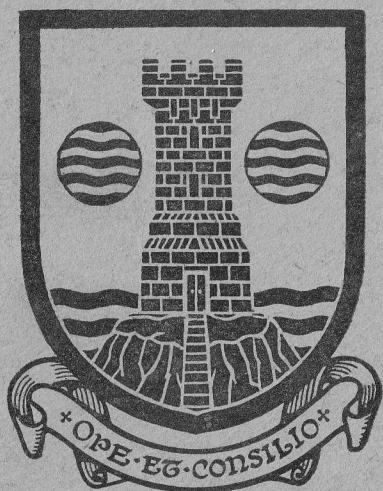


THE TOWER



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PORTOBELLO SECONDARY SCHOOL

JUNE 1960

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THE TOWER

EDITORIAL

EXAMINATIONS, prize-givings, galas, athletic contests and not least *The Tower*, bring to a conclusion yet another session. Our magazine is a necessity for it provides the link between pupils, past and present, as well as proffering an outlet for literary inventiveness. As always, there is wit and learning, mostly contributed this year by the younger pupils. The pages show a distinct lack of support from the Senior School—a distressing fact, since the character of a school tends to be fashioned by its older pupils. This lack of interest seems consistent with criticisms levelled in many quarters at today's typical teenagers.

We are accused of ignorance and indifference: we have lost the art of self-entertainment: we cannot debate sensibly, or articulate fluently: we merely progress *a verbis ad verbera*: we are the “smash-and-grab” generation; the crazy mixed-up jazz addicts, the ardent supporters of the gutter press and the television screen.

It is at this point that we of Portobello have the right to raise an objection. One glance through the succeeding pages will prove that if not literary, we are not lacking in interest in many athletic and intellectual pursuits. Are we then indifferent to the welfare of other sections of the community? This year, the senior pupils set about raising money for the “World Refugee Year.” A dance attended by a record clientele, and a musical revue, written, directed and executed by the pupils themselves, collected a sum amounting to nearly £70. The facts speak for themselves.

Now we leave you to browse over this edition. To all who have helped in the preparation of this edition, we offer our heartfelt thanks.

J. CROOKSTON, VI.

It has been the practice of several General Editors of *The Tower*, ourselves included, to publish a feature entitled "School Notes," a kind of diary of events of the session. This feature, we now feel, serves no useful purpose since in retrospect many of the items recorded have roused but ephemeral interest. Lately, too, there has been a tendency to report in greater detail, the many activities in which the School engages. This has inevitably led to unnecessary repetition, and we feel that "School Notes" can be discarded without loss to the magazine.

Some reference, however, to the more momentous events of the session is necessary if *The Tower* is to chronicle the events and express the prevailing mood of each session. In future we hope to realise these aims by selecting only the more important events of the session, and by presenting them in the Editorial feature with which each edition of *The Tower* is introduced.

Unquestionably the chief item of interest this year has been the announcement that the present school-building, which has served the area for so long, is to be replaced by a new one on the site of our present playing field. It is too early to comment on the nature of the new building since not enough about it is yet known, but if rumour is to be believed, it is certainly a case of the "old order yielding place to new." Whatever the future may hold, there are many on the staff now who would like to feel that the change is inevitable for the reason implicit in our quotation. Certainly in size, organisation and equipment, there will be little similarity between old and new, but education means more than material improvement, and we shall have the responsibility of carrying, from the old to the new, these educational values which we believe to be permanently valid. We must curb our impatience and restrain our misgivings, for another topic has vied with the new school for pride of place this session.

Plans to prepare courses, and schemes of work for the new Scottish Certificate of Education, have been going ahead for some time, and in the summer term parents of Second Year pupils were informed of the new regulations, and advised on the suitability of courses for their children. The new certificate marks a departure from the older conception of education, and is not without its critics. Again judgment must be suspended until the results are known. What can be safely forecast is that staff and pupils alike will have a busy time ahead of them.

The third topic of importance this session is the School Library. In our opinion this is the one topic this session which merits unqualified approval. The Librarian himself has something to say in these pages about the Library, but we would like

here to make two points. The first is that Mr Anderson and his assistants have brought to a conclusion the long and arduous task of developing the Library to its present state, and for so doing, deserve the gratitude of us all. It is difficult for the layman to appreciate just what is involved in the way of planning and execution. We hope that the Library Committee will assist the Librarian in his endeavours to make our Library a first-class one. Our second point is this. Despite a generous grant from the Education Committee, three times as many books, as at present, will be necessary before the School can contemplate having a lending library. We would, therefore, appeal to all F.P.'s and Staff, who have a real interest in the School, to send us gifts, either of books or of the means for providing books. Already such gifts have been received, and the Librarian has asked us to express his appreciation, and that of the School, for the generosity of donors. We hope it will not be long before everyone in the School can benefit from our Library.

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STAFF NOTES

OUR first note concerns Miss Joanna Darling, whose retirement took place at the beginning of the present session. Only the accident of an administrative reorganisation of the educational provisions in Portobello was responsible for the fact that Miss Darling ended her teaching career on the staff of Duddingston Primary School, and not on the staff of the School with which she had for so long been so distinctively connected. Both in Duddingston School and in our own School, ceremonies were held at which she received, with characteristic aplomb and humour, the tributes paid to her. We are proud to pay our respects to a colleague with such a record of efficient and distinguished service, and we offer her our warmest wishes for many years of happy retirement.

We record, with pleasure, two promotions on the staff. Earlier in the session Mr Burton, Technical Department, and, more recently, Miss Halley, Department of Classical Languages and Department of Modern Languages, were appointed Special Assistants.

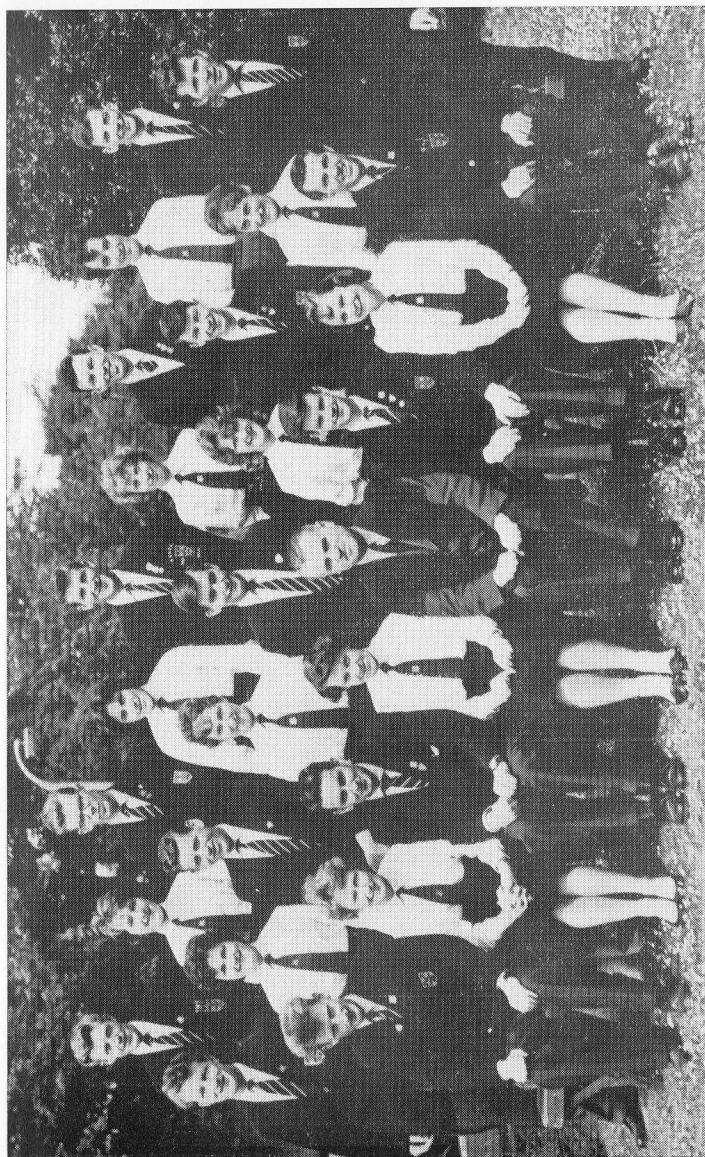
We have also to congratulate Mr Scott, Science Department, on the occasion of his marriage during the Easter holidays. At a Staff function at the end of the Spring Term, a presentation was made to Mr Scott. The Headmaster conveyed to him and his fiancée good wishes for the future, and we are glad of this opportunity to add the felicitations of *The Tower*.

Changes in staff have been relatively few. Mrs Dodds replaced Mr Mitchell in the Art Department: Mrs Mackenzie was appointed to the Geography Department. Before taking up her duties, her post was temporarily filled by Mr Lugton.

Miss Simm, Mathematics Department, left to take up a similar appointment in Forrester School. She has been replaced by Mr Ross, who is specially welcomed by the compiler of these notes, since he was a former colleague. Mr Laporte is assisting the Technical Department, and Miss Skinner and Mrs Alexander are at present in charge of our Prep. classes. To all these new members of staff, we offer a cordial welcome, and we express the hope that they will enjoy their sojourn with us.

To Miss E. Darling and Miss Parnell, both of whom have been victims of illness during the year, we offer our hope for full recovery to good health.

As we go to print, we have learned of the impending departure of Miss Watt of the Science Department. Only last year at this time we were welcoming her to the staff. Now she is leaving to take up research work in the Western General Hospital. We



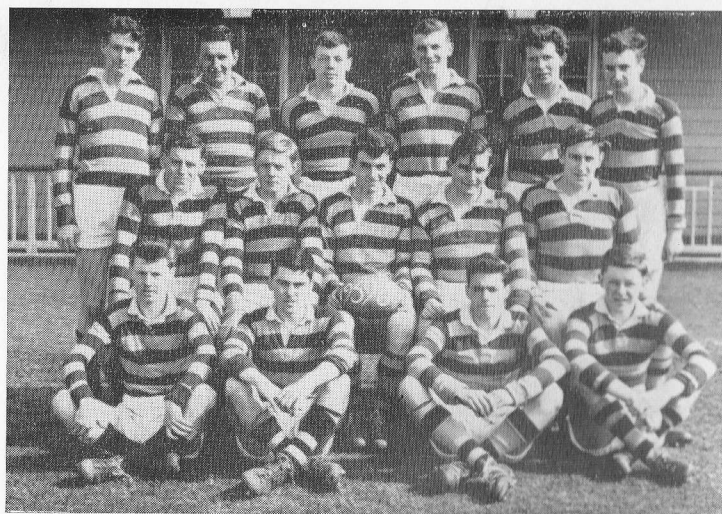
Back Row—J. BAXTER, E. WILLIAMS, I. HOPE, N. ROBERTSON, N. THOMSON, J. CROOKSTON, T. PATTERSON, M. KANE,
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Front Row—J. SUTHERLAND, H. VASS, J. BRADFORD, I. CURRAN.

THE TOWER

5

hope she has been happy here, and we can assure her that she leaves with our cordial wishes for a happy and successful future.

Mr Alexander's staff has had several changes since last session. Mr Macdonald and Mr Watters, who were with us then, have gone to other appointments. In their place we welcome Mr Archibald and Mr Given.

MISS JOANNA DARLING

Miss JOANNA DARLING, when she retired from teaching last September, was no longer a member of the Staff of Portobello School, but her association with it was so long that we cannot allow her retiral to go unrecorded in the School Magazine.

She was a pupil of the School and later returned to the teaching staff of the Infant Department, where she taught for twenty-five years, with one short interval when the School was reorganised in 1939. She was transferred to another part, but about a year later she returned to Portobello, where she remained until another reorganisation in 1958 removed her to the new Duddingston School.

Miss Darling has been known, respected and admired by large numbers of pupils whose earliest recollections of the School have their background in her classroom. They remember her thoroughness, her firmness and her insistence on a high standard, both of work and of general deportment and appearance. She achieved such a standard, and many a distinction at a later stage has owed much to the foundations which she laid. Many of the parents of her pupils have spoken in the highest terms of their indebtedness to her.

Her attachment to this School was very strong and deep, and it is no exaggeration to say that she sacrificed promotion to her desire to serve in Portobello. A School is fortunate, indeed, which evokes such loyalty and which receives, as a result, such conscientious, expert and devoted service as was given by Miss Darling.

