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THE MAGAZINE OF
PORTOBELLO SECONDARY SCHOOL

**JUNE 1959** 

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### THE TOWER

#### **EDITORIAL**

THIS edition of the Tower marks the end of a disturbing and momentous year in the history of the School. Bereft of our Primary Department, we have been subjected to rumour and counter-rumour concerning the future of our School. Through the School grape-vine we learned that the interior was to be remodelled and that a new block was to be erected on the site of the huts in the boys' playground. Wild tales of new heating systems and fabulous "shower" rooms circulated.

Temporary huts were actually built before the capricious authorities shelved these plans, and it seems now that the designation "Temporary" could justifiably be dropped.

Yet we learn that the old School buildings, which have served us so well, have been condemned as unfit for a modern secondary school. A new School it seems will have to be erected somewhere in the near future. Perhaps we of the sixth year are guilty of sententiousness when we say that the old building has a personality and atmosphere of its own. Nevertheless, we hope that the new School, wherever and whenever it may materialise, will not be a characterless and impersonal product of the Glassic age.

Despite these uncertainties, Portobello is unquestionably gaining in status as a secondary school. Very few inter-scholastic functions are complete without our representatives. We also take pride in noting that there are now very few first and second year pupils who do not wear School uniform, a pointer surely to added pride in their School. The sorely needed library nears completion and will be available in some measure for pupils in the new session.

The 1959 edition of the Tower, although not resplendent in the crimson and ivory glory of last year, has also been affected by this period of transition. Contributions from the Primary School are, for the first time, missing from our pages, and their absence is a sore loss. We have, however, been able to devote more space to our Former Pupils' Club, and it is hoped that this feature will flourish. We repeat our invitation of last year to all F.P's. to let us have news of their activities, or any items of interest suitable for publication in our pages.

In drawing to a close this editorial, we reflect on our own schooldays, so soon to end. Although it may be a little presumptious to say that these have been the happiest days of our life, we certainly have enjoyed them, and have benefited from our sojourn in these buildings, however unfit they may be considered for their task. We feel sure that the School spirit, of which we have long been conscious, will live on, no matter how much its surroundings may change. IAN MITCHELL, VI.

#### STAFF NOTES

WE begin this season's chronicle on a congratulatory note, by recording with pleasure, the promotion of Mr R. M. Anderson to the post of Principal Teacher of History, and that of Mrs E. Jamieson to the rank of Special Assistant.

In the same felicitous vein we record the marriage last summer, of Miss M. Brown, now Mrs MacIver. Fortunately, Mrs MacIver has decided to continue teaching and Room 28 remains the scene of her many pedagogic and dramatic activities.

The growth of the School in terms of pupil numbers has been the means of our welcoming several new members. Mr H. N. Henriksen, B.Sc., Mathematics Department, was the first to arrive at the beginning of the session, and he was followed later in the autumn term by Miss I. M. Watt, B.Sc., Science Department, and Mr D. M. Robertson, M.A., History Department. In January, Miss S. Coull, M.A., joined the Department of Modern Languages, and in the Summer Term, Mr D. MacPherson joined us to assist with the Preparatory Classes. The office, too, has shared this increase and we extend a welcome to Mrs M. B. Burchell.

While these appointments were pending, and for other reasons, several temporary members of Staff assisted the various departments; Mr Grant, and Mrs Harley, Modern Languages; Mrs Pawsey, Science Department, and Miss Hebling, History Department.

The announcement last June of the appointment of the Rev. A. Robson, M.A., as School Chaplain in succession to the late Rev. William Gray, M.A., came too late for publication. Mr Robson has already participated in several School functions and we hope that by now he feels he is no stranger.

Shortly after we reassembled in April, a presentation was made to our assistant Janitor, Mr F. Thurlow. Mr Thurlow has been up-graded to Janitor and appointed to Bristo Technical Institute. The Headmaster and Mr Alexander voiced their appreciation of Mr Thurlow's services, and referred especially to his willingness to give of his services. We wish him all happiness in his new post. In his place we welcome Mr D. Watters.

In conclusion, we would like to express our pleasure at the return to duty of Miss Thomson and Mr Christie; the former after her sojourn in hospital, the latter after his distressing and painful experiences in a road accident.

#### SCHOOL NOTES

LAST June saw the resumption of a pleasant and gracious function in the School calendar; tea on the lawn, at the invitation of the Senior girls. For this enjoyable event, we owe thanks to the ladies of the Domestic Science Department, especially Mrs Andrews, and the girls.

In the same month, the Headmaster officially took his leave of the Primary School. We wish to convey to Mr M. Clark, the Headmaster of Duddingston Primary School, our best

wishes for the future.

Last summer the pupils of the School lined part of the High Street in order to greet Her Majesty, the Queen and H.R.H. Prince Philip, as they passed through Portobello on their way to Loretto.

The School Concert took place on 2nd July and consisted of a pleasing variety of singing by various choral groups, mime, gymnastics and dancing. Treasurer Dunbar, Bailie Jamieson, and ward representatives Councillor Mrs Matthews and Councillor Bryce were present.

The installation of Captains and Prefects was made soon after the beginning of the new term. The Captains this year are Pamela

Tiller and Tom Clark.

A visit from the Chairman of the Education Committee in August came as a reminder of the increased interest in the School

in official quarters.

Visitations of another kind occupied the attention of Staff and pupils alike during September and October. H.M. Inspectors visited all departments. Later the headmaster, reporting to the Staff, informed them that the Inspectors had been impressed by the sense of community in the School. The School Editor has expressed himself on this theme in his Editorial. May we express the hope that whatever educational provisions are made for the district, the tradition of the "toun's school" will prevail.

Individual and class photographs were taken in September. The film, "Hamlet" with Sir Laurence Olivier in the title role, was shown to third, fourth, fifth and sixth year pupils. Earlier in the session, parties from the fourth, fifth and sixth year classes attended a performance of "Love's Labours Lost."

In December came the usual spate of parties. The Art Department chose the theme of "India" for their scheme of decoration. A feature of this year's scheme was the skilful use of concealed lighting which was brought to bear on certain parts of the decoration.

The Christmas Service was held as usual in St. James's Church. The Headmaster was assisted by the Rev. A. Robson, and the Rev. R. A. Trotter. A Nativity Play was presented by the senior pupils who were assisted on the musical side by a School choir and by the congregation.

Reference to the Nativity Play gives us an opportunity of commenting here on the work of the Senior School Dramatic Society. As we go to press, the Society, under the leadership of Mrs MacIver, is approaching its first full scale production for some time. The play chosen is "The Lady's Not for Burning" by Christopher Fry. We wish all concerned every success in this venture.

During the Christmas holidays, three pupils from 1D2 represented the School at a Christmas Eve Service in St. Giles Cathedral. The service was organised by the Hulton Press, and our representatives, Douglas Alexander, Ronald Provost and James Fleming assisted by reading some of the lessons.

January was a busy month for the School. The Mobile X-Ray Unit paid us a visit; the Cancer Anti-Smoking Campaign was inaugurated; the Edinburgh School Certificate examinations were held.

On Sunday, 25th January, a party of senior pupils took part in the official bi-centenary celebrations of the birth of Robert Burns. A wreath-laying ceremony at the Burns Memorial was followed by an impressive ceremony in St. Giles Cathedral. In February, the Gideons once more visited the School and presented copies of the "New Testament" to first and second year pupils.

The second half of the Spring term was ushered in by the

Higher Leaving Certificate Examinations.

Homage was paid to another great Scot at a service held at the Livingstone Memorial. The School was represented by members of Class VI.

Pupils from several classes were selected to take part in a

Burns Bi-Centenary Concert on 6th April.

The term ended on an encouraging note. The Parents' Meeting with Headmaster and Staff was the best attended meeting ever. At a time when the wastage of pupils from Secondary school courses is being deplored, it is encouraging to know that the parents of our pupils are determined that their children will be given the opportunity of more advanced secondary education.

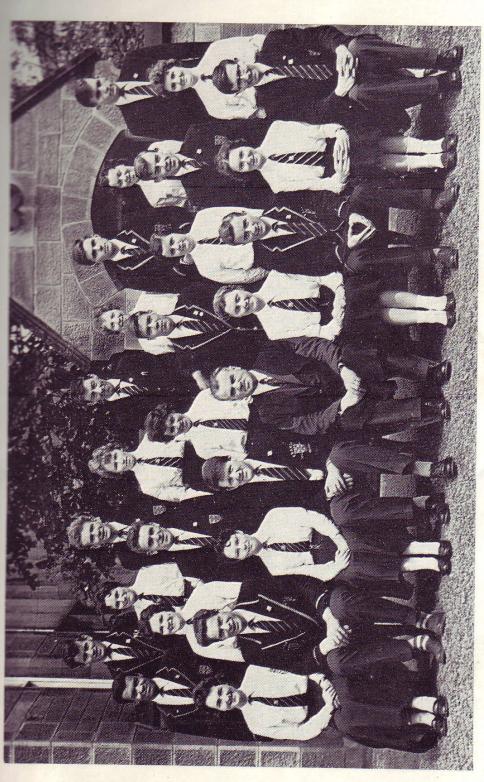
The late start to the Summer term has deprived us of the opportunity of much material for this chronicle. We seem to have been so involved with examinations that little else of note

has impinged itself on our consciousness.

In the course of the session we have had several visits from various people who have addressed the pupils. Lieut.-Commander Barrie, R.N., Lieut. Moresdale, R.N., and P.O. Wren Emerson visited us on separate occasions, and spoke about the work of the Navy.

Staff Officer Pollock from the Fire Service addressed the

School on the subject of Fire Prevention.



Middle Row—M. Boardman, M. Kivlin, J. Crow, D. Moore, R. Parry, W. Flucker, J. Reid, A. Lyall.

Front Row—P. Longmuir, L. Cassidy, I. Nichol, T. Clark, Mr Houston, P. Tiller, I. Mitchell, E. Adamson, D. McGrouther. Back Row—J. Murray, J. Lang, M. Brown, M. Rennie, J. Burgess, J. Crookston, N. Wilkie, D.

#### HOCKEY 1st XI



Left to Right—D. Moore, J. Dunnet, E. Williams, D. Little, Back Row—D. Moore, J. Dunnet, E. Williams, D. Little, E. Wilkie.

Front Row—J. Ball, C. Wilkie, C. Wilson (Captain), A. Lyall, E. Adamson, I. Carey.

#### HOCKEY 2nd XI



Back Row—D. Dickson, A. Carey, M. Pirie, S. Thomson, J. Anderson.

