

THE DUNDEE HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE



No. 28

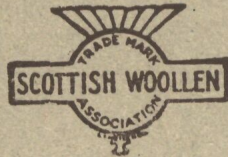
DECEMBER, 1923

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The Dundee High School MAGAZINE

No. 28]

DECEMBER, 1923.

[FOURPENCE

Editorial.

THERE seems to be a general feeling of hilarity in the serried ranks of our Schola Clara at present. We, surveying all from the editorial sanctum, with the editorial quill reposing behind the editorial ear, see many reasons—The first batch of exam. papers are all safely deposited in the W.P.B.—the school dance is rapidly approaching, and will possibly be merely a delightful memory when this spasm appears in print—the 1st XV. caps have been distributed—Christmas is coming—we are going to get a skating holiday (we DON'T think)—and last, but not least, the proverbial uncle is beginning to jingle his small change in response to our thinly-veiled Christmas hints. These are more than sufficient to account for the array of bright faces around us. Everywhere we see a vista of cheerful young chappies working their way through the classes; ingeniously avoiding the absurd mass of home work imposed upon them; “cogging” exercises with reckless non-chalance (whatever that is—all the best people do things with it, anyway); and breaking all the School bye-laws and windows with unabated

good humour. “Life is good,” they say—“sometimes.”

By the way, has it ever struck any of our readers that the Editor cannot possibly write all of the Magazine off his own bat? Think it over; because this quarter our “contributions received” could be expressed by x , where x is a very small number. We don't like to grouse—but next time swamp us with articles! We can always sell them as scrap paper if otherwise useless, though we cannot contemplate this without emotion.

Now—read on. And remember, if you don't like the contents (or, remote possibility, if you do)—well, it was you who wrote the Mag.!



In November.

The air to-night is pure and cold,
As the first star that tiptoes forth
Companionless and shyly bold,
Above the wide fields to the north,

And all the trees with austere grace
Lift their bare branches up on high,
Which seem like dark and delicate lace
Against a fading sunset sky.

Professor Alexander McKenzie,

M.A., D.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.C., F.R.S.

FOR this number of our Magazine we have been fortunate in securing a photograph and greeting from a distinguished former pupil who by his scientific achievements has brought honour to our school and to our district, namely, Alexander McKenzie, Professor of Chemistry, University College, Dundee.

Professor McKenzie is a native of Tealing, and in glancing back over the happy years, 1882-1885, when he attended classes in the High School, he writes :—

“From my home at the bottom of Craig Owl a fellow-schoolboy and myself used to drive to and from school in a pony and trap. Fortune, indeed, favoured us that we are both alive to-day to tell the tale. The pet aversion of our pony was the traction engine, and the olfactory nerves of our steed were so highly developed that it could detect the engine miles away. On such occasions we found ourselves as often as not deposited on the wayside, with the result that we appeared often late at school ; but our teachers were very sympathetic.

In those days my interests lay particularly in classics and English, and I have never had occasion to regret the years spent on these subjects both at the school and at the University. True it is that on the classical side, as it was then organised, there was practically no time for the study of any science at all. This want is, fortunately, now remedied, as the pupil of to-day remains longer at school than we did. But I recall how on Saturday mornings we used to play at chemistry under the supervision of my old friend, Mr Frank Young, a most inspiring teacher, as many a High School boy will testify. In my case, therefore, the seed was sown for the future, although the ground was pretty barren till a good many years elapsed. It is by accident really that I attended

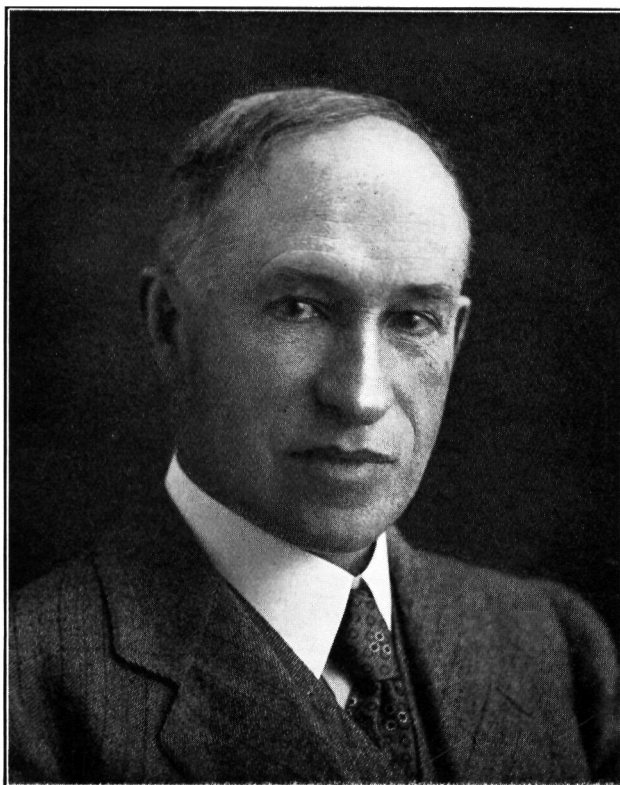
those Saturday morning classes, but it is owing to this accident that Chemistry did eventually claim me.”

Passing from the school with the Latin medal to his credit, Mr McKenzie entered the University of St. Andrews at the age of fifteen—think of this, ye aspirants to the Intermediate—and after a distinguished career, in which his interest definitely turned to Physics and Chemistry, he graduated M.A., B.Sc., and became assistant to Professor Purdie in the Chemical Department of the University.

Going on to Berlin in pursuit of his favourite studies, he graduated there, and on the thesis presented to the Senatus Academicus of St. Andrews, was promoted to the degree of D.Sc. by his old University. After a year of research work in the Jenner (now the Lister) Institute of Preventive Medicine, London, he became special lecturer in Organic Chemistry in Birmingham University. In 1905 he was appointed head of the Chemistry Department of Birkbeck College, London, and ultimately in 1913 was welcomed back by his Alma Mater as successor to the late Hugh Marshall in the Chair of Chemistry in University College, Dundee.

Side by side with his success as a teacher and examiner must be recognised his faculty for organising and carrying through research work. The results of his researches are to be found in over forty original papers published chiefly in connection with the Transactions of the Chemical Society and of the British Association. To the value of these researches the leading professors of our own and of foreign Universities have borne ample testimony. Some have been of special value to industrial chemistry ; others of supreme importance to medicine and pharmacy.

