

THE DUNDEE HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE



No. 15

JUNE, 1919

FOURPENCE

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The Dundee High School MAGAZINE

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JUNE, 1919

[FOURPENCE

Editorial.

FOR the third and last time we take up the Editorial torch and cast its light for a brief moment over the pages, whereafter we shall pass it on to fresher and more capable hands, though not without a certain feeling of reluctance.

At this time there happens to many of us an event of great moment, for the day is drawing near when a number must leave behind for ever the old grey building where we have spent so many happy days—unless we may be privileged to visit it from time to time as former pupils.

Then we shall look on with interest at the younger members of the school who are eager to carry on its glorious traditions, and we feel sure that their efforts will not fall short of those that have been put forth in the past. One of these duties will be the continuance of the Magazine, which we now hand over from our feeble guidance.

But let us return now to matters more concerning the present state of the school. After returning from the Easter vacation, we were allowed by the kindness of the Rector and Miss Anderson to hold a dance. This took place on Friday, 25th April, when classes VIII to X were present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

At the annual Hockey Tournament held at

the school grounds in March, the Girls' High School present pupils' team won the event for the second year in succession.

The various sports are in full swing now, and as travelling is now permitted, the Cricket Club has been able to play some away matches. Golf has been resumed, and is keenly enjoyed by many. The cessation of hostilities has also brought about another important change—the resumption of the Annual School Sports. These were held at the grounds on Wednesday, 4th June, and were a great success. The championship was won by W. S. Dennler, Class IX, whose creditable performance is detailed in the report in this issue.

The occasion of Sir Douglas Haig's visit to receive the freedom of the city, marked a gala day for the school, and the Cadet Corps and Girl Guides were called upon to perform important duties.

But we are trespassing on the ground of the reports, and so we will close this preamble, and take a last farewell of our readers.

Before laying down the pen however, we must renew our thanks to Mr Valentine, Miss Brown, and Mr Borland, without whose un-failing aid the many duties in connection with the Magazine could not have been successfully accomplished.

Miss Matthew.

THE place of honour in this number of our magazine is reserved for Miss Matthew, Head Mistress of the Needlework Department.

It is a commonplace that the excellence of a teacher and the value of a school training, can best be estimated by the grown-up, as he looks back and discovers what influence that teacher and training have had on his life, and it is partly from the testimony of former pupils of Miss Matthew, that the impressions which appear in this article have been gathered.

Miss Matthew's interest in the High School is a very genuine one. She has devoted a considerable number of years to work which has gained for her department a reputation not confined to Dundee, and many former pupils cherish with pride articles skilfully executed in the Needlework rooms of D.H.S.

Previous to the completion of the Girls' High School, the teaching of sewing was carried on in what was known as the "Church," a building next to the Euclid Crescent Bank. Miss Matthew was then, as she is now, a most careful and painstaking teacher, and the thoroughness of her work, and the excellence of her taste and skill made her department always a popular one, and secured for it the high praise and keen appreciation which it still enjoys. All the needlework turned out by her pupils had to be as nearly perfect as it was in their power to make it, and nothing slipshod or careless was ever allowed to pass. The same may be said of Miss Matthew's work at the present time, and as a result of this, not a few of her pupils have chosen Needlework as a career, and found that in their school training a good foundation had

been laid. One such pupil testifies that during a course at the College of Domestic Science, which she attended in order to gain the full diploma, and be recognised as a teacher in Dressmaking, Needlework, and Millinery, the numerous ideas in stitching gleaned from Miss Matthew, enabled her to overtake with the utmost ease, the fine work required of her. A girl with any aptitude and liking for such work, receives a training in producing neat, well-finished, and artistic work, which is of great value in later life, apart from all professional considerations.

For those of us who have known Miss Matthew for years, it is impossible to forget how much she was backed up in her work by her sister, Miss Davina Matthew, and I make no apology for referring to the loss of help and companionship which she sustained by the death of that sister a few years ago.

Sweet in manner and kindly towards all with whom she comes in contact, Miss Matthew has won a warm place in countless young hearts, and it is the sincere wish of very many that she will long be spared to carry on her useful and interesting work in the Girls' High School, and to exert the healthy and happy influence she has hitherto done.



Life.

A spark burst forth from a falling flint,
And scarce was seen in its feeble glint.
Against th' eternal dark it shone,
A moment bright—and then 'twas gone.

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Miss Matthew
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“What’s in a Name?”

THE Aberdonian was viewing the sights of Dundee for the first time. As he approached the High School he stopped to spell out the name at the corner of a street. “Euclid Street! “That’s a gey queer like name to gie to a street,” he remarked to his guide.

“Have you never heard of Euclid?” his friend enquired.

“No,” answered the Aberdonian simply. “Was he a Dundee man?”

The apparent irrelevance of Dundee street names must indeed puzzle many a visitor. Of course it is plain that “Euclid Street” was meant by the city fathers to be a compliment to some long-forgotten predecessor of Mr Meiklejohn. But “rosy plumelets” do not “tuft the larch” in Larch Street; the “broad-winged hawk” does not hover over the Hawkhill; roses are even more common in Picardy than in Rosebank. One looks in vain for a burn in Brook Street; it is many a year since the tide washed the foot of Sea Wynd; many a year since the sheep grazed on Meadowside. As for the castle that once stood on Castlehill, dungeon and curtain wall, portcullis and flanking tower have alike vanished into thin air.

