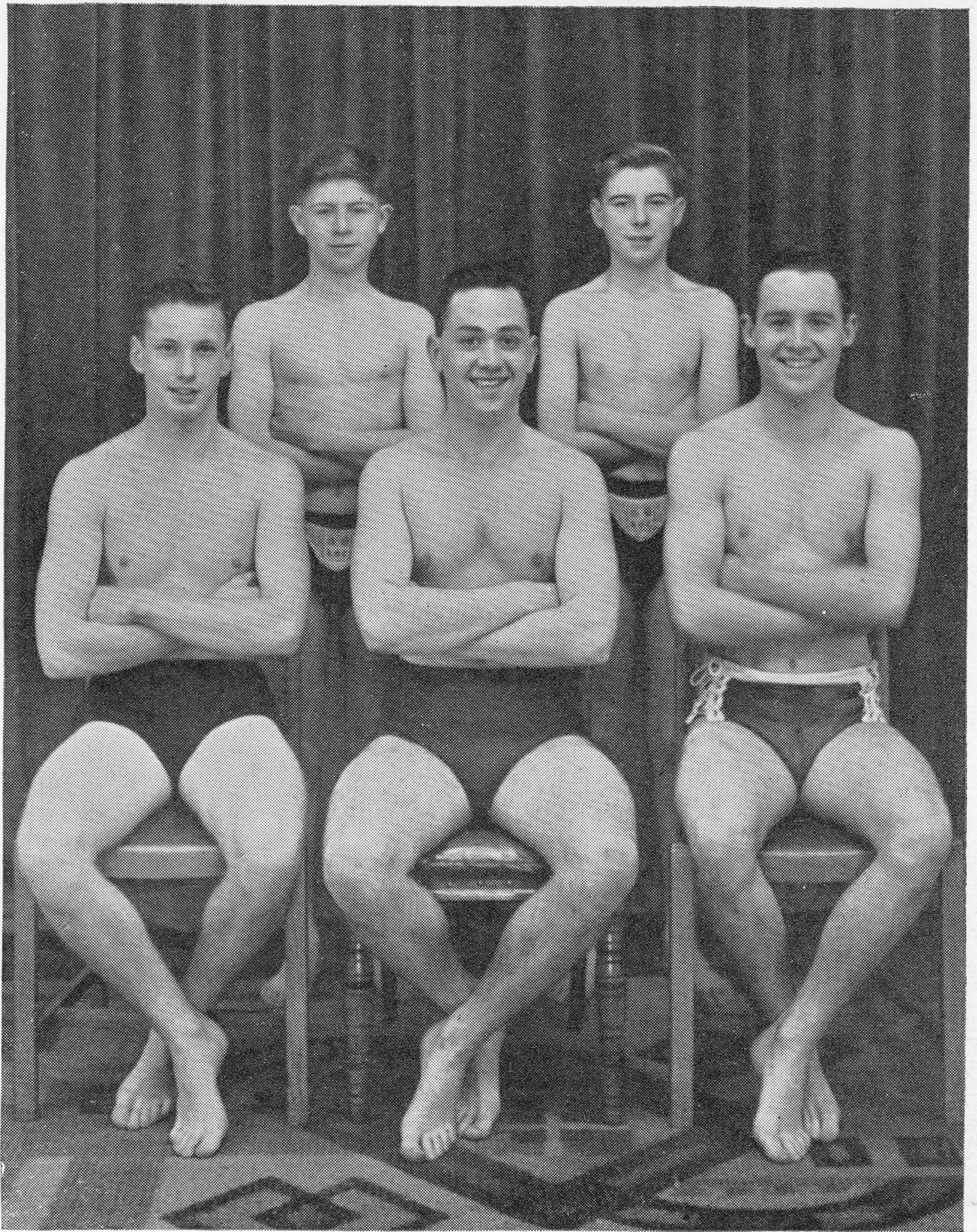
Rugby



This season began with a slender hope that we would find fifteen players for the 1st XV. The upper school, however, responded so well that we now find that we have enough players to make a 2nd XV as well, even though some of them may have had little experience of the game.