During the war Professor McKenzie rendered



ALEXANDER McKENZIE, Esq.,
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Dundee High School
Magazine

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invaluable service to the Government by his work on poison gas and on the manufacture of local anaesthetics, chiefly novocain—*p*-aminobenzoyladiethylaminoBethanol—a very complex substance, as even the layman can see, but of supreme importance, replacing, as it does, the older and more toxic cocaine.

Such is a brief sketch of the distinguished record of a former pupil, and where one leads others may follow. Scotland, at least, has seen to it that her "lad o' pairts" shall have every opportunity.

"You ask me," writes Professor McKenzie,

"if there is any greeting I would care to give to the present pupils. I cannot do better than send them the message which can be inferred from Barrie's words:—

"Mighty are the Universities of Scotland, and they will prevail. But even in your highest exultations never forget that they are not four, but five. The greatest of them is the poor proud homes you come out of, which said so long ago—'There shall be Education in this land.' She, not St. Andrews, is the oldest university in Scotland, and all the others are her whelps."

"Sold!"

I GAZED pensively at two flies performing their morning ablutions. Ah! what a happy life had they! What a — I gradually became aware of someone pulling at my sleeve and a soft voice purring—positively purring—"Hello, Jimmy, the very fellow I was looking for!"

Wherefore this sudden popularity? I wondered, and the voice trilled on, "Now, you're a brainy sort of fellow, and —" "Quite so, laddie," I beamed, "quite so." Of course the fact is well known, but it is very gratifying—"And I'm going to give you a chance to make some money."

I thought there was a catch in it, some fly in the ointment, some caterpillar in the salad. I threw him a glance of withering scorn, but he missed it somehow, and continued blithely—

"Yes; do you have a shilling?"

"Do I have a what?"

"A shilling," he said again.

I shook my head doubtfully—after all, it was Thursday—and proceeded to take an inventory of my pockets. After much fruitless fumbling the final result was:—Vest pockets, one sixpence (this was unexpected wealth); jacket pockets, nil; and trouser pockets, one three-

penny, two halfpennies (mixed up with a stray toffee), and two pennies. I smiled triumphantly, but kept a firm hold of the money.

"There you are, my son—a bob!"

"Well," he said, producing a match box, "I drop a shilling in there—so! Now you drop yours in."

"No fear, laddie, no fear!" I murmured. Huh! Fancy thinking he would catch me with a simple thing like that! Get-my-bob-and-decamp style of thing. Not likely! It was bordering on the primitive! I said so.

At last he convinced me that he wasn't going to vanish, and I carefully placed my heterogeneous collection in the box. He closed it with a snap. I sighed.

"Now, there are two shillings here, aren't there?"

"M'yes," I replied.

"Will you give me one and sixpence for them?"

"Will I what?"

"Will you give me one and sixpence for them?"

"Bai Jove! What a splendid fellow! Yet here was a golden (or silver) opportunity slipping away for want of one and sixpence. It

was sad ! It was pathetic !! It was positively heartrending !!!

A tall youth had stopped to watch the proceedings. His face seemed familiar, somehow. Something stirred in the deep recesses of my mind. The hidden chord broke into joyful song. The very ——!

"I say, Johnny, you owe me half a crown, don't you?"

"Y—es —— . Here it is." He seemed rather reluctant, I thought.

"Here you are—one and sixpence," I chirped.

"Thanks ; you can keep the box," the philanthropic chappie interrupted and—disappeared. It was simply amazing the speed he got up. The one minute he was, and the next he was not ! Still, if he'd stayed he might have changed his mind, so it was just as well.

A decent fellow—very. Fancy him——. I felt myself getting warm, and looked up to see the elongated youth consuming me with a several thousand horse-power glare.

"You—you—you—" he stuttered.

"Yes, I know, old chap, but you can't expect him to do it to everybody."

"But don't you see he's *swindled* you?" he roared—bellowed is more like it. I felt as if a beetle was running a Marathon up and down my spinal column.

"Wh——what do you mean?"

"Don't you see that one of the shillings was your own?"

"Yes ; but—but——" Oh, dash it ! that was the catch. I knew there was one. I looked round, breathing spiritual advice to all and sundry, but that swindling, double-crossing, ambiguous —— oh ! and heaps more, was nowhere to be seen.

I am still looking for him, but so far without success. I have a feeling he's avoiding me, somehow. When I do get hold of him—— 'nuff said !

"IRISH."

A Fishy Story.

MY objection to Napoleon is that he was very fond of oysters. This we learn on

page 178 of Grierson's "Private Lives of Great Men," where the author says :—"He ate oysters at every possible opportunity, regardless of his digestion."

Now, how could any self-respecting people submit to being governed by a man whose ruling passion was a consuming desire for oysters? The nations of Europe, therefore, revolted. Another cause of his downfall is found in the fact that the Emperor patronised the fishmonger, and the fishmonger alone, thereby causing great discontent among the other tradesmen of Paris.

The cessation of the supply of oysters in Elba was the cause of Bonaparte's withdrawal from that delectable spot, which was otherwise such an admirable rest-home for a provincial gentleman tired by the labours of a somewhat strenuous life. We may therefore conclude that the supply of shell fish on St. Helena was unlimited and untaxed (consumers please note), which fact enabled Napoleon to reside there until his digestive organs forbade the consumption of any more oysters.

It seems to me that in that one simple fact we have the key to Napoleon's career—that we have the whole cause of it in an oyster shell.

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Exile.

I sit where the palm tree waveth high,
Where the sun shines down in blazing ray,
But I dream that I stand in a garden fair
And list to the blackbird's merry lay.
Here the bul-bul sweetly sings,
And birds of plumage gay,
But I long for the hills and the bright clear streams,
And the dawn of a fresh spring day.
I hear the "tum-tum's" martial tone,
As the dusky warriors gather,
But I long for the pibroch's wailing drone
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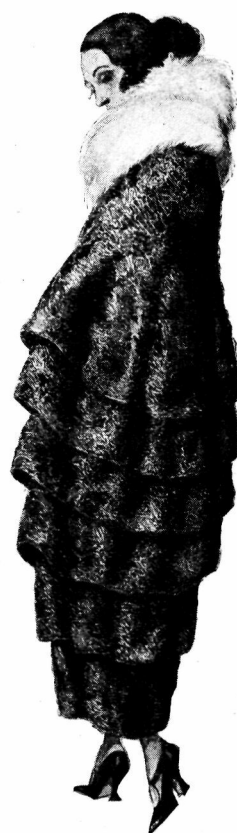
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SOME Indian regiments dislike their Majors.