But I would not part with one of these absurd old names; to me they are spells, like the oak and ash and thorn in Puck of Pook’s hill, which reverse the course of the years. For we are too ready to think that romance has no place in this city of clattering looms and that only old-world towns like St. Andrews and Linlithgow have a right to be called historic. As a matter of fact, it is just because so much

history has happened in Dundee—if one may be permitted to use the phrase—that no one regards it as an historic town. Historic towns are usually towns which stopped living three centuries or so ago; but in Dundee the tide of life has flowed for centuries with unabated force; one busy, self-confident generation has followed another, each ready to pull down what its predecessors have painfully built up, each certain that the work of its own hands will endure. Thus it is that of old Dundee little remains except St. Mary’s Tower, the turreted building on the High Street which was once General Monch’s headquarters, the old Town House and the Laird of Strathmartine’s lodging in the Vault and most of these are fated soon to disappear. But the names remain with us—spells, if only we can use them aright, that will unlock the ivory gates of Romance.

R. L. M.



Lines from an Autograph Album.

Spring time and summer, and then the winter’s
gloom;
How soon the clouds replace the golden sun.
Manhood and old age, and then the silent
tomb,
Ere youth’s unbounded dream has scarce
begun.
Meetings and friendships, then partings of the
ways;
Too soon, too soon there comes the sudden
rift.
Only in thought we guard the bygone days.
Thank God for memory—the one unbroken
gift.

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Experiences of a Prisoner of War.

I had the misfortune to be taken in March when the Germans made their last push.

I was conducted by a German "sub" back to a Company Headquarters. From this point I went back alone. I was joined by some other British officers, and we were slowly directed through the Bosche artillery lines to a cage. Before we entered this cage, we were searched. Anything worth taking from us was removed, the German officers who conducted the search meantime remarking, "We don't steal, like the British." I had however concealed my watch, but they took my belt and various other small articles. I had to pay two francs for a cup of water which a generous (?) Bosche brought to me.

From this cage, we marched back to another, stayed six hours there, and marched on for the next two days. In the three days we did about sixty miles, and received two slices of bread, one inch of sausage (raw), and one cup of vile coffee. At Marchiennes which we reached on the third day, we stayed for four days, and then got the train which was going to take us to Germany. Forty-two of us, including three colonels were huddled into one cattle truck. We were kept in it during our journey into Germany, which lasted eighty-four hours. The kindly guard permitted us to get out for five minutes per day.

We passed Mons, Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, and Cologne. We got out of the train at Rastatt, which is some distance south of Karlsruhe. From there we were taken to a camp which had formerly been used for Russian prisoners, and they were not a particularly clean lot, for they left traces behind. Here we were kept for three weeks.

During these three weeks I saw people eat

potato skins and dandelion roots, for we were not overfed! At the end of three weeks I was moved to Karlsruhe, where I remained a week. During my stay there I was questioned. I was then moved to Pforzheim, where the camp was in a school. I was amongst the first prisoners to arrive there, and so there were no comforts awaiting us. We starved there for ten weeks, and most of us got very thin and weak; three of our fellow prisoners died.

Then great excitement was shown as the first parcels came. What joy there was in having a plate of porridge again! After the food came clothes; they also were very necessary, as most of us had just what we stood in.

We now began to get much more active. At this the Germans increased the number of our guards, and the N.C.O. of the guard came round twice during the night to see if we were all in bed. We had to think of how to cook our food; so after much difficulty we managed to get the Germans to permit us to have gas rings installed at our cost, and of course we paid for the gas. We also had to buy pots, etc., which were very expensive. Some wonderful dishes were produced; one D.S.O. made a chocolate pudding of broken biscuits, cocoa, and swiss milk. These were put into a teapot and heated. After adding water he poured the mixture out through the spout, wondering all the while why it took so long to come out. Another expert chef got a number of powders for making "blanc manges." Some had no directions attached, and so he jumbled them all together, and when they were cooked, wondered at the taste of carbolic—one was tooth powder!

When the Germans saw that the war was going against them, they let us play "footer,"

and after the Armistice we were allowed to please ourselves in what we did.

The one exciting time we had was just when the Armistice was signed. People were running about with machine guns, and the soldiers mutinied and pulled the shoulder straps off their own officers.

On the whole we had no active cruelty shown us, but we were neglected, wounds were left unattended, and broken limbs remained unset. The German bandages were made of tissue paper, and caused great discomfort to those who wore them.

Our letters were all passed through chemicals to see if there was any communication in invisible ink, and parcels were opened before we got them. Tins were retained till we required them, when the Germans opened them and looked to see if there were maps or compasses in the contents. They even broke odd cigarettes in half to see that there were no maps there.

In conclusion, I hope that those who read this may remember that the Germans did not fight a clean fight, and are better left to their own devices.

G. H. P.



First Impressions of a New School.

FIRST came a long interview in a stately room where my last session's report card was looked at with disdain. Then my tastes in languages, dead and alive, and my interest in science and mathematics, were consulted.

At this stage I had to take leave of my parent and, with inward tremblings, I was conducted to another part of the scholastic building to be handed over to the tender-mercies of a—to my prejudiced eyes—very formidable person in an imposing attire of blue. I was then led across

a street, feeling like a bad little boy who has been caught playing football in a public thoroughfare.

I was next bundled into a room with the casual introduction, "A new pupil, Sir." I was requested to seat myself on the front bench and to share a book with a glum-looking individual who appeared to take interest only in the unfamiliar language which was being hurled about with deadly precision. I discovered afterwards that it was Latin, but my knowledge of that language was practically nil. My attempt to introduce myself to my uncommunicative neighbour was received with a glance of withering scorn.

From this room I followed the crowd across the street and through many tortuous passages to the Science Laboratory, where I managed to copy out a timetable and to learn a little about my school-fellows. I asked the person who turned out to be the "don," who was cleverest in the class. This blushing being said gruffly that "a good many of the fellows did pretty well."

