



Sydney Boys'
High School

THE
RECORD

THE MAGAZINE
OF THE
BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
SYDNEY



VOL. XXI

No. 1



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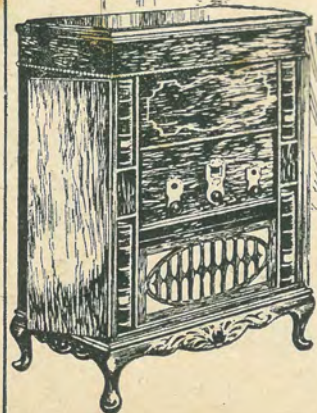
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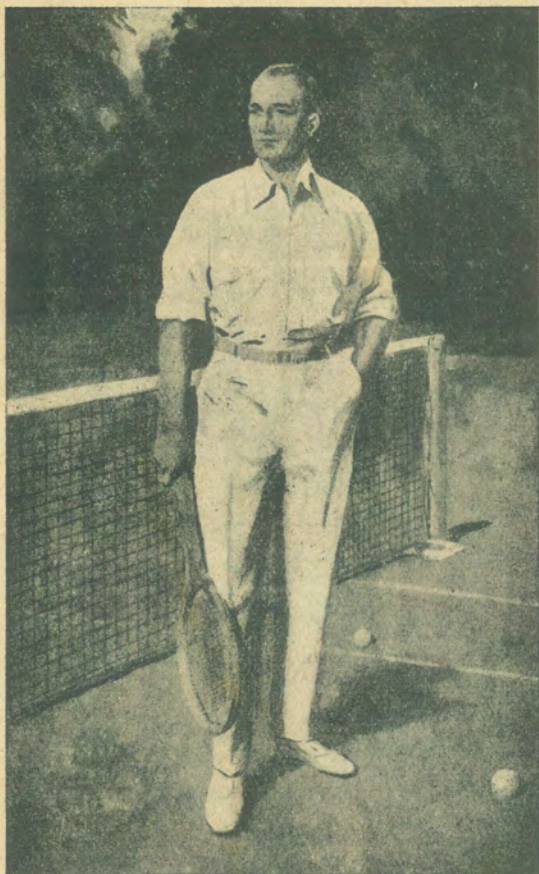
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The Record

The Magazine of the Boys' High School, Sydney.

"VERITATE ET VIRTUTE"

Vol. XXI

JUNE, 1929

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Electing Prefects.

In commencing this article, we wish to dispel any criticism that it is written in a spirit of dissatisfaction with our present prefects. This is far from being the case. We say that body is as fine collectively as we have seen in the school. Our purpose is to keep up this standard, to let the fourth year know what is expected of them in making their choice at the end of the year, and to assist more especially the large number of boys from other schools who have taken their place in our senior school.

We emphasise at this point the importance of the office. It is one which calls for a great deal of thought and responsibility in the mere selection of those fit for it. The school's welfare, moral tone, good conduct, and good name depend almost entirely on the prefects. With poor prefects a poor school must inevitably result. They are in this respect more important than the masters, for they are boys themselves, who mix with the boys and know them thoroughly. As our Headmaster has told us, the School Captain is in some ways more important than the Headmaster himself.

When the time comes round for us to elect boys to these important offices we may be told that a good prefect combines three characteristics—sporting ability, scholarship, and character, and also that he must be a leader of his fellows.

Let us consider the latter qualification. Does such a person as a leader of boys exist? If he does, then he is usually either a leader in schoolboy rule-breaking escapades, or he is the one who by excelling at sport gains general popularity. There is seldom in any other sense a leader among ordinary boys. We have now to consider whether either of these is a fit person to be selected as a prefect. Generally speaking, the former is not. The Ethiopian does not change his skin; and the greatest rule-breaker of all can hardly be expected to restrain others from doing the same. The second may or may not be suitable. Although we shall speak of this later, we may say here that through this characteristic alone he is not desirable. It seems then that those who are generally the leaders of the boys are not necessarily fitted through that characteristic to become prefects, although it

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would be an additional benefit were they suitable in other respects.

Let us now consider the other statement, that the best prefect combines sporting ability, scholarship and character.

It is our opinion that in a prefect the first two are not of vital importance. Were the prefectship a reward for services on the field, were it a reward for good work in the classroom—were it an achievement in the progress of the outstanding sport or of the outstanding scholar—we would not make that statement. But it is not so. It is an important office in the control and for the betterment of the school. Certainly attainments in each of those directions are helpful, but not necessary. As we have said, an outstanding sport will have a measure of influence among his fellows. Nevertheless both of these are trivial in comparison with character.

A prefect with character will overcome all other difficulties, and each one should, and must, have it. By character we mean chiefly two factors—sound, beneficial and clear-cut opinions and the strength of mind necessary to support them.

Just as in the world we require statesmen of character to settle our difficulties and lessen our hardships, so in the school we need boys who will serve well that all may follow their example. They should not be mere policemen to uphold the law, but legislators to make or amend the law, to determine what we should or should not do.

Let us, then, choose our prefects as far as we can along these lines, that they have opinions of value to the school, are possessed of determination combined with integrity. Then we shall have in authority men such as our school, our country, and our world needs. Our school, too, will flourish so long as we see that we discover, and being discovered select them to wield authority.

EMPIRE DAY.

This day, according to our usual custom, was spent in listening to speakers from our own number. In the first half of the morning boys in their separate classes addressed their fellows on various subjects prepared.

All then went to the hall to hear speeches by four pupils, R. Walker, F. Bowler, T. Martin and J. Millar. They give entirely different addresses, taking in the future, present and past of the Empire, its justice and its trade.

At the conclusion, the captain, J. Still, moved a vote of thanks to the speakers, saying that this was, in his opinion, a more satisfactory method of celebrating Empire Day than inviting speakers from outside.

SPEECH DAY.

Headmaster's Report, December 13th, 1928.

On a similar occasion last year attention was drawn to the fact that it was the last Speech Day to be held in the old School. The School was transferred from Castlereagh Street, City, to Ultimo, in 1891. At Easter this year we changed over to the present buildings, the official opening taking place on June 9th. The year 1928, therefore, will be a memorable one in the history of the School. This is the first Speech Day to be held in our magnificent new hall.

Statistics for the Year.

The gross enrolment for the year was 674, this being 161 in excess of 1927 figures. In view of the change to our new school, five new first year classes were enrolled. As, however, we spent the first quarter at Ultimo, conditions were very unfavourable: the whole of our first year classes occupying accommodation very kindly made available by the Technical College. This hindered progress, mainly owing to the distances to be travelled by teachers at change of lessons. However, in making promotions this year consideration has been given to the disabilities earlier in the year. The quarterly figures were as follows:—

March Quarter: Gross enrolment 645, effective enrolment 634; average attendance, 591.8, or 91 %.

June Quarter: Gross enrolment 642, effective enrolment 635; average attendance 600.9, or 94 %.

September Quarter: Gross enrolment 636, effective enrolment 630; average attendance 587.9, or 93 %.

December Quarter: Gross enrolment 627, effective enrolment 623; average attendance 585, or 93 %.

During the year there was an epidemic of mumps, from which the school suffered to some extent, and with the usual influenza cases, our attendance has not been as satisfactory as usual.

Unpunctuality is not marked; but improvement could be shown in this direction, and parents are invited to co-operate with the school in insisting on punctuality.

During the year 314 pupils were enrolled: 262 in the first year, 52 in the fourth year. The latter were transferred from Intermediate Schools in order to complete the course to the Leaving Certificate.

Only 51 pupils left during the year: 12 in 1st year, 12 in 2nd year, 4 in 3rd year, 18 in 4th year, 5 in 5th year. As usual, the greatest loss is in 4th year, many boys returning to school after the Intermediate, till they can find suitable employment. The smaller number of pupils who left in 1st year is a cause for congratulation.

Examination Results.

In all 52 candidates were successful at the Leaving Certificate Examination and 82 at the Intermediate Certificate Examination, 1927. The school gained 1 University Bursary, 12 University Exhibitions (4 in Arts, 2 in Medicine, 2 in Science, 3 in Economics, 1 in Architecture); 32 scholarships to the Teachers' Training College, and Honours in different subjects were gained by 13 candidates. The prospects for the present year are distinctly bright, both in the Leaving Certificate and Intermediate Certificate Examinations. It is no secret that we expect to carry off both the classical and modern language scholarships.

Monthly tests were held in the first half year, and the result, in fact, in modern languages there are two candidates of equal standard, both capable of winning the scholarship. In addition, we have two very good boys in the mathematics section.

Results obtained were fairly satisfactory. Pupils were encouraged to greater effort, and the School was examined for promotions in September at the same time as the tests for the public examinations. This was an experiment: the idea being that, if any weaknesses were discovered, they could be remedied before the end of the year; and backward boys could be stimulated to give greater attention to their studies by the fear of failure to gain promotion.

The result proved that little was gained in that direction, and this little was negated by the sub-conscious feeling of the rest that their promotion was secure.

Preparation for Work.

As I reported to the Parents and Citizens' Association recently, the results of the year's work are not as satisfactory as they should and could be. There is not sufficient work done by the pupils. As conditions are at present, home preparation and study (and a reasonable amount at that) must be done each night in order to succeed. There is not sufficient time during the period allotted for class teaching for both instruction by the teacher and study by the pupil. Home preparation and revision must be done by the pupil, and a deaf ear turned to wireless, gramophone, the pictures, invitations to the surf, or car picnics, etc., etc., till the first duty has been performed. Pupils should be put under stern discipline by parents, and taught that pleasure has to be earned as a result of duty done.

As a result of neglect in spite of warnings a few pupils in all years—but most in 1st. and 2nd. years—have failed to qualify for promotion. This is most unfortunate, as it means a year lost. At the same time, it must be remembered that a boy promoted, unprepared to benefit by the work of the new course, invariably goes from bad to worse, which is a tragedy in comparison with a lost year and subsequent success. Boys who fail

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in spite of apparently reasonable effort are recommended to apply themselves to something within their range of accomplishment

Competition in Studies.

The W. J. Cleary Shield for Studies was won by Reid House. Points scored:—

	Gordon		Parkes		Reid		Wentworth	
	for	agst.	for	agst.	for	agst.	for	agst.
4th & 5th years	36	20	194	50	338	40	92	90
3rd year	58	37½	49½	12½	166½	27½	66	22½
2nd year	110	36	80	21	45	9	35	24
1st year	96	37	102	25	22	14	30	24
Totals	300	130½	425½	108½	631½	90½	223	160½
Net Totals	169½		317		541		62½	

Results in order of merit:—1, Reid House, 541; 2, Parkes House, 317; 3, Gordon House, 170; 4, Wentworth House, 63.

Holidays and Examinations.

In my report it would be an oversight not to note the alteration in the school holidays. Sydney High School does not support the alteration, and hopes that if the old system is not reverted to in 1930, at least a compromise in the Three-term year as adopted by the G.P.S., will be adopted. This would suit "High" especially, as then in all sporting commitments we should be in line with the other schools in the Association.

With regard to the change in the date of the Intermediate Certificate Examination, if the provision of not issuing the certificate will operate successfully in the direction of keeping boys at school till the year closes, then with a few adjustments in the courses of instruction, the change could with advantage be given a fair trial. If, concurrently, the Leaving Certificate Examination could begin a fortnight later, that would be an added advantage. I am afraid, however, that, as now, subsequent to the examination, boys would obtain employment prior to the results of the examination being known or to the issue of the certificate.

Parents and Citizens.

The Parents and Citizens' Association has continued its very useful work in connection with the School, and can look back upon a year of helpful service. The Treasurer's statement shows that a sum of £312 has been spent in helping the School in various directions. Cricket and rowing have been materially assisted while the school library and science departments have received generous grants. The school flagpole and flag, stage equipment in the school hall, electric lighting of the basement, installation of electric bells, furniture for prefects' rooms, are other gifts to the school.

Recently a fete was held by the Association in conjunction with the School. This was highly successful, and although accounts have not been finalised, it is likely that about £250 will be raised for school purposes.

The School offers its sincere thanks for the splendid work done by the Association.

Old Boys' Union.

The O.B.U. has had a busy year. Mr. Eedy, as President, is to be heartily congratulated upon the success of the official opening ceremony.

The Headmaster received many commendatory references to the excellence of the speeches upon that occasion.

The School wishes to thank the O.B.U. for its continued interest in and assistance with the rowing, and hopes that in 1929 the school crew will carry the new eight to victory in the Head of the River Regatta.

The three practise cricket pitches laid down by the Union should be ready for use by the new year, and will no doubt assist the school in putting its teams into the field, better prepared to meet the opposition.

The greatest work of the Union, however, is the acquisition of a sports area. This happy situation is largely the result of the devotion of Mr. Bob McKay. From my own observations he eats, talks, and dreams the Centennial Park area for the Sydney High Schools. (After inspecting the suggested site, he asked for and obtained an additional five acres as a sports ground for the girls of the S.H.S.)

Owing to Mr. McKay's insistent following up of the proposal, the site has been surveyed, and plans have been completed showing the levels and suggested nature of the work to be done. Mr. Della Ca, an old boy of the school, was the surveyor in charge.

I would suggest that the annual meeting of the Union, held early next year, should take place at the school, and that a special effort be made to get the large number of old boys resident in Sydney to attend and discuss plans for finance. There is no doubt that £2000 or £3000 will be needed for the new sports ground alone, while the problem of financing the rowing grows with the years.

Gifts and Benefactions.

During the year the following gifts have been made to the school:—

£200 from J. Saxby, Esq., to provide an annual scholarship for a boy proceeding from 3rd. year to the Upper School.

By A. M. Eedy, Esq., shares to the value of £200 to provide two prizes annually, one for literature to be known as the A. B. Piddington prize, the other a cup to be known as the A. M. Eedy Cup to the winner of the 100 Yards Senior Championship.

The Hon. Earl Page, Federal Treasurer, £100 bond.

Two Shields—one given by W. J. Cleary, Esq., for Champion House at studies; the other by the Headmaster for the champion house at sport.

The Frank Albert Cup, with miniatures presented annually to the Dux of the School and to the champion athlete.

A cinema lantern and equipment, towards the payment of which to date £104/14/6 has been collected by the Headmaster by personal canvas from patriotic old boys.

The School Staff.

Early in the year Mr. Harrison, Master of English and History, received well-earned promotion as Deputy Head at Fort St. High—a heavy loss to the school. His place was taken by Mr. Killip, who was just settling down in his own capable and zealous way, when he was made Headmaster of Hay High School. Mr. Noakes is his successor, and so far no ukase from Head Office has snatched him from us. Later in the year, however, we suffered a severe loss in the removal of Mr. Austin, a most energetic and efficient Science Teacher and House Master for Reid House. He was appointed Master of Science at Parramatta. His place was taken by Mr. Moss, of the Teachers' College for two days, when circumstances demanded his return temporarily to the College, and Mr. Hundt from Cessnock filled the breach for some weeks, till Mr. Moss returned.

Mr. Moss is doing admirable work, especially in science sildes for lantern use; but I feel that the signs of the times point to his removal at Xmas.

This matter of a changing staff is a serious one for the school. It is agreed that the needs of the Department must be met, and it is agreed that the Department is impartial; but it is certain that the first class schools must suffer when highly qualified teachers are required for vacancies in higher positions.

I think the time is opportune, as Sydney High has come into its own with regard to building, to draw attention to the indisputable fact that the school is unique in type amongst the Departmental Schools, insomuch as it is a member of the Great Public Schools' Association and as such has duties and commitments which make a special demand upon its staff. For this reason I think it is a just proposition that special consideration should be given it by the Department of Education. In the other schools tenure of office is practically life-long—at least as far as the most desirable teachers are concerned—with all the advantages to the schools which such lengthy association connotes. Sydney High, therefore, is handicapped materially by changes on its staff.

It may seem an extraordinary suggestion to make; but I make it nevertheless with all seriousness, viz., that the status quo of the school in its early years be reverted to. I feel convinced that these noble buildings would be fully occupied; and that a staff of teachers selected from High School teachers, now

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in the employ of the Department, could be found who would be glad to serve in the Sydney High School, provision being made for adequate promotion within the School. Old boys of the School are of sufficient number in the teaching profession to satisfy this side of the proposal; and the reputation of the school is sufficient, I am assured, to enrol pupils up to its capacity. A High School, similar to Sydney High's present organisation, could be opened to take its place to satisfy the needs it at present caters for.