They complain that the very presence of a Major has a damping effect on their festivities. In some cases it may be so ; but *our* Major is a godsend. When all things are at their dulllest we can always rely on him to brighten them up. It was so last rains,* which for weeks had been just a dreary procession of depressing wetness. Then a snake bit the Major in the leg !

In a moment the dulness of weeks was dissipated. Amid the yells and oaths of the Major we gave chase to the snake, and eventually caught and killed it at the edge of the compound. Then we bore it along in triumph to the M.O., who was tending the Major's hurt. After a careful examination he pronounced it to be of the harmless, flat-tailed variety. But the Major would have none of it. He declared that he pinned his faith to the whisky cure, the which he proceeded to carry out. In the end the Major maintained that if the snake wasn't poisonous the whisky was.

Shortly afterwards the Padre came to dine with us. He is a mild-looking man, with rather weak, grey-blue eyes, and we were engaged with the sweets before I could get him really interested in snakes. The Major was

sitting opposite, and after a while joined in the conversation.

"Yes," he said, "you can doubtless class snakes as poisonous and non-poisonous, with a fair degree of accuracy ; but there's more in it than that. They are human almost in the variations of their characters. Why, I remember once—in Jubbulpore it was—I was seated in my bath splashing away vigorously, when all of a sudden I noticed coiled in a corner of the stone floor a large black cobra. As I looked he slowly uncoiled himself and commenced to glide along towards the water hole opposite my bath and within a yard of where I sat. Arrived there he endeavoured to vanish down the hole. He had almost gone when on a sudden mad impulse I seized him by the tail, drew him forth, and flung him to the far corner of the room."

The Major took a long sip at his peg (glass of whisky) and resumed.

"Yes," he said, "there he lay, but for a moment only. Then he was up like lightning making for the hole. He had again nearly disappeared when I gripped his tail and treated him as before. This time he lay quite still for several seconds. Slowly he lifted his head and looked at me. He appeared to be thinking,

* Rainy season in India.

sizing me up, and planning a way of escape. Eventually, with great deliberation, he advanced in my direction. When he had arrived between me and the hole he reared up, spread his hood, and faced me squarely. He remained thus for a moment or two, and then, still poised ready to strike, he commenced to wriggle backwards, feeling for the hole with his tail. He found it, and, watchful to the last, disappeared from sight tail first!"

Then the Padre spoke.

"They're not all so friendly as that, Major," he said, "nor of such a whimsical turn of mind. You know the spot in Mullipore where the duck collect by the thousand?"

The Major nodded.

"Well, two years ago I went there one evening intending to try some flight shooting. There was no train back, so I arranged to stay at an old dak bungalow. I had taken my servant with me, and on my return from shooting he told me that the place was supposed to be haunted. An old King Cobra, venerated by the villagers as the embodiment of an evil spirit, had, he said, lived there for years. After a hurried supper I dismissed my servant, and sat on my bed with a view to undressing. I fell to wondering if there was any truth in the uncanny story told me by my servant.

"I was undressing, and had already removed one of my socks. I pulled off the other and set my foot down. Immediately a horrible fear possessed me, for beneath my foot, cold and clammy to the touch, I could feel the movement of a fleshy circular body! It was horrible, horrible!"

For a moment the Padre seemed quite overcome by the tragic recollection.

"What was it?" we queried in chorus; "the cobra, the King Cobra?"

The Padre looked up, then he gazed slowly round at our faces.

"No," he said sadly, "it wasn't the King Cobra. It was the big toe of my other foot!"

We had been bitten. With commendable promptitude the Major called for whisky.

A. T. S. B.



Our Last Rugger Match.

ON 23rd November 1923, the D.H.S. 1st XV. met the Westgreen Wanderers' Select XV. in a friendly match. We kicked off in the face of a storm of wind and a shower of imprecations. After a fine passing walk by himself, J. R. Leagues, the captain, scored three tries in rapid succession. P. R. I. Tchie, the vice-captain, was on the top of his form, but, as he never came near the ball, he failed to do anything. A. B. B. Arrie was conspicuous for his rough play, and was put off the field at full-time. Half-time came with no further scoring and no lemons.

In the second half the School penned their opponents against the goalposts, and W. M. Gilkie took a drop kick, a deep sigh, and a sporting chance. None, however, were successful. R. D. A. Vidson, after a fine combined solo promenade, was beautifully tackled, and lost his shots. Mr Mann, the referee, forgot himself so far as to swallow the whistle and a sympathetic word. G. B. Axter tripped over the touch line, breaking his heart; he, however, pluckily resumed play after the application of a mustard poultice. Full-time came with no further scoring. As, however, our opponents had lost count of their score, the game was declared null and void.

After the game our new goalposts were unveiled with much ceremony, amid deafening cheers, the popping of corks, and loud clicks. The Sheik of Araby, who was on a visit to Dundee, performed the ceremony, and remarked that if only we had a new pavilion things would begin to look up. [Directors please note.]



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30 REFORM STREET, DUNDEE

Letter from the Old Quad.

ON Saturday, 27th October, a Rectorial Election was held at Edinburgh University. The candidates were Mr Baldwin (U.), Lord Buckmaster (L.), and the Hon. Bertrand Russell (Lab.). In the campaign preceding the election, besides "ordinary" events, such as the sacking of committee rooms by night, the entire Labour committee was kidnapped, and released on parole only on its promise to take no part in the election warfare. This left a clear field for the Unionists and Liberals, who rivalled each other in distributing free literature and in disfiguring the walls of the Quad. with placards of various hues and legends, such as "Is Edinburgh a Pig Sty?" ; "Do we want a Pig Breeder?" ; "How can Bald Win?" on the part of the Liberals ; and "Can Bald Win?—Yes!" ; "Poor Bashful Buck" ; "Return, Russell—to Russia!" of the Unionists.

The greatest event of the Rectorial, however, is the great fight for possession of the steps at the head of the Old Quad. on the day of the election. The battle was due to start at eleven o'clock, and for a considerable time both sides had been making preparations and collecting ammunition. This consisted of small paper bags of soot and ochre, varied by unsound fruit and fish heads. The Liberals, as guardians of the steps—the last Rector was a Liberal—arranged their ammunition on the parapets of the raised terrace, greased the steps with soft soap, and greased their shoulders with the same to make themselves more difficult to pull down. I should mention that the respective "armies," numbering some 150 each, were arrayed in costumes similar to those of scarecrows—old football togs, dungarees, old army tunics, and anything that was of no use whatsoever.