What a relief I felt when lunch-time came, for anxiety and the restrictions of school had whetted my appetite!

This period of rest was soon over, and I was back to class activities. Three times during that afternoon someone called a "prefect," announced that there was a new boy. Three long heavy periods worked themselves out, and a bell, welcome to old and new pupils alike, resounded through the room.

We all trooped out into the snow, and I quietly went homewards, trying in vain to look chirpy. To the home-folks I said that school was very nice, but that it wasn't up to my last one. I've conquered that feeling, and I am now confident that no school can beat the Dundee High School.

A. T. H.

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The Bass Rock.

ONE of the most interesting and yet most dreary islands on the east coast of Scotland is the Bass Rock. This great rock is a mile round, and on it are the remains of an old castle which was once a strong fortification. On the top is found a spring of clear water gushing out, and from it there is a magnificent view of the Pentlands, Arthur's Seat, many other hills, and the beautiful city of Edinburgh, and close at hand Tantallon Castle. On a moon-light night this castle and the Bass Rock have the appearance of some unreal magic scene.

The most extraordinary feature of the rock is undoubtedly the remarkable tunnel that penetrates the island from east to west. It is about one hundred and seventy yards long and is a natural opening in the rock. It is high and the floor is covered with immense boulders. About the centre of the passage is a stagnant pool of water about four feet deep, and as there is usually a strong current of air blowing, it requires some care to keep one's candle or lantern burning in order to avoid an unpleasant accident.

The chief inhabitants of this island crag are a few sheep, which live on the scanty grass growing there, and sea-fowl, chiefly Solan Geese which are very plentiful indeed. The other inhabitants are the men in charge of the lighthouse. There are four on duty, and they live on the rock for four weeks, and then have two weeks on shore, so that there are always three at the lighthouse.

The date of the building of the castle is unknown, though it is thought Malcolm II was the builder. In spite of the fact that it is scarcely accessible to boats, save at one very dangerous passage which can be used only if

the sea is not too rough, the island for many years was the stronghold of the Lauder family, in which for many generations they bade defiance to their enemies in their country's cause.

Before King Robert III. sent his young son James to France to have him educated and to keep him safe from the Nobles, the boy spent a month on the Bass. As accommodation there in those days must have been of a very primitive character, the royal party must have spent anything but an agreeable time while waiting for an outward-bound vessel.

About 1548 the first known attempt to capture the Bass Rock was made. To capture it by assault was impossible, and therefore the English invaders tried a blockade. However, the position of the Bass is so exposed that the blockaders soon found out that their vessels were in danger of being wrecked on the rocky shore. A herald was sent by the English in a light vessel to the Rock. He tried to see the governor but was not permitted; he tried to point out the helplessness of attempting to hold out against the English forces, but with no result; then he offered bribes to make the garrison give in, but the governor then appeared and quickly sent him away, and in a few hours the whole English fleet weighed anchor and sailed away.

In 1671 the Lauders sold the Bass Rock to the government to be converted into a fortress and prison. Here covenanters were confined, and the dungeons of some of them are still to be seen. These prisoners must have had some terrible times in a place so utterly dreary, with only sea birds to bring news that somewhere there were people alive, and with great breakers dashing against the sides of the Rock. There were forty-one in all confined here, many for very petty crimes.

The Bass was captured by some Jacobite officers who held it for three years, but they were besieged and at last had to give in for want of food. This adventure is the last of military importance connected with the Rock.

After this it was dismantled and the ammunition was removed. It was given to Sir Hew Dalrymple and still belongs to his descendants.

From this brief account of the remarkable history of the Bass, and the great interest attaching to its bird and plant life, we can see that the Rock is not merely

"An island, salt and bare,

The haunt of seals and ores, and sea-mew's clang."

IVY.



Why Not ?

CO the time-honoured query "why does a hen cross the road?" there are of course two answers. The simpleton confidently exclaims "to get to the other side," omitting altogether to notice that the further and more difficult question of "which is the other side?" is thereby raised. The truly philosophical answer is "why not?" The frequent inquiry of "why are things thus or thus?" could often with profit be changed to "why not?" Which reminds me of the statement of a certain great philosopher, who withdrew himself from the society of his kind and after much pondering reached the conclusion, that a body, to be the same at all points, must be a sphere. It alone has no top, no sides, and no corners. From which you see that the only reason why it should be a sphere is "why not?"

The ball symbolizes the eternal and mysterious, it has no beginning and no end.

If a pattern of five stars be painted on a child's ball, any man with a soul will turn it round and round in his hand, impelled as strongly to see beyond and ever beyond, as was Heracles to go beyond the golden pillars, or Columbus to cross the ocean. The child plays with a ball, and the student pours in deep thought over a globe. There is scarcely a game in which the ball does not figure. Here again the "why not?" appears. In sport there must be no partiality shown. The object to be tossed to and fro must be such that its chances of going in one direction equal its chances of going in any other; so that skill alone may decide who will bear off the palm. Hence it must be made on the "why not?" principle, that is, spherical. Who can foretell exactly what the rebound will be, while yet the ball itself will show no preference for any direction. The perfection of surrender to outside influence is seen in the sphere only: it alone symbolizes the perfect judge and the true stoic in its exact impartiality.

More than likely it was the totally uninteresting nature of the theory of a flat Earth that led men, in the first instance, to imagine the Earth a sphere. All unconscious of what impelled them, they felt, rather than knew, that nothing so mysterious in origin and working as the Earth could possibly be flat. Why, you could come to the end of it; or a height could be reached from which it would be spread out before the eyes of the observer, and his mind could comprehend the whole with each part in due proportion. Not so with a sphere. It cannot be viewed in its entirety from any point of vantage, and the distances are foreshortened in artistic proportion round the curve of a sphere, fascinating the mind with the wonders beyond. But I fancy the editor thinks he has had enough of this, and why not?