The 1st XV promises to be a strong team with its bunch of sturdy, eager forwards, and three-quarters who will improve after a few more games. We are grateful to those boys who are playing in the 1st XV for the first time and who have helped to make strong what at first appeared to be a weak team. The team's progress has been good so far, since it has been beaten only by Lenzie Academy, a defeat which we hope to avenge at a later date.

The 14½ XV and the 13½ XV also show great promise and in them we see the potential 1st XV of future seasons. The 12½ XV has not been so lucky, and we feel that this is due chiefly to their lack of experience; perhaps with some practice and a few more games they will be more successful.



[Photo by Lawrie

SWIMMING TEAM.

Standing: R. Weir, A. Weir.

Sitting: J. Henderson, J. A. Russell, S. Durk.



[Photo by Lawrie

RUGBY FIRST XV.

Standing: J. Queen, G. Brown, A. Hendry, J. Storie, S. Hunter, R. Potts.
Sitting: B. Steele, R. Cresswell, J. A. Russell (Captain), G. Caskie, G. Anderson.
In Front: S. McCallum, F. MacFadyen. *Absent:* I. MacLean, W. Eaglesham.



[Photo by Lawrie

FOOTBALL INTERMEDIATE XI.

Standing: W. McIntyre, R. Grant, R. Cooper, J. Shearer, A. Graham, Mr. Brebner.
Sitting: W. Clark, A. Williamson, J. Winter, W. Forrest, I. Graham.
In Front: A. Carstairs, A. Carnahan.

The 1st XV is especially grateful to Mr. McKean for the frank and helpful criticism which he gives every Tuesday and Wednesday. I, personally, have to thank all three members of the P.T. staff, Mr. McKean, Mr. Forgie, and Mr. Gardiner, who with their experience have assisted in all matters in which I am a novice.

GEORGE BROWN.

Football



After a most auspicious start, the First XI has failed so far to live up to its promise and, now that it has no further interest in the Shield Competition, it will have to improve in order to redeem its reputation in the League Competition.

That the Second XI is meeting with greater success is very gratifying indeed, for it is from this source that reserve strength is drawn throughout the season. Moreover, it contains many promising young players who, with a little experience, should be able to step up to the First XI at any time.

Maybe this year it's the job of the Third XI to maintain the school's football reputation. A skilful little team, even if rather given to over-elaboration, it has done almost everything asked of it. Undefeated (to date) in the League, it has accounted for Dunoon Grammar School in the Shield and if it continues to show the same convincing form, it should go far in both competitions.

Both Fourth Division teams are managing to hold their own in their respective sections of the League. More was perhaps expected from the "A" Team, but as the skill is undoubtedly there it is hoped that it will produce its real form soon. On the other hand, the "B" Team, playing with great zest and enthusiasm, has made a fairly promising start and continues to improve.

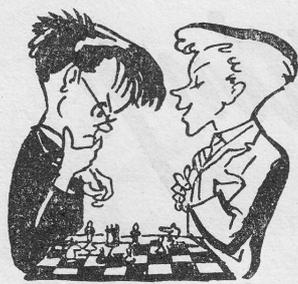
T. JARDINE.

Backward

When I go to bed and dream at night
Of Geometry, Algebra and the like,
I think how lovely it would be
To be back to the days of A.B.C.
No worries had I at that time
Except to be at school at nine.
Even this was not so tedious
As trying now to be so studious.
So next when I hear my teacher complain,
I'll answer, "Please, miss, I've got no brain."
Maybe then we'll strike a bargain
And I'll be back in kindergarten.

MARIE McINNES, II 3.