At eleven the pistol cracked. Immediately the Liberal centre was enveloped in clouds of

smoke so dense that nothing could be seen. (There is a quotation out of "Marmion," I think, which would suit here admirably, but my memory fails me.) Through the blackness shot vivid streaks of red and yellow ochre, giving an appearance of fire. This continued, with little hand-to-hand fighting, for about ten minutes, till a respite was called and the air cleared.

After two minutes for rest and collection of half-spent ammunition, the attack was renewed. This time the fog was not so thick, and it could be seen that the Unionists had made an attack on all three flights of steps. The fighting was more hand-to-hand, but after about five minutes they had to retire. After recuperation they had evidently taken counsel among themselves, for they attacked *en masse* and confined their attentions to one end flight of steps only. In this plan they were successful, and drove the Liberals completely off the terrace. It was now the Unionists' turn to be defenders, and well they set about it. They formed a long rugger scrum across each flight of steps, a thick, close-packed scrum, well secured to the parapets at the sides. The Liberals attacked with a great rush, but the ranks held stoutly. At last the middle scrum, longer and therefore weaker than the others, gave, and fighting became general all along the terrace. The issue was for a time doubtful, but when the "cease fire" blew at 11.45 the Unionists were in possession.

And what sights were both victors and vanquished! The red and yellow neckerchiefs of the Liberals, and the blue and white favours of the Unionists, were almost the same colour as the rest of their persons—black. After the fight was over the result of the voting was announced by the Principal from the Library windows:—Baldwin, 1236 ; Buckmaster, 448 ; Russell, 261.



For the Staff Only.

A packet of safety pins (or its equivalent in cash) will be awarded to the member of the D.H.S. staff who obtains the highest percentage in the following general knowledge exam. paper. Write clearly and boldly, and state precisely what you mean. No questions to be asked about the question. Entries to be handed in at 11.37 p.m. on 32nd December 1923. The Editor's decision on all matters of conduct cannot possibly be considered as final :—

- I. If a hen-and-a-half lays an egg-and-a-half in a day-and-a-half, when are we getting our new Sports Pavilion? Explain (if you can) the delay.
- II. Write a short note on the life of any two of the following :—Peggy O'Neill, The Sheik.
- III. With what important persons are the following expressions associated? Under what circumstances were they said? State your candid opinion of each of the speakers, where known to you :—
 - (a) "Don't spluttah !!!"
 - (b) "GOTO THE BACK OF THE ROOM !!!!"
 - (c) Oh, he's a contempppibleff fellow!"
 - (d) There's some fool MUTTERING !"
 - (e) "You'll get a fine roasting when the Day of Judgment comes !"

IV. Quote the first six lines of "Yes, we have no bananas !" Annotate carefully ; explain any idioms.

V. Explain the following D.H.S. slang terms, giving, if possible, the derivations :—

Mutt, weed, sod, booral, cloor, piece, bint, click, tart, oojiboo.



When ?

The hoar frost glimmered on the grass,
The ponds were hard and shone like glass ;
We went to school that morning gay—
" We'll get a skating holiday."

Alas ! alas ! 'tis sad to think
Our cup of joy we did not drink ;
When hens do bark and dogs do lay,
We'll get a skating holiday !

T. R.



Things we want to know—

How did Noah manage to carry the Ark from Mount Ararat to the corner of our playing fields ?

Why R. R. D—v—d—on thinks Elie one of the most attractive places in Scotland ?

If one of the masters is an American traveller for Oxo ?

Where did Mr R——'s halfpenny go to in a certain maths. room ?

Heard in the class rooms :—

A Maths. Master—"Well, boy, what did you get for T?"

Pupil (*sotto voce*)—"Bread and butter and coffee, sir."

"Don't sit there staring at me like a cattle beast!"

"Listen to that—Romanus instead of Romaaaaaanus! It's positively loathsome, filthy, horrible!"

"I say, we go to Room XII. B next period. Can any one lend me a difficulty?"



A rugger rhyme—

Low, low, go for him low,
Whether he's fast or whether he's slow;
If you go high he will hand you off—so!
Ass! why didn't you go for him low?

By T. H. E. BAILLIE.

"O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see exams. before they see us."

For the rugger stalwarts at the dance—

"Come and *trip* it as you go."



Those Examinations!

In sad perplexity his brow he knits,
His neighbour's pen is scratching readily;
His roving eye o'er every question flits—
The warning clock is ticking steadily.

At last he snatches up his idle pen
And writes a word. Alas! with one deep sigh,
With vicious force he scores it out again—
Then suddenly the clock hands catch his eye.

He grabs his pen once more, with feverish haste
He thrusts the holder right into the ink;
The nib he sucks, but liking not the taste
He bangs it down, and then begins to think.

Just then his roving eye one question spies—
Only the date of Flodden is required;
Ten sixty-six in glee the scholar lies—
And lo! the clock strikes twelve—time has expired.

Q.—Give the name of the Norman king who conquered England.

A.—William the Conjuror.

Three Old Rhymes—

Suggested New Second Stanzas.

- (a) How doth the busy little bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower.
How happily her hymn she hums,
Plundering the livelong day;
The pious insect's perfect bliss
Is this—to sing and prey.
- (b) Mary had a little lamb,
His fleece was white as snow;
And everywhere that Mary went
The lamb was sure to go.
He went with her to church one day,
Sat smiling in the pew;
The parson rose, looked, giggled, coughed,
Then loud his nose he blew.
- (c) Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean
And the solid land.
And the politicians,
Little though they be,
Make the mighty muddle
That around we see.



Four New Limericks.

- (a) JOYS OF A HIGH SCHOOL PUPIL
We have holidays, bales upon bales,
We have holidays blowing in gales;
In five weeks we've had three
(It's a regular spree)—
Two elections and one Prince of Wales.
- (b) JOYS OF TWO GREEDY BOYS.
There once were two greedy young loons,
Who ate up a huge dish of prunes;
In the course of the night
They felt more slack than tight,
And their insides played all sorts of tunes.
- (c) JOYS OF AN HONEST POLITICIAN.
I'm a plain, simple, straight-forward man,
And I try to be brave, if I can;
But was led such a dance
By Poincare in France
That I wanted Protection, and ran.
AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION.
I lay claim to no special ability,
Wit, brilliance, or mental agility;
But one thing I can do
(And hard facts show it's true)—
Give you bullaballoo for tranquility.