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A Walk to Auchmithie.

FAMOUS in song and story Arbroath and neighbourhood is inseparably associated with Walter Scott's Antiquary, though the familiar legend of Sir Ralph the Rover makes us familiar also with the town. But it was towards Auchmithie, the prototype of Musselcrag, that we directed our steps one bright spring morning, and every inch of the way was teeming with interest.

Hugh Millar described the "bold and picturesque combinations of form" of the majestic natural scenery of the rocky seaboard as amongst the most romantic in Scotland, and truly there are some marvellous rock formations to fascinate the travellers to the little fishing village.

At the beginning of the cliffs is a crag known as "The Ness," which bears a remarkable likeness to a human head. Ascending the cliffs, proceeding along the pathway, we notice a precipitous indentation known as the "Monk and Maiden's Leap," and it is associated with a tradition which is kept fresh in a local poem. As we proceed we come to the "Stalachie Cave." It consists of two caverns, one at right angles to the other, and ending in a gully known as the "Horse Shoe." A little further on is the "Needle E'e," a most peculiar formation, with a circular opening in the rock wall in front. The next recess is a fearsome seething cauldron, where a very distressing shipwreck occurred, and which has the gruesome name of the "Mariner's Grave." Both Sir Walter Scott and Ballantyne make use of an incident which took place here—that of letting down a basket from the top of the cliff, to save the lives of those imperilled.

Further on is another cauldron, known as the "Cruisie," and one the "Blow Hole" is so

styled because in a heavy storm, the waves are driven a considerable height into the air in the form of foam.

Needless to say these caves were favourite resorts of smugglers, and in imagination we could see exciting scenes taking place on the rugged seaboard, but as we walked it was the grandeur and the majesty that fascinated us.

The deepest, perhaps the most impressive of the ravines, is Dickman's Den. On the further side there is a cave running parallel, nearly all the way, to which there are three entrances.

Many of these caverns are frequented by rock pigeons, as well as seals and porpoises, and one of the caves in fact is called the "Doo Cave" from the numbers which resort there.

As we proceed we pass the "Deil's Head," and the Devil's Letter Box," so entitled from a peculiar opening in the roof, and various other projections, and we could not help remarking that his Satanic Majesty must have had great interest in the rocky structure round that coast, from the nomenclature.

Our next interesting and arresting point was an extensive recess known as the "Mason's Cove." On the grassy plateau above, there are still traceable parts of the fosse and ramparts of some kind of fortification, which, at one time, must have stood there. This Cave is so called because here, annually, the Masonic Brethren met to celebrate their rites on St. John's eve.

We visited the "Dark" and "Light" Caves, the "Gaylet Pot," and admired anew the marvellous serrated rocks and rugged grandeur of the coast line as we crossed the bay and continued our way to the home of the Mucklebackits.

Here we were glad to rest, for we were fatigued as well as enchanted by our walk, but that day will stand out as a memorable one to us.

A Collection of Stamps.

DURING the years of war, practically everything which partook of the nature of a hobby was temporarily laid aside (and rightly so) and thought or energy which might have been expended on personal pleasure, was devoted to more necessary pursuits. Now that the need for expending our energies on war work is over, we may be pardoned for turning again to our own pet hobbies.

Stamp collecting was one of those little luxuries which were consigned to the background *pro tem.*, but perhaps in the days of peace enthusiasm for philately may be roused again to the delight of many.

Most of school boys have passed through a period when stamp collecting was their craze, but that passed as did their keenness about birds' eggs, butterflies, etc., and it is a pity that should be the case, for the hobby is both interesting and instructive, and a really fine collection of stamps may be a thing of artistic beauty.

One may question the fact that we can learn anything from a collection of postage stamps, but look how geographical knowledge might be fixed in the mind by sorting out of our stamps into their various countries, and placing those of the Colonies under the motherland to which they belong.

We might learn history too from our stamps, for various scenes and incidents in the history of the country are placed on some of them.

Again, foreign words become familiar to us through this medium, and the names of the coins of various lands as represented by the different values.

We get to know also what some of the countries are like, because many of the stamps have pictures of cities, or mountains, or country scenes; emblems of other lands, games peculiar to other lands, the development of the mode of

travel, all may be seen on our postage stamps, and may greatly help us in our knowledge of foreign countries.

As in everything else of course, there is a right and a wrong way of collecting. We should not have a heterogeneous mixture without order or arrangement; we should try to obtain complete sets of each particular issue, and not get discouraged if we have to wait long in order to fill a particular blank.

As we advance in our study we understand that not only the face value is of interest, but the perforations are of importance, and the water-mark of equal importance. It may be that an error in printing has made a stamp valuable because these have been recalled, hence are scarce. It may be that a surcharge or over-print makes a commonplace stamp of value, and our excitement increases as we advance in our hobby, so many are the variations connected with it.

In our working with some adhering closely to their envelopes, we may discover to our horror that moisture spoils their colour, and a very good specimen becomes valueless through our carelessness, or, to our delight this time it may be our good fortune to secure a rare specimen amongst some we have got in exchange, or have picked up unexpectedly in an odd packet.

It is undoubtedly a fascinating hobby and one calculated to improve the collector in many ways, for besides adding to his or her general information, it teaches patience, order, and neatness; appreciation in small detail in observation as well as in classifying.

Moreover it excites a friendly rivalry, and many acquaintances have become friends in their striving to secure good collections and in their happy exchange of specimens.

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CENTURY AT PERTH.

An Unpublished Incident of the War.