Front Row—S. Fulmer, R. Crockett, N. Robertson (Captain), E. McFarlane, E. Harvey, M. Aitken.

Callander, S.S.P.C.A., talked to the first year pupils. From overseas we had visits from Miss Dyce, South Australia, Mr Fumenasuriya, from Ceylon.

A Junior Secondary School Conference in Pentlands School as attended by four representatives from 3D3 and four from

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Preparatory Department. Both these are reported this issue.

ment organised by the Editor of the Weekly Scotsman. From time to time the Editor has sent two books to the School, our pupils have reviewed them. Successful reviews have read in the Weekly Scotsman and the reviewers have been for their work. Most of the pupils selected have had their

work published.

has been awarded an American Field Service Scholarship hich will enable her to spend a year at a High School in America. Patricia will live with an American family and attend Sunset Hall School, Kansas City, Missouri. Her visit will conclude with a three weeks' tour of the United States. If Patricia wants to know what life in High School is like, we advise her to read further in the pages of this edition of *The Tower*.

To all contributors, salesmen, and helpers we say "Thank

you."

#### WITH APOLOGIES TO LEWIS CARROLL

He thought he saw a circus act
That danced around with glee;
He looked again and found it was
A eucalyptus tree.
"If this is the latest shade," he said,
"Then fashion is so free!"

He thought he saw a science book With covers red and blue; He looked again and found it was A pot of Irish stew.
"Is this the tasty meal?" he said, "That's made of sticky glue."

DOROTHY DICKSON, VA.

#### THE LOVE BIRDS

Two little birds once met in a tree, Said one: "I'll love you if you'll love me." The other agreed and they built them a nest, And whistled all summer, with very great zest, They lived there all summer and then flew away, And where they are now, I really can't say.

IRENE HASTON, 1B1.

#### THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

AT long last we are to have a School Library. Room 30 is to be used to house the books and should be ready by the beginning of next session. Shelving will be installed, floor covering laid, and we hope that the room will be suitably decorated. Study tables, chairs and other items of equipment have already been ordered.

The School has been given a substantial grant for the purchase of books and members of staff have been busy in the last few weeks compiling book lists. In addition, more than five hundred books at present in the School have been classified, catalogued and otherwise prepared for library use. Some of these books have come from departmental libraries, some were gifted by Edinburgh University Library and some by private donors.

So, all being well, the School Library will open some time next session. It is our intention that it should be used as a reference library, as a study room for senior pupils and as a borrowing library for the whole School. Care has been taken to select a range of books suitable for all ages, and fiction has been included as well as non-fictional works.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who kindly donated books, the members of staff who helped in the task of book selection and the former and present pupils who put in many hours of work preparing books for the shelves.

R. M. A.

#### THE COMMONWEALTH IN ASIA

#### Report of a Conference held for Sixth Year Pupils

THIS year the Sixth Year Conference was held under the auspices of E.S.C.A. and the Commonwealth Institute. The subject chosen for discussion was "The Commonwealth in Asia."

By 9.30 a.m., all the delegates had assembled in the hall of the Royal High School Preparatory Department and were listening to Mr Dhawan, a member of the Indian High Commission in London. The theme of his lecture was the "Problems and Future of India." Mr Dhawan was followed by Mr Zakaria Bin Haji Ali, second secretary of the Malayan High Commission in London. He discussed the similar problems facing Malaya and Singapore. This completed the morning session.

In the afternoon, delegates split up into small and informal discussion groups, for the most important part of the day's proceedings. Here the delegates could argue a point, or form an opinion. Each group formulated a question which they later put to the main speakers, who closed the conference by answering

these questions.

#### CHINA

#### Third Year Conference

arrival at Pentlands Secondary School, the delegates were by the girl prefects to the large gymnasium, where we informed of our day's programme by Dr Kay, the Headmand a former teacher of Portobello School. After learning array's programme, we proceeded to the hall for a film on After a short break we returned to the gymnasium to talk by two celebrated doctors who had lived with the timese for many years.

The first speaker was dressed in the traditional costume of Chinese, having received the garment in a gift. He spoke the China of yesterday while his colleague talked of the

China of today.

After lunch we visited the special exhibition of Chinese pictures, crafts and costumes. Each person was asked to draw one item from the exhibition which would be judged by Mr George Hall, Director of Art for Edinburgh Corporation Schools. Then followed a Chinese interlude in which Mrs Wong and Miss Chang enacted the ceremonies which the Chinese perform when they visit each other at the New Year. Pupils were then called upon from the different schools to answer questions on the day's happenings.

The conference was concluded by the announcement of the drawing competition in which one of our party, Rita Gallacher, was highly recommended in art. This ended a most enjoyable and interesting visit to Pentlands Secondary School by the four girls of 3D3 and the four boys of 3D2.

3D3 DELEGATES.

#### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP, 1958

ONCE more, the camp was held at Broomlee Residential School, West Linton, under the auspices of Banffshire Educational Committee.

Pupils from Bavaria and France joined those of the British Isles for a most interesting and educational fortnight. The Edinburgh Group, consisting of representatives from Boroughmuir, Trinity, Holy Cross, Leith Academy and Portobello, was again led by Mr S. Macmillan, then teaching English at Boroughmuir School.

The main objective of the camp was to acquaint us with the full meaning of citizenship, and lectures to this effect were given each morning by guest or resident speakers. The lectures were, on the whole, extremely interesting, although on one occasion the speaker went to such great lengths, that everyone became rather restless. After each lecture, discussion groups made up of one or more pupils from each region, were formed. Hot and

lively were the arguments which ensued! Each group appointed a leader who expressed the general opinion, on the specific subject of his or her group, when everyone had reassembled in the hall.

Each afternoon, an infinite variety of activities took place. At this time, some patient French boys and girls taught me the art of volley-ball, which I found very exciting. The evenings were mainly taken up with dancing, of a kind, but for the less socially minded, there was an adequate supply of chess, draughts and

magazines in the reading rooms.

Apart from a tour of the Trossachs and a visit to Duncan's Chocolate Factory—the highlight of the camp was our final concert. We had formed an enthusiastic Dramatic Society at camp, and had worked, under Mr Macmillan and another teacher, on a skit of "Macbeth," with all due respects to William Shakespeare. This was duly performed and acclaimed with roof-raising applause as we reached our final chorus:—

We've done our best to entertain, Left Shakespeare's name without a stain. We don't feel so badly That we've done without Bradley, For Bradley's loss is Broomlee's gain.

Our foreign visitors proved very friendly, and many of us returned home with the future pleasure of writing to newlyacquired pen-pals.

The camp was, indeed, a holiday to remember.

PAMELA E. TILLER, VI.

#### VISIT TO H.M.S. CALEDONIA

H.M.S. Caledonia is a naval training base near Rosyth in Fife. A group headed by Mr Wisely set out from the School at approximately eight o'clock one morning in October, the destination being Port Edgar, near South Queensferry. After passing through South Queensferry we saw the ground being prepared for the foundations of the Forth Road Bridge. When we arrived at Port Edgar we were joined by busloads of boys from various other schools. Three fishing boats ferried us across to Rosyth, where buses were waiting to take us the short distance to the training centre.

The whole party assembled in a large hall and was split into groups of five with an artificer acting as guide to each. We were given programme sheets telling us what we would see and do that day. As it was impossible for everyone to see the same things at the same time, each group went a different way.

In the course of the day we saw the large workshops where metal was being filed and beaten into certain shapes. We also saw ships' engines and many of the necessary instruments on which they were operated. The weapons were a source meat interest. We were shown a guided missile in cross-millustrating all the wiring and components, and a torpedo was not so complicated as the missile. Various types of were carefully examined and the artificers had quite a few testions to answer.

where we were given a demonstration of the use of divers to the divers and frogmen. A huge rubber raft was inflated after an imaginary had sunk and we were shown the methods of survival when an event happened in reality. We were also shown how a man could inflate special types of shirts and trousers by tying the the correct places and blowing air into them and using them as a means of achieving buoyancy.

Before and after dinner we watched films and continued our tour of the base. Two of the main attractions were the Westland Whirlwind helicopter and the Hawker Sea Hawk aeroplane. Both of these were very carefully examined from cockpit to

tailplane.

As it was nearing time for our departure, the band marched back and forward playing a selection of tunes. Just before we left, we were given tea and biscuits. Just as we boarded the buses back to Rosyth it started to rain a little. It was still raining when we returned to Port Edgar in the boats which had taken us across. Rather wet we rejoined the buses but despite this we had had a most enjoyable and instructive day at H.M.S. Caledonia.

CHARLES BURRELLS, 3A1.

#### SKI-ING

A PARTY of twenty-eight girls and twenty-four boys from the School had the wonderful opportunity this year, of visiting

Saas-Fee, in Switzerland, for the Easter holidays.

When the first morning for ski-ing arrived, our skis, sticks and boots were matched for us, and we started the walk to the practice grounds. When all the party had reached the snow, they prepared to don their skis which had first to be greased in order to make them travel faster, and also to keep them in good condition. Only then were we shown how to fasten our skis, and check to see that our feet were secure. A little shaky on our skis, we trudged across the snow to the instructors. The girls had an instructor of their own, and two others were allocated to the boys and members of staff.

First of all we were shown the correct way to walk, a process which involved taking long strides and sliding our skis across the slippery snow. When we reached a greater height, the instructor demonstrated how to go downhill. A few of us managed to follow his example and sped downwards, bending and straightening our knees, and looking ahead all the time.

As the days went by, the practising became more difficult. We learned how to travel across the slopes by putting all our weight on the downhill ski, and leaning outwards with the upper ski leading. It is most important to learn how to stop safely, and how to turn. A position known as the "snow-plough" can be used for this purpose. The skis have to be turned inwards in the shape of a snow plough, and the stopping is effected by bending the knees and digging the inner edges of the skis into the snow. To turn to the right, the skier must lean to the left, and this is very difficult to accomplish. Side-slipping is more advanced and requires strong ankles. The "Christianias," we found very difficult to learn. Not unlike side-slipping, it is used to stop quickly when travelling at high speed. But the thing which really stumped us, was getting up after a fall. Despite frequent practice, we never managed it successfully.

Everyone looked forward each day to the afternoon excursions which were led by Oskar, our favourite ski-ing instructor, and a former champion. Each afternoon, we were taken on a trek in brilliant sunshine up the mountain-sides well above the clouds. On one occasion, Oskar took us to his mountain hut. It is a small house 6,500 feet above sea-level. We reached it by ski as the snow is too deep for walking. Resting after our tiring journey, we were given a long, cool, drink of home-made wine. From this hut we looked down on to a glacier lake covered with blue-green ice which lay below the tongue of an

impressive glacier.