A SPORTSMAN.

A sportsman in any line of action is the man (1) who can accept punishment without grizzling; (2) who is willing to give every fair advantage to his adversary; (3) who has courage to fight to the better end, no matter what *value* the *prize* may be; (4) who scorns to take an unfair advantage no matter how profitable it may be.

A sportsman has only three rules.

1. Thou shall play the game according to the rules.
2. When thou art beaten, "Shut up."
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SCHOOL UNION REPORT

In previous years we have been faced with the problem of providing sport for boys, particularly junior boys, who could not gain places in grade teams. We tried to meet this difficulty by organising class competitions. These, however, were not altogether satisfactory, as there was insufficient competition among the different years: to arrange matches between first and second year teams, for example, meant giving older boys too great an advantage; again even this scheme did not provide sport for all boys. In coming to our new school a new scheme was evolved. The school was divided into four equal portions according to an alphabetical classification. The divisions are A-E, F-L, M-R, S-Z. Thus senior and junior boys were included in one house, often in one team. In awarding points a win in a junior match brought as many points, and therefore was equally as important as one in a senior match: and all boys being included in some house took part in some sport. A marked all-round improvement has resulted.

The names of the houses are Gordon, Parkes, Reid and Wentworth, and the housemasters are respectively Messrs. Eddy, Golding, Shaw, and Schrader. It is due to the untiring efforts of these gentlemen that the House System has been such a success.

HOUSE COMPETITION RESULTS.

	20	20	10	15	15	10	10	100
Gordon	.6	3.7	2.5	2.5	2	2.4	2.4	16.1
Parkes	7.7	4.1	2.7	2	2.9	2.6	2.4	24.4
Reid	4.7	4.6	1.3	5	5.2	2.8	2.6	26.2
Wentworth	7.	7.6	3.5	5.5	4.9	2.2	2.6	33.3

Points are given for wins in all competitions, and the house points are given in proportion to competition points gained.

Wentworth House thus becomes "School House" for the year.

Athletics is not in a satisfactory condition, probably because there are not enough school athletic meetings to induce boys to give it regular attention. The remedy would seem to be for our athletes to join up with outside clubs as junior members, and so gain the advantage of regular training and practice. Sufficient time has not been given to training in the past and our boys are not in a fit condition to compete with other schools.

As a result in both C.H.S. and G.P.S. meetings we made but a mediocre showing. At the former meeting we gained second place in the Junior Cup, thanks chiefly to the running of M. Power, and at the latter J. Metcalfe tied for first place in the Senior High Jump. The latter boy, now holds the State junior record for high jump, clearing 5ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

As was to be expected, Cricket is probably the most popular sport in the School. We have had as many as twenty-nine teams playing on the one day.

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In the G.P.S. Competition our firsts were beaten by Scots, Newington, and St. Joseph's by narrow margins only; whilst we tied with Grammar, the runners-up in the competition. Six of the team will be returning next year, and with improved facilities for practice at Kensington, replacing the old unsatisfactory grounds at Wentworth Park we look forward to the future with confidence.

In the C.H.S. competition we entered first, second and third grade teams. Several matches had to be forfeited owing to fixtures in this competition clashing with those in G.P.S. In future when our numbers increase we may be able to avoid this.

Last year our first, second and third grade football teams entered the C.H.S. competition, and we were successful in each grade. Complaints were made by certain players that the strain of the matches in this competition along with that of the Saturday G.P.S. match was too great. Accordingly we withdrew from the 1st., 2nd., and 3rd. grades C.H.S. Competitions, and concentrated on the corresponding grades in G.P.S. The firsts won three fixtures, the seconds and thirds were not so successful, the reasons are probably:—

- (i) No match practice in the early portion of the season.
- (ii) Our teams are generally much lighter than G.P.S. teams.
- (iii) Football is not compulsory here, as it tends to be in other G.P.S.

In combined G.P.S. matches some half dozen of our boys represented in Wednesday fixtures, whilst C. Rubie represented the School in 1st Grade, and Wines captained the 3rd. combined team.

We were without the services of an external coach throughout the season with the exception of occasional help from some old boys. We would welcome a repetition of this assistance next year.

Regular practice in Rifle Shooting has been held throughout the year. In the G.P.S. Competition we met with moderate success. Some of our boys have been fairly successful in general shoots with their military units. Ebsworth amongst the juniors and McCallum, Findlay and Hin Gee are all giving good promise.

The Rifle Club has been reformed as a regular club associated with the other rifle clubs of the Commonwealth, thus removing our chief difficulty, the shortage of ammunition. House shoots have brought to light several new shots and have stimulated interest in the sport generally.

Mr. Molesworth gave valuable assistance in coaching our team before the G.P.S. Competition. We wish to offer our thanks to him.

THE RECORD.

Three crews entered the G.P.S. Regatta in 1928, but none met with marked success. The eight coached by Mr. G. Hancock won the heat in rather convincing fashion, but met better material in the final, and finished third after a splendid contest.

The first four, handicapped by position, made a very spirited effort, and were just eliminated from the final by inches, but did credit to their coach, Mr. C. Smith.

The second four was under the care of Mr. D. Bowden, who put in plenty of good work on his team, but failed to get into the final.

The prospects for the next year are rather good, and it is quite possible that we will recover the coveted title.

Great impetus has been given to swimming as a school sport this year, as over two hundred boys chose it as their summer activity. This interest has been fostered by generous donations—chief of which was the offer of special tuition by Mr. Harold Hardwick in lieu of prizes for carnival champions, and also by the division of the school into houses. The boys chosen for special tuition were: J. Robinson, R. Robinson, N. Thorpe, K. Payne, R. Silk, T. Jones and H. Moses; and most are showing marked improvement as a result of it.

Two carnivals were held during the year, the annual one in March, and a second on December 4th. to decide the house competition. Next year these two carnivals will be combined to serve the dual purpose of deciding the boys worthy of special tuition and the points for the house contest.

At the C.H.S. Carnival held on December 6th and 7th, the School did well—winning six firsts, three seconds, and the Junior Cadet Shield. The performance of R. Clark (under 14) was particularly noteworthy. He won (1) 220 yards in 2min. 57 4-5 seconds, record; (2) 100 yards in 67 2-5 secs., record; 33 yards backstroke, 25 secs., record; (4) 50 yards in 59 1-5 secs.; (5) Senior Diving Competition.

A rule has been made by the Union that no boy is eligible for any other summer sport, unless he can swim at least 25 yards.

The increased interest in swimming has been reflected in the greater number of Life-saving Awards gained by squads under Messrs. Copley and Schrader. The following awards were won: 2 Resuscitation Badges, 10 Elementary Certificates, 40 Proficiency Certificates, 27 Bronze Medallions, 4 Bars to Medallions, 2 Silver Medallions, 1 Bar to Silver Medallion.

J. Robinson's time for the tests for the Silver Medallion was 13 min. 5 secs.—a unique performance.

Next year we hope to add considerably to the number of boys able to render service to their fellows in any difficulty of this nature. **That they have the wish to do so** is shown by their eagerness in joining the squads.

THE RECORD.

In the High Schools' Tennis Competition we entered 1st and 2nd grade teams. The firsts won four matches out of nine. A better standard of play was reached than for some years past. We have the nucleus of a good team for next year; and, when the courts we are hoping to have on our own ground are in use, we look forward to greater success.

(In C.H.S. tournament, Thompson (Junior) and Williams played well, and reached the quarter finals).

The amount of interest shown in debating and the numbers attending the debates were very unsatisfactory before the house system was instituted. Since then, however, interest has been aroused; attendances are good and several promising debaters have been unearthed.

We have no outside victories to boast of, losing both to Fort Street and G.P.S.

During the year we have spent £72/0/10 on purchasing books for the Coates Memorial Library, including £24/10/3 for the establishment of the Wright Memorial Library.

A source of Library revenue which is not exploited as fully as it might be is the rebate from sales of the "Rally," a magazine devoted to the activities of the Great Public Schools. It is difficult to understand why more copies of this publication are not purchased by pupils.

Two issues of "The Record" were published this year. During the year a journalistic group was organised in connection with the Culture Period scheme. This functioned successfully in preparing reports for the second issue. The contributions from the senior school were not up to expectations; but the support given by the junior school was very gratifying. The policy of "The Record" Staff is to throw the pages of the magazine open to all pupils in order that it may contribute to the formation of a healthy school opinion and assist in securing sound school development. In the recent issue the speeches delivered at the opening of the school were published in full, so that all may possess the fullest benefit of the inspiration of that occasion. House reports are a new feature, the publication of which will materially assist in establishing the rapidly-developing "house" tradition.

In the new year the question of establishing literary prizes in connection with "The Record" will be discussed by the committee with a view to drawing up regulations for future years. The two issues of "The Record" have cost £116/4/1 to produce, and from advertisers and sales to Old Boys' Union we have received £85/13/-, so that the net cost to the Union was £30/11/1.

The following amounts have been expended on the sports enumerated:—Rowing £120/7/-, Cricket £171/1/8, Football £43/16/10, Athletics £52/1/10, Swimming £22/6/1, Tennis £30/10/-, Rifle Shooting £6/13/2.

The School has received from all sources the sum of £1032/15/10, made up as follows:—Subscriptions £303/6/9; sale of tickets (exchanges), £215/6/4; trading account £50/11/1; receipts from different sports and G.P.S. Association, £347/15/2; rents, £69/14/-; sundries, £28.; and completes the year with a credit balance of £62.

The School Union is grateful for the assistance given by the following: (1) Old Boys' Union, who are providing a new "Eight"; (2) P. and C. Association, for £37/10/- for cricket; (3) Prof. Vonwiller, Messrs. Southee, J. Waterhouse, C. A. Fairland, Phillip Moses, and A. M. Eedy, for donations towards athletics; (4) Messrs. R. H. K. Wood and C. E. Hall, for Rowing; (5) The Glebe Rowing Club officials and Messrs. Hancock S. Smith and D. Bowden.

FOURTH YEAR IN THE GYM.

At 10.40 a.m. on Monday mornings, warm or cool, sunshine or cloud, fair weather or foul, there may be seen, on the Gymnasium verandah, a sundry assortment of young humanity. Fourth Year is at the gymnasium! No unseemly behaviour marks their presence. The only sound is the rustling of the leaves of the trees near by. Never a sound from the ruby lips of the boys. Not a movement of feet or hands. They stand like the famous figures in Mme. Toussard's renowned establishment.

In due course, our instructor arrives: a motion of his eyes, and, automatically, two boys salute, break off, and open the folding doors. A motion of his hand, and the company wheels and marches to the appointed position in the gymnasium proper. The class has started!

The exercises are difficult. But the youths of Fourth Year set themselves diligently to their task, and lo, a pleasant smile spreads o'er each seraphic countenance, and, with cheerful zeal, the exercises are completed in due time.

Games to follow! A word from the instructor, and, as if by magic, four ranks are formed. The leading four boys select medicine balls, and in much less time than it has taken to record, a thrilling game of tunnel-ball is in progress. No sound is heard, save the patter of feet and the swish of the ball. A slight blow of the instructor's whistle, and everyone is at attention. In an orderly manner, the youths file out, hastily but quietly have a shower, dress, and make haste, to be quietly seated in the classroom as the teacher arrives for the next lesson.

THE JOHN SKYRING CROSS MEMORIAL PRIZE.

The John Skyring Cross Memorial Prize is awarded annually for good sportsmanship in connection with the G.P.S. activities (cricket, football, athletics, swimming, debating, and any other activity that may be adopted in the future). Amongst the conditions is a ballot by the G.P.S. representatives and members of the various G.P.S. grade teams.

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SYDNEY BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.

Prize List, 1928.

School House Shield for Studies.—Reid House.

Jack Piddington: Headmaster's Prize for best candidate in L.C.

Tests; also Dux of School (Albert Cup).

John Robinson: John Waterhouse Prize.

Ronald Lyne: A. B. Piddington Prize for English.

Henry Wines: Old Boys' Prize.

E. Shepherd: John Skyring Cross Prize.

SUBJECT PRIZES.

5th YEAR—

E. Southgate, Latin and Greek; R. Malor, Mathematics and Greek; R. Lyne, English; T. McKnight, History; J. Wright, Chemistry; W. Redapple and G. Waizer (equal), French; G. Waizer, German.

4th YEAR—

William Hin Gee, Dux of Year; Alan Parfett, Mathematics; Trevor Martin, Greek and Latin; A. Thorburn, English and History; Albert Khan, Chemistry; Ian Fulton, Physics; Arthur Clarke, Collins' Prize for French and Modern Language Prize.

3rd YEAR—

R. Robinson, "Rhodes" Prize for Third Year, and Headmaster's Prize for best candidate in I.C. Tests; also Dux of Third Year; also Prize for Science and Mathematics; Dux of 3B., F. Brett; Dux of 3C: John Humphrey; Dux of 3D: Donald Saunders; Hylton Read, English and Greek; M. Bryant, History; H. Whaite, Mathematics; Trevor Jones, Latin; Fred. Clayton, Elementary Science; S. Roden, T. Jones, R. Robinson, Modern Languages; F. Cowling, French; Tom Pauling, Commercial Work.

2nd YEAR—

W. Hillman, Dux of Year, also Mathematics, Science and Latin; Donald McKinnon, Dux of 2B; Eric Cohen, Dux of 2C, also Mathematics, History and Commercial Work; Warwick Stening, English and Greek; John Watson, Science; William Cole, History; Ben Zion Egletzky, Modern Languages.

1st YEAR—

Leon Henry (1B.), Dux of Year; Eric Hanley, Dux of 1A, also Maths. and Latin; William Elderfield, Dux of 1C., also History; Slade Curran, Dux of 1D., also English; Harold Oliver, Dux of 1E.; John Cherry, History; James Minson, Elementary Science and Maths.; Jack Greedy, Latin and Science; Robert Clacher, Commercial Work; Harold Holdaway, French.

Award of Blues.

Football.—C. Rubie, H. Wines, C. Gerard, H. Rees, E. Shepherd, J. Robinson, N. Webb.

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Athletics: J. Metcalfe.

Cricket—N. Bailey, F. Starr, E. Shepherd.

Swimming.—C. Gerard, J. Robinson.

Rowing.—A. Watts, B. Gardiner, G. Walker, D. Duffy, J. Robinson, C. Rubie, C. Hughes, R. Uebel, A. McKibben (Cox).

Sports Prizes.

House Shield.—Wentworth House.

Sydney Girls' High Cup (for all-rounder).—J. Robinson.

Albert Cup for Athletics.—H. Wines.

A. M. Eedy Cup (100 yards).—H. Wines.

Junior Athletic Cup.—M. Power.

Junior Cadet Cup.—J. Clayton.

Senior Swimming Cup.—C. Gerard.

Junior Swimming Cup.—J. Lister.

Junior Cadet Swimming Cup.—R. Clarke.

Claude Tressider Shield (Life-Saving).—J. Robinson.

Special Swimming Cups.—J. Robinson, T. Pauling, R.

Robinson (in recognition of their swimming achievements; each boy being runner-up for the Cup in his respective division).

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY.

The Library continues to prove its indispensability as a school institution in supplementing and extending the work of the class room. The increasing number of boys availing themselves of the privilege of borrowing reference books is placing a severe tax upon the resources of the library. During last year the register showed that about eighteen hundred borrowings were made, and up to date this year the number amounts to over eight hundred.

The boys of both the upper and lower school find the well-chosen books invaluable in their preparation for examination and in collection for material for class exercises, debates and lectures, while at the same time the library supplies means for recreational reading.

Although a number of new books has been added, the library has not been able to meet the demands made upon it, particularly by the examination classes. We are urgently in need of funds for the duplication of certain standard books in Shakespearean criticism, literary appreciation and history.