We hope that she will be happy in her retirement and that we shall often see her on School occasions.

MISS JOAN SIMM, M.A.

IT was with the greatest regret that the School lost the services of Miss Simm at Easter 1960. During the years she spent as a mathematics teacher in the School, she not only proved herself to be a first-rate teacher, but also took a very great interest in the

general welfare of her pupils. Full of vigour and *joie de vivre*, she took a full part in all School activities both during and outside School hours. Those of us who were with the School party to Paris in 1958 will remember how much she contributed to the success of the trip.

We wish Miss Simm every success and happiness in her new post and we think that Forrester School is indeed fortunate in acquiring the services of a teacher with such skill and experience.

THE SCHOOL "EN VACANCE"

I

The Cairngorms 1959

BETWEEN the Forest of Rothiemurchus to the north and the valley of the Dee to the south, and from Glen Avon in the east to Glen Fleshie in the west, lies the largest expanse of mountainous country in the whole of Britain. In this area of almost 300 square miles can be found a variety of scenery unmatched in this country for its grandeur.

Here sprawl the massive Cairngorms where the snow never melts and can always be found in large patches even at the height of summer. Here on the plateau of Braeriach a trickle of water flows from the ground; we have found the source of the River Dee. Here, too, are some of the last surviving remnants of the magnificent Caledonian Forest which once covered vast tracts of Scotland.

In the very heart of this remoteness lies Loch Avon, grim and forbidding when the mist hangs low on the cliffs of Cairn Etchachan, but colourful and welcoming on those rare days when the sun shines.

To the threshold of this land of promise trudged our party, one fine July day, and installed itself in Derry Lodge. Situated four miles from the Linn of Dee and ten miles from Braemar, the Lodge is ideal as a base for exploring the entire area.

Although not all members of the party climbed every day, at the end of the week we had quite an impressive "scorecard."

Fourteen separate mountains had been climbed all exceeding 3,000 feet in height and four of these rising to over 4,000 feet in height. This included the second, third and fourth highest peaks in the country. In addition to this, we had traversed fifteen

subsidiary "tops" of these main summits. Our total mileage from the Lodge was 107 and daily mileages ranged from 12 to 20. Each day we arranged 3,500 feet of climbing with a total climbing height of 24,451 feet.

These unfeeling statistics hide many a blister, many an aching limb and more than a few sinking hearts, as each successive summit revealed yet another, or as at each turn of the path, the weary miles still stretched unendingly ahead, with "home" just as far away as ever.

To obtain a true appreciation of this holiday a few details of our domestic life at the Lodge are necessary.

Derry Lodge is leased to the Cairngorm Climbing Club to whom we most gratefully acknowledge our thanks. Adequate comfort is provided in the bedrooms, while the lounge, with its log fire, comfortable chairs and Calor gas lighting, added a touch of luxurious living to our evenings.

After long days spent in the open air, food became our main pre-occupation. Large quantities of it were delivered from Braemar, and with very good cooking facilities and a vast wealth of culinary skill—which manifested itself increasingly as the days passed, we were able to restore our weary bodies to health and strength.

All members of the party, divided into groups, shared in the various duties of cooking, fire-lighting, chopping wood, carrying coal and generally running our temporary home.

Of our many excursions to the hills, perhaps the most enjoyable was that to Braeriach and Cairn Toul.

Our way lay past the shoulder of Carn Crom to the site of the former Parker Bridge, washed away in the floods of 1956, and now a wilderness of boulders through which flows the Luibeg Burn.

We crossed and climbed around the base of Carn A'Mhaim and into the Lairig Ghru. This well-known pass cleaves the Cairngorms from Rothiemurchus to White Bridge. In the winter, when the snow lies deep, the route is difficult and often impassable. When we passed through, the sun was shining and the usually grim Lairig presented a more cheerful aspect.

On we walked past the Allt Clach Nan Taillear flowing from the plateau of Ben Macdhui. Here tradition has it that three tailors perished in the snow one New Year's Eve. Having wagered that they would dance a reel in Rothiemurchus and in Braemar on the same night, they performed the first part and set out through the Lairig for Braemar only to succumb when

most of the ordeal was over. The stream was afterwards known as the "Burn of the Tailors' Stone."

The path now climbs up to the Pools of Dee within a few yards of the highest point of the Pass and here we rested.

Now the climbing started, and soon we reached the Cairn of Sron Na Lairig and turned south for Braeriach, the third highest mountain in the country. Passing the wreckage of a crashed aircraft, we changed our course to the west and soon stood beside the summit cairn perched on the edge of the cliffs and surely one of the most impressive summits in the Cairngorms.

Our way now led across the plateau to the Wells of Dee where we saw the source of the River Dee as it seeped from its spring in the ground, to flow for a few hundred yards and then disappear from view over the edge of the cliff.

Cairn Toul was our next objective and as we climbed, we looked down on Lochan Uaine lying high in the little corrie on the Northern face. Here at the summit cairn we rested and admired the almost perfect views of mountain and valley stretching for miles around.

Now we were ready to descend to the col beneath Devil's Point, the last climb of the day. From the Point there is a magnificent view of the Lairig and here we sat until thoughts of dinner overcame our aesthetic appreciation and drove us down the hill to Corrour Bothy. At this point the Dee was once spanned in previous years by a bridge of two single wires, one for the feet and one for the hands. Now the fun has been taken from this crossing and a very new solid erection leaves no trace of former hazards.

At this point we joined the start of the Lairig path and followed it until the pine forest surrounding the Lodge came into view and we knew that home was within our reach. Behind us lay twenty miles of walking and 4,425 feet of climbing. Ahead lay the prospect of a good dinner and a restful evening by the fire.

There is no space to describe the ascent of Ben Macdhuì, the trip to the Shelter Stone at Loch Avon, the climb on the Forefinger Pinnacle or the drenching when the heavens opened on Cairngorm. These and other experiences must pass unrelated.

This trip to the Cairngorms was conceived principally as a holiday venture. It was never intended that we should turn the boys and girls into mountaineers in one week. If they have learned in this brief apprenticeship that the hills must be treated with great respect, that the interests of the party come before any selfish desires, and that by careful use of map and compass, one

may climb with safety on the mountains, then perhaps this holiday will have had some lasting value.

Some may never climb again, but to those who do, may I hope that "Prudence" will always be with them. Never leave her at home!

The success of such a venture rests on the team, and in Mr Baggaley, Mr Weaver and Mr Henriksen, I could have asked for none better. Proof of this lies in the fact that I myself enjoyed such a wonderful holiday. My sincere thanks go to them for their willing co-operation.

At the beginning of July our second party leaves for Derry Lodge.

A. D. C.

II

LOIRE ATLANTIQUE, 1960

JUST north of the vast estuary of the Loire, on a wide shallow bay, stands La Baule, surely the most attractive seaside town on the west coast of Brittany. Here, between miles of sandy beach stretching between low cliffs, and a thick belt of sweet-smelling pine woods, we were to spend three wonderful weeks of our summer holidays.

After a pleasant, if uneventful, journey from Edinburgh we arrived in St. Malo and boarded the coach which was to give many of us our first glimpse of typical French countryside. We toured through many medieval towns; we passed peasant farms; so that when we finally arrived on the outskirts of La Baule, we had learned a great deal about the Breton way of life. But we were unprepared for the beauty of the town in which we were to live. The streets were sandy and scrupulously clean, bordered on all sides by white villas with gaily-coloured shutters. The gardens surrounding them were filled with hydrangeas, flowers we see growing at home only in the festival season.

But we were not left to contemplate the scenery for long. The coach turned into a winding drive bordered by pine trees, and in a few minutes we arrived at the "lycée" which was to be our home for three weeks.

In La Baule we spent the greater part of our time sun-bathing because of the wonderful climate and the beautiful beach. But we seized every opportunity of exploring the many souvenir shops whose proprietors were always eager to be helpful and whose patience with our stumbling efforts to converse with them

did a great deal to overcome the language barrier. This friendliness was evident even when we went on a coach tour to Quiberon for the day; the gaily-coloured Breton people, many of whom were in national costume, were always ready to make us feel quite at ease. It was on this tour that we saw the famous prehistoric stone formations at Carnac.

As the whole party agreed, the trip to La Baule was indeed a memorable one for which we owe our sincere appreciation to Mr Brown and Miss Marshall.

M. K., VI.

III

SWISS HOLIDAY, 1960

FOR the second year in succession a School trip was organised to Saas-Fee, a charming little village in Southern Switzerland. The party of sixty-five pupils and five teachers left Edinburgh for London after a delay of two hours. A film was to be made for the travel agency which dealt with all our arrangements, and, after a short visit to the Houses of Parliament we met the camera crew at Victoria Station.

The Channel-crossing and our subsequent journey on the "Great European Express" through Calais, Lille, Mannheim to Basle passed without incident.

We arrived in Basle, the gateway to Switzerland, at 5.30 a.m. on a Sunday morning. The remainder of our journey which lasted another six hours, was through magnificent scenery—flower-studded meadows, beautiful lakes, waterfalls cascading down the deeply-eroded mountain sides and the coniferous forests covering the lower slopes of the huge, silver-topped mountains.

On our arrival we found Saas-Fee to be a trim, picturesque village on the very threshold of the realm of eternal ice and snow, the focal point of a glorious alpine landscape. The verdant pastures and deep larchwoods, backed by glaciers and peaks rising to over fifteen thousand feet, provide an idyllic scene. Yet despite its isolated position and its "old-world charm," Saas-Fee has kept abreast of the times, providing all the amenities of an up-to-date Swiss mountain resort, yet making no concessions to artificiality. Motor traffic comes to a stop on the outskirts of the village, thus excluding noise and dust from the narrow pavements and peaceful paths.

When the party had settled at the hotel and had had their skis fitted, a short trial on the nursery slopes followed. The five days which followed took on a similiar pattern; ski instruction in the morning, an excursion by ski in the afternoon for the more energetic or, for those of a more sedentary nature, sight-seeing or sunbathing. The ski-instructors were on the whole extremely pleasant, excellent skiers and all bilingual. Gradually as the holiday progressed, our proficiency at ski-ing increased, and some pupils endeavoured to pass their Bronze Test. This entailed repeating all the positions and manoeuvres that had been shown during the week. A few pupils succeeded and were rewarded by a certificate, a badge and the satisfaction derived from the knowledge that they had reached a reasonable standard of ski-ing.

All too soon the holiday came to an end and the long thirteen hundred mile journey home began. A stop in Berne, the Swiss capital, was most enjoyable. This is a beautiful city with covered shopping arcades, many statues and fountains, a bear-pit and the Parliament buildings. Our arrival in Edinburgh was particularly dismal; an overcast sky and strong wind, sharply in contrast to the lovely weather we had enjoyed in Switzerland.

Everyone had enjoyed the holiday, and had benefited from the equable climate, the exercise, and the continental food. Our thanks are due to the members of the Staff and the "School Travel Service," who all contributed to making the holiday an outstanding success.

K. M., VI.

SKI-ING

Ski-ing is such jolly fun,
Up and down the slopes.
The snow is glistening in the sun,
And gladdening all our hopes.

The sky so blue, the peaks so white,
Beautiful in all.
And from a hut way up high,
We hear a distant call.

And now at night a blanket falls,
Covering the earth beneath.
How silently the world it sleeps,
And quivers not a leaf.

LOURRAINE TAIT, 1B2.

AMERICA—"THE QUALITY OF THE IDEA"

"America, having about it still the quality of the idea was harder to utter . . . It was a willingness of the heart."

IT has been my very good fortune during the past year to learn something of the United States by living with an American family and by attending school there. This was made possible by the award of an American Field Service Scholarship.

The A.F.S. was founded in 1915 as an ambulance service with the French armies. The idea of a peace-time programme to promote friendship among all nations, was developed after the Second World War, and this year, 1959-60, students between the ages of sixteen and eighteen from nearly forty countries are living in the U.S.A., all of them sponsored by the A.F.S., now an educational organisation with no affiliations to any religious, political, or other body. Among the ninety-nine students from thirteen countries who travelled in our party from Rotterdam, two were Scots.

When we reached New York, the Director-General of A.F.S., Stephen Galatti, came aboard to welcome us. I was one of those selected to meet him. Subsequently, I was driven to La Guardia Airport from which I flew to the heart of America, to Kansas City, Missouri, where my American family were all waiting to greet me. I knew at once that I was fortunate beyond dreams.