JUST a year ago, a certain English battalion was in an extremely lively bit of line in France. At that moment their line consisted of nothing but a few men scattered here and there in shell-holes, which had been dug in the midst of wheat fields and farms; farms which up to a few days before had been tenanted by industrious French peasants, but which the onrushing wave of Huns had since reduced to ruin and desolation. With a line improperly organised and subject to rather sudden and unforeseen alterations, things were apt to be a bit too lively. Yet those stolid potters and iron-workers of the Black Country found things at times just a little slow, whereby they became involved in the adventure of the cow.

One night the platoon sergeant of an outpost platoon was going round his posts. Everything was quiet till he reached a post on the left, lying behind a farm in "no man's land." This post he found listening anxiously. The sergeant was about to utter a few choice words not to be found in the dictionary, asking what was the matter, when up spoke the corporal:—

"Hi sarge, d'you 'ear them 'uns in the farm." "Uns!" rejoined the sergeant in disgust, "there be no 'uns for miles." But the sergeant listened and soon heard the noise. He was a man of action, and accompanied by his runner, went out to investigate, leaving strict injunctions that if any firing were heard, the post should double out at once.

For fifteen minutes the post waited in suspense, but nothing happened. Then a curious form, which seemed to be like a tank and made enough noise for one, topped the sky-line not twenty yards off. A sharp challenge rang out, answered rapidly but not too politely by the exasperated voice of the sergeant:—

"Hi, put them rifles down, you silly—,"

be'ant ye told the 'uns were miles off. It's a blinkin' cow. Where's that biscuit tin o' yourn? It aint often a pub walks into the line. Let's 'ave a drink, Bill."

Forthwith the unoffending beast was milked in a very amateur fashion, and the men on the post had a drink. Somebody then suggested that the sergeant should take this mobile "pub" round the posts, and dish out drinks. This idea appealed to the humour of the company. Besides it smoothed the somewhat roughened temper of the N.C.O. who had fetched the cow in, and so he proceeded to put the plan into execution, quite forgetting that the time for dividing up the rations was drawing nigh. At this point in the operations, the company front began to be a little too lively in respect of noise, and before long the platoon officer gathered that something extraordinary must be happening; and having some little regard for machine-gun fire, he decided to take immediate action; besides he was after the blood of his sergeant for forgetting the rations.

He had gone but half-way round the posts, when an extraordinary scene met his eye. Dimly in the darkness he could see his sergeant solemnly milking a great white cow into billy-cans, mugs, biscuit tins, anything, even into tin-hats. The operator had begun to acquire a certain degree of expertness, and any immediate danger of a kick from the cow was past. Gently reminding the sergeant that such things as rations were actually necessary for the well-being of the troops, the officer arranged to send the cow back to rest billets, where the company would follow the next night; thus once more peace and quietness reigned. But the battle of the cow had only begun.

No sooner were the sergeant and the corporal back in billets the next night, than they held a

pow-wow on the subject of the cow, and having an eye to the main chance, they decided to sell it. After finding a French butcher, they proceeded to carry out the business somewhat after this fashion:—

Sergeant: "Pardon Monsieur—Vache—Combiene?"

Butcher: "Pardon Monsieur, je ne comprends pas."

Sergeant: (raising his voice and pointing to the cow) Vache—combiene?"

The butcher meanwhile shrugged his shoulders, and looked hopeless.

Sergeant: (deciding to stick to his mother tongue) "Hi, you—Frenchie, how much for that blinking cow?"

Butcher: "Ah! (this 'Ah' is impossible of reproduction; a full orchestra might attempt it, starting at the top of an octave and finishing at the bottom) you want to sell the cow."

Sergeant: "Well I'm blowed. The old Frenchie understands English."

Henceforth they got on quite rapidly, and the cow changed hands for 450 francs.

Our two heroes thought they had done a tremendous stroke of business; but alas, no. Next day one of the A.P.M.'s henchmen heard of the transaction, and as busybodies will, started to make things unpleasant.

Finally it all culminated on one glorious day when a very serious court of officers assembled to investigate the case, and to find out who was responsible for the sale—which it never did do, although in the effort more paper was wasted than it has taken to tell the tale, and much more time.

W. M. A.



A Village Character.

IN an old cottage in an old village through which runs an old cobbled Roman road, lives our postmaster. He is an old man, but in spite of his age, he executes, and executes well, the

offices of postmaster, postman, telegram deliverer, joiner, registrar, sexton, and church-officer. He is ably assisted by his wife, whom he describes as a "guid sax fut o' humanity." He has only one hand, his left, and is almost stone deaf.

In the forenoon, aided by his "sax fut o' humanity," he sorts the letters, and reads the postcards. This is followed by delivering the letters, with the help of his cycle, which receives hard usage, especially during the winter months, on account of frequent accidents on the icy roads.

With the help of a young post-office assistant, he carries on the telegraph department, which by the way, is not usually very busy. Owing to his extreme deafness N—is allowed to retain the old Morse Code system, instead of the telephone, in more general use. It is true that the telegrams are rather tardy in reaching their destination, but that is probably because—well, who receives telegrams quickly just now?

In the post-office itself, is a right-angled counter, probably the work of N—himself, at one end of which are displayed a number of picture postcards of local interest. At the other end of the counter a not very abundant or varied stock of stamps and postal-orders is kept.

Behind the post-office stands N—'s neat workshop, where he makes hen-houses, chicken-rearers, bee-hives, etc., all with the greatest taste and exactitude of workmanship.