A change has been made in the management of the general fiction library. The eight hundred and fifty volumes of this library, most of which, by the way, have been donated by the boys of the school, have been distributed in class libraries throughout the first and second year classes, and will be accommodated in the respective class rooms. It is hoped that this scheme will make the fiction more accessible to all the boys of the lower school and also give the class teachers greater opportunity to direct reading.

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Examination Results.

Leaving Certificate.

L

Subjects: Eng., 1; Lat., 2; Fr., 3; Ger., 4; Maths. 1, 5; Maths. 2, 6; Mechs., 7; Hist., 8; Phys., 10; Chem., 11; Geog., 14; Ec., 18; Gk., 22.
Honours: First-class is indicated by the figure one, and second-class by the figure two.

Pass in a Modern Language oral test is indicated by "O."
A Pass at the lower standard is shown by "L."

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	14	18	22
Adams			B		B	A	A		A	B			
Balkind	A				B	A	B		A	L			
Booth	B		B		2	2	B		A	B			
Cameron					2	2	B		L	B			
Harrod	B		B		1	1			B	B			
Hodge	B		B		1	1			B				
Lack	B				2	2	B		A	B			
Lipscomb	B		A		1	1	B		B	B			
Malor	A	B	A		1	1							A
Phillips	B				B	B					B		
Piddington	B		AO		1	1	A		1	A			
Shepherd	B	B	L		A	A			A	B			
Aiken	B	B	A		A	A	A		A				
Crabbe	B		L		A	A	A		A				
Gardiner			L		B	B				B			
Greaves	B	B	B		B	A		B		B			
Hewitt	B		L		B	A							
McGuinness	2	B	AO		B	B		2		B			
McKnight	2	B	B		A	A		2		B			
Mowat	B	B	2o	AO	A	A		2		B			
Palmer	B		B		B	B			B	B			
Redapple	2	A	1o	2	B	B							
Sinclair	B	B	L		B	A		B					
Soutar	B				A	A		B		L	B	B	
Southgate	2	1	B		B	B							1
Waizer	B		2o	1o	B	B							
Walker			B		B	B					B		
White	A	B	B		B	A				B			
Wright	B		2o		A	A		A	1				B
Campbell	2	B	B		B	B		A					
Diamond	A	B	B		B	B							
Gerrard	B	B	B		B	B							
Henry	B	B	B		B	B		B					
Higgins	B		B		B	B			A			A	
Hinchy	B	B	L		B	B		B		B			
Hughes	B	B	Bo		B	B			B				
Love	B		B		B	B		B					
Lyne	A	B	A		B	A		2		B			
Robinson	A	B	B		B	B		B					
Sanford	B		B		B			B					
Segal	A	A	Bo		B	A							B
Simons	B	B	B		B			B					
Tumpane	B		B		B	B			B	L			
Ruble	2				B	B		2				A	
Hatcher	A	A	2o		B	B			A	B			

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INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATES.

Class 3A.

Subjects: Eng., 1; Hist., 2; Maths. 1, 4; Maths. 2, 5; Latin, 6; Fr., 7; Ger., 8; Phys., 9; Chem., 10; Elem. Sc., 11; Gk., 23; Oral Test, 0.

	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	23	15
Anderson, K.	B		B	B	B	Bo	Bo					
Baker	B		A	A	B	B				A		
Baxter	B	A	B	A		Bo				B		
Belschner	B		B	B	B	Ao	Ao			B		
Brammell	B	B	B	B	B	B				B		
Brown	A	B	A	B	B	Bo				B		
Chapman	A	A	A	A	A	Bo				A		
Chesher	A	B	B	A	B	Ao				B		
Cohen	B	B	A	A	B	Bo				B		
Cowling	A	A	A	A	A	A				A		
Geer	A		B	B	B	Bo				B		
Gibson	B		A	A	B	Ao				B	B	
Hancox	B	B	B	B	B	Bo				B		
Haydon	B	B	A	A	A	Ao				A		
Henderson	B	B	B	B		Bo				B		
Hercus	A	B	A	B	A	A				A		
Hockey	B		B	B	A	Ao				B		
Jones	A		A	A	A	Ao	Ao	A	A			
Mater	B		B	B	A	Bo	Ao			B		
McCredie	B	B	A	A	B	Ao		A	A			
McElrea	A	B	A	A	B	Ao				B		
McHardy	B		A	B	A	Ao	Bo			B		
McMaster	B		A	A	B	A				B		
Mottershead	B		B	B	A	Ao				A	B	
Ralph	A	B	B	A		Bo		B	B			
Read	A		A	B	A	Ao				B	B	
Rhodes	A	B	A	B	B	Bo				B		
Roden	B		A	A	A	Ao	Ao	A	B			
Russell	B		B	B	B	Ao	Bo			B		
Thorp	A		A	A	A	Ao	Bo	A	A			
Williamson	B	B	A	A	A	Ao				B		
Robinson	A		A	B	A	Ao	Ao	A	A			A

Class 3B.

Subjects: Eng., 1; Hist., 2; Maths. 1, 4; Maths. 2, 5; Latin, 6; Fr., 7; Phys., 9; Chem., 10; Elem. Sc., 11; Music 21.

	1	2	4	5	6	7	11	9	10	21
Anderson, A.	B	B	B	A	B	B	B			
Anderson, J.	B	B	A	B	A	Bo	A			
Atkins	B	B	B	B	B		B			
Barnes	A	B	A	A	B	Bo	B			
Bryant	B	B	A	A	B	Bo	B			
Brett	A	A	A	A	A	B	B			B
Cartwright	B	B	A	B	B		B			
Clayton	B	B	B	A	B	B	A			
Dicks	B	B	A	A	A	B	A			
Evans	B	B	A	B	B		B			
Farrow	A	B	B	B	B	Bo	A			
Harvey	B	B	B	B	B		B			
Heaton	B	B	B	B						
Kreutter	B	B	A	A	B		B			
Martin	B	B	A	B		B		B	A	
Miller										
Mewton	A	B	B	B	B	B	B			
McCalf	A	B	B	B	B	B	B			
Mosher	B	B	B	B			B			A
McWhirter	B	B	B	B	B	Bo				

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O'Keefe	B	B	B	B				
Patrick	B	A	B	B		B		
Payne	B	B	A	A	B	A	B	
Pritchard	B	B	B	B				
Rose	B	B	A	A	B		A	
Shaw	B	B	B	B	B		B	
Simson	B	B	B	B	B		B	
Sullivan	B	B	A	B	B		B	
Taylor	A	B	B	B	B	Bo	A	
Thompson	B		A	A	B	B	B	
Tottenham	A	B	A	A	A	B	B	
Tucker	B	B	B	A	B		B	
Walker	B		A	A	B		B	
Wauchope	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
White, A.	A	B	A	A	B	B	A	
Wiedersehn	B		B	B	B	B	A	
Newton								

Class 3C.

Subjects: Eng., 1; Hist., 2; Geog., 3; Maths. 1, 4; Maths. 2, 5; Fr., 7;
Elem. Sc., 11; Bus. Prins., 15; Shorthand 16.

	1	2	3	4	5	7	11	15	16
Bamford	A	B	B	B	B	B	A	B	B
Britz	B	B	B		B	Bo	B		
Chandler	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		A
Connolly	B	B		B	B				B
Frape	B	B	B	B	B	Bo	B	B	B
Hogg	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		A
Humphrey	A	B	B	A	B	B	B	B	A
Howe	B	B		B	B	A			A
Middleton	B	B	B		B	Bo	B	B	A
Moore	B	A			B		B		A
Morgan	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Norton	B	A	B		B				B
Owen	B	B		A	B	B	B	B	A
Paton	B	B	B	B	B	Bo		B	B
Pauling	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Pointing	B	B		A	B	Bo	B	B	A
Quinlan	A	B	B	B	B	Bo	B		
Renn	B	B	B	B				B	A
Smee	B	B			B	B		B	
Spring	A	B	B	B	B	B	B		A
Waddell	B	B		B	B	Bo		B	B
Whaite	A	B	A	A	A	Ao	A		
Quinsey	B	B		B			B	B	B
Ferris	B	B		B	B	B	B		
Cooper	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		B

Class 3D.

Subjects: Eng., 1; Hist., 2; Maths. 1, 4; Maths. 2, 5; Latin, 6; Fr., 7;
Elem. Sc., 11.

	1	2	4	5	6	7	11
Bain							
Bosgard	B	B		B		B	A
Browne	B	B			A	B	
Byrne	B	B		B		B	
Harris	B	B	B			B	B
Riley	B	B	B	A		B	A
Russo	B	B	B			B	B
Saunders	B	B	B	B	B	Bo	B
White	B	B	B	B	B	Bo	A
Wyllie	B	B	A	A	B	B	
Hauptman	B	B	B	B			
		B	B	B			B

PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

President: Mr. A. R. Sullivan, Commercial Bank of Sydney, South Kensington.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. H. Still, 61 Alexandra St., Drummoyne.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. O. W. Earl, 22 Flood St., Bondi.

Meetings: Third Thursday in the month, 8 p.m. at the School
Membership Subscription: Not less than 1/- per annum.

A brief review of the work accomplished by the P. and C. Association since its inception in 1925 will doubtless be of interest to all parents of boys attending the School, particularly to those who have joined the Association. The 1st of June, 1929, was the fourth anniversary of the first meeting of the Association, which was held at the old School at Ultimo on 1st June, 1925, at the instance of the present Headmaster, Mr. Saxby. The main objective decided upon at the outset was a new school, and it need only be stated that within six months a definite promise of a new school was obtained from the then Minister for Education (Mr. T. D. Mutch, M.L.A.), for it to be understood how energetically this matter was taken in hand. There is no doubt that to this Association, more than to anyone else, the present splendid school, which was officially opened in June, 1928, is due. In mentioning this, the name of our late President, Rev. H. E. Hulme, must be coupled for the great service rendered by him in his steady and persistent advocacy of our claims for a new school for the boys of Sydney High School.

The Association has always been ready to assist the School in any way it can, and in support of this it may be stated that up to February, 1929, the income from membership fees, donations and proceeds from dances, fetes, and other entertainments organised by the Association amounted to £1436, which has been expended for the benefit of scholars and the good of the School in ways not catered for by the Education Department.

The following summary indicates briefly some of the ways in which assistance has been rendered to the School:—

Year 1925/26.—Supply of Roneo Machine, £25; Grant to School Sports Union, £25; School Prizes, £20.

Year 1926/27.—Rebinding books of Coates' Memorial Library, £26/12/-; Grant to rowing crews, £30; Typewriting machine for School, £14; School Prizes, £20.

Year 1927/28.—Rowing (purchase of new boat, special grant for training, etc.), £177; Balopticon Lantern, £15; Theodolite, £13; Gramophone, £30; Linguaphone Text Books and other grants for Libraries, £58.

Year 1928—29.—Cricket, £37/10/-; Prizes, £25; Rowing, £58/16/-; Books, Music, Library, etc. £40/10/-; Stretcher and First Aid Kit, £11; Gymnasium Equipment, £55; Screen, etc., for Assembly Hall Stage, £56; Flag and Pole, £25; Floor Covering for Prefects' Room £15; Clockery

THE RECORD.

for use at dances, etc., £15; Electric Bell Service and Telephone Extension, £39; Grand Piano for Assembly Hall, £110.

Among matters now in hand for the current year may be mentioned the setting up of a good reference library in English and History, further equipment for gymnasium, supply of new Rotary copier for school papers, etc., and the improvement of the school grounds.

Although the School has been occupied for over twelve months, little has been done towards improving the grounds surrounding the school buildings. If carried out under a proper scheme, there is no doubt that a fine effect can be achieved, which will well repay the trouble and expense that may be involved.

The Council of the Association desire to again draw the attention of parents and guardians of boys attending the school to the disparity in the membership of the Association compared with the pupils enrolled. The figures show that less than one-seventh of the school enrolment is represented in the membership of the Association. When it is remembered that the aims and objects of the Association are wholly for the welfare of the boys and the school, the evident reluctance of a large number of parents to join up and assist in the work is hard to understand, and is scarcely encouraging to those who do take an active interest in such a worthy object.

This is a matter in which also all boys who have a pride in their School and its progress can take an active part by inducing their parents to join the Association, and to those boys, as well as to parents, this appeal is directed.

J. H. STILL,

6th June, 1929.

Hon. Secretary.

DEBATING.

The observant may have noted that the heading of this report is no longer "Debating Society." In brief the reason for this is that no such body now exists. Several meetings were called by Mr. Dennehy, who had replaced Mr. Macallum as Debating Master, but were abandoned owing to the poor attendance. Fortunately, enough remained to form a team, consisting of last year's reserve and two members of that team, namely, F. Bowler (leader), T. Martin, and R. Walker.

A fair amount of practice has been gained from debates with Fort Street and a Hawkesbury College Team, both of which we won. We therefore enter the G.P.S. Competition with hope, in spite of our bitter experiences of last year, and meet Shore at Shore on June 14th.

With pride and pleasure we state that the other two debates, to the best of our belief, will be the first regular contests in any sport in the history of our school to be held on our home ground. They are against St. Ignatius and Scots College, and we can only hope for a large band of listeners on these occasions

T. J. Martin, Secretary.

MISS MAC'S LETTER.

I am going to try and pass on these little bits of news about some of our soldier boys.

Recently, Dr. Eric Henry blew in the old familiar doorway.

"Good morning," I said.

"Why you've forgotten me," he replied.

"Not a S.H.S. boy?"

"Yes."

"Now it has come, you're Eric."

"Yes, and we have not seen each other for eight years. Where are you?"

"Crow's Nest, Toowoomba, Queensland, and doing very well. Have never been able to get a holiday—very hard to get a locum-tenens to look after my practice. While I'm here I'm going to look up some of my S.H.S. pals and go over and see the old school."

"What! No old school now."

"The new one is at Moore Park. Mr. Saxby is chief and Mr. Moore is deputy."

"Gold old Wally there. I must get time to go out."

He had little news, so I had to do "the talkies," and there was some news to tell.

He often runs across a S.H.S. old boy, Claude Henry, who is a dentist in Brisbane, and doing famously.

Dr. Dudley has a good practice at Cessnock.

Trevor Henry ("Mick") is at present in New Zealand. These Henrys are cousins

Next day Stan Robinson, who has been at Wardell since the war ended, dropped in, but ill luck, has pursued him with his venture at cultivating the banana. Drought, flood and other undesirable foes have decided for him that the "game" is not any good after giving it four or more years' trial.

He often sees Fairlie Paterson, who has been doing very well in partnership in an accountancy firm. Stan thinks Victor is in a Sydney insurance office.

Next day blew in "Dickey" to his pals, but known also as Arthur Brand, to see and tell me he is going into hospital for a tonsillitis operation. Some of his trouble is a relic. Mustard gas, I have no doubt, is the original cause.

Whilst Dicky Brand was present I was visited by J. C. Thompson, of Tec. High, and afterwards a student of the engineering classes.

When war was declared he enlisted, and was away over four years. He said it was thirteen years since he saw me, and the old "haunt."

THE RECORD.

He had come down from Yass to see a specialist about his foot. An X-ray revealed a very remarkable thing—a bullet in the sole of his foot. Fancy carrying a trifle like that in one's foot for years. He has been under all kinds of treatment for supposed causes of his indifferent health.

Dr. Derek Gilder, another old S.H.S. boy, left at the end of April for Mt. Isa Mines, Queensland, to try his luck at a new job. All his old pals will, no doubt, be pleased to hear of him. He promised to pen a line. Accompanying him went our old pal "Felix," tied with choc. and blue.

Time will not permit me to write any more. These unforeseen, but welcome, visitors robbed me of some of my leisure moments, but I shall keep the rest for next issue.

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SCHOOL NOTES.

We can say with pleasure that the changes in masters this year have been few. However, we bid farewell with regret to Messrs. Macallum, Scott, Simpson, Brodie, and Moss; and welcome Messrs. Jennings, Dennehy, Regan, Swan, Jenkins, Bilbe, Wootton, and Elwin.

Congratulations to Jack, Still, the School Captain, and the Prefects, J. Robinson, H. Rees, M. Stening, B. Gardiner, A. Parfett, I. Fulton, R. Nicholson, J. Odgers, H. Wines, E. Silk, N. Simonsen, T. Pauling, R. Robinson, J. Metcalfe, and D. Macallum.