John W. Oliver is a brilliant young attorney with a lovely, talented wife who is particularly interested in education. They have four children, John (18) a student at Swarthmore College, Trudy (17) President of the Student Council and in my class at school (Sunset Hill), Jane (14) who reminds me very much of my own sister, and David (7) a mischievous but adorable younger brother. The Olivers are a remarkable family, intellectually exciting, whose wonderful conversations will always remain among my most vivid memories.

Before coming to the U.S.A., I had heard of the isolationism of the Middle West. Let me say, as a Scot, that I have found more isolationism and insularity in the Home Counties of England than in America. I know that I have been supremely fortunate in my American "family" and in the community in which I have spent this year, but the "quality of the idea" and "the willingness of the heart," are still extant.

The United States is an immense Federation, with a tremendous variety, owing to the autonomy and power of the State

SCHOOL PLAY—ACT 1



"I AM JENNET JOURDEMAYNE AND I BELIEVE IN THE HUMAN MIND."

SCHOOL PLAY—ACT III



"AND SO YOU'LL KILL HER."

SCHOOL LIBRARY



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governments. One travels through differing communities of great hustling cities; over silent, boundless-seeming prairies to dramatic vistas, the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains; along the Middle West by the Missouri on which stand the twin cities, Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, south from the Great Lakes and the Great River,

“Rolling and shouting
Till at last it is Mississippi
The Father of Waters, the matchless; the great flood
Dyed with the earth of states; with the dust and the sun
and the seed of half the states.”

The people show traces of all the ancient races, and in a crowd one is conscious of the difference from a British crowd, or even from a crowd during the Edinburgh Festival. In an international audience in Edinburgh, one notices and distinguishes races. Here one notices and distinguishes racial traces, over which something intangible, indefinable is superimposed. These are Americans.

The very atmosphere is different. Instead of our soft, north-land light, the air is hard, bright and stimulating. There is little twilight, and the fiery, red sunsets throw trees and scraggy bushes into lovely silhouettes. Unexpected by me was the abundance of lovely trees in Kansas City, glorious when I arrived in their “fall” colours. The robins are of a different species, and beautiful red cardinals, squirrels, raucous possums and chipmunks are everywhere, right here in the City. Outside, one still sees herds of buffalo.

The people are warm-hearted and hospitable, interested in a wide variety of activities, and full of enthusiasm. Kansas City has its own Philharmonic Orchestra which plays once a week with celebrated guest soloists such as Milstein, the violinist, and Van Clyburn, the pianist. Opera commands sufficient interest to support a season of four weeks, and Maria Callas paid a visit last winter. There are various theatrical groups, and I was particularly happy to see the Lunts. Of the readings and poetry recitals, it was a most memorable and thrilling experience to sit in Rockhurst College, in the heart of America, and hear Robert Frost read his poems.

The Art Gallery has a fine collection of oriental art, and special exhibitions are arranged. Each Sunday, one may see here, free of charge, films of note, such as “Oedipus Rex” or “The Brothers Karamazov.”

A foreign student's life is not completely carefree. One must

go to school. "Sunset Hill" is a girls' private school with about three hundred pupils between the ages of four and eighteen. The standard is, compared with the average American school, high, and the work offers a challenge. Curricula and methods of teaching differ from those of our own schools. A Scottish student notices that all girls from the age of fifteen wear make-up; from the age of sixteen most have cars! Pupils are much less formal towards teachers and have a great deal to say in class. Parents take a keen interest and a big part in school activities. I was elected class representative to the Student Council, an honour which especially delighted me. I have been shown so much kindness by the staff and the girls. There are many more extra-curricular activities than at home.

In addition, an A.F.S. student has to attend luncheons, dinners and dances, sit on panels and make speeches: The kindness of the audiences, the warmth and interest towards Scotland and Edinburgh have made speaking more pleasant than I could have believed. I have made friends among all denominations, Christian and non-Christian. The service in the Presbyterian Church is more akin to that of St. Giles than to that of a small parish Church.

This is Election Year in the U.S.A., but I cannot tell you who will be President, and I shall not commit myself as Democrat or Republican! It would be cowardly to ignore racial prejudice in America, and in Missouri the attitude of the people varies.

Segregation of black and white is more marked in the south. I shall not try to deal with the problem in the space available, but I should like to tell you of two negroes whom I know. The first is an A.F.S. student, a brilliant scholar and a fine organist. After many years of complete freedom in France he has found it strange to return here to find certain buildings and organisations barred to him. But he remembers also that he is here on a scholarship awarded to him by Americans.

The second, Christine, was the Oliver's maid, fat, jolly, optimistic, generous, a great talker, lovable and loving—but really rather lazy. At Christmas she spent much more than she could afford to give me a compact and beautiful pillow-cases for my "hope chest." The rest of the family got nothing!

I shall graduate from "Sunset Hill School" in June, wearing cap, gown and four yellow roses. Before I return home to be an insignificant fresher at Edinburgh University, I join other A.F.S. students for a three weeks' tour of the Eastern States.

What shall I remember with most pleasure—a ranch in the Rockies, fabulous Colorado, Oklahoma land of Indians, the

prairies and the towns, the University of Kansas, Kansas City, Independence, St. Louis where the Missouri and the Mississippi meet, skyscrapers, Frank Lloyd Wright buildings, parks, rodeos, entertainments, music, opera, drama? I shall remember most the people and the love and fellowship I have found so far from home. I am grateful to Portobello School and to the Staff who made this wonderful year possible. They would believe in "the Quality of the Idea."

They equipped me to play my small part in the A.F.S. whose motto they would subscribe to:—"Walk together, talk together, O ye peoples of the earth, for then and only then will there be peace."

PATRICIA MORGAN.

A ROW OF HOUSES

They are building a row of little white houses
And trimming them brown and green.
They each look alike, these little white houses,
But soon where the mud has been
A garden will grow,
A tree will be set.
There'll be shrubs in a row,
And sweet mignonette.
The children will run
In laughing variety.
Grandma, in the sun,
Will crave youthful society.
The cockers will roam
And each little home
Will take on distinctive and definite charm.
Over the fence when the weather is warm,
Young mothers will gossip and speak of their young;
And so many lullaby songs will be sung,
With every good neighbour intent on his mowing,
And sowing, and growing,
Nobody will say:
The builders who built these little white houses
Made each one the same!
They'll be just as varied, these little white houses,
As the people who came!

ANN SMITH, 2A1.

"THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING"

OF all Fry's plays, "The Lady's not for Burning" is the one most likely to appeal to a company of youthful actors, for its theme is a passionate affirmation of the power of life and love to overwhelm the forces which assail it. The language of the play is extravagantly expressive, sometimes vigorously aggressive, sometimes poetically intense; always revelling in pun and paradox. The action of the play is for the most part quick-moving, and even the extravagancies of dialectic and poetry scarcely interfere with the movement, for Fry is a man of the theatre, with a good eye for the effective entrance or exit, a good ear for the dramatic line of dialogue, and an unerring instinct for the telling situation.

This rumbustious witch-hunt, then, offered a good challenge to the Dramatic Society when they presented the play in Duddingston Primary School Hall last summer on 10th and 12th June.

The cast was as follows:—

Richard, an orphaned clerk	- - -	IAN MITCHELL.
Thomas Mendip, a discharged soldier	-	JAMES BURGESS.
Alizon Eliot	- - - -	{ NORMA ROBERTSON.
		{ ALISON FLOCKHART.
Nicholas Devize	- - - -	TOM PATTERSON.
Margaret Devize, mother of Nichol	-	{ DOROTHY MOORE
		{ JUNE LANG.
Humphrey Devize, brother of Nicholas		NORMAN WILSON.
Hebble Tyson, the Mayor	- - -	JAMES CROW.
Jennet Jourdemayne	- - -	{ PATRICIA MORGAN.
		{ JOYCE CROOKSTON.
The Chaplain	- - -	DAVID ARSCOTT.
Edward Tappercoom, a Justice	- -	JOHN REID.
Matthew Skipps	- - - -	DONALD MACKAY.

Despite what has been said about the appeal of this play to young people, it is not on that account an immature drama. Far from it: for all its gusto and extravagance, it is a difficult play to present convincingly. The dramatic situations require an appreciation of irony, and an insight into character, far beyond the ability of young people. What was surprising was the extent to which the cast did succeed in realising the play. Nor was this success due to competence in the obviously amusing scenes, those involving the Mayor, the Chaplain, Tappercoom, and Skipps, all of whom were admirably portrayed by the actors.

Success in this play depends upon the performances of the two characters to whom is confided the main dramatic conflict, Mendip and Jennet. The performances of James Burgess, Patricia Morgan and Joyce Crookston, were especially praiseworthy. Burgess was an aggressive, compelling and virile Mendip, with a strong, hard ring in his voice which was, however, flexible enough to cover a wide range of volume and pitch: a mature, convincing performance, this.

The two Jennets were especially interesting. Patricia Morgan, the more poetic of the two, with an aura of the fey about her, almost convinced us that despite her protestations, she might indeed be a witch, or at least a medieval enchantress; every inch an alchemist's daughter. The other portrayal of the character was no less effective. This was a different, but equally authentic realisation of a character who reminded us, that if her father was an alchemist, he was also a scientist. The strength of the portrayal of this character on its intellectual side offered, perhaps, a more spirited dialectic challenge to Mendip.

The contrast and effectiveness of character realisation exhibited by the two Jennets was also evident in the other players who provided a plausible selection of medieval personages.

To mount a play of this kind requires the controlling hand of a sensitive but firm producer, and sensitivity and firmness were certainly in evidence. The producer is to be congratulated on the way in which she inspired her cast to interpret the various roles.

The stage set was attractive, evoking the period "1400 either more or less exactly," and the costumes were imaginative and realistic, with a satisfying effect of colour contrast.

If, however, the Duddingston stage is used again for dramatic productions, some attention should be paid to lighting from the floor of the stage. It was too easy for the faces of the characters "to disappear" into unnecessary shadows.

Everyone connected with this enterprise has every reason to be pleased with the result. May I close with a quotation from a speech delivered by Alizon Eliot? She is commenting on the strangeness of men:

*"It's almost unexpected
To find they speak English."*

It's an apt quotation: it's my favourite.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES

THE main event to record this year has been the official opening of the Library which took place last term. However, before that happened, much useful work was done by groups of senior pupils who classified, catalogued, and otherwise prepared for library use, the large number of books which were ordered for the Library last session. Room 30 was decorated in a bright, but tasteful colour scheme, and linoleum was laid down. Book-cases and other items of library furniture were duly installed.

The Library was formally opened on Friday, 4th March 1960, by Councillor Mrs Matthews, a member of the Education Committee and one of our school visitors. The Headmaster and Staff were joined on the occasion by three guests, our Chaplain, the Rev. Mr Robson, Mr J. M. Nicol, Headmaster of Torphichen Street Commercial Institute, and Mr A. Balfour, who represented the F.P. Club. The Captains and Vice-Captains of the School were also present.

During the first two weeks of the S.L.C. examinations, the Library was made available during school hours as a study room for the candidates. This proved a very successful experiment and will be repeated again next year.

On Monday, 2nd May, the Library was opened for reference and study to certain members of senior classes who had been allotted private study periods. It is hoped that this will be an improvement on the old system, whereby senior pupils often had to do individual work in classrooms where junior classes were under instruction.

It is intended that the Library will, in the near future, enable pupils to borrow books for home reading. No decision has yet been reached as to the exact date when this policy may be implemented.

The Library is undoubtedly a great asset to the School, and we owe a debt of gratitude to the Education Committee which arranged for the decoration and furnishing of the room and gave a grant of £500 for the purchase of books. Our thanks were conveyed to Councillor Mrs Matthews at the formal opening.

A great amount of work has been done to get the Library into working order and the School is indebted to many people: the Headmaster and members of the Library Committee who have been responsible for planning; members of Staff who assisted in the task of book selection; friends of the School, members of Staff and pupils who donated books; Mrs Burchell, Mrs Jamieson and girls doing Commercial Courses who typed catalogue cards; Mr Wisely and boys from the Technical Department, who have been engaged in carrying out modifications to the book cases; members of Staff who have volunteered to do

Library supervision; Mr MacArthur and the Art Department, who provided the Library with pottery and pictures; Mr Alexander who was involved in a lot of work connected with the decorating and furnishing of the Library; and last but by no means least, the large number of former and present pupils who have put in many hours of work, much of it outside school hours, preparing the books for the shelves.