After the party had revived, we started the long ski back to the practice slopes. Down and up hills, round bushes, past rocks we sped, until at last we reached the village. At the finish of the excursion some of us constructed a ski-jump, and after a very short time some were travelling eight feet in the air and

landing safely.

On the second last day there was a test of all that we had learned on the course, so that we could see how skilled we had become. To enter for it we had to pay an entrance fee of five francs. Successful candidates received a badge and a certificate. Seven methods of ski-ing were tested, and the results were announced at night. Three teachers, three girls, and three boys were successful.

We all enjoyed the holiday and benefitted from the exercise, tresh air, and brilliant sunshine. There was general agreement that the organisers of the party had done a fine job in making the trip the success that it undoubtedly was.

#### RETURN TO HARBOUR

five. Only a few fishermen leaned against the jetty wall, smoking and talking quietly to one another. The harbour itself was deserted except for several rotting boats held fast by the mud. Some seagulls scavenged around these hulks while others perched solemnly, gazing out to sea, and occasionally ruffled a wing or a tail.

Not long after five the peace of the early morning was broken when an old dilapidated van lurched down the street and pulled up a few feet short of the harbour wall. Others followed, and soon merchants had set up their scales on the piers. The shouting of the vendors and the clattering of the metal boxes awoke the dozing seagulls, who flew up screaming their protests. Their cries became more and more excited as they sensed the approach of the drifters.

A quarter of an hour later the first drifter forced her way through the narrow harbour entrance, watched by critical old captains who found it sad that fishermen were not as good as they used to be. One by one the twelve boats were pulled to their berths and quickly tied up. Amid the harsh cry of the gulls and the shouted orders of the fishermen, the boxes of fish were quickly unloaded and equally quickly sold. Critical merchants prodded the fish and weighed them, and bought them only when satisfied with their quality. The seagulls were not quite so particular as the merchants. They strutted calmly around the fishermen's feet taking all they could.

As suddenly as the noise began, so it subsided. The boxes of fish were cleared and the harbour was quiet again; a few late seagulls sadly picked around for scraps, but there were few to be found. Below them the drifter's engines were stilled but the air was even yet putrified by the burnt fuel.

The Church bell clanged six and the jetty was deserted.

JAMES CROW, VI.

#### DIAMOND VILLAGE

THE bush village of Pangu lies fifteen miles from the main Bo road. It is scarcely possible to imagine the change that has transformed this lonely Kandu river valley village to a town which has multiplied its population over and over again. Rusting corrugated iron shacks now cover the once green and beautiful sides of the valley.

Since the diamond fields were opened up, people for thousands of miles up and down the Guinea Coast and from the interior have come to trade and dig the world's most valuable stone. It is like a magnet which draws some people to riches and others to death.

In the narrow and stinking main street, a Hausa from the northern Plateau of Nigeria trades with a Mendi tribesman from Sierra Leone who holds a handful of diamonds. Further along a digger drawing a sheaf of bank notes from his kerosene tin (the established wallet of the diamond area) buys his weekly supply of sardines from the Fula trader who has just arrived from Freetown. The Calabar man from the Nigerian Coast sings in the background. With his guitar slung across his middle he lies in his hammock which occupies almost the whole of his small rectangular dwelling. His abode is made of rusty metal sheets nailed on to a rough wooden framework. Underneath him lie his kerosene tins full of paper money. On top of one of them stands a drinking calabash from which the singer takes frequent mouthfuls of bamboo wine to wet his throat.

Children clothed in ragged shirts scamper by, often covered in repulsive looking sores and ringworm marks.

Nearer the centre of the village is an area where the houses are bigger and the smells more perfumed. Women in gay costumes amble to and fro in the yard of the village chief's residence. The chief himself sits in his hut amongst his bank of kerosene tins which he has filled with dirty notes provided by the diggers' rents.

He is really a wealthy man and welcomes visitors thinking that perhaps they are wealthy diamond dealers or the police out to inspect his village.

At night people drink and make merry: incongruous "pop" songs shatter the night air and on closer inspection it is found that the latest radiograms and radios have been placed in the middle of the larger courtyards under the leaves of palm trees. Then everybody dances in the moonlight; the men dressed in pseudo-cowboy film dress; old fat mammas who often dance so far into the night that they collapse and die.

Death is common and too frequent here. Africans perish at the diggings and their deaths pass unnoticed. The diggers work in gangs and dig shallow holes all along the river bank and on the plain. These holes become mosquito breeding grounds when filled up with rain and flood water.

Former house servants are now diamond kings and own several cars. This is a place where people live rich and die rich. Such is the transformation of Pangu since the diamond rush began.



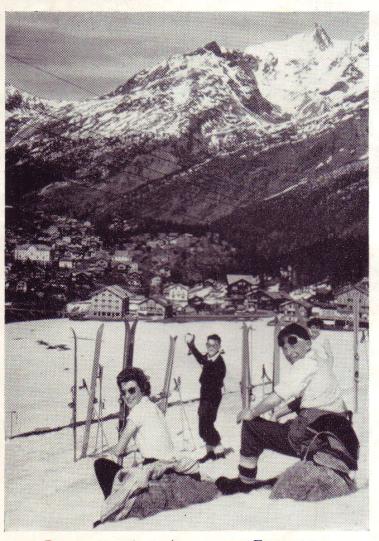
THE ALPS

SYLVIA THOMPSON

#### SAAS — FEE



VIEW FROM THE HOTEL WINDOW



RESTING DURING AFTERNOON EXCURSION

THE TOWER 13

#### "TIME HELD ME GREEN AND DYING"

childhood is the best of times; it is the time of great simplicity, the time of complications; the age of ignorance, the age of all knowledge; it is an hour of light before dark sets in; a short-lived whirlwind of a golden dream across the cloths of heaven, embroidered heavily and seen through silver lights and dark blue seas; it is the age of poetry, of love and of compassion; the age of fairy tales and Christmas trees. It is the age when it

is good to be alive.

There is the sheer joy of physical movement from the first, few, faltering steps to the delight of racing up and down the garden, feeling the wind rush through your hair, hearing the old tin can rattle behind you, sharing the flight of birds, butterflies and bees, climbing the mossed, old tree, your Everest, paddling in the stony burn, guddling for fishes, crawling comfortably with caterpillars. Movement utterly spontaneous belongs to childhood when motion is caprice and pleasure the only motive as you stir, step, shift, slide, slither, glide, roll, hover, flit, drift, skip, leap, hop, spring, caper, curvet, gambol, bob, bounce, fly.

There is the pleasure of utter exhaustion which brings no strain of anxiety for things undone but means complete relaxation

and repose—the deep, untroubled sleep of childhood.

But best is the golden dream. When you are young the whole shining world is waiting for you; you are certain; you never know unease in your golden mind. "This will I do, and this, and this ——," you say. And in this world where all your tears are wiped away by kindly hands, where you have security and know not what is fear, you believe and you trust. The story of King Arthur and his Knights is an unqueried truth. You do not question, "Is it myth or legend?" To you the stars are candles to light you through the dark, not planets full of scientific substances. You love and trust the story-teller and every part of your sky-blue life with the simple, unquestioning trust and confidence which makes your existence so perfect.

The dream is boundless. Everything is possible. A square yard can house the mind's eye, the figments, fancies, visions, nightmares, shadows, substances, Utopia, castle in the air, man in the moon, Never-Never Land, Puck, Robin Hood, Captain Hook, Red Indians, gnomes, brownies, pixies, elves, kelpies, trolls, imps, leprechauns, banshees, spooks, goblins, mermaids and mermen, Oberon, Titania and Mab, Zeus and Apollo, Pan and Merlin, Ra and Isis, the Jumblies, the Pobbles, the Owl and the Pussy Cat, Butter-cup the fat fairy, Mrs Tiggy-Winkle, Jeremy Fisher and Jemima Puddle-duck, the White Rabbit and the Little Duck who loved the Rain, the Heroes, the Saints, the

Christ Child Himself.

There is the pleasure of expanding your world—the pleasures of infinite discoveries—sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell. The discoveries of earth, sky, sea, plants, birds, insects, animals; the first visit to the pantomime; the first sight of a big city with a castle and a zoo; the first time you go to Church; your first playmate; your first book when you learn to read—your second and your third; books that contain all that was, is, will be and can exist in the imagination of man; your first poem:

"In Xanadu did Kubla Khan A stately pleasure dome decree."

Quite oblivious of the meaning you repeat it again and again for the sheer joy of the music it sings. Each find seems haloed with a celestial light, which burns inside you and gives you the glow, the bloom, the fire and the beauty which only a child can have.

When you are young, these delights and these joys are supremely taken for granted and only when you realise the fear and hatred in this world can you appreciate them in recollection. When utter simplicity of belief, of trust and of safety go, and when you are conscious of the chains of time, whether you be two or twenty, the golden age vanishes forever and you, for the first time, look back across the cloths of heaven through silver lights and dark blue seas in full realisation of the pleasures of childhood.

Childhood raises the curtain and you play out your lives, conscious of an audience which has rules, the rules made by the moralists, the churchmen and the State. The key to content is to know your supreme desire and to keep your vision clear. Without a vision you are grown-up. If you can retain your vision, your divine essence, you can be an adult yet retain the best of the pleasures of childhood. You may play your part in various scenes of comedy, tragedy, even farce, yet you will go on singing in your chains like the sea even as Time holds you green and dying.

PATRICIA MORGAN, V.

#### A TRAIN JOURNEY

MR PARKSON relaxed in the empty compartment. Slumped in the corner seat, with his feet propped on the seat opposite, he contentedly ran over in his mind, the events of the past few hours. The murder had been a success. One thrust had pierced the old man's heart, and now the body was lying with the wine bottles in the dusty cellar. It would not be discovered until the following Monday morning, and by that time Mr Parkson would be hundreds of miles away. He smiled inwardly, and eyed the bag, bulging with notes, on the rack above his head. Soon he closed his eyes and fell asleep.

He was jerked out of his slumber by the entrance of another passenger at the station of a fairly large town. The man brushed his feet off the seat and sat facing Mr Parkson. Through half-

closed eyes the murderer studied his companion.

Although in civilian clothes, Mr Parkson could tell that he was a policeman. He bore the typical yet indefinable police stamp. Nothing to worry about, thought Mr Parkson, they can't have found the body yet. Yet why was he being watched so closely? Again Mr Parkson reassured himself that nothing could have put the police on his trail so early. He closed his eyes and tried to forget the man.