“Lunatics—and Others.”

SEVERAL weeks ago, on behalf of the “Dundee High School Magazine,” I inspected the State Lunatic Asylum of the progressive and flourishing Republic of Oojiboo. I was received with charming courtesy by all the officials, who introduced me to Nicholas Oopinkoff, the chief warder of the asylum. He was a splendid figure of a man, well calculated to inspire obedience in his unfortunate charges. Standing seven feet five inches in his sandals, his abnormal height was increased by the beautifully embroidered samovar which crowned his raven hair, while a keen-bladed oojikapiffy was thrust through a fold in his crimson sash. As he guided me along a white-washed corridor to the first cell, he gave me an outline of the method of selecting patients for the asylum.

“You see,” he commenced, “we take in people who, in Great Britain, would possibly be classed as merely eccentric. However, when you see our inmates I am sure you will agree that all are in reality imbeciles—how do you English put it?—‘bats in their belfry,’ eh?”

At that moment we arrived opposite the first cell. It was a large chamber, containing perhaps one hundred children of varying ages.

“Here,” explained Nicholas, “are the ‘cigarette card’ collectors—fiends, one might almost say. They invade everywhere, and render the smoker’s life a misery. One climbs a mountain only to be asked for a ‘cigarette photo’ at the summit; descend a coal mine and the same happens. We shut them all up as we find them—they might be termed criminal lunatics.”

The next cell was occupied by a youth grasping a paper bag. My guide turned to me sadly.

“This,” he said, “is one of those unbearable

people who sit behind you at the cinema. They always have a paper bag of sweets, which they rustle continually. They watch your every movement, and snigger and whisper to one another about you when you—” he coughed deprecatingly—“er—when you don’t want someone to watch your every movement. You know what I mean, sir. Well, we shut them all up when we can, sir.”

I agreed heartily, and said so.

“And who is this?” I asked at the next cell.

“This,” replied Nicholas in an awed voice, “is the man who *really* understands Einstein’s Theory of Relativity. He can prove that if a ray of light, after having crossed the United States of America, can pass a public house in Great Britain without stopping, then a bird in the hand gathers no moss. He is quite harmless.”

We passed on.

“Ah, here is a really sad case,” said Nicholas, as we reached the next cell, in which a small boy was playing with a toy spade, “This child, while playing in the street, saw a Ford car approaching, and foolishly stuck his toy spade between the spokes of the front wheel as it passed. The inevitable result was that the vehicle turned a complete somersault, so that both passengers lost —”

“Their lives?” I queried, deeply moved.

“No, their tempers. Well, this small boy, who had caused all the trouble, pleaded that he thought it was a Rolls-Royce car. Now, anyone who could confuse a Rolls-Royce and a Ford is unquestionably insane. So that is why he is here. Yes, a sad case.”

A tear fell from his piercing eye as he spoke, and hit the floor with a dull thud.

The next cell contained seven harmless and

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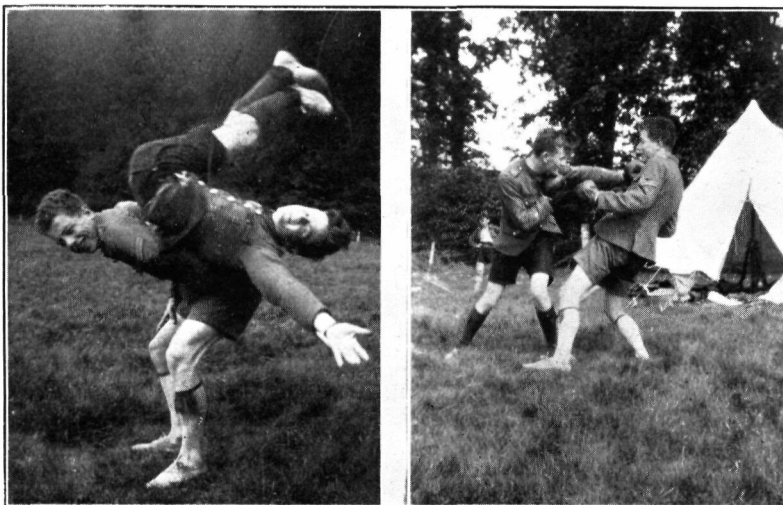
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Dundee High School
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inoffensive-looking gentlemen, reading, smoking, or playing bridge.

Nicholas sighed.

"It really *does* seem a pity to have to detain these gentlemen," he said. "However, what else could we do? You see, they are all remotely descended from either Ovid or Vergil, so that all are bound to be slightly insane. We watch them carefully in case any of them try to perpetrate any more literature."

"Splendid, splendid!" I said enthusiastically, pressing half a crown into my guide's horny palm. "See that none of them escape!"

"Thank you, sir," responded Nicholas, politely raising his samovar. "Now, this next patient is of an extremely rare class. He is an ex-Member of Parliament, sir. At the election period he made a solemn promise to his electors to carry out their wishes concerning—well, that doesn't matter. Anyhow, he gave his

word. By some freak of fortune, that promise was carried out. When the news was brought to him the shock unbalanced him mentally. Yes, his is a rare case, sir."

When at length I had been to all the cells my guide helped me to don my overcoat and handed me my gloves and hat.

"Sir," he said, "it has been a pleasure to show you round our institution. If you see any likely patients, just send me a P.C., sir. Any person of the kind I have been showing you will do all right."

"Certainly," I replied as we shook hands. "Up to a certain limit I'll do all I can for you, warder. I'll send you word if I find anyone who really understands Einstein's Theory, or if I find an honest politician, or any descendants of Ovid. But—by Jove, if anyone asks me for a cigarette card, or if anyone dares to sit behind me at the cinema, his blood be upon his own head!"

P. D. S.

Reports.

Rugby Club Report.

The following are the office-bearers for season 1923-24:—Captain, J. R. Myles; vice-captain, P. D. Ritchie; Secretary, A. B. Barrie; Committee, the above with R. Davidson and G. Wilkie.