R. M. A.

THE FIGGATE BURN

My source beyond the golf course lies,
Through Duddingston I run,
'Neath the snow and ice of winter
And the brilliant summer sun;

By waterfalls and bridges,
And the old mill's blackened walls,
Past Fred the watchie's cosy shack
Where the Parkie often lolls.

Beside the Figgate Pond I flow,
A haunt of swans and ducks,
Then below the mighty railway bridge
With its noisy clattering trucks.

I pass a dirty bottleworks
And Rosefield putting green,
Then disappear into a drain,
As houses intervene.

I emerge beside the Swimming Pool,
Then sweep across the shore,
Where I join the North Sea's salty depths,
My journey now is o'er.

HAMISH CARLISLE, 2A1.

THE HORIZON

Sky and sea, and sea and sky,
Greens and blues of every shade,
Fleecy clouds and rippling tide,
Sand so white, so smoothly laid,

Words are weak, so very weak,
No man could ever hope to tell,
No artist's brush could ever express
The wondrous scene God paints so well.

LORNA MUCKELL, 2B1.

A COUNTRY FAIR

BRIGHT lights winked saucily in the distance, enticing inquisitive travellers with their brightness: indistinct sounds baffled my ears: screams of pleasure floated down from a high tower.

Lured by this attack on my senses I hastened through the sticky, summer night to Craddock's meadow and the fair, which had taken possession of the field.

The source of the sounds revealed itself and as I drew nearer I could distinguish two popular records hurtling abuse at each other from neighbouring booths.

Hideous faces scowled down from the entrance to the Ghost Train. I was in a new world. A strange garish world of cacophony, candy floss, cheap china dogs and gaudy caravans: a world of eager voices; a place where laughter and happiness ruled.

I wandered among the flashy stalls where it seemed that even the vaguest interest elicited a seductive "Come on dearie! Try your luck!" or "Come on, lad, a prize every time!"

As my main delight is to roll pennies down the slots, I resisted the temptation of the other stalls and looked for the one that would gratify my desire. Five minutes later, I found the object of my quest, a bright, amber-lit booth. A girl of about twenty, whose fair hair bespoke a peroxide bottle, was in attendance. I changed sixpence into coppers and began to play.

I came away poorer by fourpence and began again my amble round the ground in search of new diversions.

At last I found something which was too good to be resisted and I walked into a rather dilapidated "Hall of Mirrors." All around me happy faces proclaimed the enjoyment of the spectators. I stood in front of one mirror and became a second Lou Costello, moved down the line and rapidly diminished into a dwarf. When I reached the last mirror I had been metamorphosed into more forms than would have been in the power of a medieval magician.

Outside, I was again caught up in a swirl of revellers. Exhortation from left and right to "Have a go, son, you can't lose," once more assailed my unheeding ears. I hurried on, past the "Dancing Dubarry's," "Madam Fifi, Genuine French Clairvoyant," who was also in fact in charge of the coconut shy, past angry "dodgems" and out into the less turbulent air of the lane. I did not care that my pockets were empty or that I had been overcharged on the "Ghost Train." I had enjoyed myself.

CLIVE BURTON, V.

HYMENOPTEROLOGY

HYMENOPTEROLOGY is the complex yet fascinating study of the most gregarious and highly organised form of insect life. It is the science and art of beekeeping. Because bees are extremely sensitive creatures, this subject demands a tremendous amount of observation and study from the serious student.

There are approximately sixty thousand bees in a mature hive, which can be likened to a diminutive model of the ideal Communist state. The worker bee will willingly kill herself by stinging or attacking any adversary or destroyer of the hive.

The bees gather round the queen who is guarded and tended by young bees. Her function is the sole one of laying eggs; she is sole reproducer of the generations of worker bees, who in the season have a life span of about six weeks. The problem of having two queens in the hive is resolved either by a swarm, headed by the old queen, or by an out-and-out combat between the rival rulers.

The queen bee is in fact an ordinary worker bee, female, artificially enlarged and developed by her fellow workers. The hatched queen can only lay female eggs, and in order to lay male eggs, she must be fertilised by a drone. He is the gross, lazy, and stingless male bee. Fertilisation takes less than a second and results in the drone's death. The queen merely leaves the hive pursued by all the drones and she is then fertilised by the winner of the drone race. When the other unsuccessful drones return to the hive, they are cruelly and unscrupulously tortured. The queen is now able to lay at least one thousand eggs per day for three or four years after which time she is killed and ejected from the hive since she is no longer of any use to the community.

A colony of bees also has an effective guard, and robber bees and other foreign creatures are instantly tortured and killed. It is quite common for a field-mouse to seek the shelter of the hive when the bees are clustered in their winter hibernation. Such a trespasser is cruelly stung to death and then embalmed in a cocoon of wax, propolis and other substances excreted from their bodies. The corpse is expelled from the hive in the spring.

As far as we know, bees have very little sight, although they may have some hearing. Communication is effected in a manner not unlike their human, jazz and "beatnik" counterparts. This is mainly by dancing and fanning of their wings. Indeed, by dancing a certain step in the appropriate direction of the sun they can give the exact spot of a place rich in honey or warn the hive of approaching danger. Their dance steps and figures are as intricate as those illustrated in Victor Sylvester's Dance Books.

It has been already mentioned that beekeeping is a complex craft, and consequently the proficient bee keeper should, among other things, be an expert, able to judge the psychology of his stocks and to prophesy the pattern of behaviour in the respective colonies.

Beekeeping on a small scale is not exceedingly lucrative in a monetary sense. But it is an extremely interesting and rewarding subject to the really persevering honey farmer who reaps his annual harvest of fresh Scotch Honey, unsurpassed throughout the world for its own singular characteristics and flavour.

GORDON MACKIE, V.

DALHOUSIE CASTLE

DALHOUSIE CASTLE is exactly fifteen miles from Edinburgh. It stands in the middle of a thick forest. Nearby is a quarry from which came the material for building the Castle. The owner is the Earl of Dalhousie, who is at present in Northern Rhodesia.

The Castle was built in the eighteenth century. As you enter the main door, you find yourself in a large hall. Facing you is a semi-circular staircase. On three sides of the hall there are built-in closets, in which knights' armour used to stand. Fifty feet above the door there is a stag's head. As you proceed up the great staircase, you come to two huge banquetting halls and two staircases, one leading to the upper floors and other to the lower.

The upper floors consist of one hundred and fifty bedrooms, one hundred bathrooms and ten huge halls in which meetings and all forms of entertainment were held. There are also eight balconies and five libraries.

The lower part of the Castle has two enormous kitchens in which are huge black grates, a heating system, a meat closet, a wine closet and a food closet. Beside the kitchens are the staff quarters. Under the kitchens and the staff quarters are the dungeons, consisting of a dozen cells in which prisoners were kept. Next to the huge wine cellar, in which many thousands of bottles and jars of preserves were stored, there is a well, which was used only when the Castle was under siege. There are a few more rooms, but their floors have collapsed, the result of woodworm and dry-rot.

Round the Castle was a moat, most of which has been filled in. The Castle has also its own stables and lately a garage has been added. The Castle was previously used as a boys' boarding school, but now the caretaker lives there with his family. There are two huge drives leading to the Castle, one leading to Dalhousie Farm and the other to a main road. I am sure if you could see the Castle you would fall in love with it as I have done.

MARY COLLINS, 2A3.

THE CAPERING CLOWN

"HA, ha, ha!"

"The delighted screams of the audience peal through the circus-ring as the red-nosed, saucer-eyed clown, affectionately known to millions as 'Goofy,' topples along a high wire, his parasol inside-out, his shoes on the wrong feet, and those lovable great ears flapping in eager concentration. Now, ladies and gentlemen, 'Goofy' somersaults out of the ring to thunderous applause; this little man who has won the hearts of all the circus world."

These words, as spoken by the television commentator, echoed through Herbert Honeywell's thoughts. He could hear the audience applauding him (*alias* 'Goofy'); he could smell the sawdust scattered round the ring; he saw, bustling about him, the other circus performers. Now he was somersaulting round the ring at a tremendous speed. Now the audience held its very breath in tremulous wonder.

His tie blew up and struck him on the nose, blinding him. With a crash, he fell sideways against the best china cabinet, and landed, his feet on the head of a Dresden lady, amidst a ruin of broken china.

"Herbert!" It was his sister Martha who arrived on the scene, her voice full of the utmost amazement. "What have you done! Oh, my best tea-service!" she ended in a wail. Herbert hung his head in shame. "I really don't know . . ." For once, Martha was speechless. "It's ridiculous, a man of your age behaving like that . . . what were you thinking of?" Without giving him a chance to answer, she rattled on incessantly, while poor Herbert could only stand, shame-faced, and listen to the storm of abuse which she poured on his head.

At last she let him leave for the office, but it was with reluctant steps that Herbert dragged his feet along the ground, hoping for the day of his revenge. Martha was not to be argued with, and, being older, she did not intend to lose her superior position.

When Herbert Honeywell looked up from the ground, he found that somewhere he had taken a wrong turning. Hailing a passing taxi, he jumped into it. The manager of his bank would not mind if he were late; so he settled down comfortably, watching the billposters flash by outside. "Grand Circus," one said. "See the Clowns, the Animals, the Acrobats!"

"See the Clowns . . ." Herbert mused . . .

"You can't go on, Sir," said the circus-hand anxiously.

"Of course I can!" Mr Honeywell, that famous clown, protested. "See—I can walk quite well." He tottered to the door of the caravan, his face wrinkled in pain. "The show must go on, boy; remember that." The circus-hand looked on in admiration.

"You're a trump card, Sir!" he complimented the clown happily. "A few hours after a serious operation and you perform in a show!" His voice held tones of wonder and awe.

"Mushn't let the kiddies down," Mr Honeywell wheezed, his face pale beneath the bright, glaring lights. "Good-bye!" He made his way to the "Big Top," and the circus-hand, still respectful, gazed after him at the patched, baggy trousers and the scarlet ruff which adorned the clown's neck.

"There goes a brave man," he whispered . . .

Something warm and furry brushed against Herbert Honeywell's face. To his surprise, he found that the taxi had vanished, and he was being confronted by two indignant old ladies. They wore moth-eaten fur coats, large hats with imitation ostrich feathers, and one of them menacingly held a tightly-rolled umbrella, at which Herbert Honeywell blinked through his tortoise-shell spectacles.

"Mesdames," he began timidly.

"Don't you 'mesdames' us!" they threatened. "Bumping into us like that, as free as you please. You inconsiderate, ill-mannered, drunken fool!" Herbert Honeywell blinked again.

"I'm sorry," he apologised, but the old ladies had flounced off in a flurry of disgust. Sadly, Herbert Honeywell hurried into his office, and sat down at his desk.

He put his head in his hands, and then noticed the pile of letters waiting to be opened. Reaching out for one, he read with paternal fondness the scrawling, childish hand . . .

"Dear Goofy, I think you are the best clown ever . . ."

SHEILA SIM, 2A1.

THE FLAME IN THE TOWER

THE strains of the National Anthem died away, and the television screen went blank. Andrew was just going to switch off, when suddenly a strange voice shattered the silence.

"Well, your friends are not getting any nearer to finding you, are they?"

Andrew turned round and looked at the man. This must be the other one, the one he had only seen in the distance. He had a cruel face, too, so that when he looked at you, you felt all cold inside with fear.

But what the man said was true. Andrew's friends were not getting any nearer to finding him. For two days he had been imprisoned in this building that seemed to be an old tower of some sort, with barred windows and creaking, rusty locks opened by huge keys.

It had all started last Saturday when a car door had opened and Andrew was whisked inside and driven miles and miles

before arriving at his present prison. The T.V. news, which had just finished, told the whole story. The police were searching everywhere. The bandits had sent a letter to Andrew's father, saying that, if he paid £5,000, Andrew would be sent back.

Up to now the bandits had not been unkind to Andrew. They let him use the T.V. set, a portable worked by a battery, for there seemed to be no electricity in the tower. His bed was a straw mattress in the corner nearest the door. A bare, wooden table with a candle on it stood in the middle of the room.

There was a knock on the door, and Andrew's captor opened it with a heavy bunch of keys. The man Andrew had seen first came in.

"Dark in here," he said. "Let's have a light."