Half-an-hour later, Mr Parkson was beginning to feel decidedly hot under the collar. The man had been staring at him incessantly since he entered the train. Yet try as he might, he could think of no mistakes that he could have made. He had gone over everything thoroughly and nothing appeared to have gone wrong.

Then he noticed that the policeman was not staring at him but at his tie. His tie! But what could be wrong with it, it was a perfectly ordinary service tie such as thousands of men wear every day. Suddenly it came to him. There was blood on it. In that first gush of blood some of it must somehow have got on his tie, perhaps when he had leant over the body. He must make the best of it and bluff it out. After all, it was slender evidence to make an arrest on. The body could not have been found yet, anyway.

Time passed, and soon Mr Parkson was perspiring freely and near breaking point. The man had said nothing but just stared at the tie, which now seemed to have assumed gigantic proportions. Mr Parkson could almost feel the spots of blood on it gleaming a bright accusing red. The train was speeding on through the night, and its wheels seemed to chant: "He

killed him. He killed him. He killed him . . . "

Suddenly he could stand it no longer. "All right, blast you, I killed him." Then he slumped brokenly into his corner.

Police-sergeant Thomas Hendry, returning from a day in London, looked slightly surprised then said, "Very well, sir, I think you had better come along with me to the station." Then, as an afterthought, "By the way, your tie—I've always been puzzled—is it the regimental tie of the Scots or Welsh Guards?"

IAN MITCHELL, VI.

#### "THE END OF AN ERA"

ACROSS the dusty floor a dark shape scuttles from a black shadow, over a patch of sunlight to the haven of darkness beneath an upturned table. From the only window of the sepulchral attic, sunlight filters through a piece of sacking crudely nailed in place, and adds an unreal, eerie aspect to the scene.

The room is small, but is made even smaller by the chaos of chairs and tables scattered over the wooden floor, partly covered by a rather old, motheaten carpet. An atmosphere of death and decay pervades the whole place. All is silent, save for the constant gnawing from the black monster in the corner that is a cupboard, where some forgotten crust has attracted the four-legged inhabitants of the rafters.

From all four walls grotesque, painted faces and mis-shapen figures look down seemingly sadly, on a deserted room once full of life. On all sides there is evidence that the inhabitants were forced to leave without much warning. Here there is a bottle, forgotten in the last mad scramble to escape, now bound to a chair by a labyrinth of cobwebs. There in that musty corner, is a pile of books, and on this chair a solitary shoe.

Far away a bell tolls. Let us go towards the sound. Let us pick our way among the scattered chairs, pass the dark monster looming out of the shadow on our left, and let us feel our way warily down the steep, dark stairs. The noise of the bell has now been drowned by the murmur of many voices through the closed door at the foot. The door is locked. Let us suppose we can pass through the door—and there! A notice:—

THE COMMON ROOM IS NOW CLOSED TO PREFECTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

TOM CLARK, VI.

#### SIR ROGER AT A FASHION SHOW

HAVING often received an invitation from my good friend Sir Roger de Coverley to wait on him at one of Claridge's fashion shows I, therefore, accompanied him thither last Friday week.

It was our intention to make our way to Claridge's together and while drinking coffee at Lyons, I was very much pleased to note that Sir Roger anticipated as much enjoyment from this decidedly feminine entertainment as could be had from a visitation to Bedlam or the Zoological Gardens.

After having arrived and taken our seats at Claridge's, an usher distributed pamphlets to the assembled company and on close inspection of this pamphlet, Sir Roger observed that this season's tint was in fact the delicate shade of nasturtium and that all members of the fair sex who were of good breeding and society could be seen sporting garments coloured with this fashionable tint in the public thoroughfares.

THE TOWER

The worthy knight, therefore, by means of his rather singular powers of computation began to count the female members of good society present by closely inspecting the colours of their apparel.

Throughout the ensuing entertainment, Sir Roger gave his opinion of the various models and their costumes in such a loud voice that his criticisms were voiced abroad to all and sundry. He thus informed the company that he tendered a great affection for the "shirtwaister" and the "sack" but considered the violent exposure of the "jambes" in the "balloon" and the "short skirt" as lacking in "ton." The knight was also much pleased with the amiable commentator who informed the company of the reasons why the various tints and costumes had been chosen and how they suited the models. Referring to a rather pinkfaced nymph he asked the company to note that sunrise pink contrasted very well with Celia's eyes and that her beige stilleto shoes showed her finely formed ankles to great advantage. Sir Roger remarked, however, that it was quite beyond his comprehension why these beauteous members of the fair sex should nourish themselves on bread, water and anchovy sauce to exhibit costumes to society belles and youthful matrons.

As we left the auditorium he concluded his discourse by saying that he considered the exhibition to be of a rather fruitless nature, tending to encourage vanity and to entice the fair sex from pleasures and occupations of a more virtuous and useful kind.

GORDON S. MACKIE, IVB.

#### ON THE CAMPUS

DURING my stay in Scotland many people have asked me what school is like in California, but before starting to tell you about a typical school year, I think I should explain our school system which differs in many ways from yours. First of all, we have Primary or Grammar school which consists of grades one to six, catering for pupils up to the age of ten or eleven; then comes Junior High School with grades ten to twelve where pupils are taught to the age of eighteen. At the end of the twelfth grade or senior year the students graduate and receive a diploma. They are then free, either to go to college, or to take up employment. In California and most of the states it is illegal to leave school until the age of eighteen, and as a rule most of the students want to stay on to get their diplomas so that they can acquire better jobs.

School usually begins about the 15th of September and lets out at approximately the 19th of June. Classes start at 8.15 a.m. and end at 3.15 p.m. We have seven periods, each fifty minutes long with half an hour for lunch. Almost all the students eat on Campus and either dine in the cafeteria or bring their lunches from home.

In October, football games begin. Each week a game is played against the team of a different school. Our games are played at night on a floodlit field. The students from the opposing school sit in grandstands on one side of the field and we sit on the opposite side. During the whole game, cheers are given and school songs are sung to let our team know that we are behind them and want them to win. After each game there is a football party at one of the local churches where dancing and refreshments are enjoyed.

Finally, after three months of hard work and play, we have our Christmas holidays which last a fortnight. During these two weeks we just relax and have fun enjoying the Christmas spirit. Then in January, we are back to school. When we return we start preparing for examinations which begin at the end of January and last for three days.

Our next holidays fall due in the week before Easter. This is one of the most pleasant times of the year; so we usually spend as much time as possible at the beach acquiring as much tan as we can in this one short week.

But then back to school again and the same routine! At the beginning of May, campaigning begins for the annual school elections. A president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer are the main officers elected. During this week everything is in uproar on campus. Posters are hung all over school urging students to vote for the "best and most suitable candidate." Then on Friday afternoon the results are announced.

The climax to a busy and fun-filled year is graduation. The "mighty seniors" are leaving. For graduation, they wear caps and gowns. The ceremony is held outside on the big field with the eleventh grade girls forming a flower chain. After all the speeches and awards the diplomas are handed out one by one, and then it is all over.

When any of these pupils look back on their High School Days, I am sure that they think of them as the happiest and most rewarding times of their lives.

#### JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN

AT this moment I am the talking point of most of the world. I am Laika, a husky dog. My coat is brown with streaks of black. The month is September, the year is 1957. The first part of my story takes place in Russia. Along with several other dogs, I was put forward for severe tests. The idea of these tests was to find a suitable dog to put in a satellite bound for outer space. I was the one who responded best to the tests; so I was chosen.

It made me feel proud to think that I would be the first living creature to venture beyond the earth's atmosphere. During the weeks that followed I went through continual hard training. Two of the important lessons were firstly, I must learn that when a bell rang it was time for me to eat, and secondly, I must accustom myself to being left alone for long periods. These long weeks of perseverance came to an end when I heard I was fully trained for my journey into the unknown.

At last the great day arrived. It was a brisk September day. The scientists brought me from the laboratory to the scene where the launching would take place. It was a barren part of land and in the middle stood the satellite. I observed that the satellite was attached to a rocket which would take us so far up and then set us loose. The scientists made a thorough check of my

oxygen supply.

Then suddenly we were off! It took me quite by surprise, almost making me do a somersault. Soon we were out of the earth's atmosphere into the stratosphere. It was there the rocket left us to revolve round the earth by ourselves, just as the planets revolve round the sun. I had a sudden desire to look out of my window. All I could see was a picture of emptiness, and I suddenly realised how very much alone I was. Time went on, day after day with nothing to do except eat and sleep. I have been up here for seven days. My oxygen is gradually running short. Every minute I get more drowsy. I want to sleep.

Yes! Laika died. I am one of the many who mourned her death. Although her journey came to a disastrous end, it put scientists a step further in their quest to create the Space Age.

George McKechnie, 181.

#### ADVENTURES OF THE SUBMARINE "ORZEL"

AMONG the many brave deeds of the last war, the escape of the *Orzel* from the Germans, was just one more example of Polish bravery.

On 1st September 1939, Germany attacked Poland. At this time the Polish submarine *Orzel* was in the port of Gydnia with several other Polish warships. After the first German air raid had taken place, the Polish ships were ordered to sea. The

Luftwaffe and the German Navy had destroyed every Polish ship afloat except the *Orzel*. The *Orzel* immediately headed for the Baltic Sea and sailed north. German vessels and the Luftwaffe were searching desperately for the *Orzel*. Because of this the *Orzel* was forced to navigate under water.

On the twelfth day at sea, the captain became ill. Against orders the *Orzel* berthed in Tallin, capital of Estonia. They were allowed by the rules of the Hague Convention to remain in this port for twenty-four hours. The captain and another sick man were taken ashore to the hospital.

Lieutenant-Commander John Grudzinski was now in command. A minute or two later an Estonian naval officer said that the *Orzel* must remain another six hours, as a German merchant ship was leaving at the time that had been arranged for the departure of the *Orzel*. They soon knew that it was a trick when they were overpowered by the Germans.

Next day when the *Orzel* was being disarmed, two sailors cut the mooring wires and the *Orzel* made ready to leave. That night the crew overpowered the guards and under heavy machinegun fire headed for Sweden. The *Orzel* escaped after a few days' pursuit by the Germans.

In later years the *Orzel* worked with the Royal Navy. It was while working with the Royal Navy that it was reported lost.

JAMES HUNTER, 181.

#### END AND BEGINNING OF DAY

When day is done
And night has come,
And children end their play,
The birds all sleep,
And night owls keep
Their vigil where they may.

The sleepy stream
Begins to dream
Of blossoms floating by
And leaves of brown
That flutter down
From trees that grow so high.