Our congratulations to the Eight and Three Fours. They all did their best, and the Second Four were beaten by a better crew.

Congratulations to St. Ignatius for such a fine Second Four; also to Newington for their great fight in the Eight.

We congratulate E. Southgate and J. Piddington on winning the Cooper and Barker Scholarships respectively.

The recent Swimming Carnival was a splendid success, greatly helped by the interest added by the house system. Reid House topped the list, and the shields, in order of seniority, were won by Pauling, Clarke, and Shaw.

Best wishes to our Football Teams in G.P.S. and C.H.S. competitions, for we are pleased to say that we re-enter the latter. Success has so far not been as great as it might be in this sphere, since the 1st and 2nd teams have both lost a match. In addition the 1sts have beaten Hawkesbury 2nds by 16 to 0, and lost to Armidale by 6 to 7.

We have high hopes for our Rifle Club in the G.P.S. Competition this year, after reading their achievements in the recent Citizen Forces meeting.

We also cherish high hopes for our athletes, especially with the man in charge, who trained Sutton and Button, of Parramatta.

Our cricketers have done rather well, being unbeaten in the C.H.S. Competition, and winning two matches in G.P.S. A good showing!

Best wishes to our Debating Team, who enter the G.P.S. Competition with confidence inspired by victories over Fort Street and a Hawkesbury team.

At last, recognition has been accorded our Rowing Coaches, Messrs. Hancock and Smith. These gentlemen have stood by us for five years, and a few days ago the boys of the school made them a presentation, amid great applause from the whole assembly.

Our School Hall is becoming quite familiar to the newspapers. After our crew won the Head of the River the "Telegraph" produced a photo of the hall full of boys, and the "Herald" showed a large picture of the assembly on Empire Day.

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THE RECORD.

It is worthy of note that this year all the cox.'s of the various crew were members of Parkes House: Khan, the Eights; Hill, the 1st and 3rd Fours; and Henderson, the 2nd Fours. Last year Goodchild and Hill were also coxswains from Parkes House.

The school stands a very good chance for the Senior Sprints and Senior Relays at the G.P.S. and C.H.S. Sports, having several excellent runners, including Still, Wines, Power, Ashbarry, and Ferguson—all of whom can break 11sec.

The House Football Competition is to take place when the two rounds of Combined High School Football are finished. This will be about the end of July. It is essential that this should be so, for all the star footballers of all houses are playing grade football.

High had very bad luck in being defeated by Fort Street in the First Grade Tennis Competition. We were defeated by 5 games only in the first match and by 6 games in the second. Thompson was the most outstanding player for High, and was easily the best in both teams. High has won all other matches played against other schools to date.

The 1929 rowing season is now in full swing, and every Wednesday afternoon a score or more of enthusiastic beginners congregate at the Glebe Rowing Shed. No time is wasted in getting them on the water, and Mr. Towns' supervision is greatly appreciated.

The boys are very eager to learn, and are greatly aided by J. Hill and R. Crebbin, who gained renown in the last regatta.

The future prospects of the school in this respect are very bright, the material at hand offering a large scope for selection.

The Soccer Team, inaugurated this year, although not playing in any competition, has arranged a series of matches, and has met with fair success, winning one of three games. It has defeated Fort Street, but in turn has been defeated by the latter and also by Wollongong, a very strong team.

The school this year is very fortunate in having Mr. Jennings, a new teacher, for its coach in athletics. Mr. Jennings last year was trainer of Parramatta High. That school carried off the senior and Hooke cups in the C.H.S. Athletics. We are also in the happy position of having such athletes as Ashbarry, Wines, Still, and Gerrard, while Fulton is training seriously for the Broad Jump.

In Tennis, Parkes House has ample material for the forthcoming matches, nine of the sixteen players belonging to Parkes. Among the Seniors, Field, Hogg, and Gregory are prominent, whilst E. Henry excels among the juniors. The first team will be particularly strong, and has bright prospects.

THE RECORD.

The Leaving Certificate Results were up to standard, 45 passing with 37 Honours, 58 A's, 159 B's, and 10 L's. Jack Piddington secured three first-class honours and has since been awarded the Barker Scholarship for Mathematics, Horner Exhibition for Mathematics, and first place in the University Bursary List. E. C. Southgate, with first-class honours in Greek and Latin, has been awarded the Cooper Scholarship for Classics. H. Waizer came first in the German list. Fourteen University Exhibitions and two University Bursaries were awarded to pupils from High. Sixteen pupils were successful in securing Training College Scholarships.

High School secured 102 passes in the Intermediate Certificate Examination, obtaining 198 A passes in various subjects. Trevor-Jones secured eight A's and heads the list of University Bursaries awarded in the Intermediate Section.

Other successful candidates well up on the School's list are: Ross Robinson, with eight A's and one B; Norman Thorp, seven A's and one B; Frank Cowling, seven A's; Sam Roden, six A's and two B's; Jack Chapman, six A's and one B; Harry Whaite, six A's and one B; and Frank Brett, five A's and three B's.

ADVERTISERS.

To the firms advertising in this issue, we extend our thanks and appreciation. Readers, support those firms who are prepared to give you their co-operation. Read the advertisements carefully.

BADGE REGULATIONS.

The Sports Union Committee has drawn up the following regulations to govern the award of School Honours. The attention of the School is drawn to the new provisions, so that alterations can be made in conformity with them:—

- 1 That the School Badge be worn on the blazer by School Representatives only.
- 2 That all Prefects are entitled to wear the Prefects' Badge only on the blazer.
- 3 That only ONE School Badge be worn on the blazer.
- 4 That all members of first grade teams in Cricket, Football, and Tennis are entitled to wear a strip on the blazer, containing that information.
- 5 That all members of the Senior Representative Athletics' Team in G.P.S. and C.H.S. Carnivals, are entitled to a strip.
- 6 That all members of the first grade Rifle Shooting Team are entitled to a strip.
- 7 In Swimming, boys entitled to a strip for representation, must be nominated by the Committee.
- 8 In connection with Rowing, all members of an Eight are entitled to wear crossed oars and all members of First and Second Fours are entitled to wear a strip.
- 9 That all strips are to be in GOLD for Prefects and in BLUE for all others, except golden oars for members of Championship Eights.



OLD BOYS CORNER

SYDNEY HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' UNION.

OFFICE BEARERS, 1929.

Patrons:

J. Waterhouse, M.A.; C. R. Smith, M.A.; G. C. Saxby, B.A.

President:

W J. Cleary.

Vice-Presidents:

R. T. McKay, Dr. O. A. A. Diethelm, J. B. Cramsie.

Members of Council:

A. R. Beveridge, S. Burt, H. Caterson, C. N. Hirst, H. F. Halloran, J. M. Houston, S. King, B. Moses, J. Reddish, W. Vick.

University Representative:

F. Lions.

School Representative:

J. Still.

Advisory Council:

L. F. Watt, W. E. Toms, A. C. Mackenzie, W. D. Schrader, E. A. Southee, F. Firth, A. M. Eedy, A. Waddell, C. H. Cooke, S. Cottam, R. C. Cathels, Dr. A. L. Buchanan, H. C. Wilson.

Hon. Secretary:

C. A. Fairland, 59 Pitt St., Sydney. 'Phone: B 3359.

Hon. Assistant Secretary:

H. Wiedersehn, 26 Verdun St., Bexley.

Hon. Treasurer:

A. K. Paterson, C/o Jamieson, Griffith & Byatt, 115 Pitt St., Sydney.

Hon. Auditor:

J. W. Austin, C/o Smith, Johnson & Co., 2 Martin Place, City

Rowing.

It was with very great satisfaction that the Old Boys once again saw the School Head of the River, and undoubtedly premier Rowing School of the G.P.S. This fact is most encouraging for the reason that it is felt that it was very largely due to the support given at the initial stages of the Rowing activity by the Old Boys, that the School was so readily able to take part in this part of the G.P.S. Sports.

A new racing "Eight" was purchased by the Old Boys, same being built by Messrs. Green Bros. under the supervision of Mr. G. Hancock, the total cost being £150. This boat was built to carry the much heavier crews that the School is now able to boat, and has proved to be an excellent boat.

In recognition of the great work that Mr. Hancock has carried out for the School crews by his coaching over the years that the School has competed, it was decided that the new boat should be named "George E. Hancock."

In regard to our finances for Rowing: As it was deemed absolutely necessary to obtain this new boat, we are now pleased to find that our ferry steamer was so well patronised by old boys and friends that there was a surplus over the cost of the hiring of a launch for coaching purposes to supply a portion of the cost of the new boat. We still hope that by means of other social functions during the year to pull up to the total cost of the £150 incurred.

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THE RECORD.

Seeing that the Rowing has done so much to place the School well before the public generally we are glad that we have helped.

The Old Boys extend their sincere congratulations and thanks to the coaches of the crews, viz., G. E. Hancock, C. Smith, K. Dainer and B. Varker.



GEORGE G. HANCOCK.

A Dinner and Theatre Party was arranged by Old Boys, through the members of the Council, to the members of the school crews, coaches, and Mr. Towns, Rowing Sports Master. This was held on Tuesday, 21st May. At the conclusion of the dinner Messrs. Green Bros., who had also been invited, presented to each member of the "Eight" a beautifully finished replica of the oars used in the race. The boys much appreciated this gift, and will much prize the souvenirs. Messrs. Green Bros. were very warmly thanked for their gift.

Sports Ground.

Very satisfactory progress is being made in regard to the area in Centennial Park which has been allocated by the Government through the Department of Agriculture. Eighteen acres has been defined, and this will also provide a playing field for the Sydney Girls' High School. Some objections have been made by surrounding Municipal Councils to the setting aside of

this area for the School, but we feel satisfied that they are all under a misunderstanding as to what is being done.

Some portion of the swampy portion is now being filled in with waste material from tram tracks that are being re-made, and a drainage channel is being cut which will enable a large portion of the area then to be drained. Shortly it is hoped that something may be commenced in the way of making the best portion of the field available for some of the School sports. Mr. McKay and Mr. Fairland have been a committee arranging for some of the necessary work to be carried out, and thanks are due to Mr. McKay for the work that has been done in arranging for the survey and drainage of the area.

An agreement is now to be signed on behalf of the Old Boys' Union, who will control the field. Trustees on their behalf have been appointed, viz., Messrs. R. T. McKay, G. C. Saxby, W. J. Cleary, A. Waddell and C. A. Fairland. A call is now therefore made to Old Boys to particularly interest themselves in raising funds for the development of the ground, as after waiting so long for a playing field the desire naturally is to have it equipped as quickly as we can, and funds will be urgently required.

The location of the 18 acres is to the left hand of the main drive towards Randwick from the Cleveland Street entrance of Centennial Park.

Late Mr. A. G. Steel.

Since last issue, Mr. A. G. Steel, an ex-Master of the School, passed away after a short illness. The Old Boys' Union expressed its deep sympathy with Mr. Steel's widow and family. Mr. Steel had left the school some years ago to take up a position at the Conservatorium of Music, and he was still there up to the time of his death.

Many Old Boys gratefully will remember this good friend of the School, for on several opportunities since leaving, he had rendered assistance in the way of entertainments, and he always retained pleasant memories of his association with the School.

School Athletics.

Old Boys will be extremely pleased to know that there is now a greater effort being put forward in this Branch, and Mr. Jennings, who was appointed to the staff this year, has taken this department actively in hand, and has developed good enthusiasm amongst the boys. Regular training for competitions later in the year is in progress each week. It has been found possible to form a track inside the school grounds, which will serve to carry out much preliminary work. Old Boys of experience in athletics are invited to offer any help that they can in coaching these young athletes.

Membership of the Old Boys' Union.

In order to assist the Membership Committee, any Old Boy is asked to supply a list of names and addresses of Old Boys known to him, so that they may be communicated with and induced to become members. These names can be sent to the officers of the Union. It has always been recognised that after several years away from school, an Old Boy will then be more able to take some interest in the welfare of his school rather than in the first years of his leaving. There are, we know, thousands of Old Boys around Sydney, but the difficulty is to locate them and advise them of what the O.B.U. is trying to do. Will all who read this see that they do something to help. The annual subscription is 3/6 for boys for the first year after leaving school, and for others 7/6 per annum. Life Membership fee is £5/5/-.

Comment has been made latterly over the many changes that occur in the teaching staff by removals to other schools. This is of particular interest to Old Boys, whose regard for the school is held by the estimation of the men who have been their teachers at school, and there have been many expressions of disappointment that some of these men have been removed from the school. We feel that our school has many different Associations than that of an ordinary High School, and recently a deputation has waited on the Minister for Education urging that some possible way be found to prevent the constant changes that have taken place over a period of years latterly, and it is hoped that some improvement in the system may be found possible.

Social Activities of the Old Boys' Union.

As is generally known, the main Annual Dance takes place at the Ambassadors on Friday, 28th June; but, in addition to this, there will be opportunity for Old Boys and their friends to have, we hope, several dances at the School Assembly Hall during the next few months. The co-operation of all, especially the younger section of the Old Boys, in assisting these gatherings, is asked for, as there should be a good opportunity by these means of raising funds for the benefit of the School.

Old Boys' Doings.

Herman Lieberman recently took up the position of ship's surgeon on an English liner.

With a N.S.W. Cricket Association team touring northern country centres during the Easter holidays were three Old Boys—V. A. McCauley (Manager), Walter Byrne (Randwick) and Selby J. Burt (Western Suburbs). The latter also went to Tasmania with a N.S.W. rep. XI.

— Frazer has been sent abroad by the Development and Migration Commission to study veterinary science in relation to field animals.

THE RECORD.

Sid King is again playing first class football, and when available is a regular member of the State XV. He and C. Towers are a fine combination.

Frank King was recently married. That will probably be the end of his football days (to say nothing of other diversions). Frank is now Asst. Financial Editor of the "S.M. Herald."

Ken Hardy is still maintaining his position in the St. George F.C. as a regular member of the first XV.

Derek Gilder has gone to Queensland in the service of the Mount Isa Tin Mine.

Selby Burt has definitely "turned in" football, and during the winter is secretary of the winter Cricket Club sponsored by Mr. R. L. Jones, State Cricket Selector, with a view to giving players experience on sticky wickets.

Old Boys' Badges.

These are obtainable from the Hon. Secretary. Cost 2/6 each.

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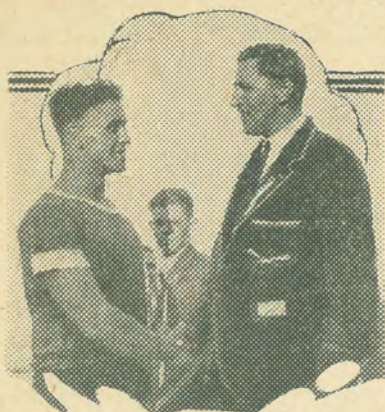
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ROWING

Once more exacting training and superlatively good coaching have made themselves felt in the Great Public Schools' Head of the River races; for High has regained the proud title after the brief lapse of one year, besides annexing the Yaralla Cup for the First Fours on the second occasion, and the Third Fours race for the first time. The Second Four, after winning their heat, surpassed all expectations by being narrowly defeated, after a good fight, by St. Ignatius, to whom we accord the heartiest congratulations for a well-deserved and popular win.

Our admiration goes out to Newington for their great fight and determination in running the School Eight so close, and also to Shore for putting up such a fine performance after being forced to find substitutes for stroke and No. 7, who were incapacitated on account of illness.