He struck a match to light the candle, when the other said, "You fool, do you want everybody between Saint Mary's Loch and Selkirk to see us?"

He rushed to pull a strip of canvas across the window.

"From Saint Mary's Loch to Selkirk," thought Andrew. That must mean he was somewhere in the Borders. This must be an old Border keep, at the top of which they used to light fires to warn of an enemy's approach. Was it possible?

There were matches beside the candle. His mattress was made of straw. The keys were lying on the table. The men were over in the far corner, as if they did not want Andrew to hear what they were talking about.

Andrew's heart beat faster as he pulled the matches gently towards him, then the keys, fearing the slightest clank would betray him. The big key was the one.

Still the men were in their corner. It was now or never. Slowly he moved towards the mattress and started dragging it towards the door.

He was opening the door before the men saw him. He slammed it behind him, his trembling hands fumbling for the right key. It turned in the lock just as he heard their fists beating on the inside of the door.

He dragged the mattress up the crumbling stone stairs, hoping that the door would stand the strain. He climbed higher and higher, till he was out in the open with only the stars above him.

Andrew pulled the mattress up to what seemed to be the highest point. He struck a match but it spluttered and went out. The second one did the trick, and the flames lit up the whole countryside. Soon he heard voices and shouting and the screaming siren of a police car.

The two bandits went to prison and Andrew went safely home, but he never looks at a T.V. set without thinking of the old Border tower.

DUNCAN'S WOOD PREPARES FOR WINTER

FLANKING the southern slopes of the Sidlaw Hills, venturing into the Carse of Gowrie, on the east coast of Scotland, lies Duncan's Wood, so named after a famous Highland chieftain many years ago. The wood is not large, but it is the favourite haunt of naturalists, who find there animals in plenty to interest them. Let us, too, travel to Duncan's Wood, and see how some of these animals are preparing for hibernation.

Today is a warm autumn morning, and the rising sun casts feeble rays of light on the pine needles between the trees, making the dew glow with iridescent colours. A tawny owl, flying past to his home in a hollow tree, startles us with an angry shriek. In the hollow, he will sleep until evening, when he flies through the wood in search of voles, rats or mice. Overhead, a curlew, or whaup, soars, his clear, haunting notes rising over the treetops. Awakened by the whaup's morning song, tawny owl fluffs his feathers in irritation, as if to say: "Can't I ever rest in this wood?" and peers short-sightedly at the rapidly-vanishing whaup up in the sky, like a fussy old spinster.

Life now begins to stir in the wood, for the pale sun is high in the sky. A cunning fox, as wily as Old Nick himself, slips out of his lodgings, which are a badger's den; most likely he does this to walk off the heavy rabbit dinner upon which he has just feasted! The fastidious badger does not seem to mind if Reynard intrudes into his set, or den; despite the strange contrast between the careless fox, as nonchalant as a carefree bachelor, and the industrious badger, as tidy-minded and hard-working as his river brother, the beaver, the fox is often shielded from the hunt by his kind host.

A squirrel emerges, noisily chattering, from the cosy nook beside the badger's hillock where his family still lie sleeping. His saucy, inquisitive nose, like a shiny black button, twitches eagerly, and he scampers along the carpet of pine needles looking for acorns and chestnuts, hazelnuts and beechnuts, which he will hide in odd corners and crannies, and generally forget about. Other animals, too, are preparing for hibernation: the hedgehog, the toad, the stoat, and the weasel families have all begun to build their store of winter food, bustling about everywhere. The dormouse, with only two round, shining eyes showing, like the blackcurrants growing on the bush he sleeps beneath, is buried in a coffin of fallen leaves, already fast asleep!

The rabbit family, gathering a supply of damp green moss from the streamside, soon weary of this task, and frolic merrily through the archways that the graceful weeping willows make. Their home, like the dormouse's, is an underground passage, whose entrance is hidden by a berry-bearing bush. At this time

of year, the bushes are robed in blackberries, redcurrants, and blackcurrants, as bright and polished as the brass door-knobs in a Highland cottage. A hedgehog, his train of youngsters straggling behind him, waddles through the undergrowth with only a faint rustling whisper to tell us he is there. His prickly armour is ready in defence for any rival creature which he might encounter; his eyes dart nervously from side to side, counting his little band, as a mother hen counts her brood of chickens, to make sure that none has wandered. A quick-sighted wood-pigeon, spotting the hedgehog, chuckles "whooh, whooh-whooh!" and his soft note throbs through the wood. Down by the stream, a strayed gander is pecking at a clump of fragrant germander and woodruff, with an air of utter disgust, and seems to complain: "I might as well go home again, for at least I'll be fed!"

Suddenly a stillness descends over the wood; the trees hold their breath. Master Gander looks suspiciously round, but his eyes, bespectacled in dark rings of wrinkled skin, detect nothing. Hidden in a tangle of brushwood, his tawny coat blending perfectly with his camouflage, Reynard lurks, awaiting his prey. Our friend the fox is not one to waste time, and with one quick pounce, springing like a tiger, he seizes the frightened, squawking gander. Scarcely a shadow in the coppice, he hurries stealthily away, his cunning, evil eyes gleaming in anticipation. The "hoodie" crows, woodland scavengers, hover overhead, hoping for a few bones.

Dusk is falling now, and Duncan's Wood, enveloped in darkness, prepares for another night. Brock, the badger, will lumber from his set, leaving Reynard to lick his lips over the gander—the local people in Duncan's village have lost their Christmas dinner at his expense! The owls will awake, and fly, like silent sentinels, through the night sky, feasting on grubs and rodents. The squirrel will curl up, using his golden brush as a blanket, knowing that his day's work has been completed. So, too, will many other animals, and we shall leave them, like sleeping children, ready to face the oncoming winter.

SHEILA SIM, 2A1.

STICKS

Big sticks, little sticks,
Candlesticks and lipsticks,
Walking-sticks and hockey-sticks,
Drumsticks, chopsticks,
Elastics and plastics,
Matchsticks, broomsticks,
Gymnastics. Oh! Fiddlesticks.

ROGER THAIN, 1B2.

PRIZE LIST 1958-59

Dux of the School	-	-	-	-	IAN MITCHELL.
Proxime Accessit	-	-	-	-	ROBERT PARRY.
Fifth Year	-	-	-	-	DOROTHY MOORE.
Fourth Year	-	-	-	-	MARGARET SMITH.
Commercial Course	-	-	-	-	IRENE MCINTOSH.
Dux of the Third Year	-	-	-	-	{ KATHERINE CHISHOLM.
					{ FRANCES TORRANCE.
Second Year	-	-	-	-	EILEEN MURPHY.
First Year	-	-	-	-	JAMES CAMPBELL.

CLASS PRIZE WINNERS

3A2	-	-	-	-	-	MARION MASSON.
3A3	-	-	-	-	-	ANN CRICHTON.
3B1	-	-	-	-	-	MARGARET CRICHTON.
3B2	-	-	-	-	-	KENNETH WHITSON.
3D1 (Technical)	-	-	-	-	-	STANLEY MCKENZIE.
(Nautical)	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN ROBERTSON.
3D2	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES FINLAY.
3D3	-	-	-	-	-	ROSEMARY BISSETT.
2A2	-	-	-	-	-	DAVID GRIEVE.
2B1	-	-	-	-	-	THOMAS DRAKE.
2B2	-	-	-	-	-	PAMELA ROSS.
2D1 (Technical)	-	-	-	-	-	ROBERT LAWSON.
(Nautical)	-	-	-	-	-	VICTOR MCLAGGAN.
2D2	-	-	-	-	-	MARJORIE LAMB.
2D3	-	-	-	-	-	LESLIE LUNDQVIST.
1A2	-	-	-	-	-	ELIZABETH FRAIN.
1A3	-	-	-	-	-	HENRY HUNTER.
1B1	-	-	-	-	-	RAYMOND McMATH.
1B2	-	-	-	-	-	ALISON MCRAE.
1D1 (Technical)	-	-	-	-	-	ALEXANDER BAIKIE.
(Nautical)	-	-	-	-	-	WILLIAM THOMSON.
1D2	-	-	-	-	-	DENNIS WHITE.
1D3	-	-	-	-	-	ZOSIA RAIMES.

SIR WALTER SCOTT CLUB PRIZE

IVth Year	-	-	-	-	-	TOM PATTERSON.
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PUBLIC SPEAKING PRIZES

(Presented by Portobello Rotary Club)

1st Prize	-	-	-	-	-	PATRICIA MORGAN, V.
2nd Prize	-	-	-	-	-	PAMELA TILLER, VI.
3rd Prize	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES CROW, VI.

PRIZE FOR SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL

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

PAMELA TILLER, VI.

SCOTTISH LITERATURE COMPETITION

VI	1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	IAN MITCHELL.
	2nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	TOM CLARK.
1A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NORMA ADAMSON.
								JANICE WYNN.
1A2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ELIZABETH FRAIN.
1A3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ISOBEL WALKER.
1B1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ANN JONES.
1B2	1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	ALISON AITCHISON.
	2nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	DOROTHY FORREST.
1D1	1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	ALEXANDER BAIKIE.
	2nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	MARTIN URQUHART.
1D2	1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	DENNIS WHITE.
	2nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	EDWARD TIBBETTS.
1D3	1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	IRENE SCOULAR.
	2nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	ANN MCINTOSH.

SINGING PRIZE

ALISON FLOCKHART, V.

BURNS FEDERATION SINGING COMPETITION

ALISON FLOCKHART, V.

NORMA ROBERTSON, V.

MAY KIVLIN, V.

MEDALS FOR ATHLETICS

Senior Champion—Girls	-	-	-	-	JOAN DENNET.
Boys	-	-	-	-	JUSTIN TOGHER.
Junior Champion—Girls	-	-	-	-	MOIRA HENDERSON.
Boys	-	-	-	-	JAMES MUNRO.
House Shield	-	-	-	-	BRUNSTANE.
Cup for Swimming	-	-	-	-	BRUNSTANE.
Cup for Athletics	-	-	-	-	DUDDINGSTON.

Sheila Sim, 2A1, entered for the 1959 Essay Competition of the Royal Commonwealth Society and received a commendation for her work. We congratulate Sheila on her achievement. A very considerable one, since the competition is open to candidates from all over the Commonwealth.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

"Come, sit down, every mother's son, and rehearse your parts."

A NOTABLE feature of last session was the revival of the Dramatic Society under Mrs MacIver. The meetings, which took place every Tuesday in Room 28, were well attended throughout the year.

We began by reading a wide selection of plays including "Othello", "St. Joan", "The Rivals" and "School for Scandal". Towards Christmas we were approached by the Headmaster and asked to perform a short Nativity Play for the Christmas service. This sketch was so appreciated by both Staff and pupils alike, that the Society, spurred on by this success, decided to extend its ambition, and perform a three-act play. The Society chose for this purpose "The Lady's not for Burning," by Christopher Fry.

The cast met for rehearsals, at first twice weekly, and latterly every evening. It is at this point that we, as a Society, wish to extend our gratitude to Mrs MacIver who travelled a considerable distance every evening to coach and encourage our very amateur efforts.

Many setbacks occurred before the play finally took place: we had great difficulty in obtaining flats; and the cast who were due to appear on Friday were unable to get the use of the hall for a dress rehearsal. Fate, however, had yet to deal another cruel blow, for only twenty-four hours before the play was due to commence, one member of the cast had his front tooth knocked out at a cricket practice. Fortunately, his dentist was able to meet this emergency, and he appeared the following evening as arranged.

In spite of the hard work which was involved, we derived considerable enjoyment from performing the play.

An appreciation of our efforts appears elsewhere in the Magazine.

JOYCE CROOKSTON, VI

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

THIS session three speakers visited the Society and delivered very interesting talks. The speakers were:—the Rev. W. R. Y. Marshall, M.A., who spoke on "Greece" and illustrated his talk with many coloured slides; Mr A. Gray, who spoke on "The Scottish Youth Hostels Association" and who also showed slides; Miss Rodney Murray, O.B.E., M.A., J.P., who gave a very interesting talk, "Reading Hansard for Fun."

The Mock Election provided a hilarious evening's entertainment and resulted in Mr Clive Burton's being elected as President of Portobello Teachers' Pet Society.

The Staff Debate, with Mr R. C. Brown and Mr Weaver opposing Mr Trotter and Mr Henriksen, was also very entertaining. The Staff again excelled themselves later on in the session with their very witty "Brains Trust."