Soon day will dawn;
The children yawn,
And flowers shake off the dew,
And raise their eyes
Up to the skies
And welcome day anew.

ELIZABETH BROWNLEE, 181.

#### A FANTASY

ONE NIGHT when the wind was howling and the rain was lashing against the window pane, I dreamt a most unbelievable dream. I found myself tired and hungry in a thick forest. Then suddenly in a forest clearing I saw the glint of moonlight upon water, and I, being tired and thirsty, went towards the little stream which gushed out from a rock, gleaming like silver with woodland flowers growing round the edge. After I had drunk my fill, I looked around me and saw to my astonishment a small wooden hut with windows that shone in the moonlight. In this hut was a pile of hay and two horses tethered to a hitching rail. I was just about to go to sleep when I heard voices. "It's a cold night," said one. On looking up I saw the animals talking to each other. Pretending to be asleep I listened to their conversation. "It will be colder on the night when the giant mushrooms go for a stroll across the hills and leave their treasures uncovered. Only once every million years does this happen," replied one as he looked down at me with his beady eyes."

"If only this person knew, he would be off tomorrow night to fill his pockets with some of the treasure," said one horse. "But only if he could find a clover with eight leaves and lay it on the tallest mushroom," replied one, for if not the mushrooms would catch him and crush him up." "That is very true," agreed the other. So the two went on to talk about other subjects of interest.

I had heard enough to make me determined to steal some of the treasure and so for the next day I searched for an eight-leaved clover. Eventually I found one near a big rock. Next I obtained a long ladder with which I reached the top of the mushroom and laid the clover on top. Unfortunately, one of the leaves fell off, but thinking it would not matter I went out at midnight to wait. Some time later the ground began to shake and the mushrooms heaved themselves out of the earth and began to move slowly down the hillside. At this moment I ran forward and grabbed some of the treasure. Only a moment seemed to have elapsed before the army of mushrooms came marching back to their holes. I raced back to my hiding place only to be chased by one of the mushrooms. It was then I realised that the leaf that had fallen must have mattered. I took refuge in a cave. After the danger was over I worked my way in to the cave and saw an old owl perched on a chest. In a deep voice he asked, "What do you want?" All I could think of then was to get back home and so once again I was back in my bedroom with the rain still pouring down.

#### SPRING SONG

IT ALL started with a day in the country and a jam-jar of frog spawn. My exit from the bus was an omen of worse things to come. The lady in the yellow hat might have been less violent had she realised how pretty the jelly looked nestling in the crown

of her hat: the few drops of pond water were an extra.

When I reached home, the spawn was given the freedom of a salad bowl, and soon, ah! how soon! there were thirty-one little tadpoles. How were we to feed them? A friend suggested raw meat, and from that day our doom was sealed. Mince, steak, liver, and veal, slid down their little gullets. First the salad bowl was replaced by a bucket; then the bath became their dwelling-place. And still the frogs grew and grew. If only we had lived in France, there would have been no disposal problem.

The largest and most intelligent became the family pet. We called him Herbert. With a tartan collar and a lead we caused quite a sensation on our walks or should I say "hops," along the promenade. Alas, he had one weakness; like the magpie he loved shiny objects, especially cutlery, and many were the times he literally landed in our soup. Knives fascinated him and he would sit for hours watching them, but oh, how we fear for the

Now our abode is ringed about by a menacing frog army with cannibalistic tendencies. We shudder as Herbert approaches with his little knife. This is the end. Beware the pond in spring and the jelly-jar!

MARGARET DRYSDALE, 3A2.

#### THE DEPARTURE OF SUMMER

Summer is past,
And withered fast
Its hours of gold,
The sad skies weep,
And North winds sweep
The land with cold.

I regret the end Of gilded days As they depart; Light lingers still But autumn's chill Is in my heart.

And patiently
I wait to see
White blossoms break,
From buds of May,
And green boughs sway
In woods awake.

#### WOODLAND WEARY

Green, and green on brown scaled bark
Trees surround on every side
Tall, dark forms with wizened roots,
The leering shapes try to mock,
With whispering laughter amongst their leaves
The tiny shrubs, below, beneath.
But, here, a monstrous symbol of power,
Strangled is, by a single strand
Of tennons, oily ivy.

A woodland cathedral, with leaves as windows, Path as nave, and rotten stump as holy altar, Gives melancholy to a restless scene Of warring boughs and rustling stems, Of tom-tits, warblers and their kind, Singing loudly in a breathless breeze. Funebral hum of tumbling streams Adds blackness to the weary green Of life among the trees.

ROBERT PARRY, VI.

#### THE ROBIN

In winter when the snow lies deep, And children love to play; The little robin sings its song, All through the night and day.

It hops from branches bare and white, On to your windowsill; And waits to see if someone cares For a little robin still.

So when the winter comes again, And a robin you may see; Stop! and listen, and watch and see, How happy it can be.

JACQUELINE HASTON, 1A3.

#### THE STREAM

Gurgle, gurgle goes the stream, Leaping o'er the gravel, Past the meadows dressed in green, On its way of travel.

Through the village, past the lawns, Up the vale and down, Still it keeps aleaping on, Till it reaches town.

It sights the ocean o'er the lea, Becomes a rushing river, It swirls and mingles with the sea, And then is lost for ever.

MAUREEN MANSON, 1A1.

#### DEATH AND THE MAIDEN

(On reading "Primitive Scenes and Festivals," by Sacheverell Sitwell)

#### (I) Cornucopia

Soft skins of dusk like amber, brilliant plumes, Exotic flowers and fruits mate in the mind With all things Indian, Chichen Itza, Whose feathered serpent god is Kulkulcan, Shone all ablaze in macaw cloaks and crowns Of quetzel plumes which danced upon the wind To rustling, ripened cobs dried on the stalk. The goddess of the golden maize, bent head, Heavy with harvest and her parhelion Of golden locks, sighed content in the sun.

#### (II) Drought

His serpent body Kulkulcan had laid Upon the sky through desolate doomed days, The parched, cracked clay of empty river beds Dry, drooping twigs of birdless trees, parched fields, Dust powdered teocali, tallying Time cycles by the courses of the stars, Spawned shadows from out of the mind's dark night, Miasma loud with long darkening fears, Illusioned consciousness of life and death. All Birth, all Death is pain, genesis is tears. So by the cenote the watchers wept At dawn. The chosen virgin maid was hurled Unbound into obsidian waters with Copal incense and precious jade and gold. No Aphrodite, no Venus Callipyge, No jasmined dancer of the lotus pool, The Indian maid came weeping from the well, Reborn in tears, the goddess of the maize.

#### (III) The Cenote 1935

The gooseflesh of the morning greyness chilled Their bodies as they took the jungle track, Black shadowed and cavernulous, until They came upon the deep, dark orifice, The gaping cenote's mouth, the well of death, Whose purple darkness plunged a fathom down Through silent, sacrificial, sable shades, Ten centuries to where the hoard of gold, Copal incense and precious, dark green jade Lay snug with virgin maiden's whitened bones.

PATRICIA MORGAN, VA.

#### PRIZE LIST 1957-58

Dux of the School					-	ROBERT STIRLING.
Proxime Accessit .		-	-	-		DOROTHY GRANT.
Fifth Year -		-				IAN MITCHELL.
Fourth Year			-	-		DOROTHY MOORE.
Commercial Cour	se .	-	-		-	MARGARET LEATHAM.
Dux of the Third	Year				-	DOROTHY LITTLE.
Proxime Accessit			_	-	-	EILEEN WILLIAMS.
Second Year		_	-62		-	MARJORY CAMPBELL.
First Year						EILEEN MURPHY.

#### CLASS PRIZE WINNERS

3A2		-	-2	-			GEORGE KIRKPATRICK.
3B1						-	MARGARET SUMMERS.
3B2	-		-	•	-		ANN STEWART.
3D1	(Technica			-	-	-	ROGER PARRY.
	(Nautical	) -		-	-	-	JAMES FOWLER.
3D2	and 3 -	-	•			-	DOROTHY MURRAY.
2A2		•	-	-	•	-	MARION MASSON.
2A3		-	-	-	-	-	MARY SCOTT.
2B1	-	-	-	-	-	-	AGNES PATERSON.
2B2		•	•	-	•	-	RONA MACDONALD.
2D1	(Technica						STANLEY MACKENZIE.
	(Nautical	) -	•	-	-	-	JOHN ROBERTSON.
2D2			-	-	-	-	WILLIAM TULLOCH.
2D3		•	-	-		-	SHEILA LYNCH.
1A2			•	-	•	-	JOY HUME.
1B1				•	-	-	JOYCE LYALL.
1B2		-	-	-	-	-	MICHAEL POWER.
1D1	(Technica			-	-	-	GEOFFREY BAIN.
	(Nautical	) -		-		-	VICTOR McLaggan.
1D2	-			-	-	•	MARJORY LAMB.
1D3		•	7.	-	•	-	JOHN HUNTER.
1D3		•		•		-	JOHN HUNTER.

#### SCOTTISH LITERATURE COMPETITION

#### (Presented by Portobello Burns Club)

1A1				-	-		-	EILEEN MURPHY.
1A2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	JOHN FLEMING.
1B1	-	-	<b>/-</b>	-	-		-	ESTHER GILLON.
1B2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	PAMELA ROSS.
1D1		_	-	-	-	-	-	ROGNVALD HARCUS.
1D2	-	-	-			-		JANE CHARLES.
1D3	_		•		_	_	-	EDNA MCKENZIE.

#### PUBLIC SPEAKING PRIZES

#### (Presented by the Portobello Rotary Club)

1st Prize	-		_	-	-	-	PATRICIA MORGAN, IV.
2nd Prize	-	-	•	-		-	JAMES CROW, V.
3rd Prize	-	-	•				ANNA FLUCKER, VI.

#### PRIZE FOR SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL (Presented by the East Edinburgh Branch of the Women Citizens' Association)

ANNA FLUCKER.

#### SINGING PRIZE

SYLVIA THOMSON.

#### MEDALS FOR ATHLETICS

Senior Champion—Girls ANN RUTHERFORD. Boys JUSTIN TOGHER. Junior Champion—Girls AVRIL DICKSON. Boys ALASTAIR HENDERSON. Gymnastic Cups-Girls -ABERCORN. Boys CRICHTON.

#### HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD

#### BRUNSTANE.

Erratum.—In the last issue of The Tower, the First Year Dux for session 1956-57 was given as Linda Caldwell. This ought to have been given as Katherine Chisholm. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

#### ART CLUB

WHETHER the nomenclature of our venture should be known as "Art

Club" or "Art Class" was to us a matter of no little thought.