With his fine natural gifts of head and hand, there is no saying to what eminence N—might have risen, if he had had the benefit of more education. As it is, he fills a most useful place in our quiet community, and would be a sorely missed man if he were to leave. This is not so unlikely as one might think, for, old as he is, N—and his wife are young enough in spirit to wish to cross the sea when opportunity occurs, and make a new home in Australia where a son of theirs has settled. A. B. M.

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but see not”—is undoubtedly the reason why many people find so little beauty in the world. Their eyes take in the big things, but fail to see the smaller and finer things. The pity is they rarely realise how much they miss which others enjoy. Fortunately, sight which is below normal can be wonderfully helped with modern glasses. Eye service, which is lastingly satisfactory, from

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The Airlie Cup.

THE Grounds looked well in the beautiful May sunshine seventeen years ago, when the Airlie Cup was first seen on the table among the prizes at the sports. The competitors of that year are now scattered far and wide, and many of them have given their lives for the honour of their country. Among the names of officials also there are changes. We, of the present day, owe more to the late Mr P. Henderson than to any one for the excellent organisation and arrangements which have always been a feature of the D. H. S. sports; for successive committees have continued, without serious modification, the scheme adopted under his convenership.

The Recreation Grounds were opened in May 1901, when the sports, which had been in abeyance for some time, were revived. The school was fortunate in having such a keen promoter of sports as Sir John Gilmour, Bart. of Montrave, to perform the opening ceremony. At that time there was no Championship Cup; but the boys fought as keenly for first place as they do now. H. Young with an easy graceful swing of the arm threw the cricket ball a distance of 106 yards, thereby establishing a record which has not been approached at the Grounds since. They were not all giants in these days however, and in many of the events the boys of this year excel their predecessors. After opening the Grounds, Sir John Gilmour offered to present to the school a Challenge Cup to be called the Airlie Cup, in memory of his friend the late Earl of Airlie, who had been killed in the Boer War shortly before. The Athletic Committee of the school gladly accepted his gift, and arranged with Sir John that it be held for one year by the champion athlete of the school. At that time the programme contained a Hurdle

race and a Football-Kicking competition in addition to the present events; but nevertheless it was not thought judicious for any boy to attempt all the events, and with the donor's approval it was decided that a competitor could count points in only five events. The Hurdle race of 120 yards with 3 feet high hurdles set 10 yards apart, exhibiting as it does, grace of running and jumping, is perhaps the prettiest race of all.

In 1902 the Airlie Cup (which is a very handsome silver cup) appeared for the first time for competition, but the committee decided that the name of the champion of 1901, viz. W. T. C. Laurie, who was distinguished equally in study and in sport, should be inscribed on it. At that time there were several events for former pupils, and in 1902 the late Mr Preston Watson won the F.P. Putting competition, while the High Jump was won by Mr Arthur Ritchie, and the mile race by Mr William Smith. The pupils' hurdle race for the championship was won by Sidney Ritchie, who, at the end of the day carried off the Cup with a total of fifteen points to his credit, out of a possible 15. He was closely followed by N. Sheath with 10 points. Another brother, viz. D. D. Ritchie, was first in the Putting with a throw of 27 feet 4 inches. In those days the roof of the pavillion was used as a grand stand, and from it Sir John Gilmour spoke and asked the Countess of Airlie, who had been present throughout the afternoon and had taken a great interest in all the events, to present the prizes. Since then interest in the destiny of the Cup has never flagged, and it is sincerely hoped that there will never again in all its history be four blank years.

P. S. L.



Back Row.—(Left to right) P. S. Lowson, Esq., M.A., B.Sc. (Pres.) I. Mudie. J. Mechan. W. G. Clark.

Mr Stewart (Coach).

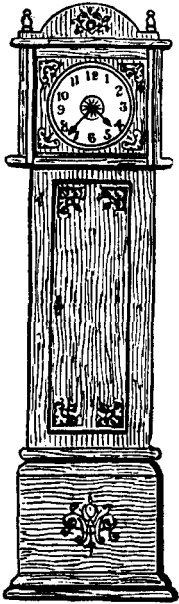
Middle Row.—J. R. Cowper. Wm. Blackwood (Capt.) J. Keddie (Vice-Capt.) M. M'Kenzie.

L. R. Greig (Secy.)

Front Row—W. Scott. R. N. Kinnison. J. Ferguson.

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Reports.

Boys' Literary Society.

Although the Literary Society is now nothing more than a memory, and though no meetings take place during the summer term, yet there are still one or two evenings to report—those which took place since the issue of the last number of the Magazine.

We brought our March reports down to the occasion of the VI. Class papers on 22nd February.

The following Saturday, 1st March, was scheduled as Magazine Night, but owing to the unavoidable absence of the secretary, Mr Meiklejohn, who occupied the chair, resolved to hold a discussion on suggested improvements for the Society. Many suggestions were put forward, such as that the objects of the Society be printed on the syllabus, and that the President should be present at meetings, but should not occupy the chair, each meeting electing its chairman for the following week. It is proposed to carry out some of the most popular of the suggestions, which we hope to see in operation next year.

At this meeting Mr Wm. C. Hay was appointed interim secretary, to carry on business arising between the end of this session and the beginning of the next, and to make arrangements for the next business meeting.

As the President had announced that he would be unable to give his presidential address, a number of former pupils who had seen service in the war were invited to give a short account of their experiences. In all eight gentlemen turned up on March 8th, and an exceedingly enjoyable evening was held.

The first speaker was Captain D. M. Mann, M.C., who described the mechanism of a Tank, and feelings of one when driving one of these engines of war.

He was followed by Mr Q. Chalmers, who recounted an amusing experience which he had when serving in the East.

Lieut. Hans Denner, the next speaker, in a racy speech told of the various campaigns he had been through, first in the Balkans, then in Egypt, and then again in the Balkans. He concluded with a description of Constantinople where he stayed for a short time with the army of occupation after the armistice.