Debates, of course, made up the main part of the syllabus, but unfortunately, although the main speakers were generally good, the speaking from the floor of the house was very poor. The Junior Debates were very poorly attended, but it is hoped that next session the younger pupils will take a keener interest in the Society.

The inter-debate at Leith Academy proved a friendly event, and discussion

was very lively. The debate with Musselburgh Grammar School had to be cancelled owing to an unforeseen school holiday. The Junior inter-debate with Broughton was very poorly attended.

The film shown this session was "Pickwick Papers" and it was very interesting and enjoyable.

In the Annual Speech-making Competition, prizes were awarded to Miss Margaret Bennet, Mr Tom Patterson and Mr Clive Burton. The quality of the speeches was very good, but the standard of the delivery could be improved.

The Burns Supper was, of course, the highlight of the session's activities. The speeches, songs and recitations were very entertaining, especially the toast "The Immortal Memory," given by Mr Sandilands of Boroughmuir School. Mr Henriksen proposed the toast "Land o' Cakes," to which Mr Ian Steele replied. Miss Eileen Williams replied to Mr Robertson's delightful speech "To the Lassies."

On the whole the Society has enjoyed a very busy year which was also very successful financially. Our thanks must be given to Mr Trotter who has taken over so ably from Mr R. P. Brown as Honorary Vice-President.

At the Annual General Meeting the retiring Committee were accorded a vote of thanks for the work during the year and the Committee elected for 1960-61 is as follows:—

<i>Chairman</i>	-	-	-	-	-	DOUGLAS ROBB.
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN SUTHERLAND.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	EILEEN WILLIAMS.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	CHRISTINE HOLLIDAY.
<i>Treasurer</i>	-	-	-	-	-	TOM PATTERSON.
<i>Members of Committee</i>	-	-	-	-	-	ALEX CURRIE.
						SUSAN MOTTRAM.
						JANICE ANDERSON.

EILEEN WILLIAMS, *Secy.*

CHESS CLUB

IN January of this year the School Chess Club was revived by Mr Scott and Mr McRobbie. At present there are about forty members, mainly from the First Year. It is hoped that by interesting the youngest pupils in the game, the School will, in the years to follow, have a Chess Team which can take its place in the Schools' Division of the Edinburgh Chess League.

The Club meets during the Winter and Spring Terms on Mondays, and during the Summer Term on Tuesdays, in Room 5. A short period of instruction is followed by practice. A charge of threepence per afternoon is taken to enable new chess sets to be bought.

The highlight of this first season was the knock-out tournament which was won by Billy Ure, 1A1. The runner-up was Philip Crummy, 1A2.

New members will be made welcome next season when the Chess Club resumes its activities in September. No previous knowledge of the game is required, and the instruction period is used to teach beginners the rudiments of the game.

HOCKEY

AT the Annual General Meeting of the Club at the beginning of the season, Dorothy Moore was elected Captain, and Eleanor Adamson, Vice-Captain.

The 1st XI had a reasonably good season, winning 8 and drawing 2 out of the 16 matches played. Two of these losses resulted from the enjoyable games which were played against the F.P. team. Unfortunately, owing to bad weather, 8 matches were cancelled.

Dates have been added to "colours" already gained by Irene Carey, Eleanor Adamson, Catherine Wilkie, Joan Dunnet, Dorothy Little, Eileen Williams and Dorothy Moore. New "colours" have been awarded to Norma Robertson and Rosemary Crockett.

The 2nd XI with Susan Mottram as Captain, were even less successful. Out of 14 matches they won 6 and drew 2.

Captained by Rosalind Brunton, the 3rd XI played very conscientiously. The 4th XI under Jean Cosgrove also played well.

The 5th and 6th XI's, however, were more successful, losing only 2 and 4 matches respectively out of the eleven games each played. The 5th XI was ably captained by Dorothy Weir.

Towards the end of the season two first year teams played 3 games each against other junior teams, and proved themselves keen and enthusiastic.

In the House Matches, Abercorn won the Senior Competition, and Crichton the Junior one.

Portobello teams did not distinguish themselves in either of the tournaments held at Liberton and Meggetland.

For the first time in ten years, the School team managed to beat the Staff team and added to this a defeat of the Senior Boys team.

The Hockey Club owes its thanks to Miss Marshall and Miss Stobbie who, this year, had the difficult task of directing six XI's and two first year teams. We also wish to thank Mr Ross, the groundsman, and Miss Richardson who kindly refereed the match with the Staff.

D. M., VI.

FOOTBALL

DURING this season, our last as a football-playing School, the 1st XI was captained by G. Clark. Players were drawn mainly from I. Hutchison, J. Edmond, A. Deas, I. Malcolm, J. Stanton, A. Fairholm, I. Neilands, L. Gibson, B. Watson, A. McCulloch and J. Young.

It would have been fitting and gratifying to have been able to report that we had finished our soccer days in a blaze of glory, but it was not to be. The team maintained their form of last season, playing excellent football one week and failing miserably the next. Despite these lapses, there was always a commendable spirit and enthusiasm. The team finished about the middle of the league, were beaten rather unluckily in the early rounds of the Scottish Shield tournament, and only just failed to qualify for a semi-final place in the Colonel Clark Cup.

Some of the boys, G. Clark, J. Stanton and B. Watson, took part in the Edinburgh Schools' Trials and eventually J. Stanton won a place in the Edinburgh (under 14) Team, along with G. Hamilton who had been playing rugby throughout the season. It is to be hoped that these boys will be allowed to play for Edinburgh next season, if given the opportunity, despite the fact that there will be no football within the School.

Once again, at the Annual Staff v. Pupils match, the boys won narrowly (by about four goals) despite the noble efforts of the Staff.

I should like to take this opportunity to put on record that I regret to see the passing of football from Portobello Secondary, a school which has

HOCKEY 2nd XI



Back Row—M. PIRIE, B. SIMPSON, M. MCCASKILL, J. ANDERSON, E. WILKIE, P. BURNS.

Front Row—E. HARVEY, K. ADAMSON, S. MOTTRAM (Captain), N. ADAMSON, S. FOULNER.

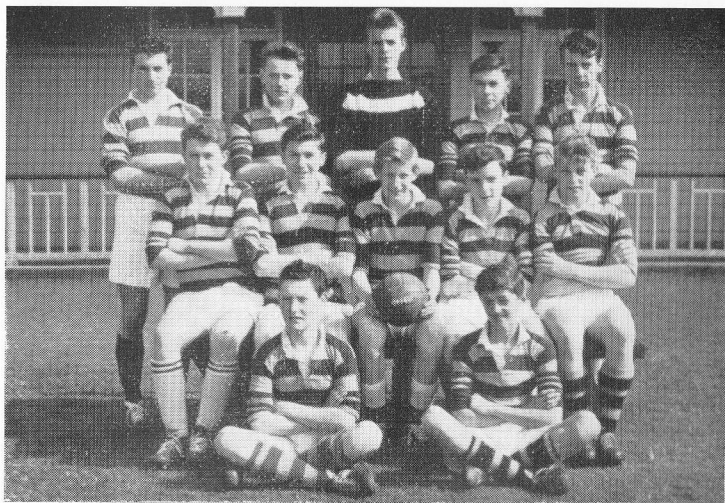
HOCKEY 5th XI



Back Row—P. GREEN, B. DONALDSON, H. COLLINS, A. THOMPSON, A. AITCHISON, A. MACRAE.

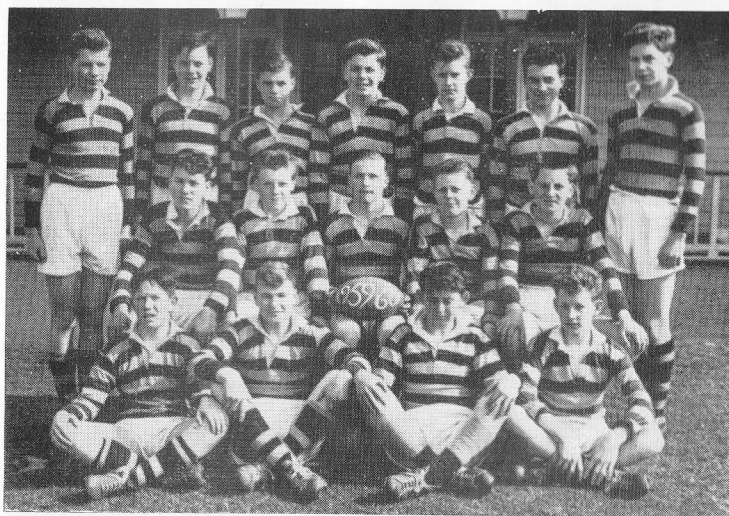
Front Row—P. WINNIBALD, M. BRIGGS, D. WEIR (Captain), B. BELL, A. ROBERTSON.

FOOTBALL 1st XI



Back Row—J. STANTON, J. YOUNG, I. HUTCHISON, I. MALCOLM, J. EDMUNDS.
Front Row—I. NEILANDS, B. WATSON, G. CLARK (*Captain*), L. GIBSON,
 A. McCULLOCH.
Sitting—A. FAIRHOLM, A. DEAS.

RUGBY C1



Back Row—R. MACKIE, A. BROWN, N. LAW, N. MORTIMER, J. TIFFNEY,
 J. STANTON, G. JOHNSON.
Centre Row—I. COOPER, D. MACKAY, A. WHITSON (*Captain*), W. O'BRIEN,
 G. MUIR.
Front Row—J. JOYCE, R. LAMPARD, A. THOMSON, J. FLEMING.

produced many fine players in the past. I have had a great deal of pleasure taking part in the practice games, in supervising and in refereeing, and have always found the boys most willing and co-operative. No cups or trophies have been won, nor has football done much to enhance the reputation of the School, but neither has it brought disrepute or disgrace upon the School. On the contrary, the boys have earned for themselves, on many occasions, during games and at official meetings, compliments for the manner in which they have conducted themselves on and off the field. They have probably taken less out of the game than they put into it, but they have apparently enjoyed themselves.

M. P.

SWIMMING

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

Girls' Swimming Club

At the Boroughmuir Gala, our Girls' Team consisting of Janice Anderson, Patricia Jamieson, Alison McRae and Margaret Dickson, won the Inter-Schools Team Race.

Although the Edinburgh and District Schools Swimming Association Gala was not held this year, we were well represented at the Scottish Schools Swimming Association Championships.

In the 100 yds. Breast Stroke, Janice Anderson was 3rd with a time of 83.4 sec. In the 50 yds. Back Stroke, Patricia Jamieson was 3rd with a time of 33.4 sec. Janice, Patricia and Alison, along with Norma Adamson, formed the School Under 15 Team to compete with teams from all over Scotland for the Lumley Trophy. Our girls were placed 3rd. Patricia and Janice were also chosen for the team selected from the Edinburgh Area to swim against teams from the other Scottish Areas. In this Area Team Race Edinburgh gained 2nd place.

Boys' Swimming Club

In like manner, the boys were also well represented, and with a large measure of success.

At the Boroughmuir Gala our boys' team, consisting of Wilson Robertson, Brian Turner, Norman Thomson and James Wilson, won the Inter-Schools Team Race.

This success was repeated by the same team at the Leith Academy Gala.

At the Scottish Schools Swimming Association Championships, James Wilson won the 50 yds. Free Style Under 13 with a time of 29.1 secs., thus establishing a new Scottish record. Our congratulations go to James on his splendid performance.

Wilson Robertson and Brian Turner were chosen for the Edinburgh Area Team which finished second.

Brian also represented the Area in the 100 yds. Free Style Open, but was not placed.

Colin Aston was chosen for the 100 yds. Breast Stroke Under 15, but he also was unplaced.

As competition at the level of the Scottish Championships is very keen,

considerable credit is reflected on the ability of our girls and boys who are chosen to participate, and to them we extend congratulations and best wishes for future successes.

A. D. C.

SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA

THIS year our Gala was held in May and again great enthusiasm was shown throughout the School. It was particularly evident in the handicap events where all girls and boys capable of swimming one length of the pond could participate with an equal chance of assisting their House to attain the winning position.

In the individual events the standard was very high. Of the records established last year, fourteen were broken and one was equalled. Improvement was also shown in the times of the Inter-House Team races, where six records were broken.

Our Boys' Team is to be congratulated on their success in the Inter-Schools Team Race.