A work of art, however humble, has to be pondered over, and matured in the mind before emerging as an artistic creation in some medium or other. In order to provide an opportunity for greater continuity of thought than is possible in ordinary circumstances, an invitation was extended to selected pupils in the language classes to meet on a voluntary basis, one afternoon each week after School.

In the belief that real appreciation can only be derived from personal experience, the members are given the opportunity to work in mediums, and embark on projects and crafts not possible within the limited time of their normal school curriculum. Artistic work can be executed on a larger scale and the varied possibilities, problems, and limitations imposed by the particular medium, ultimately realised.

Paintings involving a wide range of subjects and interpretations, have been carried out in gouache and watercolour, and it is planned, should circumstances permit, to essay into oils next winter.

Much satisfaction has been derived from sculpture worked in the round, bas-relief in plaster, clay modelling and ceramics. A few pupils have chosen decorative crafts such as fabric printing by means of lino block or silk screen, while others have done bookcraft and scraperboard.

Always popular with girls are embroidery and applique, much of which under directives and regular supervision, can be executed at home.

The range of subjects is wide, there is freedom of choice, and the experience, we believe to be invaluable in making more complete the art education of a few.

## THE LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

THE Society's Inaugural Address was given by Mr H. D. G. Paton, a former pupil of Portobello School. Taking "India" as his subject, Mr Paton gave a very vivid account of his own experiences in that country.

The joint-debates with Musselburgh Grammar School, Leith Academy and the F.P. Club were, perhaps, disappointing, but the normal School

debates brought to light some good speakers.

Mr R. C. Brown, Mr Weaver and Mr Henriksen made up the team for the "Staff Matter of Opinion." This proved an interesting meeting, the staff giving amusing replies to a large variety of questions.

Prize-winners in the Annual Speech-Making Contest were Miss P. Morgan, Miss C. Combe, Mr J. Crow and Mr C. Burton. The committee

members were glad to see a larger number of entries this year.

The main event of the season was, once again, the Burns Supper, which was under the chairmanship of Mr Neil Wilkie. The toast, "The Immortal Memory," was proposed by the Rev. James Aitchison, and a delightfully witty and charming toast to "The Lassies" was proposed by Mr Henriksen. Miss Pamela Tiller gave the reply. The evening's entertainment was completed by the choir's capable rendering of Scottish Songs and recitations by some of the pupils.

The reports of Secretary and Treasurer were approved at the Annual General Meeting and a new committee for 1959-60 was appointed as follows:

President - - - - - John Sutherland.

Vice-President - - - - Kenneth Wilson.

Secretary - - - - Eileen Williams.

Assistant Secretary - - - Christine Holliday.

Treasurer - - - - - Tom Patterson.

Committee Members - - Pat Morgan.

Margaret Smith.

Morag Laurenson.

PAMELA E. TILLER, Secretary.

#### RUGBY

AS it is customary to begin the review of the Rugby Club with the team which has shown the best record throughout the season, pride of place must be given this year to the 1st XV.

The improved standard of our senior boys has earned them games against stiffer opposition so that the designation 1st XV has had some real meaning.

It is not possible to discuss every game, but some were of particular interest. The game with Fettes' 4th XV was most enjoyable for players and referee alike—a harmony which does not always prevail—and therefore reflects most creditably on the teams. The final score of 16-0 for Portobello in no way discredits the standard of play of our opponents.

Our next highlight was the game with Leith Academy 1st XV which

after an extremely hard second half, ended in a draw, 8-8.

A mid-week game was arranged with Boroughmuir 1st XV towards the end of the season. Although we could not quite emulate their speed in attack, our defence proved more than adequate, and the final score of 8-5 for Boroughmuir dispelled many of the fears we may have had of the "giants."

I regret that so many of our 1st XV players will not be returning next year. Our congratulations go to John Murray on his very able captaincy. It is regrettable that some of last season's 2nd XV games had to be cancelled

It is regrettable that some of last season's 2nd XV games had to be cancelled for lack of support. We sympathise with those who were undoubtedly most enthusiastic and trust that the prospect for the future will be brighter.

The 3rd XV has had a very good season. The hopes which I expressed for these players in last year's report, when they comprised the 5th XV, have been fully realised. Many of these players will step straight into the 1st XV next season and should form the strong core of that team for the next two years.

The 4th XV suffered as usual from a general falling off in the level of interest as the season progressed. This is a very common complaint in most schools and we take heart from knowing that it is not a local epidemic.

It is no discredit to our fifths to say that they have had an average season. If they have lacked the general playing ability which marked their predecessors, they have shown a degree of determination which does them great credit.

The 6th XV have not had such a good year, but have played with a verve

which has given them enjoyment if not a brilliant record.

Before discussing the first year teams I should like to mention team 6A. This team has not been shown in the list of results, for, as the season progressed we found that we had so many players in the first year, that it was much easier to field a third strength first year team than to attempt an amalgamation of first and second year players, an amalgamation which would have produced too immature a team to undertake the normal 6A fixture list.

During the season over fifty 1st Year boys played Rugby regularly. This is so encouraging that for next season I have arranged fixtures for an additional second year team. The standard of play was generally high.

The 7th XV had many very strong fixtures and as the total of points will show, they distinguished themselves. There are some very fine players in this team.

The 8th XV have a very impressive set of results, and whereas their opposition was not so strong as that of the 7th XV, they can feel justly

proud of such a good season.

To find our 9th XV winning nine games out of sixteen was better than we had ever dared to hope. We can only trust that future 1st Year players will display the enthusiasm, determination, and skill which has characterised this present 1st Year.

With the introduction of the additional 2nd Year team it has been decided

to renumber the first and second year teams as follows:—

2nd Year teams—5th, 6th and 7th XVs. 1st Year teams—8th, 9th and 10th XVs.

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 wish to express my thanks to all members of staff who have assisted

with the training, refereeing and supervision of teams.

To those of our former pupils who have given up their Saturday mornings so regularly, often at very short notice, to assist with refereeing, I am most grateful. Next season our need for referees will be even greater. If there are any other F.P.s who would care to assist the School in this way, I should be very pleased to hear from them.

, 1					Points	
	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Against
1st XV	21	16	3	2	346	50
2nd XV	9	1	8	0	48	137
3rd XV	20	14	4	2	285	76
4th XV	14	2	12	0	94	313
5th XV	17	8	8	1	223	190
6th XV	16	4	11	1	84	219
7th XV	19	9	8	2	162	166
8th XV	19	9	5	5	237	98
9th XV	16	9	7	0	91	163

## CRICKET 1st XI



Back Row—S. Hamilton, G. Smith, B. Curtis, L. Cassidy, G. Kirkpatrick, B. Robertson, J. Crow.

Front Row—A. Currie, N. Wilson, J. Reid (Captain), R. Templeton, H. Clark.

## FOOTBALL 1st XI



Back Row—H. Clark, E. Green, W. Paul, G. Clark, W. Marr, D. Thomson.

Front Row—G. Smith, G. Krause, S. Hamilton (Captain), I. Paterson, R. Tait.

## Results of House Matches

Senior: Brunstane. Under Fifteen: Abercorn. 1st Year: Duddingston. Winning House: Duddingston. A. D. C.

#### **SWIMMING**

THIS year a team was again entered for the Edinburgh and District Schools' Swimming Association Gala with the following results.

## Girls

50 YDS. FREE STYLE—UNDER 13. 1st Patricia Jamieson, 31.2 secs.—a new record.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE—UNDER 13. 1st Patricia Jamieson, 37.2 secs.—Patricia beat her own record of 39.2 secs.

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE—Under 15. 2nd Janice Anderson, 42.5 secs.

50 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE—UNDER 15. 2nd Janice Anderson, 41 secs.

#### Boys

50 YDS. FREE STYLE—UNDER 15. 1st Brian Turner, 27.8 secs.—a new record.

These three swimmers were then selected to compete in the National Championships of the Scottish Schools' Swimming Association held at Paisley in May. Competition at this level is very keen indeed.

50 YDs. Free Style Girls—Under 13.

2nd Patricia Jamieson.

50 YDS. BUTTERFLY STROKE, GIRLS UNDER 15. 3rd Janice Anderson.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE BOYS—UNDER 15. 4th Brian Turner.

To Patricia, Janice and Brian, we offer our congratulations on their very fine performances.

#### SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA

AT the beginning of April, the first post-war School Swimming Gala was held. The interest shown by all classes in the School far exceeded our expectations. The number of competitions was very high and the standard of performance which they attained showed a considerable degree of swimming ability.

Girls' Events

OPEN-

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

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

50 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, P. Jamieson, 32.8 secs., 2, J. Anderson, 3. C. Holliday.

50 YDS BACK STROKE.

1, J. Anderson, 36.4 secs.; 2, P. Jamieson; 3, C. Holliday.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES.

1, J. Anderson, 57.3 secs.; 2, P. Jamieson; 3, C. Holliday.

1, C. Wilkie; 2, C. Wilson; 3, P. Jamieson.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Crichton; 2, Brunstane.

3RD YEAR-

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

1, M. Dickson, 47.7 secs.; 2, M. Henderson; 3, C. Combe.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, M. Dickson, 36.1 secs.; 2, M. Henderson; 3, M. Crichton.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Crichton; 2, Brunstane.

2ND YEAR-

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

1, J. Lyall, 43.2 secs.; 2, M. Dixon; 3, P. Burns.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, J. Lyall, 42.9 secs.; 2, H. Rhind; 3, M. Dixon.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Brunstane; 2, Abercorn; 3, Duddingston; 4, Crichton.

1ST YEAR-

25 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

1, A. McRae, 21.5 secs.; 2, N. Adamson; 3, C. Adamson.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, N. Adamson, 17 secs.; 2, P. Cochrane; 3, C. Brennan.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Brunstane; 2, Abercorn; 3, Duddingston; 4, Crichton.

## Boys' Events

OPEN-

50 YDS. BREAST.

1, W. Robertson, 40.1 secs.; 2, B. Turner; 3, L. Cassidy.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE. 1, W. Robertson, 27.8 secs.; 2, B. Turner; 3, W. Brunton.

50 YDS. BACK STROKE.

1, W. Robertson, 33 secs.; 2, B. Turner; 3, D. Blows.

THREE LENGTHS—THREE STYLES

1, W. Robertson, 52.2 secs.; 2, B. Turner; 3, L. Cassidy. DIVING.