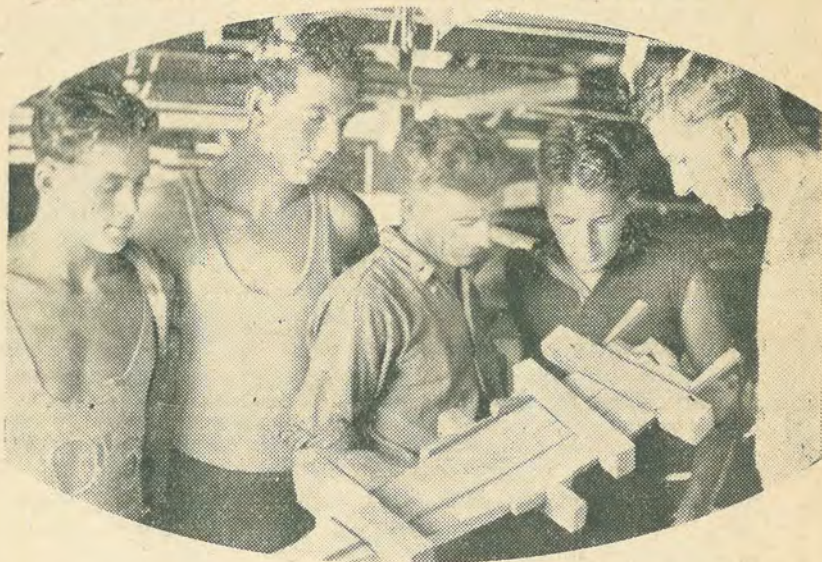
But great victories are not won without help; therefore we tender our warmest but entirely inadequate thanks to Messrs. G. Hancock, C. Smith, K. Dainer, and H. Varker, coaches of the Eight, Second, Third, and Fourth crews respectively, for their exceptionally fine coaching and for the sacrifices they have made in order to coach our boys. Valuable assistance in the way of preliminary coaching was rendered by two pupils of the school, D. Duffy and R. Uebel, one of whose proteges gained a place in the Eight.

Our thanks are also due to the organisations attached to the school—the School Union and the Parents and Citizens' Association—for considerable financial help; and to the Old Boys' Union particularly, which rendered yeoman service, providing at great expense the use of a speed launch for training purposes (the "Sunbeam," quondam school launch, having been satisfactorily disposed of after giving endless worry and expense), AND a new eight, which was used in the race. This fine craft, built on a special mould, contributed in no small degree to the victory, weathering the adverse conditions in a truly wonderful man-

THE RECORD.

ner and reflecting very creditably on the skill of the builders, Green Brothers, of Abbotsford, who also built the boat for the winning Riverview Second Four.

This year there was a different arrangement as regards the quartering of the crews, since it proved inconvenient for Mr. Hancock to coach the Eight at Glebe. Consequently the latter went to Abbotsford, boarding at Mrs. Smith's residence, and boating from Greens' shed. The Fours remained at Glebe, boating from the Glebe Rowing Shed as in former years.



We were fortunate in not being handicapped with sickness as in former years; but yet there were a few cases, as is inevitable. Five of last year's Eight rowed this year, namely, D. Duffy, J. Robinson, B. Gardiner, R. Uebel, and G. Walker. F. Bolton and F. Berger were new to rowing in races. H. Rees was in the same position, as he was in the 1928 crew for a considerable time, being forced to drop out owing to illness. A. Khan was new to the art of coxswainship. The First Four all rowed last year, while the Second Four "broke their duck."

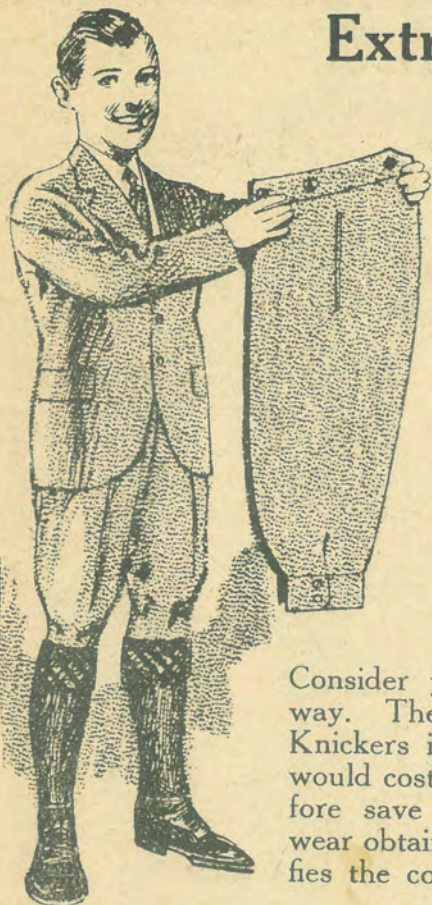
In conclusion, our thanks are due to Mr. Towns, the rowing master, who attended to the arrangements; to Mr. Moses, who supplied us with apples; to Miss Mac., who again sent us mascots, which we wore in the race, and to those who worked unseen for the success of those who would get the lions' share of the glory in the event of a win.

The Eights.

(Bow B. Gardiner, 2 H. Rees, 3 F. Berger, 4 F. Bolton, 5 D. Duffy, 6 J. Robinson, 7, R. Uebel, str. G. Walker, cox A. Khan, coach Mr. G. Hancock.

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HEAD OF THE RIVER CREW, 1929.

From Left to Right—R. G. Walker, R. C. Uebel, J. Robinson, D. Duffy, F. Bolton, F. H. Berger, H. Rees, B. Gardner, A. E. Khan (Cox.).

As the weights which are shown in white figures indicate, this crew was well up to G.P.S. standard, averaging slightly more than 12 stone. It is probably the heaviest crew High School has boated. With the increase of numbers at the School there is every prospect of the School improving its position in G.P.S. sport generally.

By permission of "The Guardian."

THE RECORD.

High Won by 3ft., with 3 lengths between second and third.

At the start Newington were on the southern shore; then came High, Grammar, Shore.

Grammar, rating 37, took the lead from an even start, High dropping into their length almost immediately, according to plan. Newington took the lead at Taylor's Wharf, rating 33, with High passing Grammar, who were in difficulties from the tricky side wind.

Shore, rowing good form at a lower rate, were on even terms with Grammar at Putney, but the latter drew away gradually to the finish, both being left well to the rear by High and Newington, who were fighting it out two lengths ahead. The latter passed Putney half a length in front of High, who overhauled their rivals in a spurt, to be immediately passed again. At Tennyson, High again assumed the lead, and it was "see-saw" to the finish High crossing the line 3ft. ahead of their rivals amid tremendous excitement, with Grammar a mere three-quarters of a length ahead of Shore, three lengths to the rear. Time, 9.19.

First Fours.

(Bow R. Nicholson, 2 G. Millard, 3 E. Baber, str. J. Broughton, cox. J. Hill, coach Mr. C. Smith.)

This race was won by two lengths, with half a length between second and third.

High jumped out at the start, but were challenged by Grammar, who led the former by half a length at Putney, with Shore and Newington fighting it out a length behind the leaders. Grammar were tiring, and were passed by High at Tennyson. The latter crew drew away to win, rowing wonderful form, by two lengths, from the black and gold, who were half a length in front of Shore, with Newington three-quarters of a length further back. Time 6.27½.

Second Fours.

(Bow R. Crebbin, 2 J. Quinlan, 3 D. Ferguson, str. C. Gerrard, cox. R. Henderson, coach Mr. K. Dainer.)

(Riverview won by a length and a half, with two lengths between second and third.

St. Joseph's and Riverview led off the mark. High fouled a moored boat, but continued to row some lengths behind the others. St. Ignatius assumed the lead at Putney, when High challenged St. Joseph's, who found the heavy going little to their liking, passing them at Tennyson. Scots were three lengths further back.

Riverview staved off repeated attacks from High, and scored a popular win by a length and a half, with the latter second and St. Joseph's two lengths behind in front of Scots. Time 6.44.



Congratulations.

The School received a large number of congratulations (telegrams) after our success in the recent boat race. They came from the following High Schools all over the State:—Grafton, Hay, Wagga, Murwillumbah, St. George's Girls', Armidale, Technical, Canterbury and Maitland; also from S.C.E.G.S., Newington, the Y.M.C.A., Old Newingtonians, and P.S.A.A.A., and from a host of well-wishers, whose signatures follow:—Louise Mack, M. Moore, N. Paterson, H. Drummond, P. Board, A. Woodlands, O. Diethelm, Wise, Stenning, Heane, C. Kendall, F. Campbell, J. Waterhouse, H. C. Hulme, C. R. Smith, J. H. Smairl, R. B. Bush, J. Maccallum, A. Harrison, J. Deans, R. Wicks, P. Price, and Trickett.

Best wishes for Saturday, after Wednesday's success, were received from Wagga, Canterbury, and Sydney Girls' High Schools.

DINNER AND THEATRE PARTY FOR ROWERS.

On May 21st, the Old Boys gave a Dinner and Theatre Party to the coaches, Messrs. Green Bros., and all the members of the crews, at the Civil Service Stores. It was a huge success. The dining hall was appropriately decorated in chocolate and blue and a large cardboard School Badge was hanging on the wall.

Commencing, at 6.15, the boys were royally entertained every course being consumed with gusto. At the conclusion of the meal, the chairman (Mr. Cleary) proposed the health of the King. He then spoke about the different crews, commiserating with members of the second four who chased St. Ignatius past the post after a wonderful race.

He then remarked upon the magnificent coaching done by Messrs. Hancock, Smith, Dayner and Varker, coaches of the Eight, First, Second and Third Fours, respectively. The coaches were then requested to stand so that the Old Boys might see them. Mr. Cleary next praised the wonderful boat, built by Green Bros., who were present.

Then he called upon Ron Uebel (Captain of the Boats) to say a few words. Mr. Uebel responded, saying that the whole credit of the Eight's win was due to the magnificent coaching of Mr. George Hancock. "Bulge" Walker, who was next called, echoed Mr. Uebel's statements.

Mr. Hancock then responded. He said that all the coaching in the world could not win races, unless the material was good and could stand up to plenty of hard work. The boys deserved great credit for the way they backed up stroke Walker right through the races.

Mr. Smith, coach of the First Four, was next called upon, and mentioned the fact that the First Four were old rowers and had a wonderful combination.

The eight were then requested to come forward. Each was presented with a miniature oar, and the cox. with a rudder.

When the ceremony was over, everybody proceeded to St. James' Theatre to see the "Baby Cyclone," a comedy in three acts. While waiting for the curtain to rise, it was noticed that the boys were securing each other's autographs on the menus which were given at the dinner. The coaches were besieged.

The show was an excellent one, keeping the lads in fits of laughter. At the conclusion, members of the crews assured everybody that they had had a wonderful time.

Presentation to Coaches.

The School was unexpectedly assembled in the Great Hall on Thursday, May 30th, to witness the presentation of the rowing trophies to the school, and also of small tokens of esteem to the coaches. First Mr. Saxby addressed the school, saying how pleased he was to see the trophies back at the school again. Indeed, he hoped to see them there as long as it was possible.

He then called on Mr. Uebel to present the smallest trophy, but the largest in merit, the Major Rennie trophy, which was gained by the Eight.

Mr. Uebel said a few words to the effect that he had rowed in a winning and losing eight, and knew how sweet it was to win and how disappointing to lose. He then presented the Major Rennie trophy to the school on behalf of the Eight.

Mr. Boughton then presented the Yaralla Cup to the School on behalf of the 1st Four. Mr. Saxby gave a brief history of the Major Rennie, and told how it was formerly contested for by Rowing Clubs, before it was presented to the winners of the Championship Eights.

He then presented a stop-watch to Mr. Hancock on behalf of the school. Mr. Hancock stated that it was not actually a surprise to him; but he was very pleased to learn that it came from a subscription of the scholars. He said that a coach had more confidence in himself when he had the confidence of the boys. Continuing, he said that he had held stop-watches on the winning High Eight in 1925-26-27 and 1929, and hoped to do so in 1930.

A gold watch was next presented to Mr. Smith, who said he would be glad to coach the school in the coming races.

The assembly then closed with three cheers for the respective coaches.

V. BARNES.

"HEAD OF THE RIVER" DANCE AND EUCHRE PARTY.

Amidst joy and jubilation and about six hundred persons, our "Head of the River" Dance and Euchre Party took place on Saturday, 27th April. This function was undoubtedly a great success from a social point of view. The parents became acquainted over the tables, at which they played bridge, whist and mah-jongg, and the crews and their coaches were introduced personally to that section of the community, associated with the school.

On the arrival of the crews and two of the coaches, the Headmaster brought them into the great Hall and introduced them to this large gathering. Mr. Saxby then congratulated the crews and the coaches on the fine performances of the afternoon. Mr. Chas. Smith, coach of the first four, expressed his appreciation of the crew, and thanked Mr. Saxby for his congratulations. Mr. K. Dainer had no voice after an afternoon's strenuous barracking.

Walker, stroke of the Eight, was then called upon to make a speech, in which he told of the race put up by Newington, and the misfortune of "Shore" in losing their stroke and seventh man just prior to the race, owing to an outbreak of influenza in the "camp." He congratulated Newington on their magnificent showing, and "Shore" on their gaining fourth place, and being just beaten by Grammar for third.

J.L.C. (4A.).

SWIMMING REPORT, 1928.

This year, swimming has been the sport of about one-third of the school. On a Wednesday quite a crowd assemble outside the Domain Baths. A new rule has been passed, that any boy who cannot swim must first learn on a Wednesday from a senior boy, before he can take up any other sport.

Last year we were very successful in C.H.S. activities. We carried off by a big margin, the "Junior Cadet Challenge Shield," gaining four firsts and a second. Clarke was responsible for the four firsts, with three records, and was one-fifth of a second outside another. Robinson gained second place in the hundred yards.

In the Junior, we were first in the breast stroke with Thorp, second with Murphy in the diving, and Sauter filled third place in the 220 yards. In the Senior, we could only get first and second in the diving with Clarke and Murphy. Our relays were very weak, but we hope for great improvement this year.

Our own carnival this year was a success, but only just so. The times put up were good all round, many records being broken, cup winners being:—Senior, T. Pauling; Junior, R. Clarke; Junior Cadet, R. Shaw.

The winners and distinguished swimmers will receive a thorough training under Harold Hardwicke, the ex-Olympic swimmer. Boys selected for this training are expected to give of their best, and once more put High School's name on all shields. We have the swimmers this year, if they will all train. We have hopes of success in this year's carnival, and expect to make ourselves felt in C.H.S. competitions.

The House Swimming Competition results were fairly even—Reid, first, 45; Wentworth, second, 35; Parkes, third, 31; Gordon, fourth, 27.

N.W. THORP, Hon. Secretary.

Annual Swimming Carnival—Results of Inter-House Contests.

SENIOR.

Results:—

50 Yards (Record 27 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec., E. Henry, 1921, C.H.S.).—
T. Pauling 1, J. Robinson 2, C. Gerard 3. Time, 27 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec.
Record.

100 Yards (Record 58 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec., E. Henry, 1923, C.H.S.).—
T. Pauling 1, G. McDougall 2, J. Robinson 3. Time 62 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec.

220 Yards (Record 2.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec., E. Henry, 1923, S.H.S.).—
T. Pauling 1, G. McDougall 2, C. Gerard 3. Time, 2.52 sec.

440 Yards (Record 5.57 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec., E. Henry, 1923, C.H.S.).—
T. Pauling 1, C. Gerard 2, J. Lister 3. Time 6.18 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec.

880 Yards (Record 13.27 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec., E. Henry, 1923, C.H.S.).—
C. Gerard 1, G. McDougall 2, J. Lister 3. Time, 13.44 sec.

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THE RECORD.

50 Yards Back. (Record 41 $1/5$ sec., S. Hirst, 1925, C.H.S.)
—J. Lister 1, G. McDougall 2, C. Gerard 3. Time, 38 $4/5$ sec.
Record.

100 Yards Breast (Record 87 $4/5$ sec., A. Underhill, 1922,
C.H.S.)—J. Robinson 1, H. Rees 2, J. Lister 3. Time, 1.46
 $1/5$ sec.

Diving.—J. Chapman 1, Vernon 2, R. Clarke 3.

JUNIOR.

50 Yards (Record 28 $3/5$ sec., S. Willsher, 1918, C.H.S.)—
R. Clarke 1, R. Robinson 2, T. Jones 3. Time, 28 $2/5$ sec.
Record.