The Rugby Club started the season with rather gloomy prospects, there being only four of last year's team available. However, an enthusiastic, if somewhat light team, has been built up, and the form in the later matches has been most gratifying. Although usually overweighted, the school side has shown what rigid training, a fine team spirit, and the will to win, can accomplish.

As usual the season opened with a game against the 2nd XV. F.P.'s. Play was very one-sided, the school being no match for their heavier opponents. Still, the forwards had some good rushes which gave promise of better things to come.

Final score—2nd XV. F.P.'s, 39 pts.; D.H.S., nil.

On October 6th we played Madras College at St Andrews. Unfortunately we were without the services of two of our regular players.

In the first half Madras were undoubtedly superior, both at forward and "three," and deserved to be leading at the interval by one try to nil.

The second half was very evenly contested, both sides scoring once. The school score came through T. Fraser who dropped a fine goal.

Final result:—Madras College, 8 points; D.H.S., 4 points.

The following Saturday, we had a visit from Waid Academy, who came with a great reputation.

The first half provided one of the finest games ever seen at the Grounds. It was a day for forward play and both sides shone in that department, although Waid Academy's superior physique gave them a big advantage. Towards the close of the first half, the visitors scored a somewhat lucky try.

On the resumption, Waid took control of the game and completely outplayed the School. Weak tackling cost us several tries, while as the game progressed, it was obvious that the team was not in proper training.

Final result:—D.H.S., nil; Waid Academy, 27 points.

We played Morrison's Academy at Crieff on Oct. 20th, where we received another defeat.

Right from the start, Morrison's pressed strongly and scored an unconverted try before the interval.

In the second half the School forwards started promisingly and were soon on the lead, a try by Wenyon being converted by Prophet. The School now unaccountably fell away and Morrison's scored other four tries none of which were converted.

Final result:—Morrison's Academy, 15 points; D.H.S., 5 points.

On November 3rd we were at home to St Andrew's University "A" XV. The students were very much heavier than the School, but the latter more than held their own. The forwards gained ground repeatedly with combined rushes, while the tackling was on a par with the other departments. Scott and Wenyon scored in the first half, the latter's try being converted by Myles. St Andrews also scored two tries both of which were converted.

Shortly after the resumption Myles scored from a free-kick and the same player converted a try by Fraser. In the closing minutes the 'Varsity got across for an unconverted try.

Final result:—D.H.S., 16 points; St Andrew's 'Varsity "A," 13 points.

On the following Wednesday the School played R.A.F., Leuchars, who payed us the compliment of fielding a very strong team. Although absolutely overweighted the School forwards played their best game of the season, their footwork in the loose being of a high standard. Myles opened the scoring with a try which he failed to convert, but R.A.F. replied with two tries, one of which was converted. They again scored in the second half, but the total reflects greatly to the credit of the School, who put up a very plucky game.

Final result:—D.H.S., 3 points; Royal Air Force, 11 points.

On November 10th the School paid their initial visit to Glenalmond, where a most interesting afternoon was spent.

In the first half of our match with the 2nd XV., the home team were superior, their "threes" being especially dangerous. Glenalmond scored just before half-time, and also immediately after the interval. The school appeared to be well beaten, but they refused to give in, and actually levelled the score through Davidson and Barrie. In the second portion of the game, the visiting forwards gave a rousing display, outclassing their opponents both in the tight and in the loose.

Final result:—Glenalmond 2nd XV., 6 points; D.H.S., 6 points.

On November 17th the School journeyed to Perth, where they met the Academy team. In this game the visiting forwards gave a fine display of close dribbling tactics and quite outplayed their Perth rivals. The "threes," too, showed improved combination. Tries were scored by Davidson, Baxter, Barrie, and Wenyon, the latter's try being converted by Myles.

Final result:—Perth Academy, 9 points; D.H.S., 14 points.

Our match with Waid Academy on November 24th had to be put off owing to frost.

The 2nd XV. contain some very promising players who should acquit themselves well in the 1st XV. when their time comes.

This session the younger classes have shown great enthusiasm for the game, and if only the upper classes would display an equal interest, there would be little cause for complaint.

The following 1st XV. "caps" have been awarded:—J. R. Myles, A. B. Barrie, P. D. Ritchie, and G. Wilkie.

Below is the list of scorers for the 1st XV.:—

Wenyon,		3	—	—	9
Fraser,		1	1	—	7
Barrie,		2	—	—	6
Davidson,		2	—	—	6
Myles,		1	—	1	6
Baxter,		1	—	—	3
Scott,		1	—	—	3

A. B. B.

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Those who have represented the School on the football field this session deserve a word of encouragement and of appreciation of services rendered. The side began the season with only four of last year's XV. to form a backbone. But they very quickly realised both their own shortcomings and their responsibilities as members of the 1st XV. and heirs of its traditions. Only very strong esprit-de-corps could have transformed the side of October's games into that of November's. The greater part of the season has yet to come and they may hope to redress and more than redress the balance of losses against them, if they maintain the recent rate of improvement.

One could hope for larger attendances at home matches. The value of "rugger" to the School can only be fully felt when the whole School is interested.

D. M. M.

Hockey.

This year's hockey season has started very well with a large and enthusiastic membership. The 1st XI. have played 7 matches, winning all but one, which was drawn (1-1) with the F.P.'s.

The first match of the season was against Perth Academy at home. The school played up well for a first match and came off victors by 6-1. Next we went to Broughty Ferry where we defeated Grove Academy 4-1.

The match against Morrison's Academy in Crieff on 27th October, although played under rather unfavourable weather conditions, was an interesting and hard fought one. Morrison's was leading 3-1 at half-time, but the end of the game found us with 4 more goals. The next week we defeated Harris Academy, 6-0 on our ground.

We visited Perth the following Saturday, and there played a splendid game on a frozen pitch, and again won by 6 goals to 5. Our next encounter was with the F.P.'s, which match is always an enjoyable one, and was even more so this year as we seemed so equal. The last match was played at our grounds where we defeated Grove Academy 9-1. The Schools' League final was to have been played on December 1st, but owing to the unsuitable weather, was postponed. Seven of our 1st XI. were chosen to play.

The 2nd XI. have a very full syllabus this season, and have already played 3 matches, 2 of which they have drawn. They have also one travelling match on the 2nd February, when they go to Perth to play the Academy 2nd XI.

We are exceedingly fortunate in having Miss Smith as our referee and coach, and feel that a great deal of our success as a club is due to her untiring energies and enthusiasm.