Chess Club



We have been pleased to see in the Chess Club this year a greater enthusiasm than has been, perhaps, shown on any of the previous years. There are now about 30 members in the Club, and their subscriptions have come rolling in with the reasonable and intellectual query of "Whit d'ye waant a shillun fur?" It may be as well to explain that the subscriptions help to provide the tea when we have to entertain a visiting team.

This year we have been asked to provide two teams, a 1st and a 2nd, for the Glasgow Schools Chess League. The 1st team, which consists of seven players, is made up, like last year's team, not of outstanding chess geniuses, but of good, solid, average players, and it is this type of team which we hope will carry us far. So far the 1st has won both of its games against Glasgow High School and Eastbank.

The 2nd team of five players seems to us to be a good team. They have lost one of their two games, but we hope this will not discourage them from gaining further victories.

Two Leagues have been drawn up for the Chess Club itself with a mixture of beginners and good players in each League. It is hoped that by this method the beginners will gain some experience, and no doubt the other members will find their games both exciting and enjoyable.

GEORGE BROWN.

Letter from America

One of our boys has had a letter from a correspondent in New York giving an account of his school life. The American scholar, whose name is Richard Lang, writes,

"I attend Public School 106 in the Borough of Brooklyn and will continue to go to elementary school till I am about 14. After that I will go to high school for another three years or enter a trade school."

It will be noticed that they name their schools differently "over there," and that they remain longer in the elementary department. There are other differences. In Richard Lang's class they have a President, who takes charge of the class when the teacher goes from the room. Other scholars are made monitors and have special duties, one taking in the lines, one keeping the blackboards clean, and so on. Sewing appears on the curriculum for boys as well as for girls. Milk is to be had, but must be paid for. During "Open Week" parents sit in the class, and find what it feels like to be back at school. Reports are issued four times a year.

This was an interesting letter. If any other pupils can provide us with information about schools in other countries we shall welcome it.

Literary and Debating Society



The Society opened this session on 17th October, when Mr. Jack House of the "Evening News" gave a very entertaining opening address on "How to Clean an Elephant." Our syllabus shows a wide range of subjects, including Art, Religion, Politics, and Philosophy, and we can look forward to many evenings of enjoyment. Our addresses this session are given by Mr. Brown, Mr. Jardine, Mr. Cormac, and Mr. Simpson, all of whom we know to be excellent speakers, and we welcome two new lecturers in Mr. Sloss and Mr. Katzenell. Mr. Sloss's talk on Broadcasting will be followed by a discussion on whether or not we can regard it as an art. Other meetings of particular interest are, Mr. Cormac's address on "100 Years of Comic Art," which we were to have heard last year, and a Television demonstration which Mr. Simpson hopes to arrange for us. Our attendances, I regret to say, are not quite as large as we had hoped and consist, at present, mainly of Sixth Formers. We should like to see many more members of the Fourth and Fifth, upon whom we shall depend next year for the success of the Society.

A. D. HOGARTH.

From O.W.S. "Weather Recorder"

We have had a letter from Mr. A. A. Robinson, Third Officer. He tells us the ship is in dry dock, and describes the year's experiences: "The weather has been very kind to us. Usually three or four gales a voyage are to be expected, but recently we have been thoroughly spoilt. . . ."

"During the voyage after your visit to the ship we contacted no fewer than 468 aircraft. This is a record for this ship and probably for all weather ships. Out of this number we actually sighted only some half dozen; the majority were picked up on radar.

"The number of ships sighted on Station Jig (52° 30' N., 20° 00' W.) increases from year to year. This is very gratifying, as it shows the increasing popularity of our radio beacon, which is used by surface and airborne craft as a navigational aid. The vessels sighted on Station Item (59° 00' N., 19° 00' W.) are mainly trawlers going out to the Greenland fishing grounds. Last voyage we had a long conversation in radio telephone with the skipper of the ill-fated "Norman." This vessel passed very close to us, and it was with great surprise and sorrow that we heard of her loss with almost all hands barely a fortnight later.