100 Yards (Record 68 $3/5$ sec., A. Shand, 1918, C.H.S.)—
R. Clarke 1, K. Payne 2, T. Jones 3. Time 71 sec.

220 Yards (Record 3.7 sec., B. Agnew, 1921, C.H.S.)—
R. Clarke 1, T. Jones 2, K. Payne 3. Time 2.52 $3/5$ sec. Record.

440 Yards (Record 6.37 sec., B. Newman, 1923, S.H.S.)—
R. Clark 1, K. Payne 2, T. Jones 3. Time, 6.25 sec. Record.

50 Yards Back. (Record 42 $2/5$ sec., F. McCure, 1924,
C.H.S.)—R. Clarke 1, T. Jones 2, J. Allen 3. Time 38 $2/5$
sec. Record.

50 Yards Breast (Record 36 $4/5$ sec., J. Robinson, 1927,
C.H.S.)—Vernon 1, N. Thorp 2, M. Power 3. Time 40 sec.

Diving.—R. Shaw 1, Murphy 2, K. Payne 3.

JUNIOR CADET.

50 Yards (Record 29 $1/5$ sec., R. Clarke, 1928, C.H.S.)—
R. Shaw 1, J. Skipper 2, Bulteau 3. Time, 31 $1/5$ sec.

100 Yards (Record 67 $3/5$ sec., R. Clarke, 1928, C.H.S.)—
R. Shaw 1, D. Kerr 2. Time, 72 $1/5$ sec.

220 Yards (Record 2.57 $4/5$ sec., R. Clarke, 1928, C.H.S.)—
R. Shaw 1, J. Skipper 2, Gosschalk 3. Time 3.2 sec.

33 Yards Back (Record 25 sec., R. Clarke, 1928, C.H.S.)—
R. Shaw 1, J. Allen 2, Gosschalk 3. Time 26 sec.

33 Yards Breast (Record, F. McCure, 26 $1/5$ sec., 1922,
C.H.S.)—R. Shaw 1, Cole 2, D. Kerr 3. Time 28 $4/5$ sec.

HOUSE RELAYS.

Senior 300 Yards Relay (no record).—Reid 1, Parkes 2,
Wentworth 3. No time taken.

Junior 300 Yards Relay (no record).—Reid 1, Wentworth
2, Parkes 3. Time 3.17 $1/5$ sec. (This time will stand as
record).

Junior Cadet 300 Yards Relay (no record).—Wentworth 1,
Gordon 2, Parkes 3. Time 3.45 $3/5$ sec. (This time will stand
as record).

THE RECORD.

HANDICAPS.

1st Year Handicap.—Austin 1, Pogson 2, Jennings 3. Time not taken.

2nd Year Handicap.—Craig 1, McKensie 2, Wight 3. Time 46 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec.

3rd Year Handicap.—Ebsworth 1, Speight 2, Tate 3. Time 46 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec.

4th Year Handicap.—Paton 1, White 2, Morgan 3. Time 33 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec.

5th Year Handicap.—Page 1, Trevennon 2, Lister 3. Time, 45 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec.

Open 100 Yards Handicap.—Odgers 1, Williams 2, Hoyt 3. Time, 1.33 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec.

Beginners' Handicap.—McGee 1, G. Baker 2, G. Mottershead 3.

Chasing the Bellman.—Sunman 1.

HOUSE POINT SCORE.

Reid (45) 1, Wentworth (35) 2, Parkes (31) 3, Gordon (27) 4.



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CRICKET, 1929.

The cricket this year has been of a higher standard than during recent years. The "Eleven" at the close of the season was unbeaten in the H.S. Competition, and had two G.P.S. wins to its credit, besides being narrowly defeated by Newington and Scots.

The feature that characterised the team was the excellent spirit manifested in all the games. This had its influence on the field, the boys obeying orders immediately; the fielding, as a result, was of a "High" standard (so the "Rally" tells us).

We were fortunate in having nine of last year's team back. Starr, as usual, kept wickets brilliantly, as the 'Shore match showed, and he was unfortunate not to get going with the bat. All the team improved as the season advanced, and even better results are looked for next half.

The batting slowly improved in the later matches, as the boys showed more confidence. M. Simonsen, E. Gilding and M. Cohen gave the best exhibitions—all in the last three matches.

D. Loftus' century in the C.H.S. Competition was by far his best innings while at school, and he is to be congratulated on securing the first century scored at the school for years. In both C.H.S. and G.P.S. matches the most noticeable feature in the school's batting was the remarkable number of batsmen, who were foolishly run out. This must be remedied if matches are to be won, since many good batsmen lost their wickets in this way.

The bowling was satisfactory throughout, the school possessing a very good variety; but it would be better if players concentrated even more upon it. The outstanding trundler was Stening who headed the bowling average for the school. He

took up bowling half way through the season, but his length bowling soon had its effect on the opposing batsmen. Chesher, Simonsen, Ashbarry, Burne and Odgers, ably supported him. The latter opened the season well with 7 for 20 against N.C., but did not do so well as the season advanced.

The team as a whole would like to express its appreciation of the work of Messrs. Eddy, Golding, Shaw, who in no small way contributed to the success of the team.

S.H.S. v. N.C.

High batted first on a bad wicket and were dismissed for 74. Stening scored a nice 28, while Ashbarry reached double figures in his first G.P.S. innings.

The wicket slowly improved and N.C. were dismissed for 86. Odgers did wonderfully well, securing 7 wickets for 20 runs. a remarkable performance for a boy practically new to G.P.S. cricket. Ashbarry also bowled well securing 3 for 25.

High batted again, and Loftus and Simonsen put on 62 for the first wicket of which Loftus scored 32 and Simonsen 25. The innings was declared 4 for 67.

Newington played out time, and won the match by 12 runs on the first innings. High did well considering they had the worst use of the wicket.

Scores:—

High, first innings, 74 (Stening 28, Ashbarry 11).

N.C., first innings, 86 (Odgers 7-20, Ashbarry 3-25).

S.H.S., second innings, 4-67, declared, (Loftus 32, Simonsen 25).

N.C., second innings, 2-34.

S.H.S. v. S.I.C.

Riverview batted first, T. Parsonage and Moses each scoring a fine century; the innings was declared closed 4 for 303.

High opened up well, Stening and Simonsen putting on 35, before the latter was dismissed for 14. Stening went on to score 24. The strain of a heavy day's fielding had its effect on the remainder of the team, who could only muster 119. A good partnership by Field and Ashbarry realised 38 runs, Field scoring a patient 18, and Ashbarry 19, by good all round play. Field's innings was his first in G.P.S., and he held his end up well.

Scores:—

S.I.C., first innings, 303.

S.H.S., first innings 119 (Stening 24, Field 18, Ashbarry 19).

S.I.C. won by 184 runs on the first innings.

S.H.S. v. S.J.C.

High batted first on a bumpy wicket and were soon in trouble, Simonsen being dismissed for 0 (run out). Stening the model of consistency to date scored 28. The remainder of

THE RECORD.

the team could not stand up to St. Joseph's attack and were all out for 85. It was pleasing to see Chesher face the fast bowlers so confidently. Ashbarry also scored a fighting 14 not out.

S.J.C. did not start well, but later Bennett, Heraghty and Thomas, slogged our bowling unmercifully.
Scores:—

S.H.S., first innings 85 (Stening 28, Chesher 15, Ashbarry 14).

S.J.C., first innings, 6-378 (Burne 3-81).

S.J.C. won by 293 runs on the first innings.

S.H.S. v. S.C.E.G.S.

Halstead and Payne opened Shore's innings on a hard and fast wicket. Things were not looking bright for them—7 down for 81—when McCloy and Deane put on 86 for the 8th wicket. Chesher bowled admirably in this match and should take a greater interest in bowling, as he turns the ball well and has a "wrong 'un." Wines also bowled well (4-33).

High batsmen completely failed and had 7 down for 29, when Gilding and Cohen brought the score to 54 before the former was run out. The side were all out for 61, the collapse being mainly due to White's length bowling.



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THE RECORD.

Shore batted again and had 7-71 when stumps were drawn. Starr gave a wonderful display of wicket-keeping, in this innings, dismissing 5 of the 7 batsmen. Stening secured the fine bowling analysis of 4-10.

Scores:—

S.C.E.G.S., first innings, 174 (Chesher 5-62, Wines 4-33).

S.H.S., first innings, 61 (Gilding 21, Simonsen 12, Cohen 12).

S.C.E.G.S., second innings, 7-71 (Stening 4-10, Odgers 2-5).

Shore won on the first innings by 113 runs.

S.H.S. v. T.K.S.

Well done High, King's defeated for the first time in history! High batted on a slow wicket and had 3 for 15, when Starr, Gilding and Cohen put on 164 between them. Starr played a very restrained innings and helped the side materially. He was unfortunate to be run out off a no-ball, when he was set. Gilding coming in next pasted the bowling to every part of the field, before being dismissed by a remarkable catch.

The side mustered its highest score for a couple of seasons, namely 217. King's batted but could not stand up to the High School attack and were dismissed for 134. The bowlers all did well and were ably backed up by the fieldsmen.

Scores:—

S.H.S., first innings, 217 (Cohen 83, Gilding 45, Starr 36).

T.K.S., first innings, 134 (Ashbarry 3-28, Simonsen 3-29, Chesher 2-26, Stening 2-11).

S.H.S. won on the first innings by 83 runs.

S.H.S. v. S.G.S.

Stening and Simonsen gave the team a good start putting on 39 for the first wicket, before Stening was caught. The side taking advantage of this, totalled 197. Simonsen and Gilding each passed the 50 mark by brilliant all round cricket. Simonsen was unlucky to be run out, and Gilding threw his wicket away trying to force the pace.

Guest was soon dismissed by a brilliant catch by Starr, after having put on 6 for Grammar's first wicket. The side were out for 135, which would have been considerably less but for Lee and Stone's partnership of 61. High's bowling was good, but no man stood out prominently.

High batted again and had 4 for 46, before stumps were drawn.

Scores:—

S.H.S., first innings, 197 (Gilding 59, Simonsen 57, Stening 24).

S.G.S., first innings, 135 (Simonsen 2-14, Stening 2-16, Chesher 2-28, Ashbarry 2-31).

S.H.S., second innings, 4-46 (Cohen 19 not out).

S.H.S. won by 62 runs on the first innings.

THE RECORD.

S.H.S. v. T.S.C.

High were sent in on a wicket that played all the tricks a wicket could, and were soon in trouble having 1 for 1. The batsmen could not stand up against the bowling, and were all out for 69. Simonsen scored a plucky 17, this may also be said of Loftus and Gilding who scored 15 not out and 13 respectively.

Scots batting on an improved wicket were all out for 77. Simonsen bowled well securing 4 for 25.

High batted again and closed with 6 for 96. The inning's only occupied a little over an hour.

Things looked bright for High when Scots opened their second innings, but High's score was passed with 2 wickets in hand. Stening bowled well securing 4 for 24.

Scores:—

S.H.S., first innings, 69 (Simonsen 17, Loftus 15 not out, Gilding 13).

T.S.C., first innings, 77 (Simonsen 4-25, Burne 2-10, Chesher 2-14).

S.H.S., second innings, 6-96, declared (Gilding 18, Stening being mainly due to White's length bowling).

16, Wines 15, Thompson 14 not out, Starr 14, Cohen 13).

T.S.C., second innings, 8-90 (Stening 4-24, Odgers 2-15, Chesher 2-31).

T.S.C won outright by 2 wickets.

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C.H.S. Competition.

First and Second Grade are leading undefeated in the C.H.S. Competition, while the Thirds though unbeaten have played several draws.

Loftus, Simonsen and Stening batted well, and Cheshier took many good wickets with his wily slows.

In the Seconds, Thompson, McCleod and McKibbin were the pick. Thompson scored a couple of 50's and earned his place in the Firsts, which he obtained towards the end of the season.

The Thirds were handicapped owing to one day matches, but nevertheless did well. The outstanding players were Paton, Crouch and Zertsch, (who topped both the batting and bowling). Mr. Bilbe is to be thanked for the untiring work which he put in with the Thirds. Without him we are sure the team would not be where it is.

Both in the Seconds and Thirds promising material is available for First Grade in future years.

CRICKET AVERAGES.

Batting.

Name	No. of		runs	h.s.	Ave.
	Inns.	n.o.			
M. Cohen	8	1	147	83	21
E. Gilding	9	1	158	59	19.9
M. Stening	9	1	129	28	16.1
R. Thompson	5	2	47	14	15.66
N. Simonsen	9		136	57	15.1
D. Loftus	9	2	72	32	10.71
J. Field	2		20	18	10.00
F. Starr	7		69	36	9.85
H. Wines	5		38	15	7.60
R. Ashbarry	7		52	19	7.42
J. Odgers	8	2	26	8	4.33
W. Cheshier	8		34	16	4.25
W. Burne	8	3	21	8	4.2
A. Howe	2		5	4	2.5
G. Evans	1		2	2	2.0

Bowling.

Name	Wickets	Runs	Average
M. Stening	13	146	11.27
H. Wines	5	62	12.40
J. Odgers	17	214	12.58
W. Cheshier	13	246	18.30
N. Simonsen	11	216	19.63
R. Ashbarry	9	191	21.22
M. Cohen	1	25	25.00
W. Burne	7	224	32.00



RUGBY FOOTBALL.

Early in the year our prospects for football seemed very bright. But when we got down to business our early hopes were not realised. Some of our potential "stars" for more or less convincing reasons have decided to drop football, either for a period or for the season. This action has let the school down considerably in its competition with other schools. The weakening of course is not confined to the first grade.

Our practices have been interfered with so much, firstly through the conflict between football and certain Honours work, and secondly through holidays (e.g. Empire Day) and Saturday matches, that we have come well into June with only two or three practices to our credit.

In the circumstances, a fair amount of responsibility rests on the shoulders of those masters, who get the blame for a "ragged" team, such as we have fielded up to date. Defections and lack of training beat us at Armidale. In the match against Canterbury for the first time some indication was given of how the team may emerge from a chaotic mass of struggling humanity which exhibits no lack of energy but shows no evidence of form or order.

In spite of all the drawbacks hitherto experienced, I believe that there is enough spirit in our team to enable it to put up a record this year that will eclipse all those of past years. Our opponents are stronger than usual in the G.P.S. and H.S. Competitions, so we can assure to those who are standing up four square for the good old game of football, an interesting and useful season. At the end of the season I think that the worst that will be said of our football for the year will apply to those who were with us but not of us!

G.W.H.P.

S.H.S. v. Fort Street, May 1st.

At Kensington.

Owing to lack of condition and the absence of several star players High were rather comfortably beaten by Fort Street 17-8.

Fort Street maintained an early lead which they increased after half time. The play of High was ragged and patchy whereas Fort Street showed better combination and understanding. For High Odgers scored a try which Gilding converted and Gilding also kicked a penalty goal.

S.H.S. v. N.S.H.S., May 8th.

At North Sydney.

The addition of some players who were rowers, helped the team to a 3-0 victory. Play was very even, North Sydney being unlucky not to score on occasions even as we were. Play changed rapidly from one end of the field to the other and it was from a High attack that Fulton scored a nice try. This remained the only score at half time and finally at full time. High School players showed little improvement regarding handling and passing and the tackling was not sufficiently hard.

S.H.S. v. T.H.S., 22nd May.

At University Oval.

An improvement was shown on the form of previous matches and we won 11-3.

Tech. opened the scoring with a penalty goal to which Gilding replied with a penalty kick for High, and the same player soon afterwards notched another. These were the scores at lemon time.

Upon resuming, some even play followed, but Gilding made a nice run to beat his man and the full back and touched down. He also converted his try. High 11-3. No further score resulted.

The game was rather "scraggy" and High backs have not yet worked up sufficient combination.

S.H.S. v. Canterbury High, 5th June.

At Kensington.

It was thought that this game would be evenly contested, but early we badly "rattled" them and with the addition of a little weight we had an easy victory 38-3.

From the kick off High pressed and Chalmers securing near the line, dived over. The kick failed. Tries followed in quick succession by Stening, Boughton and Wines, one of which Gilding converted. Canterbury were pressing near half-time and were rewarded with a try when Pauling lost possession of the ball. Half-time thus found the scores 14-3.