Mr E. J. Ritchie followed him with a very interesting account of the methods employed in mine warfare. He described the process of boring, and listening for enemy movements.

Then followed Lieut. G. Valentine. He recounted the capture of Vimy Ridge by the Canadians—an event which he himself witnessed—and his experiences round about that time. He also mentioned the existence of subterranean caves near Arras, built by French civilian prisoners before the war, which were used for billeting soldiers.

Mr G. R. Soutar was the next speaker, and was the only gentleman who spoke of the navy. He described his experiences first at the Crystal Palace and then at sea, mentioning some of the exciting duties that form part of the sailor's daily work.

Mr W. G. Scott, who had served in the R.E. Signals, followed. He told of his work of range-finding by the sound of the firing of a gun. He also described some of the instruments employed for this work.

The last speaker was Lieut. Weatherhead, who dealt with life in London while serving with the Scots Guards.

This concluded the syllabus proper for the session, but the society was kindly invited to attend a lecture on March 15th, given by Miss Jackson, the President of the Girls' Society. Miss Jackson took for her subject, "Sir Walter Raleigh," and gave an account of the life of this famous statesman and soldier. From his life she drew morals for the conduct of everyone; then she dealt with his literary abilities, and gave an appreciation of his writings.

This meeting brought the Society to a close for this session. Throughout the attendance, if not so high as last year, has been very gratifying, being above that of any other year barring last.

The literary standard of the Society has been maintained, and the keenness to criticise is as prominent as ever. The Society has had a very able President in Mr Meiklejohn who has been untiring in his efforts for the good of the Society, and we take this opportunity of offering him our thanks for the work he has done.

F. W. O.

Cricket Club.

Owing to the recent change from war to peace we have been fortunate in being allowed to play away-matches. As most of the other schools are now also permitted to travel our fixture list has been much more varied than hitherto.

Our first match, against the Harris Academy, resulted in a decided win for us. The Harris, who had had very little practice at the time, succeeded in putting up only 19, and we replied with 91 for 8 wickets, of which J. Cowper had 30 and L. Greig 27.

On Saturday, 10th May, we travelled to Perth to play Perth Academy, but somehow our team did not give their usual display. It may have been partly bad luck and partly nervousness as it was our first away-match; but we scored only 23 to the Perth men's 74.

The next match was against the Grove Academy at their grounds, and this brought a win—Grove, 28; School, 41.

St Andrew's University 2nd XI., at their grounds, were our next opponents, and after a very exciting game we won by the narrow margin of two runs. Notable features in this game were Greig's 25 not out, and his 5 wickets for 20 runs. One cannot value too highly the power Greig has over the ball, and I think I am safe in saying that he is the most promising bowler the School has had for many years.

The most important match of the season came off in a most unexpected manner. Hitherto the R.G.A. have proved the stronger team, but on this occasion we had a distinct pull over them. The R.G.A. batted first and were dismissed within an hour, with a total of 30, the only player reaching double figures being Sergeant C. P. Buckenham, who scored a fine 13. The School then batted and succeeded in making 75, a very creditable performance against such a bowler as Buckenham, the former Forfarshire professional. J. G. Scougal played a fine game for 28 not out. Our bowling was splendid on this occasion, Greig getting 5 for 20, three of which were in one over, and Turner 5 for 10.

There still remain a good many matches to play, and under the tuition of Mr Stewart, whose services the 1st XI. have twice a week, and the 2nd XI. once, we hope to give a good account of ourselves.

A 2nd XI. has been started with J. Mudie as captain, but no matches have, as yet, taken place.

In conclusion I desire to thank all those who have helped us so well at the grounds, and especially Mr Lowson, who by his untiring efforts has done so much for us this season.

The following are some averages:—

Batting—

	No. of innings	Times not out	Highest score	Total No. of runs	Aver.
L. R. Greig,	3	1	27	54	27
J. R. Cowper,	4	—	30	35	8.5

Bowling—

	No. of O.	No. of R.	No. of W.	Aver.	
L. R. Greig	... 53	61	19	3.2	
J. Ferguson,	... 19	23	7	3.3	
M. Mackenzie,	... 39	73	11	6.6	
		Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.
High School,	5	4	1	0

Characteristics—

- Wm. Blackwood—An enthusiastic and capable captain. Reliable wicket-keeper. Too careful to make many runs.
- J. Keddie.—Fair catch. Bad ground-fielder; will not keep his legs together when fielding. Inclined to poke.
- L. R. Greig.—Complete command over ball. Good driver, but has not enough defence.
- J. R. Cowper.—Weak fielder. Is liable to hit out, but has a good eye.
- M. M'Kenzie.—Good length medium pace bowler, but has no variety. Poor bat.
- J. Mechan.—Smart fielder and reliable catch. Plays across wicket too much to bat well.
- J. Ferguson.—Clever fielder, especially in slips. Good reserve bowler. Steady bat, but strokes not scoring strokes.
- W. G. Clark.—Smart fielder and catcher. Promising batter, but a bad starter due to nervousness.
- W. Scott.—Good fielder, but returns ball badly. Relies too much on his aim. Good eye, but no defence whatever.
- I. Mudie.—Slow when fielding. Careful batsman.
- R. N. Kinnison.—Fielding good. Poor bat, due to lack of judgment.

W. B.

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Cadet Corps.

Since our last report was issued the Cadet Corps has been fully occupied.

In the first place, we have great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Captain D. M. Mann, M.C., to be O.C. of the Company in succession to Captain Swan. Captain Mann takes a very great interest in his Company, and his appointment bodes well for its future.