B. B. P.

Cadet Report.

The annual cadet camp at Cortachy was again a great success, the cadets enjoying brilliant weather for most of the fortnight. It was unfortunate, however, that Lieutenant M'Laren, owing to one of his attacks of malaria, was not able to take an active share in the proceedings for some part of our stay.

The Earl of Airlie, as usual, took a great interest in the camp, and one day the whole company were invited to tea with him in Cortachy Castle.

A boxing competition was held, under the auspices of Lieutenant M'Laren. The "heavy-weight" competition was won by Cprl. Cochran and the "light-weight" by Drummer Laird.

Towards the middle of the second week, the company was inspected by Major Ogilvie, attended by Colonel Smith and others, and was given a very satisfactory report on the drill; the meagre number in the ranks, however, was deplored by the inspecting officer. After the inspection, the visitors watched the finals of the boxing tournament. The company was then reformed and the winners presented with their prizes.

We were also paid an unofficial visit by Colonel Smith accompanied by Mr and Mrs Maclellan, when Mrs Maclellan made the following presentations:—A knife to Cadet Scott, J.B., for being the best gymnast in the company; a staff to Drum-major Kippen, to be the property of the cadet company; and a chanter to Pipe-Major Ross for being the best piper in the band.

A concert was arranged and carried through with great success by Ex-C.S.M. Blackwood. It, coupled

with the dance which followed, brought together a large audience, including the Earl of Airlie, himself.

The company has been brought up to much greater strength this year, there being fifty in the company and fifteen in the band, making a total of sixty-five all told.

The following promotions have been made:—

Sergt. Myles to be C.S.M.; Cadet Davidson to be Corporal; Cadet Ritchie to be Corporal; Cadet Lowdon to be Corporal; Cadet Baxter to be Corporal.

J. R. M.

Philatelic Society.

In spite of the difficulty of arranging the meetings to suit all members, the Society has had a successful season under the presidency of Mr Smith. During the term, interesting displays have been given by Mr Smith of early Australians and again of Austria and Belgium, by D. M'Kenzie in Germany, being incidentally an excellent story in stamps of the depreciating mark; by J. Spence of Cape of Good Hope. Although the membership shows a decrease from last year's figures the higher average degree of interest taken by the younger members in their hobby augers well for the future of the Club.

J. A. S.

Boys' Literary Society.

The Society has commenced another successful season. The membership has reached the very creditable figure of 93, and under the presidency of Mr Gillman, we have held the first eight meetings on our syllabus. A new feature has been introduced into our syllabus this year—namely, a joint discussion with the Girls' Society, to be held on February 16. A large attendance is expected, and it is hoped that some of the staff will be present.

The first meeting was held on October 6, when selections from literature were read by four members. The opening address was delivered to both Societies on October 13 by Prof. J. F. Gemmill, M.A., M.D., D.Sc., of U.C.D. His subject, "Biology in the Making," was listened to with great interest by an audience of well over 140, and the lecturer illustrated his points with excellent lantern slides. On October 20, a hotly discussed Hat Night was held. On Oct 27, a debate was held, the subject

being, "Was it better to live in Classical Times than in Modern Times?"—pro., Mr R. R. Davidson; con., Mr P. D. Ritchie. After much discussion, the meeting decided in favour of Mr Ritchie by 38 votes to 29. On Nov. 3, short papers were read by Mr G. A. Baxter, on the "Ku Klux Klan," and the Secretary, on "The Detective Story, from Dupin to Dixon Hawke."

On Nov. 10, four short papers were read by members of the Seventh Class—Mr M. Morrison on "Colour Printing," Mr D. Stalker on the "Past History of Dundee," Mr W. Taylor on "Dundee Street Names, and What They Tell Us," and Mr T. Richmond on the "First Railways." The next meeting, on Nov. 17, was the occasion of a Hat Night, much interesting discussion arising. On the same evening (the next meeting having had to be cancelled), the Eighth Class papers were read. Mr Fergus Greig read an excellent paper on "Advertisements," followed by Mr F. Stewart and Mr G. Roberts, whose subjects were, respectively, "Two Important Inventions in Wireless," and "The History of Dundee High School."

On Dec. 1, Mr Legge delivered a very enjoyable lecture to an open meeting on "Humour in Literature." The attendance was about 140, and Mr Legge's lecture was listened to with great interest. Many excellent quotations from humorous literature were read by the lecturer.

The average attendance this session, excluding open meetings, is 53, and the speaking, in general, has been of a high order. Our thanks are due to Mr Gillman for his very active interest in the doings of the Society.

P. D. R.

Girls' Literary Society.

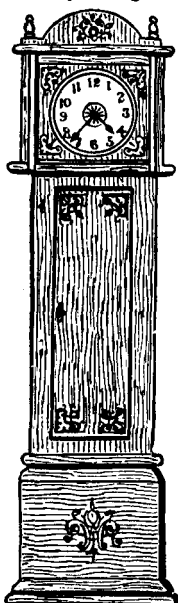
The Girls' Literary Society opened its season on Saturday, 13th October, with a joint meeting with the Boys' Society to hear a lecture delivered by Professor J. F. Gemmill, M.A., M.D., D.Sc., entitled "Biology in the Making." The lecturer gave an account of the men who had helped the advance of biology, and illustrated his lecture by many interesting slides. There was a large attendance, and the lecture was much appreciated.

Our first private meeting was held on 19th Oct.,

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**Dundee High School
Magazine**

when selected readings were given by several members of the society. The selections were varied in style and were much enjoyed by the members. On 2nd November, three papers were delivered by members of Class VIII. Miss Lumsden chose as her subject "Superstition," Miss Henderson "Ghosts," and Miss Angus gave an amusing paper entitled "Uncles and Aunts."

Our next meeting, on 9th November, was Hat Night. The questions were many and varied, and caused a good deal of lively discussion.

On the following Friday night, three papers were given by members of Class VII. Miss Soutar discussed "Legends," and gave interesting examples; Miss Donald gave an able paper on "The Tree of Liberty," which was planted in Dundee to commemorate the French Revolution; and a very original paper, in the form of a story entitled "Chink Chink Chinaman" was delivered by Miss Graham.

On Friday, 23rd November, a debate was held on the subject "Stage versus Screen." This gave rise to much keen discussion and some very good speaking on both sides. In the voting, "Screen" won by a narrow margin.