Immediately after the resumption Stening scored after a forward rush. Gilding converted. The first half was repeated and Chalmers and Wines (2) scored tries. Robinson converted

THE RECORD.

three and Gilding kicked a penalty goal, making the final scores 38-3. High backs are now finding their true form and the forwards are improving.

S.H.S. v. Hawkesbury College, Second Grade. At the College. Saturday, 18th May.

At the College.

From the kick off High pressed and Boughton scored after the forwards had dribbled the ball through. Gilding converted High 5-0. The School forwards were holding their heavier opponents whom they outmatched in speed and skill. There was no alteration in the score at half time. After the resumption Boughton again scored and Gilding converted. The latter crossed for a try soon afterwards and McKibben also touched down. Neither try was converted and full-time found the scores 16-0 in our favour.

The backs did not show any marked improvement, as handling was rather weak. Their defence however was strong.

S.H.S. v. Armidale. June 1st, at Armidale.

The Armidale Ground noted for its hardness had been made appreciably soft by the recent rain.

Rees won the toss and ran with the breeze. From the "kick-off" it was apparent that High forwards were outmatched, and that the backs were superior to the opposition backs.

Nevertheless High forwards played creditably against such opposition.

Seldom did the ball reach High's backs from a "scrum" or "line-out," but play was always interesting and exciting as the fortunes of both sides fluctuated as play swung from one end of the field to the other.

Armidale scored first from a penalty goal close up, owing to off-side play by High.

Half-time found the scores unaltered. Upon resuming however, McKibben scored after Gerrard had made an excellent run from "half-way" and Gilding had gained ground. The kick failed.

Armidale returned to the attack and Craft kicked a nice field goal giving his side the lead 7-3. Both sides were battling desperately and frequently a score by either side seemed imminent until right on full-time the High forwards in a dribbling rush gained ground. From a scrum Rees secured and instantly realising the futility of running on the right side of the field, wheeled and threw the ball to Robinson on the other side of the scrum who drew the opposition to send Gilding over for an excellent try.

The referee made known that twelve seconds remained for play, and the result hinged on the kick to convert the try. It failed and Armidale won a hard clean fought match.

THE RECORD.

It was indeed disappointing as we had scored twice whilst our line was not crossed and taken all round we looked more dangerous in attack than our opponents but such is the luck of football.

McKibben and Gerrard played well in a hard-working pack of forwards, whilst Rees, Gilding and Fulton made the most of their chances. Pauling was safe at full-back, whilst Robinson playing at breakaway in the first half and five-eighth in the second played well except for a slight period of bad handling.

SECOND GRADE.

This grade has won every match but one to date in the C.H.S. Competition, mainly owing to the good work of the forwards. At times the backs have been very bad, at other times good.

S.H.S. v. F.S.H.S. Won 14-0.

Scorers: Lister, Napier, Pauling, Gerrard, tries; Robinson, goal.

S.H.S. v. N.S.H.S. Won 6-0.

Scorers: Parfett, Stonham, tries.

S.H.S. v. T.H.S. Won 8-3.

Scorers: Saunders, Budge, tries; Robinson, goal.

THE PRACTICE WICKETS.

The school is much indebted to Dr. Bulteau for assistance in the preparation of the cricket practice area. Taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by the Department's gardeners in putting in a hedge along the Park frontage to utilise the surplus soil, he sent along a cheque for five guineas in order that a man with his horse and dray could be hired to transport the soil to the back of the prepared wickets. The whole area is now level, and when the grass has covered the new section, the wickets should be as good as any elsewhere. With the slip fielding machine to be provided by the Parents and Citizens' Association, cricket should improve materially next season.

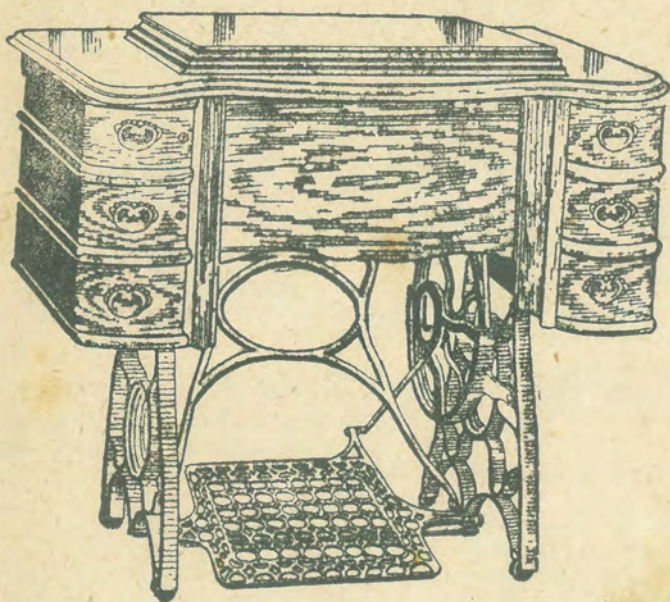
The thanks of the school are tendered to Dr. Bulteau, and acknowledgment is made in the School Magazine, in order that any other old boy or parent of a present boy (Dr. Bulteau is both), who is like minded, will know that he can "go and do likewise."

Any such donations sent to the Headmaster will be sent on to the Old Boys' Union or the Parents and Citizens' Association, ear-marked for any special purpose the donors may wish.

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S.H.S. v. Hurlstone A.C. Lost 3-8.

Scorer: Budge, try

S.H.S. v. C.H.S. Won 17-3.

Scorers: Page, Trevenan, Ferguson, Lister, Robinson, tries; Robinson, goal.

The team was defeated by Hawkesbury A.C. 3rds by 9 to 7. Scorers: Russo, field goal; Robinson, penalty goal.

THIRD GRADE.

This grade is as yet undefeated, owing to the good play of backs and forwards.

Results:—

S.H.S. v. F.S.H.S. Won 23-0.

Scorers: Russo (2), Brown, Anderson, Clarke, Barnes, Chapman, tries; Chapman, goal.

S.H.S. v. N.S.H.S. Won 14-3.

Scorers: Anderson, Morgan, Saunders, Chapman, tries; Chapman, goal.

S.H.S. v. T.H.S. Won 23-5.

Scorers: Wauchope (2), Russo, Chapman, tries; Russo field goal; Chapman, 2 goals and penalty goal.

S.H.S. v. C.H.S. Won 6-3.

Scorers: Barnes, Chapman, tries.

FOURTH GRADE.

Fourth Grade, under the leadership of J. Brown, have played good football, and have made very even games of all their matches, except against North Sydney, who are a very classy combination.

Our lads have plenty of dash, fair combination, and some skill, except in tackling. Here Brown shows a good example by going hard and low, but not many emulate him. Fourth Grade will do well in the second round.

FIFTH GRADE.

Fifth Grade are doing well. The Captain is O. Kellick, who handles his team well, and, like J. Brown of the Fourths, tackles low and surely. G. Stone, another centre; Petterson, on the wing; and Scully, the half, are among the best of the backs, while Henze and Newman are the liveliest of a good set of forwards. Fifth Grade should win all the matches of the second round.

SIXTH GRADE.

Sixth Grade—the Midgets—are a great team. Their one fault is that they cannot win. That is due to the fact that they don't know how to run, where to run, and when to run or pass, and they cannot tackle. Arthur O'Connor tackles low because he cannot reach any higher. McLeod is a good full-back. Nettleship always, and King sometimes, are good wingers. O'Connor is a fine half, while McGee is a good forward.

SOCCER FOOTBALL REPORT.

Soccer football has been again inaugurated at this school, and is in the capable hands of Mr. Jenkins. At first the enrolment was quite good, and several good teams were formed; but owing to the fact that no competition was arranged several went across to the Rugby Union. Still, there are about 30 to 40 boys engaged in this sport, and lack of ability is counteracted by an abundance of enthusiasm.

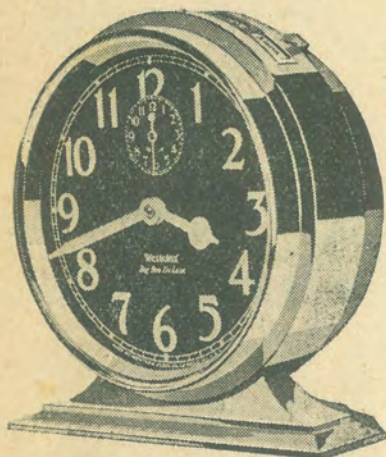
Fackender was elected captain of the 1st grade team. The selection committee consists of Fackender, Warker and Lormes.

Matches have been played against Fort Street, High and Wollongong. In the 1st contest we defeated Fort Street by 3 goals to 2; but in the return match they defeated us by 5 goals to 0. Wollongong defeated us by 7 goals to nil.

There are now three teams in training, and matches have been promised by various junior teams around the metropolis.

Conspicuous players have been Fackener, Loomes, Walker, Ovington and O'Brien.

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TENNIS REPORT.

On looking back over previous tennis notes, it has occurred to me that tennis at the school was not always in such a popular position as it is to-day; and, since popularity unconsciously incites keen competition, it is not over-optimism to forecast success for our teams in the near future.

Although the value of this popularity cannot be over-exaggerated, unfortunately it has become a heavy encumbrance on account of the superfluity of junior boys and the inadequacy of courts, thus almost necessitating the restriction of tennis to the upper school.

In the Inter-High Schools Competition, High has entered four teams, of which the First and Fourths have made the best showing, both having won 4 matches out of 6. At present the teams are sorely in need of a good coach, and there is no reason why it cannot have one as well as the cricket, football, and athletic teams.

Several juniors showing promise have been brought together, a few of whom are showing traces of the "dinkum oil," E. Henry and Webb being most prominent. This should be a strong factor in raising the standard of play at the school. It will also be possible to arrange for practice next year, as we will have courts within reasonable reach for such purposes.

We must ask that the open disparagement of the game cease, and as a first recognition "blues" or "half-blues" might be granted. As far as we can see, no reasonable arguments could be opposed to this suggestion. The standard of tennis is high, Ashbarry and Thompson being two of the best players in the competition. They have won every set they have played (20) against every school in the competition.

If this year's enthusiasm continues, we can hope for better times still, despite the drawbacks, when we shall come into our own, and the opposition be forced into oblivion.

On behalf of both grade players and school enthusiasts, I take this opportunity of extending to Mr. Hall our warm thanks for his untiring assistance and general interest in every one of us, for the manner in which he managed our affairs for us, and for his ever-ready advice, the fruits of which are already noticeable.

C. S. Hogg, Hon. Secretary.

THE RIFLE CLUB.

In the six months that have elapsed since my last report, the Rifle Club has improved wonderfully, and its present standard is worthy of the school. This is due in large measure to the keen interest and unfailing assistance rendered by Mr. Elwin, to whom we extend our thanks.

The beginning of the year marked the infusion of much new blood, and many have shown promise of good markmanship. The membership of the Club has exceeded the greatest total of any year since the inauguration of this branch of sport; and, though

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many have passed out, their places have been quickly filled, so that now we are working with a full quota.

As I have mentioned in the previous "Record," cups are to be awarded this year. Already one of the four matches in the "championship" series has been fired off. The first three places in the results are:—R. Chesher (34) 1st, W. Hingee (34) 2nd; C. Ebsworth (34) 3rd. The leaders may be displaced when the second match of the series is completed on the 12th June.

The Inter-House Rifle Meeting has been divided into two matches, the first of which, postponed from April, will be fired off on 3rd July, and the second on 23rd October.

We have arranged a match with the Hawkesbury Agricultural College Rifle Club on 8th June at the Long Bay Range, and at our present standard we hope to make a better stand against its representatives than we have in former years.

I will not say much about the June Rifle Meeting here, as there is a separate report below; but our success has been well earned, and many officials have expressed their good wishes for our club, and even Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal said he was glad to see Sydney High in the competitions.

Let us therefore look to ourselves that we may be worthy to represent our school, that we may be in a fit condition to enter the field, and that we may bring credit to "High."

W. Hingee, Captain.

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THE JUNE RIFLE MEETING.

The School Rifle Club made its debut on Saturday, 1st June, and distinguished itself early in the day.

It was the occasion of the Annual Rifle Meeting of the Citizen Forces, and I am pleased to state that many of the members were present to represent "High."

Several won laurels in the individual matches, the more notable being C. Ebsworth, N. Savage, G. Rowell, G. Jones, and F. Taylor.

I congratulate Clif. on carrying off the second prize in the "Gallipoli." This feat is more worthy than it sounds; for he made the same score as the winner, but was counted out at first place. Savage did well too, coming fourth, with one point less than the winning score.

In the "Gallipoli" match forty prizes were given, and of these "High" won thirteen—Five were included within the first eight places.

White and Hingee scored over 30 in the "Lagnicourt," while Ebsworth won a good place in the Anzac with 32.

Collectively, in teams of six, we were no less notable; for the Merris Team came a close second, with 187 points, to the 36th Batt., which scored 188 points and filled first place among twenty-nine teams.

Hingee, of the School Team, won the Merris trophy for highest individual score, after shooting off with two other competitors, who had also scored "possibles."

In the "Pozières," a snap-shooting match, forty-three hits won us the 4th place, the 2nd Div. Engineers being first, with forty-eight hits. Thirty-six teams competed in this match.

Lastly the "Bullecourt" found us again filling fourth place, this time with forty teams competing.

I also wish to congratulate Don MacCallum for his fine shooting in the "Beaurevoir," which gained him second place out of some hundreds of entrants.

Altogether the Club has done well, and it is to be hoped that the rest of the Club will profit by the example of their fellows and enter in future competitions in order to conquer that mocker and derider "stage-fright."

W. Hingee, Captain.

HOUSE REPORTS.

House Results, 1929.

Competitions	Gordon	Parkes	Reid	Wentworth
Cricket	25	30	24	41
Swimming ..	27	30	45	35
Totals	52	60	69	76

Wentworth House Notes.

Wentworth House—the School House of 1929—will again have a good chance of carrying off the sporting honors.

M. Stening is the captain, E. Silk the vice-captain, and N. Simonsen, G. Walker, and M. Spooner make up an energetic committee.

The first event of the year, the Swimming Carnival, was a great success. The enthusiasm shown was fine. The swimming was equally keen.

Reid House had very fast Senior and Junior Teams, and carried off the honours, gaining 45 points. We came second with 35. Our success was due to the all-round ability of N. Shaw, of 2B, who won all events under 14 years, and the good work of N. Thorpe (4A), E. Stewart (3B), and strong teams in Junior and Under 14 Years Relays.

In cricket, six teams competed, and most met with a good measure of success. After five rounds had been played Wentworth was leading by several points. The Firsts had very close games with Reid and Parkes, Spooner, Walker, York, Trevenen, Sullivan, Withers did well.

The seconds were the weakest, but got out of some tight corners with the help of Time—Tremble and Wright,

Third Grade never won a match, but went very close several times, and on paper had a good team, including R. Thomas, R. Turner, W. Stening, N. Thornhill, and K. Stuart.

Fourth Grade never lost a match, and in G. Stone, J. Samuels, Wolfe, Schachtel, and Stott had very consistent players. The opponents could not play Samuels' slows. Fifth Grade won most matches. W. Stewart, B. Whiting, and S. Taylor did most for them.

Sixth Grade won all matches easily, and in Wills, Seward, Shepherd, Watson, and Wawn had some very good cricketers. It was a satisfaction to see Webb (2C) of our house go to Victoria with the New South Wales Schoolboys. All indications point towards good teams in athletics, as our trial with Parkes House was quite successful—Football, Shooting, Debating, and Tennis.

We hoped to start a Ladder System for the Tennis, but so far the weather has prevented the scheme.

Reid House.

Captain: Rees.

Committee: Metcalfe, Nicholson, Paton, R. Robinson, Martin.

Although few inter-house competitions have taken place this year, Reid House is looking forward to a very successful season in both sport and study.

At the Annual School Swimming Carnival we registered our first win of the year by taking the House point-score, from Wentworth. Our representatives gained 45 points, Wentworth's 35, Parkes' 30 and Gordon's 27. The House has many good swimmers, who were responsible for this success, the most outstanding being:—

SENIORS: Pauling, Robinson, MacDougal and Rees.

JUNIORS: Robinson, Miller, and Payne.