On April 5th, the Annual General Inspection was held on Magdalen Green where the Company was inspected by General Scallon, K.C.I.E. He remarked on the efficiency of the Corps, but hoped in future years it would increase somewhat in numbers.

A most interesting and popular duty was that on the occasion of the visit of Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig to Dundee when the Company was called upon to line part of the route. The work was well done, and received a special word of praise from Colonel Campbell, commanding T'ay Defences.

The Annual Camp has been fixed for a fortnight from Saturday, 28th June. A good proportion of Cadets have handed in their names, and we hope we shall not be disappointed in our visions of the bright time we are to have then.

J. S. F.

**Boys' Swimming Club.**

There is very little of interest to report on what has taken place during the session. The work, however, has been carried out with great keenness.

But there are two events worthy of being mentioned. The first is a match which we played against the Harris Academy, in which we proved ourselves to be the superior team by winning the match with a score of 5-0.

The second is a match played against a scratch team of Former Pupils, the result of which was 4-2 in favour of the School team.

The life-saving class is progressing very well, and

it is hoped that all will be successful when the examination takes place.

W. M. D.

**Tennis Club.**

The beautiful weather which we have had lately has been ideal for tennis, and has been well taken advantage of. During the last fortnight several girls have been playing in "Ladies' Doubles," the final tie of which was played at the sports, the winners being Miss Mabel Graham and Miss Ethel Robertson.

On Friday, June 6th, a mixed tournament was held and was thoroughly enjoyed by all players.

The winners were:—South Court—Miss E. Robertson and Mr W. Philip:

Middle Court—Miss M. Hyslop and Mr G. Clark.
North Court—Miss B. Ferguson and Mr W. G. Parker.

H. D. M.

**Girl Guides.**

The School company has won the Challenge Shield, a trophy competed for yearly by all the Guide Companies in Dundee. The team was as follows:—Kathleen Whitton (leader). M. Duncan, L. Hill, M. Hyslop, A. Lickely, M. Rorke, M. Gray, and L. Stevenson.

On their visit to Dundee Sir Douglas and Lady Haig inspected the Dundee Companies in Albert Square.

During the last month the tests for proficiency badges have been going on. Badges gained are Ambulance, Carpenter, Child-Nurse, Cook, Cyclist, Dancer, Domestic Servant, Embroidress, Entertainer, Gymnast, Laundress, Musician, and Needlewoman. Arrangements are now being made for a summer camp for the senior guides and patrol leaders, along with some of the staff. For the excellent progress being made by our Company both in indoor and outdoor work, hearty thanks are due to our Captain, Lieutenant, and Patrol Leaders.

A. F. M.

Golf Club.

The war being over golf has been resumed, and the Boase Medal has this year been competed for, the winner being J. Mechan, with a score of 89.

The enthusiasm has been so keen that a handicap knock-out competition is in progress, the result of which has not yet been decided.

Our thanks are due to Mr Stalker and the other masters who have given their assistance, and who scored for us in the Boase Medal competition.

**Annual School Sports.**

On the 4th June the Recreation Grounds presented once again a very bright and animated appearance, the reason of this being the resumption of the School sports.

In spite of the sports having been in abeyance during the years of war, there was keen interest manifested, and a remarkably good show was made, though no records were broken. Whilst all the events were important enough, it was only natural that the greatest enthusiasm circled round the championship. There was keen competition for this honourable place, but the Airlie Cup was easily won by W. S. Dennler, Class IX. His performance was specially good, for out of a possible 15 he gained the fine score of 14 points. The winner of the Junior Championship Trophy was A. R. Scott, Class IV. Another event of interest was the awarding of the Boase Medal for Golf to J. Mechan, Class VIII., who had the capital score of 89. An interesting novelty was the music played by the pipe band of the Cadet Corps, and they are to be complimented on their progress.

The day fortunately was fine, and a matter worthy of mention is that the sports were so splendidly managed that they finished at the time mentioned on the programme.

Very great praise is due to the staff for their assistance, but especially to Messrs Lowson, Stalker, and Macdonald, who by their untiring efforts of organising made the sports of 1919 such a success.

Lady Don kindly handed over the prizes to the successful competitors after Lord Provost Sir Wm. Don, who was in the chair, had spoken words of encouragement to all.

Let us hope that there will never again be a reason for abandoning the D.H.S. Sports.

**High School Social Service Guild.**

The Social Service Guild in connection with Grey Lodge Settlement was inaugurated in September, 1918. A Committee of former pupils was formed with Miss Emily Russell as Secretary, and the active members during the first year have been the Misses Muriel Carmichael, Winifred Galloway, Etta Martin, Helen Monro, Edith Robertson, and Emily Russell.

Up to the present the activities of the S.S.G. have been limited to one form of social service, that of Girls' Clubs. And besides the regular attendance during the session of Miss Russell as pianist, and Miss Monro as treasurer and registrar, the Guild has been entirely responsible for the dramatic, singing, and dancing items contributed by the girls in the combined Boys' and Girls' Club Entertainment held in the Bonnet Hill Hall this year. The entertainment was a great success.

At the beginning of the session Miss Macdougald kindly outlined a programme, in connection with which Miss Edith Robertson held a dramatic class for the senior girls, and a singing class for the "Brownies" one night a week. Miss Winifred Galloway and Miss Muriel Carmichael were responsible for another set of girls who gave the dances.

The programme consisted of a comedy called "The Burglar," songs in Japanese costume, dances and nursery rhymes. An "old boy" was stage manager, and the High School can congratulate itself on having accomplished a "worth while" piece of work through its S.S.G.

Special thanks are tendered to Miss Edith Robertson for her generous help and leadership in organising the Entertainment.

E. B.

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