Another joint meeting was held on 1st December, when the societies were treated to a lecture on "Humour in Literature," by Mr Legge. The lecturer read and discussed many examples of humour and parodies from different authors to a large and enthusiastic audience.

We are now looking forward to the musical evening, which will be the last of our meetings for 1923.

Girl Guides.

Since the last issue of the Magazine, last session, the Guides have been a most energetic company indeed, and several changes have been made. First of all, there was of course Camp, the event of the Guide year to which we look forward most eagerly. This year, Camp was held from 30th June to 9th July, at Lintrathen, on ground kindly lent us by the minister. We should like here to express our gratitude for the most kind way in which Mr Strachan gave us his assistance, and for the kindly interest he showed in our doings.

The site, down by the burn-side, would have been, perhaps, rather low-lying in wet weather, but ex-

cept for one day, Saturday, 7th, the weather was ideal, so that one defect passed unnoticed save during our climb up the brae for provisions.

We left Dundee with the 8.35 train on the Saturday morning, and cycled from Alyth to Lintrathen, where we found that the lorry with the tents and kit had just arrived. After lunch, the tents were pitched: two bell tents, a marquee, and the officers' tent—and gradually the place assumed a more camp-like appearance. There were twelve Guides, the officers—Captain O. H. Smith and Lieutenant Jarvie—and Miss Crowe. The Guides were arranged in four patrols of three each, and to each patrol was assigned a particular duty each day, namely, cooks, mess orderlies, wood and water orderlies, or messengers, and this arrangement was approved of unanimously.

The programme for the day was as follows:—6.30 a.m.—Cooks get up, have cold dip, and get fire going; 7 a.m.—Reveille (when the rest also have a cold dip); 8.15 a.m.—Colours; 8.30 a.m.—Breakfast; 9.30-10.30 a.m.—Patrol duties and tents; 11 a.m.—Milk and biscuits; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.—Games (tracking, signalling, or netball) or bathe; 1 p.m.—Dinner; 2-3 p.m.—Patrol duties, rest; 3-4 p.m.—Free time; 4 p.m.—Tea; 5-7 p.m.—Bathe or cycle-run, etc.; 7 p.m.—Supper, followed by sing-song; 8.15 p.m.—Colours; 9.30—Lights out.

On Tuesday, 3rd July, the minister arranged to show us the beauties of the district, and accordingly we left camp at 3 o'clock. We walked to the Den of Airlie, where, among other things, we saw a magnificent waterfall known as the Slug of Auchrannie, and also the Bonnie Hoose o' Airlie. We were shown through the gardens of the house; then we continued our way to a most interesting old cave which we explored. Our homeward route led us up our own burn, past the Loups of Kenny (a deep ravine), back to camp at 8.30. Altogether we must have walked nearly ten miles, but we thoroughly enjoyed it. Another day, we set out to find the falls on the Isla, known as the Devil's Punchbowl, but did not get so far. However, we reached a very wonderful place called the Black Dubh, which is a very deep, wide pool, shut in by steep wooded banks. On Wednesday 4th, we had the pleasure of

a visit from the Rector and Mrs MacLennan, and Colonel T. H. Smith. It looked very like rain during tea-time, but fortunately only a few spots fell, and we were able to show our visitors the camp in all its beauty. During the week, several friends came up to see us, but visitors' day was on Saturday, 7th. The morning was spent even more busily than usual, and by two o'clock the camp and campers were all brushed up, and looking very neat and tidy. Scouts were sent along every approach to the camp, to show intending visitors the way, and at three o'clock the first visitors arrived—with the rain! For the next hour we were treated to a thunderstorm (it had been hanging over our heads all day), and tea, instead of being served in the open-air, under the trees, had to be hurriedly removed into the marquee. By five o'clock, however, the sun was shining once again, and the visitors were shown round the camp, now unfortunately not so tidy as it was originally. After the last visitor had gone, after supper, we had a sing-song and a dance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody. On both Sundays, there was a church parade, in the morning, when the whole company, except the cooks, turned out. On Monday 9th, tents were struck during the morning and everything was on the lorry by 1.30. The cycling party left at 2.15, and Camp (one of the best we have ever spent), was over for another year.

When school was resumed in September, a competition for which we had been working all summer, was held. It consisted of each patrol gathering wild flowers, ferns, etc., and arranging them in a book. This competition was won by the Robin Patrol with 77 marks, and their prize was a patrol shield, which will be held for one term and at the end of it awarded to the patrol having most marks for the term. Marks are gained for general neatness at inspection, for games and patrol work, and similar subjects. In addition, every now and then a competition is held between the patrols, on nature work, etc., to the winner of which the shield will be awarded. During this term we have been revising 2nd class work, and have had lectures on ambulance. We are all working hard now for a company shield, to be awarded in February to the company in Dundee showing

most proficiency in handcraft, nature work, company drill, and two games.

The company now has 39 members, under Captain O. H. Smith, and Lieutenants Jarvie and Sturrock. We are glad to have so many recruits this year, and to see the great keenness they evince in their work. A great number of them have already passed their second class test, while the others are hard at work for it. We would remind all girls that there is always a warm welcome for new members, and we hope that we will have many more recruits before the end of the session.

We are very pleased to welcome Lieutenant Sturrock to the company, and we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to our officers for the indefatigable way in which they have worked, and are working, for the good of the company.

Up to date, the company consists of five patrols which are as follows:—

Swallow Patrol—P.L. Petty Miller; 2nd, Hilda Peattie.

Robin Patrol—P.L., Edith Irvine; 2nd, Eileen Smith.

Nightingale Patrol—P.L., Ida Bell; 2nd, Alice White.

Woodpigeon Patrol—P.L., Molly Braid; 2nd, Winnie Peter.

Chaffinch Patrol—P.L., Nan Linton; 2nd, Lois Kippen.

E. W. M.

Swimming Club.

The club continues to hold its own, and the baths are fairly well patronised this year. A considerable number of pupils are interested in water polo, and are putting in quite a lot of practice, although much more is needed before they are efficient.

At the Boys' Brigade Swimming Gala the Dundee Schoolboys' Life-Saving Championship Shield was competed for, the School being represented by three teams. Rosebank School provided the opposition with one team. The first and second places were taken by the School, the winners being:—

1st {	Ian Gray.	2nd {	G. Blackwood.
	T. Richmond.		F. Greig.

The Life-Saving Class commences after the Christmas holidays, and it is to be hoped that a large class will be formed.



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