Brunstane gained the House Championship, and all members of this House who participated, shared the credit for a very fine victory.

While I take pleasure in congratulating all those who have given such fine performances, may I stress that the success of our Gala depends on all swimmers—the slow plodders just as much as those who thrash the water at speed. The only qualification for participation in the Gala is that you be able to swim from one end of the pond to the other.

We don't mind how long you take to get there! Our aim is to encourage all boys and girls to swim.

New records are indicated by an asterisk.

Girls' Events

OPEN—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Anderson, 38.8 secs.; 2, P. Jamieson; 3, C. Holliday.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, P. Jamieson, 30.7 secs.*; 2, J. Anderson; 3, C. Holliday.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

1, P. Jamieson, 35 secs.*; 2, J. Anderson; 3, C. Holliday.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES

1, J. Anderson, 1 min. 17.9 secs.; 2, P. Jamieson.

(This event was timed in the small pond.)

DIVING

1, P. Jamieson; 2, J. Anderson; 3, C. Wilkie.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 13.2 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Duddingston.

3RD YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Lyall, 44.5 secs.*; 2, J. Dixon; 3, H. Rhind.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, H. Rhind, 40.2 secs.; 2, I. Hepburn; 3, J. Dixon.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Duddingston, 1 min. 16.5 secs.; 2, Abercorn; 3, Crichton.

2ND YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, P. Cochrane, 43.1 secs.*; 2, A. McRae; 3, D. Forrest.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, C. Adamson, 37 secs.*; 2, J. Spence; 3, N. Adamson.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 6.4 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Duddingston.

1ST YEAR—

25 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, M. Ramsay, 22.5 secs.; 2, H. Cairns; 3, P. Kane.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, G. Nicolson, 16.1 secs.*; 2, S. Duncan; 3, M. Ramsay.

HOUSE TEAM RACE—

1, Brunstane, 54.6 secs.*; 2, Crichton; 3, Duddingston.

Boys' Events

OPEN—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, W. Robertson, 36.8 secs.*; 2, C. Aston; 3, B. Turner.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, W. Robertson, 26.5 secs.*; 2, B. Turner; 3, N. Thomson.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE

1, W. Robertson, 31.6 secs.*; 2, B. Turner; 3, D. Blows.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES

1, W. Robertson, 51.5 secs.*; 2, B. Turner; 3, N. Thomson.

DIVING

1, W. Flockhart; 2, W. O'Brien; 3, G. Scott.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 13.2 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Duddingston.

3RD YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Barbour, 39 secs.*; 2, J. Dow; 3, I. Neilands.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, J. Barbour, 32 secs.; 2, J. Dow; 3, C. Aston.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Brunstane, 1 min. 1.5 secs.; 2, Abercorn; 3, Crichton.

2ND YEAR—

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, F. Borthwick, 44.5 secs.; 2, A. Wilson; 3, W. Flockhart.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, W. Flockhart, 33.3 secs.*; 2, R. Lampard; 3, H. McLean.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Abercorn, 1 min. 4.5 secs.*; 2, Brunstane; 3, Crichton.

1ST YEAR—

25 YDS. BREAST STROKE

1, J. Wilson, 19.1 secs.*; 2, B. McKenzie; 3, J. Dickson.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE

1, J. Wilson, 13.5 secs.*; 2, B. McKenzie; 3, B. Stratton.

HOUSE TEAM RACE

1, Brunstane, 1 min. 9.7 secs.*; 2, Crichton; 3, Abercorn.

HOUSE LIFE SAVING—

GIRLS

- 1, J. Anderson and P. Jamieson, Brunstane, 53.2 secs.; 2, C. Wilkie and C. Holliday, Crichton; 3, E. Gow and J. Lyall, Abercorn.

BOYS

- 1, W. Robertson and M. Davidson, Abercorn, 48.5 secs.; 2, N. Thomson and C. Aston, Brunstane.

WINNERS OF THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS—

GIRLS—Patricia Jamieson.

BOYS—Wilson Robertson.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP—

- 1, Brunstane, 200 points; 2, Abercorn, 180 points; 3, Crichton, 97 points; 4, Duddingston, 88 points.

INTER-SCHOOLS TEAM RACES—

GIRLS

- 1, Boroughmuir, 2 min. 12 secs.; 2, Portobello; 3, Gillespie's; 4, Leith Academy.

BOYS

- 1, Portobello, 1 min. 50.7 secs.; 2, Royal High School; 3, Leith Academy; 4, Boroughmuir.

Thanks are due to all members of Staff who gave of their time so willingly to ensure the success of the evening.

To Mr H. Smith, the Pondmaster, and to his most willing and obliging staff, we extend our grateful appreciation.

We are particularly indebted to Mr N. Reid for acting as our Starter.

A. D. C.

RUGBY

BEFORE beginning this season's review of School Rugby, we must first make mention of the new team designations which have been introduced and adopted by all schools.

These are shown with their previous equivalents in the table at the end of this article. It is now possible to ascertain definitely the school year from which a team is drawn. This was sometimes a matter of considerable conjecture when playing against schools which did not run the same number of teams as ourselves and which must have often turned out teams composed of boys from two school years. We now know that B1 designates the best third year team, while C and D represent second and first year teams respectively. A team referred to as BC1 is composed mainly of third year boys with some second year. Thus we hope confusion will be avoided and better matching of teams result.

It is most fitting that the first team for discussion should be C1. With 411 points to their credit, and having lost only one game, they have had a splendid season. This I believe to be the finest record of any Portobello Rugby Team. One of the most enjoyable games which I refereed was the return game between Leith Academy and C1. Our boys were determined to avenge their previous defeat. The relentless pressure of the Portobello attack soon produced scores and the game ended with a 10-0 win for our boys.

C2 have also distinguished themselves by having the second highest points total of 349.

Although the record of C3 is less spectacular than that of the teams already mentioned, they have made rugby history in the School. Because of their interest in the game this is the first year in which we have been able to produce three teams regularly from the Second Year. Can we feel assured that when the Autumn Term comes round, enthusiasm will still be as high among the players? On the present C1, C2 and C3 players rests the future of Rugby in next session's Third Year, in which we require at least two strong teams. This will ensure a strong 1st XV in the following year.

I feel sure this can be achieved, but only if we have the willing co-operation of all who have been playing in the present Second Year. Much depends on you!

The 1st XV has had rather a mixed season. This is partly due to the inability of certain of its members to appreciate what is fundamental in all team games. No group of players can combine effectively as a team on a Saturday morning if they do not practice as a complete unit during the week. The failure of one player to be present at a practice is sufficient to render the practice of little value as far as teamwork is concerned. Individual play was in some cases, however, very good and partly compensated for lack of teamwork.

The season opened very well with nine wins and one draw in the first twelve games. Of the remaining ten games we lost five.

The Fettes match was played this year at Fettes' ground, and we won only by a very narrow margin. The hospitality which Fettes offered to us after the game was appreciated very much by staff and players alike.

As our 1st XV proved too strong for Broughton A2 XV, I have accepted a game with their 1st XV for next season. This will be the first fixture we have had with this team and it should prove to be our hardest game.

May I congratulate Justin Togher on his very able captaincy during what has been a rather difficult season.

If my early remarks to the 1st XV apply to only certain of its members, these same remarks apply, with few exceptions, to the entire A2 XV. During the first half of the season there was never any shortage of boys willing to play on Saturday mornings. There was, however, a considerable shortage of players on practice evenings. This inconsistency is hard to understand in senior pupils.

The record of A2 is better than would have been expected and shows an improvement on last season's 2nd XV. One ray of hope for the future is that many of these players will be returning to School in August. They have the ability to form a strong XV. They require to develop a stronger appreciation of team loyalty.

The response from the Third Year has been very poor this season. As the weeks passed many boys stopped playing for various reasons, and practices were very poorly attended. At the end of October there were sufficient players to form only one team and as this was of relatively poor strength, all fixtures for the B1 XV were cancelled and these for B2 retained.

It is always a delight to write about the First Year teams. More than sixty boys played last season, which is a very fine record indeed.

D1 has had a very good season and have more than held their own against equivalent teams from other schools. In comparison with last year's best First Year teams, D1 and D2, each has a higher total of "wins" although scoring seems to be slightly lower.

Our boys enjoyed very much the games with Edinburgh Academy which

appeared for the first time on our fixture card. These have been retained for next season.

D3 is unfortunate in that it is difficult to find suitable opposition and many of their opponents are slightly too strong. It is greatly to their credit that they play such good rugby.

If this report appears to offer scanty praise and to lay stress on what we must put right, it is fitting to remember that we shall inevitably have lean years and, that by facing up to our deficiencies, will find a solution to the problem.

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

I am most grateful for the considerable amount of time which team masters have devoted so willingly, and wish to thank all staff members who have assisted with the refereeing and supervision of games.

The School appreciates very much the services of the small group of Former Pupils who have refereed so regularly. Those referees are still required and should any of our Former Pupils feel that they can assist in this most vital part of School Rugby, I shall be very pleased to hear from them.

New	Old	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points	
						For	Against
1st	1st XV	22	14	7	1	342	137
A2	2nd XV	13	4	9	—	101	184
B1	3rd XV	7	3	4	—	85	118
B2	4th XV	11	3	8	—	43	280
C1	5th XV	21	17	1	3	411	80
C2	6th XV	20	12	6	2	349	163
C3	7th XV	14	4	8	2	94	162
D1	8th XV	20	12	5	3	150	75
D2	9th XV	21	13	7	1	217	108
D3	10th XV	17	6	10	1	122	239

A. D. C.

TENNIS

THE Club had a very successful season last year. The team won nine matches out of a total of eleven.

In June the School Championships were played. The results were:—

Girls' Singles	-	-	-	-	-	MAY CRUICKSHANKS.
Boys' Singles	-	-	-	-	-	TOM CLARKE.

The new Office-Bearers elected for this season are:—

Captain	-	-	-	-	-	ROGER TEMPLETON.
Vice-Captain	-	-	-	-	-	KENNETH WILSON.
Secretary	-	-	-	-	-	JOYCE CROOKSTON.

The Club could not be run without help from members of Staff, and we wish to thank all those who have so generously given up their time to supervise after school hours. In particular, we wish to express our gratitude to Mr Henriksen who arranged the School Championships, and took a keen interest in the Club's activities.

JOYCE CROOKSTON, VI.

GOLF CLUB

ALTHOUGH the School lies adjacent to the local golf course, I can find no record of its having had an official Golf Club, though I believe that some coaching was done many years ago.

A meeting was held to determine whether the formation of such a club would be worthwhile, and the idea proved so popular that numbers had to be restricted at the outset. Stewart Hamilton was elected Captain, and the Portobello School Golf Club officially came into existence with membership open to pupils of Third Year and upwards.

The Club had its first meeting on 26th April, on the local course, and made an encouraging start, both in keenness and ability. Visits to other courses such as Carricknowe, Craightinny and Duddingston have proved enjoyable to all who took part. The first competition was won by Stewart Hamilton with a fine score of 84 at Carricknowe; the handicap prize went to Gavin Clark.

A Staff v. Pupils Match has been arranged for the end of term, and no doubt the pupils will be hoping for "First Blood." The programme of the Club had to be restricted owing to the short term, but a more ambitious one will be attempted next year, with such items as competitions against other schools, more outings to various courses, and possible entries to tournaments and championships.

The Club, at the moment, has a few girl members, and those taking part in the various outings have all enjoyed themselves. Until the numbers increase, however, it is impracticable to run competitions for the girls on the same lines as for the boys.

In conclusion, the success of any club will always depend upon the enthusiasm of its members and if such be the case, the School Golf Club is here to stay.

C. McL.

CRICKET

THE results for the 1959 season were as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.
1st XI	10	3	6	1
2nd XI	11	5	6	0
3rd XI	9	4	5	0
4th XI	8	3	4	1
5th XI	11	5	4	2
6th XI	11	7	4	0

This was the first season with six elevens, the 5th and 6th being first year teams, the 3rd and 4th second year, while the 1st and 2nd were drawn from the third, fourth, fifth and sixth years.

The results were somewhat mixed, the senior teams not doing so well as expected, whereas the junior teams, with the exception of the 4th XI, held their own when playing against boys of their own age. Enthusiastic coaching, we are sure, was the reason for the encouraging successes from the younger boys. We are fortunate indeed in having several members of Staff who are so willing to give of their own time to assist in net and field practice.