1, G. Jeffrey; 2, K. Wilson; 3, W. Robertson.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Brunstane; 2, Duddingston.

3RD YEAR-

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

1, N. Davidson, 41.9 secs.; 2, J. Hogg; 3, S. Grierson.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, J. Hogg, 32 secs.; 2, S. Grierson; 3, K. Whitson.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Crichton; 2, Abercorn; 3, Duddingston; 4, Brunstane.

2ND YEAR-

50 YDS. BREAST STROKE.

1, J. Barbour, 40.5 secs.; 2, I. Neilands; 3, J. Burrells.

50 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, J. Barbour, 35 secs.; 2, J. Dow; 3, D. Walker.

HOUSE RELAY.

1, Abercorn; 2, Brunstane; 3, Duddingston; 4, Crichton.

1ST YEAR-

25 YDS. BREAST.

1, W. Flockhart, 21 secs.; 2, F. Borthwick; 3, I. Cooper.

25 YDS. FREE STYLE.

1, W. Flockhart, 15.7 secs.; 2, I. Cooper; 3, K. Buchanan.

HOUSE RELAYS.

1, Brunstane; 2, Crichton; 3, Abercorn; 4, Duddingston.

INTER-HOUSE LIFE SAVING

1, C. Holliday and C. Wilkie, Crichton; 2, J. Anderson and P. Jamieson, Brunstane; 3, C. Combe and E. Paterson, Duddingston.

Boys.

1, W. Robertson and A. Alexander, Abercorn; 2, B. Turner and A. Ramsay, Crichton; 3, L. Cassidy and N. Wilson, Brunstane.

WINNERS OF THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS.

GIRLS—Janice Anderson. Boys—Wilson Robertson.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP.

1, Brunstane, 189 points; 2, Abercorn, 154 points; 3, Crichton, 120 points; 4, Duddingston, 89 points.

Inter-Schools' Relay Races.
GIRLS—1, Boroughmuir; 2, Portobello.
Boys—1, Portobello; 2, Boroughmuir.

All winning performances will constitute our first list of Swimming Records, and when the next issue of The Tower is printed we hope that it will contain the announcement of many new records. We are grateful to Mr McLennan for his initiative in reviving this function and for his very efficient organisation.

#### BOYS' ATHLETIC CLUB

IN addition to the contests held in 1958 with Leith Academy and Broughton, which were mentioned in the previous issue of *The Tower*, a contest was also held with Trinity Academy later in the term. This had to be abandoned after about an hour because of heavy rain.

## School Records broken at Trinity Academy Contest in 1958

New Record

Previous Record

OPEN EVENTS

Discus 121 ft.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. L. Cassidy. High 5 ft. L. Cassidy.

108 ft. 11½ in. L. Cassidy 1958.\* 4 ft. 11½ in. J. McKinley 1954.

UNDER 16

Long

18 ft. 2½ in. G. Krause.

18 ft. 2 in. K. Lawson 1958.†

\* Leith Academy Contest. † School Sports.

At the Scottish Schools Athletic Championships held at Glasgow in 1958, Lawrence Cassidy gained third place in the Discus for the 15-17 years group with a throw of 143 ft.  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ins. This was an exceptionally fine performance. The winning throw being 145 ft. 2 in. Lawrence gained a Standard Medal.

In the Edinburgh Inter-scholastic Sports of 1958 we had the following successes:-

UNDER 16

Javelin, 1st, K. Scott, 123 ft.

OPEN

High, 2nd, M. Boardman, 5 ft. 3 in. (New School Record.)

The first contest of the 1959 season was again with Leith Academy. Once more our strength lay in field events where we gained first place in eight out of twelve events. Leith Academy, however, were generally stronger in track events and won the contest by four points. Leith Academy, 112 points; Portobello, 118 points.

## School Records broken at Leith Academy Contest 1959

New Record Previous Record 220 yds. 24.5 secs. J. Togher. 25 secs. A. Goodall 1955. Long 19 ft. 5½ in. B. Curtis. 19 ft. 4 in. J. Moir 1956. UNDER 16

Shot 32 ft. 8 in. P. Riddell. 32 ft. 3½ in. W. Reid 1958.\* \* Broughton Contest.

## FOOTBALL REPORT 1958-59

PORTOBELLO is to become a rugby-playing School, comments upon which would be out of place here. The initial step towards this goal (?) was taken last year when first year pupils were excluded from football teams and as a result only two teams were run this season, namely our 1st XI and "A" XI.

A factual report on the record of these two teams would give a false impression of achievements, in that no Leagues or Cups were won, but once again Portobello boys played with sufficient keenness and sportsmanship as to earn high praise from supervising masters.

The 1st XI finished in the top half of the League, reached the semi-final of the Colonel Clark Cup where they were narrowly defeated by the eventual winners, and after beating Bathgate Academy 10-1 in their best performance of the season, in the Intermediate Shield, were soon eliminated from this competition. There was a fine spirit among this team, ably captained by S. Hamilton. Of the others, G. Krause has been a consistent member of the Edinburgh Schools XI, and has played in several representative trials where he may well have been chosen for the Scottish team but for the brilliance of their present left-winger. Three other boys, H. Clark, I. Paterson and A. Bennet also took part in Edinburgh Schools Trials.

The "A" team were indeed a mercurial set, beating the best one week and losing to a poorer team the next. As in past years, it seems that other Edinburgh Schools rear bigger boys, under 14, than Portobello does. Nevertheless, the team showed no lack of enthusiasm and often rose to the occasion through playing good football, which augurs well for next season. Their finest achievement was in reaching the final of the Meggetland Sixes where they lost to Tynecastle—so next season may well be our year!

Finally, my thanks are due to those members of the Staff who made such a brave show against the pupils in our annual game, and to those few members of Staff who helped with refereeing and supervising duties.

M. P.

## NETBALL

NETBALL again has formed part of our summer games curriculum and those who play meet on Thursdays after School. First year, as usual, are in the majority and under Miss Stobbie's supervision are both keen and energetic. We should like to see more of the older girls playing but perhaps tennis holds more interest for them.

Owing to the fact that the Primary Schools use the netball pitches at the field we were given permission to use St. John's School playground. This has proved invaluable as one pitch is not sufficient to accommodate the

Last year, because of bad weather and so many other commitments, we were unable to hold the annual House Matches. However, they will be organised sooner this year and we hope that the weather will favour us more kindly.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking Miss Stobbie for giving her free time to coach the members of the Club.

C. MARSHALL.

#### ROUNDERS

JUNE 1958 completed a most successful season of the Rounders Club. Large, almost daunting, numbers of girls attended the weekly practices, and although members were mostly from first year it was pleasing to find so many of the "veterans" continuing to take a keen interest in the game.

There were no external matches, but House Matches were played and resulted in a win for Brunstane with Abercorn in second place. No mention is made of the other two Houses out of consideration for the joint authors.

J. C. and M. A.

## **HOCKEY REPORT 1958-59**

Captain and Anne Lyall as Vice-Captain. The 1st XI played together well and it had a good season playing 15 matches, of which 10 were won, 2 lost and 3 drawn. The weather, however, was unfavourable and 8 matches had to be cancelled.

Dates have been added to "colours" already gained by Charlotte Wilson, Anne Lyall, Jacqueline Ball, Irene Carey. New "colours" have been awarded to Eleanor Adamson, Eileen Williams, Pat Ellerker, Dorothy Moore, Dorothy Little, Catherine Wilkie and Joan Dunnet.

The 2nd XI, captained by Vivian Waugh, had an unsuccessful season,

but proved themselves very keen.

The 3rd XI, captained by Norma Robertson and Susan Mottram did not have a very good season. Out of 10 matches, the team won 1 and lost 9. The 4th XI, ably captained by Isabel McQue, was not very successful,

winning 2 games and losing 9.

Owing to the enthusiastic support of the 1st Year, we have been able to form a 1st Year team, which was captained by Beverley Simpson. Out of 4 matches they won 3 and drew 1. We are sure that these girls will do well next season.

In the American Tournament at Meggetland, the Senior Team was very successful and managed to play in the final against Boroughmuir. Unfortunately, after a very exciting game, we were narrowly defeated by 1-0. The Junior Team, although it played well, was not successful.

The House Matches were played in March and resulted in the following:

1st, Abercorn; 2nd, Duddingston; 3rd, Crichton; 4th, Brunstane.

Undoubtedly the most spectacular matches of the season were the 1st X1 v. the Staff and the 1st XI v. the Senior Boys. Although both games resulted in losses for the Club, we enjoyed them thoroughly. Miss Richardson referred

The Hockey Club wishes to thank Miss Marshall and Miss Stobbie for devoting a great deal of their time in helping to make this season successful. We wish also to thank Mr Ross, the groundsman.

C. WILSON, Captain.

#### CRICKET

THE results for the 1958 season were as follows:-

	<i>P</i> .	W.	L.	D.
1st XI	10	5	3	2
2nd XI	10	3	6	1
3rd XI	10	9	1	0
4th XI	10	4	6	0

The first eleven once more emerged on the credit side and towards the end of the season the bowling and batting were of a fairly good standard. However, there was still a lack of concentration in the field and some players were slow off the mark, important points which must not be overlooked if runs are to be kept down and no catches missed. The batting averages were headed by J. Ure, who, although not hitting up any high scores, was never out in any game, W. Reid 11.9, and L. Cassidy 7.0.

The Second Eleven was not up to the usual standard due, possibly, to lack of experience. The Third Eleven have to be congratulated on their splendid results, losing only one game and that by a very narrow margin.

The Fourth Eleven contained some promising players who should do well

in the future both as batsmen and bowlers.

As regards the current season we are running six elevens and we should, with reasonable support, continue to do so in the future. The response from most of the first year classes has been very good and the two First Year teams should do well once they have acquired a little more skill and experience. There is, however, a pitiful lack of enthusiasm in the Senior Classes, i.e. Third Year and upwards, and it is only with difficulty that the second eleven is completed each week. This is a poor reflection on the boys concerned and any sense of duty to the School seems conspicuous by its absence. It is to be hoped that this sorry state of affairs is not allowed to continue.

Once more we must thank those members of Staff who assist with coaching, umpiring and travelling with teams. We have more coaches this year than we have ever had before but more are still required if we are to reach the ideal

position of one per team.

We were pleased to hear that some boys who left School last year have joined outside clubs and so continued to interest themselves in the game. We would point out that the reforming of the F.P. Club depends on the support from boys leaving School and those interested should contact Mr R. King, 31 Durham Road.