"An interesting part of our duties is the taking of oceanographical observations, and recently we have obtained some very fine samples of zooplankton. A silk net is lowered to a depth of 100 metres. It is then hauled up at a uniform rate of speed while the water strains through a silken disc at the small (or cod) end of the net. This disc is of a definite sized mesh and on

it the samples of plankton are retained. These are stored in glass jars containing a preservative. On arrival in harbour the jars are dispatched to the fishery laboratories in Lowestoft for analysis.

"Also sighted on station was a species of fish that almost defies description. At least, the oceanographic experts could make nothing of my description. After a little private investigation in the local public libraries I have come to the conclusion that it was a flying squid.

"We shall be looking forward with interest to your next letter, and in conclusion, I wish to forward the regards of all on board to all at Whitehill."

Dramatic Club



On the nights of 26th, 27th and 28th June next year another School Concert will be held in the Athenæum Theatre. As you may guess, preparations must begin early and already Mr. Munro has matters well in hand. As on previous occasions, the Concert will take the form of musical and dramatic items. On the dramatic side rehearsals will begin early in the next term and casting meetings will be held before then. It is proposed that a short play should be given during each half of the programme, with Junior and Senior Schools being represented in first and second halves respectively. Mr. Heeps will be producing for the seniors and I shall be producing for the juniors. Watch for further details, and I hope you will find it as enjoyable to take part as I am sure the audience will to watch you!

R. P. SLOSS.

Cricket



The first XI had a moderately successful season, winning seven of the twelve games played and losing five. Too often, however, the team depended on one or two outstanding members to make runs or take wickets. The fielding was the weakest part of the side's performance, but slight improvement was noticeable in the later games, J. Queen being particularly keen at "point."

P. Miller topped the batting averages with 17.7 runs per innings and A. Wright was a close second with 16.8. Both had top scores of 41 not out. G. Marshall headed the bowling with 25 wickets at an average cost of 4.4 runs and I. Bourner was a close second with 38 wickets at 4.8 runs per wicket.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Heeps, Mr. McKean, and Mr. Thomson for their help in coaching and umpiring and we should like to wish the latter every success in his new post, trusting at the same time that his hard work with the younger players will bear fruit in future Whitehill elevens.

Golf



Last season was the most successful of recent years. The first team overcame such opponents as Allan Glen's and Hutchesons' and recorded their second successive win against the staff. The only serious defeat of the season was against Greenock Academy, where the typical Greenock weather had as much to do with the defeat as our opponents. Our previous Captain, D. B. Mackie, after leading us to many victories during the past two seasons, has risen to greater heights by winning the championship of his Club, Crow Wood, and being chosen to play for Lanarkshire in the inter-league competition.

At the end of last season we lost some of our best golfers, with the result that this year's team will probably not be quite up to the standard of last year's. Nevertheless we propose to carry through our usual fixture list and if possible make additions to it. This season will commence with an outing to Troon in order to determine the composition of the team. This trial, which is the first of its kind in Whitehill, will be held sometime between the 2nd and 10th of April and a selected party will compete.

STEWART T. REID.

Happy Dreams

I wish I was a princess,
With lovely clothes to wear,
With skin like peach and roses,
And lovely golden hair.

A charming prince to love me,
And woo me as his bride,
And take me to his kingdom,
To reign long at his side.

I'd serve my country truly,
With all my might and main,
And teach my loyal subjects
To smile through sun and rain.

I'd set a good example
Of how a queen should live,
And shower upon them honours
A queen alone can give.

I know I'm only dreaming
Dreams that won't come true,
But dreams can bring me happiness
That real life cannot do.

E. THOMSON, II 3.

Teachers Untangled

1, Gardiner; 2, Forgie; 3, Jardine; 4, Meikle; 5, Fisher;
6, Lithgow; 7, Hutchison; 8, Simpson; 9, Cuthbertson; 10,
Williamson.