The 4th XI was hampered by lack of support, but towards the end of the season it was noticed that a team spirit was developing. This lack of support was still painfully obvious in the senior classes, too, and the 1st and 2nd XI's suffered accordingly.

Last season's 1st XI was, in the main, a bowling side, their crowning success being the dismissal of Musselburgh for 19 runs, all ten wickets being taken by S. Hamilton. This match, however, witnessed also the nadir of the batting. We didn't win! There was a lack of intelligent batting generally, the stroke play being too apprehensive, a sure and certain way of returning quickly to the pavilion. Some players were inclined to open their innings with a wild swing at the ball, whereas, as any experienced batsman will tell you, it is much better to play defensively for the first few overs.

S. Hamilton with 10.5 and J. Reid with 4.6 headed the batting averages.

Top bowling averages were S. Hamilton with 3.22 and K. Cassidy with 3.95.

The House Competition was won by Brunstane.

No Staff v. Pupils Match was played owing to inclement weather.

Regarding the current season, the 1st XI have made an encouraging start, winning their first three games. Good bowling and first-class fielding dismissed Leith Academy in the first game for 11 runs. (This time we won!) Indeed it must be said that the fielding was the best seen from a Portobello side for several years. Long may it continue!

We also hope during the present season to start another first year team, mainly from the Preparatory classes.

Lastly, sincere thanks are again due to various members of Staff and former pupils who help with coaching, umpiring and travelling with teams, and without whose able assistance it would be impossible to continue.

Office-Bearers for this season are:—

<i>Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	STEWART HAMILTON.
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	-	-	-	-	-	BRUCE CURTIS.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN SUTHERLAND.

A. Y. G.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

AT the beginning of the Autumn Term, a Scottish Country Dance Club was inaugurated by Mr Robertson, who is a member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and who has appeared, with other members, on television.

Many girls from the Third and Fourth Years met in the Small Gymn from 4 till 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, but when the number began to drop, the class was opened to the First and Second Years. Now between forty and fifty enjoy dancing each week. Since the beginning of the session, Mr Robertson has taught many dances, a few of which are: Duke of Perth, Monymusk, Jenny's Bawbee, Montgomerie's Rant, Campbell's Frolic and Corn Rigs.

All the girls who have attended hope to continue next term, so that they may learn more of their national dances. A few boys have attended the Club, but it would be more satisfactory if they would come in greater numbers. They would be given a special welcome next session.

PAT INNES, 3A1.

SCRIPTURE UNION

THOSE who have attended regularly this year have enjoyed the varied programme. Unfortunately, the attendance has dropped considerably, and at present there is little interest in the senior school. The juniors are, however, very enthusiastic and this summer some of them hope to attend S.U. Camps. Next session it is proposed that we issue a written programme which, I hope, will be more interesting than ever before.

Miss Catherine Wilkie, who has been an able Assistant Secretary, will be leaving this summer and is being replaced by her sister, Betty. We look forward eagerly to next term's meetings.

THOMAS A. B. PATTERSON, *Secretary*.

E. S. C. A.

THE Edinburgh Schools' Citizenship Association has been quite well supported by our School in recent years, and the 1959-60 session has been no exception. However, though about thirty people paid their subscriptions, only a handful of people turned up at each meeting of the Society. The E.S.C.A. Dance, which was again held in George Heriot's School, was a tremendous success, and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. We have to thank Mr R. C. Brown for the work he put in as Staff Representative. In conclusion, I should like to invite those people in the Third Year who are "staying on" to support the Society during its 1960-61 session.

NORMAN WILSON, VI.

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FORMER PUPILS' CLUB

TENNIS CLUB

THE season commenced on Saturday, 4th April 1959. The membership was approximately the same as the previous season and we continued to run two men's teams and one ladies'. The men's teams were in Divisions IV and VIII respectively, and the ladies' in Division VII. However, this year the divisions have been reorganised and the men's teams now appear in Divisions IIIb and Vb, with the ladies' also in Vb.

The courts were prepared by Mr Hogarth and were in excellent condition for the opening. At the beginning there was a good turn-out of members to play but, presumably on account of the phenomenal summer, the numbers fell off considerably during the second half of the season. Nevertheless, a record number of entries were made for the tournaments, but they, too, were adversely affected by the weather. This resulted in the tournaments' dragging on into the winter. The ultimate winners were as follows:—

Men's Singles (Open) -	-	-	-	J. YOUNG.
Men's Singles (Handicap) -	-	-	-	R. BOND.
Ladies' Singles -	-	-	-	M. GIBSON.
Men's Doubles -	-	-	-	A. MURRAY and B. MCINTOSH.
Ladies' Doubles -	-	-	-	M. GIBSON and M. WATT.
Mixed Doubles -	-	-	-	Miss R. CRANSTON and J. YOUNG.

The pavilion has been transformed by sectioning off part for keeping the balls and making the tea. New gas fittings have been installed which are a great improvement and the gas cooker has been dispensed with, being replaced by a gas ring. I must hasten to add that this reorganisation was not entirely by our own volition as an outbreak of vandalism during the winter, necessitated a considerable drain on our resources.

The following Office-Bearers were elected for the season 1960:—

Hon. President -	-	-	-	-	J. A. SMITH.
Captain -	-	-	-	-	J. YOUNG.
Vice-Captain -	-	-	-	-	W. BEGBIE.
Treasurer -	-	-	-	-	T. C. TERVIT.
Secretary -	-	-	-	-	R. I. H. MCCALL.

A noticeable change this season has been the increase in the number of young Former Pupils who have joined us, and I should like to extend a warm welcome to all F.P.'s to come along and swell our numbers. Those intending to join should contact R. I. H. McCall, 13 Bryce Avenue, Edinburgh, 7. Telephone: POR 4355.

OUR ATTIC

Our attic is a crowded room,
The topmost in the house,
The only thing which lives there
Is perhaps a little mouse.

Quite often I go up there
To pass the time of day,
And as I sit in Gran's old chair,
I have no thought for play.

CAROL ROBSON, 1A1.

THE TOWER

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RUGBY CLUB

WITHOUT any doubt this has been the most successful season the Club has had since the War. Our first team finished sixth in the Junior League, with a percentage of 67 per cent, which was the third best playing record of the Edinburgh clubs who participate in this League.

The full record for the season is as follows:—

Points					
P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
20	12	—	8	202	191

These unexpected, but highly satisfactory, results augur well for the future since we are still a young and largely inexperienced side. We have shown ourselves capable, however, of playing extremely attractive rugby on occasion and this should lead to better fixture lists in coming seasons.

Quite the most encouraging feature of the season has been the success of our 2nd XV. Ably led by Alan Jack and comprising quite a few of last year's School team, there has been a new spirit in the team this year, which is reflected in their results:—

P.	W.	D.	L.
20	10	2	8

Our Sevens teams, while not meeting with much success this season, by no means disgraced themselves, and indeed further enhanced the Club's reputation as exponents of this form of the game.

The Club again extends a warm welcome to any members of the School XV's who are thinking of playing the game after they leave school, as only in this way will our playing strength increase and the standards we have already set be improved upon.

I have received a great deal of help during the season from Miss Darling and Messrs Alexander, Connor and McLennan, and I should like to extend to them my most sincere appreciation.

RONALD F. KING, *Hon. Secretary.*

HOCKEY CLUB

THE F.P. Hockey Club has enjoyed a very successful season, winning ten out of twelve fixtures played.

Two fixtures were played against a very capable School 1st IX, both of which were won by the F.P.'s, the School having played very well.

Those who are leaving school and who are interested in continuing hockey, please contact Pat Gilroy, 38 Duddingston Road, Edinburgh, 15. Telephone: POR 4396.

BADMINTON CLUB

THE Club has had another most successful season with more support from the younger members.

We are pleased to hear that a Badminton Club has been started in School and hope that new Former Pupils will join us in the Small Hall on Monday evenings. Will anyone interested please contact Miss M. Marshall, 8 Niddrie Marischal Road, Edinburgh, 9.

F.P. NOTES

AMONG F.P.'s at Edinburgh University at present are:—

4th Year.—ALEX. GOODALL (1956).

3rd Year.—MARGARET FLEMING (1957), MORNA MULGRAY (1957) and HELEN MULGRAY (1957).

2nd Year.—DOROTHY GRANT (1958) and ROBERT STIRLING (1958).

1st Year.—IAN MITCHELL (1959), ROBERT PARRY (1959) and JOHN REID (1959).

We offer our congratulations to Margaret Fleming who was 2nd equal in the Secondary Ordinary English Literature Class, and to Morna Mulgray who has this session been awarded the Patterson Bursary in Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature.

News of other F.P.'s has been received as follows:—

THOMAS YOUNG (1947) has been admitted a Fellow of the Faculty of Actuaries.

JAMES DOUGLAS (1954), B.Sc., has gained the Diploma in Education, and is now teaching in Dalkeith High School.

DAVID CLARK (1956), has just successfully completed a Student Apprentice Course with the Bristol Aeroplane Company. He was awarded first prize for being the best Aeronautical Engineering student of the year.

HAROLD TOD (1957), has been awarded the Ordinary National Diploma of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers. He is at present employed by the B.P. Tanker Co. Ltd., and is undergoing training as a Marine Engineer.

ALEXANDER BALFOUR (1953), M.A.(Hons.), Dip. Ed., was promoted to Special Assistant in the Mathematics Department of Daniel Stewart's College. He is also to be congratulated in being selected twice last season for the East of Scotland Lawn Tennis Team, and on being a member of the Westhall L.T.C. which won the Scottish Cup.

THOMAS FERGUSON (1957), successfully passed the Clerical Officer Grade Examination and as a result was appointed to the Department of the Registrar General for Scotland.

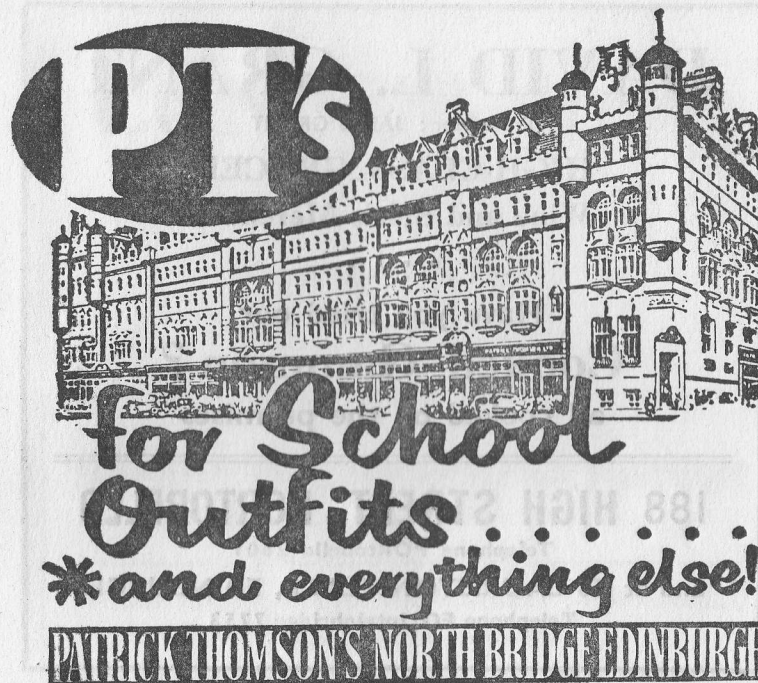
ARTHUR DIDCOCK (1953), M.A., in a letter to a member of Staff, has let us know that he is now teaching Latin in the Anglo-Colombian School, Bogota.

RONNIE SHADE (1956), has, since his return from National Service, made his presence felt in Scottish Golfing circles. He was joint first in the East of Scotland Winter Golf Alliance Championship; he broke the Duddingston course record (67); and he reached the semi-finals in the Lothian Golf Championship this spring.

JOHN MURRAY (1959), won the Portobello Boys' Golf Championship and the Sir Harry Lauder Trophy in the Portobello Open Golf Championship.

Finally, we offer our congratulations and best wishes to Joyce Cranston and Alexander Daly on the occasion of their marriage in St. Philip's Church in January this year; and to Mr and Mrs Alan Reid on the birth of their daughter in April.

To all F.P.'s we extend a welcome to visit the School, and to make themselves known to the General Editor of the Magazine, Mr N. Chalmers, Room 21.



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