Finally, may we end on a note of triumph. The Staff won the 1958 Staff v. Pupils match by 20 runs and 3 wickets. Man of the match was Mr Baggaley, top scorer with 12 runs and who took 7 wickets for 6 runs.

The Office-bearers for the present season are:

Captain - - - - JOHN REID.

Vice-Captain - - - - LAWRENCE CASSIDY.

Secretary - - - - James Crow.

A. Y. G.

#### **TENNIS**

THE CLUB did not have a very successful season last year as the general standard of play was not very high, however, this season promises to be more successful.

In June the House Matches were played, resulting in a win for Brunstane, followed by Abercorn, Crichton and Duddingston.

The new Office-bearers elected for this season were:—

Captain - - - - ROGER TEMPLETON.

Vice-Captain - - - - IAN MITCHELL.

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 has arranged School championships, and taken a keen interest in the Club's activities.

JOYCE CROOKSTON, V.

#### SCRIPTURE UNION

THE Scripture Union was resumed in September last with good attendances. Both Miss Heather Peebles Brown and Mr Norman Richards honoured the Branch by their presence during the year and gave very instructive talks The good attendances dropped off a little in the summer term but not to a great extent. Next year the Secretary will be Tom Patterson of the present 4th Year.

ROBERT PARRY, Secretary.

#### E. S. C. A.

EDINBURGH Schools' Citizenship Association is a branch of the Council for Education in World Citizenship and membership is open to those in the senior forms of Edinburgh schools. The Association meets once a fortnight for political, religious and general debates and discussions. Portobello is represented by Mr R. C. Brown on the Advisory Council and Miss Eileen Williams on the Committee.

This session many very entertaining meetings were held. The Kirk Session held in Holy Cross Academy brought to notice a few of today's problems and the Association heard the views of speakers from four denominations. The Political Evening in which four visiting speakers, one Conservative, one Liberal, one Socialist and one Communist, took part was very lively and the discussion was extremely interesting. The Christmas Dance held in George Heriot's School was very enjoyable but the most successful evening was perhaps the International Night when people of different countries from the member schools gave a show of the singing and dancing of their own lands.

Unfortunately, very few pupils from Portobello joined the Association this session and even fewer attended the functions, but it is to be hoped that many of the present third year will, next session, join this extremely interesting and worthwhile Society.

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## FORMER PUPILS' CLUB

## SECRETARY'S REPORT 1958-1959

THE season opened on 3rd October with a Social Evening. We were pleased to welcome the Honorary President, Mr Houston, and although the meeting was not well attended it was a very enjoyable one. A varied programme of dancing and games was arranged by the Committee. Refreshments were provided.

The Prize Quiz on 17th October took the same form as the T.V. Show, Criss-Cross Quiz. This was very poorly attended, but was enjoyed nevertheless by the few who were there. The winner was awarded a prize by the

quiz-master, Mr A. Balfour.

The film, Vancouver Empire Games, was shown by Mr Peter Heatly on 31st October. It was an open meeting and we were pleased to see so many present pupils there. The film was in colour and it reminded us of some of the achievements gained by members of the Scottish team.

On 14th November, the Club was very pleased to welcome the return of Mr J. Hossack, who gave an illustrated talk on a visit he had made to Uganda and the Congo. The illustration was provided by an interesting film and

again the meeting was open to pupils from the School.

The Scottish Country Dance, held on 28th November, although not quite so well attended, was enjoyed very much by the dancers. We must thank Mr Archibald for compiling such an interesting programme, and Mr Mackay

for acting as M.C.

The first meeting of 1959 was the joint debate with the School. The Club was represented by Messrs A. Balfour and M. Gilgannon. The subject of the debate was "That Former Pupils' Clubs are a feeble and futile attempt to stem an irresistible flood." A very disappointing open debate followed and the negative motion was carried by a large majority.

The meetings which were to take place on 30th January and 6th March were so poorly attended that it was decided not to proceed with them.

The Season ended on Friday, 20th March, with the Annual General Meeting. It was decided that, because attendances had been so poor in the second half of the session, we should not have a Closing Social.

## F.P. NOTES

ALTHOUGH more news is reaching us about the activities of former pupils, the amount of information received still falls far short of what we would like to have. May we appeal again to members of Staff, former pupils, and all who are interested in the School, to keep us informed about points of interest involving former pupils:

During the session we have received information about a

number of former pupils.

JOHN ALLAN (1953), graduated A.H.-W.C. in Applied Chemistry. He is now engaged in research at Edinburgh University for the degree of Ph.D. The title of his thesis is "The Polysaccharide Content of Hops."

ALAN KING (1954), graduated M.A., 2nd Class Honours, in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at Edinburgh University.

He is now training to be an actuary.

GORDON MACKAY (1952), graduated M.B., Ch.B., at Edinburgh University.

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James Douglas (1954), graduated B.Sc., at Edinburgh

University and is now at Moray House.

ALEXANDER BALFOUR (1953), M.A.(Hons.), gained the Diploma in Education at Edinburgh University, and has joined the staff of George Heriot's School.

RONALD KING, B.Sc.(Hons.) (1953), also gained the Diploma in Education at Edinburgh University. He has joined the staff

of Melville College.

MORNA MULGRAY (1957), was medallist in the First Ordinary Latin Class at Edinburgh University. Her sister, Helen (1957) and Margaret Fleming (1957) were 5th and 7th respectively in the same class.

June Evans (1957), at present a student at the Edinburgh College of Art, has won the Andrew Grant Scholarship in Sculpture. This scholarship valued at £200 per year for three years, is open to students from all over Britain.

ALAN REID (1954), passed the Civil Service Examination for

Executive Officers and is now working in Gillingham.

ALEXANDER DALY (1954), was selected as reserve for the

R.A.F. Rugby Team.

DOROTHY STEPHENSON (1955), qualified S.R.N. last March. ROBERT MACKAY, M.A. (1928), acting headmaster of the Inch Secondary School, was promoted headmaster of Firhill Secondary School.

JOHN THORBURN, M.A., B.Sc. (1908), Deputy Headmaster and Principal Teacher of Science, Boroughmuir Secondary School, retired at the end of last session. We offer to him our

best wishes for a happy retirement.

Several F.P.'s visited the School in the course of the session. We are always pleased to see them and to hear about their careers and achievements.

#### RUGBY

AFTER a disastrous start in which 80 points were lost in 2 games, the 1st Fifteen settled down to play very steady if at times, unspectacular rugby. During the season we contrived to win 4 League games, including a memorable 8-6 win over Corstorphine, last year's champions, while two of our members, Bill Alexander and Danny Dickson played for the Edinburgh District. Our Sevens team added to our growing prestige and created Club history by reaching the semi-finals of Murrayfield, where they were defeated by the eventual winners, Dunbar, by 8 points to nil.

The 2nd Fifteen have had a rather unfortunate season with regard to cancellations, but have played throughout with commendable spirit against

weightier and more experienced opposition.

We will again be running two teams next season and I should like to remind all rugby players leaving School that they will be made very welcome. I should also like to thank Miss Darling and Messrs Alexander, Chalmers, Connor and McLennan, who in diverse ways have all contributed towards the success of the season.

## HOCKEY CLUB

THIS season has been the most disappointing in years, due to the unfavourable weather. There were 29 games arranged, but only 12 played. The others were cancelled owing to the pitch being unplayable.

The match against the School 1st XI resulted in a 2-1 victory for the School. A game was arranged between the F.P.'s and eleven of the School's Rugby XV but unfortunately this had to be cancelled.

Here are the results of last season's games:—

				Goals		
<i>P</i> .	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	
P. 12	7	4	1	27	22	

For next season we have 24 games arranged including 2 with the School

At the end-of-season meeting the following Office-bearers were elected:—

Miss Maisie Dudgeon. Captain Secretary -Treasurer -Miss PAT GILROY. Miss Janeanne Shearer.

Those from the School who are leaving this summer and would like to join the Club would be very welcome and should contact the Secretary at 38 Duddingston Road, Portobello, Tel. POR 4396.

MARIAN D. WATSON, Hon. Secretary.

#### TENNIS CLUB

THE season officially commenced on Saturday, 5th April 1958, but no play was possible on that day, owing to rain. Both men's teams showed a tremendous improvement, the first team holding their place in Division IV and the second team topping their division without losing a match. The ladies, too, showed promise, and we look forward to a successful season for them this year.

The playing surface of the courts throughout the season was excellent, for which we thank our enthusiastic groundsman, Mr Hogarth. New netting was erected on Court 1, and that, coupled with the work done since last season ended, has resulted in a wonderful transformation of the Club premises.

The Tournament results were:

Men's Singles (Open) - - John Young. Men's Singles (Handicap) - - JOHN YOUNG. Ladies' Singles - - - M. S. Gibson. Men's Doubles -

- J. Young and W. J. Anderson. Ladies' Doubles - - - J. Cranston and M. Anderson. Mixed Doubles - - - M. S. Gibson and R. T. Bond.

The following Office-bearers were elected for season 1959:—

Hon. President - - -J. A. SMITH. JOHN YOUNG. W. BEGBIE. A. D. MURRAY. Treasurer -Secretary: R. T. Bond, 30 Argyle Crescent, Portobello.

Tel.: POR 2564.

All pupils leaving School are invited to get in touch with the Secretary if they wish to join the Club.

## **BADMINTON CLUB**

ALTHOUGH there was a slight drop in membership from last season, the Club and attended on Monday evenings during the winter. We have be the Former Pupils recently and assure a warm welcome to anythe interested. The Club meets on Monday evenings from September and prospective members should contact the Secretary: Miss M. Marshall, 8 Niddrie Marischal Road, Edinburgh 9.





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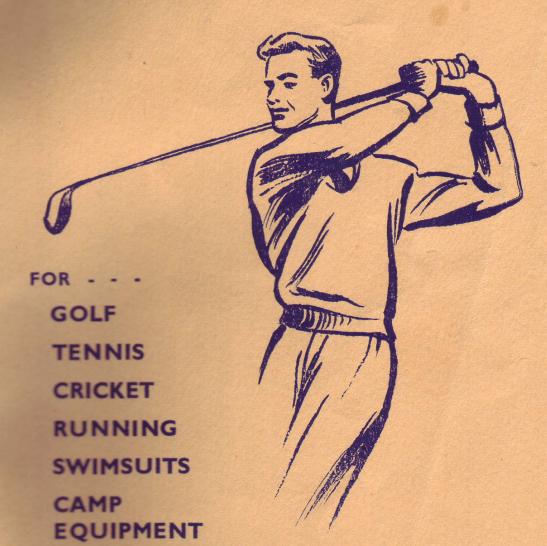
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