Both Junior and Senior Relay Teams won in fine style.

In cricket we were not quite so successful. The firsts had a fine team, winning every match they played. The thirds did not meet with the same success, while the seconds, fourths, 5ths, and 6ths only registered four wins between them during the whole season. However, the results were satisfactory, the House gaining 24 points.

Results:—

February 27th (Reid v. Gordon). Won 1st, 2nd, and 6th Grades.
Lost 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grades.

March 6th (Reid v. Parkes). Won 1st Grade. Lost 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades.

March 13th (Reid v. Wentworth). Won 1st and 3rd Grades.
Lost 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades.

March 20th (Reid v. Gordon). Won 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grades.
Lost 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades.

March 27th (Reid v. Parkes). Won 1st, 3rd, and 5th Grades.
Lost 2nd, 4th, and 6th Grades.

With many prominent rifle shots in the House, we hope to win once more the rifle shooting competition, and also to carry off the debating.

Our prospects are fairly bright in Athletics, as we have such athletes as Medcalfe, Power, J. Robinson, R. Robinson, Palph and a promising junior in Payne of 1A. The last-named has been doing very well lately, and we look to him to gain some points for his House at the School Sports.

It is yet too early to judge Reid's prospects in Football, but all the teams seem to be up to a fair standard, and we wish them every success.

We have been well represented in School sport this year, Robinson and Rees rowing in the School's victorious eight. In the First Fifteen three players are from Reid, namely, Pauling, Robinson, and Rees.

With the half-yearly exams. taking place soon, we are looking forward to obtaining a big lead from the other Houses in the competition for the Studies Shield, and hope to maintain it by ultimately winning this trophy.

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Gordon House Notes.

Gordon House should be much higher on the ladder of fame this year than they were last year. The lads are more experienced, and there seems to be a stronger house spirit existing.

The cricket team is fairly strong, and is fortunate in possessing the services of Ashbarry, Chesher, and Cohen. These three have been successful in First Grade cricket this year, and are valuable assets to the house.

The house should also do well in athletics, as there are some very promising athletes turning out to training. Ashbarry will also be an acquisition in this department.

In rifle shooting there are a number of promising shots, notably Ebsworth and Chesher.

The football team should also do better, but it has not been definitely selected yet. On the whole, we may hope for a very successful year.

E. A. Belschner.

Parkes House.

Captain: C. Gerrard. Committee: J. Fulton, D. Loftus, F. Jones, J. Grant, S. Hyman.

Athletics.

A Parkes v. Wentworth athletic meeting was held some time ago, and members of Parkes House take this opportunity of congratulating Wentworth House on their success.

In the only senior race, the relay, Fergusson, a newcomer to the school, performed very creditably in making up about five yards leeway. The other runners, Fulton, Gerrard and Gilding, also did well, but were outclassed by Still, Wines and Co.

Of the juniors, Hyman and Gilbert were the best, the former being a serious rival to the famous Webster of "Wentworths." Garrett and Harvey were the other runners.

In the under 14 section, Jackson and Lawler performed slightly better than Gill, Gros and Graves.

Although our athletes were unable to win a single race, assiduous training should greatly improve them before the school sports.

Swimming.

Although Parkes House was not altogether successful in the House Carnival, still their representatives tried, and obtained a fair number of firsts and seconds.

In the senior cup, Gerrard did well by winning the 880, obtaining a second in the 440, a third in the 220, and one or two other good positions.

In the junior section, we were not so successful, Jones securing two seconds and three thirds. In the Junior Cadet Cup, our successes were very slight. Wentworth seemed to have a monopoly of this section. Still, we gained one third with the aid of Goschalk, who came third in the 220.

However, Parkes is eagerly looking forward to the future, for at least three of its members will be attending Mr. Hardwicke's classes at the end of this year.

Cricket.

In 1st grade cricket, Parkes House were only moderately successful. Out of the six matches played, two were won and one was drawn. However, quite a large number of "graders" were members of Parkes House, and so the results may be regarded as satisfactory. The most consistent performers were Hall, Lewis, Hogg, Gosling and Lobb, the lastnamed being particularly successful with his fast deliveries.

The 2nd grade was much more successful, winning the majority of their matches. The outstanding performers were Hook and Ford.

Rifle Shooting.

Rifle Shooting in Parkes House is on the ebb, and unless a few others come to practice we shall fail ignominiously in the approaching Inter-House Meeting, for there are only four representatives available for a team of six.

What avails us if we excel in other sports, if we are to fail in this? To gain the honour of being School House we cannot afford to lose one single point. Therefore, roll up!

Gordon House.

Although our achievements last year were a little disappointing, this year our prospects are much brighter. Nevertheless, the lack of enthusiasm for football this winter is very disconcerting—only thirty boys out of a house of over a hundred and fifty boys are prepared to play. As this lack of interest is general throughout the Houses, I entertain grave fears for football in this School in the future.

Gordon House football will be considerably weakened this year, mainly through the loss of Baber, Evans and Cameron, who were amongst the outstanding players last year.

This year's team will be strengthened by the influx of players from other schools. We have much pleasure in congratulating Boughton on his election to position of House Captain, an honour which he richly deserves, while we regret to announce that Baber has left the School, creating a vacancy on the committee as yet unfilled.

Last year we were very unfortunate not to win the First Grade Cricket outright, but we are determined to succeed this year. This is not a vain boast when one considers that we have such men as Chesher, Cohen and the newcomer, Ashbarry, as well as many other promising players.

Rifle Shooting.

Although the Inter-House competition has not been held, we expect to improve considerably on last year's showing. Interest is keen, and with continuous practice by a regular team we

THE RECORD.

may gain a victory. Chesher and Ebsworth are experienced shots.

At the Senior Cadet Championship meeting, Ebsworth, Captain of Shooting, gained second place in the "Gallipoli," against all comers. We extend congratulations. His experience will no doubt aid us in maintaining the reputation of our House.

Tennis.

In the forthcoming Inter-House Competition Gordon House has great prospects for a successful season. Ashbarry (first grade) and Crouch (second grade) will constitute first pair, while Eizenberg (third grade) and Burne will probably be the second pair, and Cohen and Belschner the third.

Ashbarry, partnered by Thompson, has not lost a set in competition matches, and we are relying on his advice to assist the other members of the team to give a good account of themselves. Tennis is booming at present.

Swimming.

Although we did not gain many points in the last carnival, yet we were nearer the other Houses this time than on the first occasion. The House has many promising juniors, especially Bennett and Clarke, the latter already known for his swimming prowess at C.H.S. carnivals. We hope that Clarke, as he will still be a junior next season, will gain some points in the senior as well as the junior sections.

Debating.

Last year we were not as successful as we had hoped to be, though only one-fifth of a point in the allotted points behind Wentworth and Reid. As all the teams are back again this year we can face the contests with confidence. Several of the fourth year boys also take an interest in debating. We hope greater attention will be given to this activity by members of the House.

Athletics.

This branch of sport has prospered considerably under the capable supervision of Mr. Jennings. If "High" does not succeed in Athletics this year, it will be no fault of his.

"Gordon House" may hope for much greater success than hitherto. We have the material and all it needs is knocking into shape. Of course, Ashbarry stands out amongst the senior athletes. The House has an excellent chance of annexing the 100 yards, 220 yards, and broad jump, at the school sports per medium of his efforts. Belschner should do well in the broad and high jumps, as he is credited with 19ft. 7ins. and 5ft. 3ins., respectively, in these events. There are no outstanding distance men at present, but Chapman may surprise in the Mile, as he has plenty of stamina and grit.

Amongst the Juniors there is plenty of good material to work on. "Bluey" Clarke should go close to annexing the junior high jump, as last year he did 4ft. 9in. when a Junior Cadet. He may do well in the broad jump also. Dixon has done some good

broad jumps, but cannot be expected to beat Webster. Young "Syd." Brown of 4th Year, has been performing well, considering his size. He was recently credited with over 15ft. in a broad jump, and also ran second in a 100 yards handicap, which Bennett, another Gordon House chap, won. This boy has been doing good work also, and besides being a smart runner, is no mean broad jumper. Barr, an under 14 lad, has jumped over 15ft. in the broad jump, and should annex this event at the sports. Surely, then, Gordon House, with such material as this at hand, should make a respectable showing at the School Sports this year.

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FOURTH YEAR INTER-CLASS DEBATES.

The recent inauguration of debating among the Fourth Year classes has been received with enthusiasm by the scholars. Eight teams have been formed among the classes, A. Class having three; D., Class, two; B., C., and E., one each.

The debates are now in full swing, and each team is doing its utmost to come out on top. Many excellent speeches have been made, which show a great deal of preparation.

The first debate took place in the afternoon of Tuesday, June 4th, and was held in the Assembly Hall. Mr. Noakes occupied the chair. The subject for discussion was that: "A Good Novel is Better than a Good Play." The 4D2. team affirmed this, but were defeated by a narrow margin by the 4C. team. The Government, represented by 4D.-2, consisted of Messrs. Park (leader), Lusby, Ben. Smith and Lobb; the Opposition, represented by 4C., of Messrs. Rowell (leader), Atkins, Ralph and Ross.

Mr. Park, leader of the Government, spoke generally upon the range of the novel as opposed to the play, and cited various limitations of the play in this respect. Mr. Lusby spoke upon the characters in play and novel, pointing out the shallowness of the characters of the play. Mr. Smith introduced a humorous vein into his remarks, which pleased his audience immensely; he spoke on the true appreciation of the play and novel. Mr. Lobb emphasised the main points of his colleagues' speeches and gathered up the weak threads of the Government's case. Mr. Park, in his reply, pointed out some of the weak points in the remarks of the Opposition, and concluded his own case.

Mr. Rowell led the Opposition by giving a general statement and discussion of the subject, which was supplemented by Mr. Atkins, who stressed certain points in Mr. Rowell's speech, and also the most striking points in the comparison of a novel and a play. Mr. Ralph spoke more or less generally with stress on the development of the drama. Mr. Ross then took up the banner of the Opposition, and dealt with the educational point of view of the play with reference to the trend of a plot.

At the close of the debate, Mr. D. M. Smith gave many useful hints, and said that some fine speeches had been made, some of the boys in particular being very promising debaters.

The second debate was held on Thursday, June 6th, when the subject was that—"The prose writer has done more for the benefit of mankind than the poet." The 4E. team, led by Mr. Riley, affirmed the motion, but were beaten by the 4A.-3 team, led by Mr. Robinson. Some very fine speeches were delivered. The winners in the first series of debates will take part in the semi-finals.

All Fourth Year are looking forward to the two debates yet to come, which are as follows:

"Popularity is the test of literature," which is to be affirmed by 4D-1, and opposed by 4A.-2.

"It is necessary to know something of an author's life to enjoy his works," which is to be affirmed by 4A.-1, and opposed by 4B.-1.

It is certain that as the result of these debates, boys of merit will be found who will become debaters for the school.

—A. D. CASTLEMAN, 4A.

THE HAWKESBURY MATCH.

Saturday, 8th June, will be a memorable day for the Rifle Club. For the first time it was in the position of entertaining a visiting team, and for the first time it presented the Hawkesbury Agricultural College Rifle Club a stiff proposition. Indeed, the home team nearly won, being only beaten by eleven points out of a possible of six hundred and forty.

The captain, secretary, and Mr. Elwin met the visiting team at Sydney Station and conducted the members to the School, where for the following hour the home team showed the visitors around the buildings and grounds. Our Headmaster arrived just before noon, and at twelve Mr. Elwin officially welcomed the visitors, after which all sat down to enjoy the wholesome dinner arranged by Miss Sims and Miss Wilson.

Mr. Saxby seconded Mr. Elwin's welcome, and said he was glad that "High" could in some measure repay the College's hospitality of past years. Mr. Reay (Captain of H.A.C. Rifle Club) responding, congratulated "High" on having such a pretentious building, and called on his team for the H.A.C. war-cry.

The home captain said that it was the first time that the Rifle Club had been able to entertain a visiting team, and in his turn he called for "High's" war-cry.

After dinner the visitors adjourned to the Headmaster's office, and soon after all left for the rifle range. The conditions for the match were eight rounds, two sighters optional, at 200 and 300 yards, with the best eight scores to count. At 1.15 p.m., both schools commenced fire at 200 yards. Three of the Hawkesbury men registered "possibles" (40); but "High" could only return 39's by Hingee and Lewis. Hawkesbury led by 12 points at 200 yards. At 300 yards, "High" showed better form, and "possibles" were recorded by Ebsworth and Millard.

The grand totals at the close of the match were: "High" 582, Hawkesbury 593, the latter winning by eleven points—a very close finish. The separate scores for the "High" team were:

	200	300	Tl.		200	300	Tl.
Millard	38	40	78	Jones	37	35	72
Lewis	39	38	77	Chesher	37	33	70
Hingee	39	35	74	Rowell	36	33	69
Ebsworth	34	40	74	McCallum	33	35	68

White and Savage were counted out.

The Rifle Club again wishes to thank Messrs. Ebsworth, White and Jones for the cars placed at its service, and Miss Sims and Miss Wilson for taking over the catering arrangements.

W. HINGEE, Captain.

ATHLETICS.

The Athletic Season was opened at Easter. There are now 124 boys enrolled for Wednesday afternoons, while a fair number turn out on Thursdays. A club was inaugurated, and Still, Wines, Belschner, Uebel and Martin were appointed a handicapping committee. Trouble has been experienced by the lack of suitable training grounds and of material. This, however, is being overcome. The Parents and Citizens' Association, through Mr. Burt, has laid down a track of 135 yards in the school grounds. The same body has also provided twenty rotating adjustable hurdles for use by both seniors and juniors, and a vaulting pole. For these again we must thank Mr. Burt for expert advice and assistance, and Mr. Power for the paint. A very willing fatigue party from 1A., Proctor, Jackson, Rumsey and Quodling, soon made the hurdles a thing of beauty.

The school this year may hope for some measure of success in this branch of sport. Some very promising athletes have been unearthed, owing to the handicap events that are a feature of this year's training. Ashbarry, a newcomer to the school, will undoubtedly prove a valuable acquisition. His greatest successes have been obtained in the 100 yards, 220 yards and broad jump. The sprints should prove very close races, as there are five men with excellent chances. These are Still, Wines, Ashbarry, Power and Ferguson, and at this stage it is very hard to pick the final winner. Still has done the 100 in a time of which Jimmy Carlton would not be ashamed.

In the 440 yards, Power, Uebel, Gilding, Fulton and Stening should do well, while in the distance events we have very promising runners in Gerard, Ralph, Napier and McKibbin. Our jumpers are of a higher standard than usual, especially in the broad jump. Fulton, Ashbarry, Webster and Belschner are in the first flight, while others have done 19ft. 6ins. Metcalfe should again win the high jump. He is ably supported by Fulton and Belschner.

We have yet to discover a hurdler of class; but in Still, Page, Martin, Metcalfe and Belschner we have full confidence, as their assiduous practice is producing good results. The pole vault has been restricted owing to the weight of the pole. With the new pole provided by the P. and C. Association, it is hoped that the 7ft. 6ins. standing to the credit of Austin R. Clark and Martin will soon be bettered.

THE RECORD.

Among the Juniors, Hyman, Webster, Gilbert, Cartwright, Samuels, Carr, Cook, Balkind and Speight, are well to the fore in sprint events. There is every possibility that Webster will break the C.H.S. broad jump record.

In the under 14 ranks, Street, Jackson, Barr, Graves and Holmen are putting in some good work. Veness, aged 11, has done 4ft. in the high jump.

The club must express its thanks to Messrs. Tommy McNamara, Ted Pilkington and Ralph Farrell for their unstinted efforts in coaching the teams; and to the Parents and Citizens' Association and Messrs. Burt and Power, through whose efforts full training was made possible.

—E. A. BELSCHNER.

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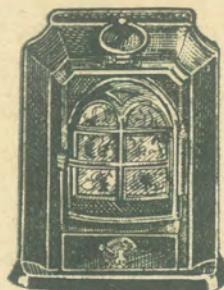
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Poets' Rest.

REGATTA DAY.

The ferries drop their anchors,
The voices wake anew,
The launches scream and whistle,
The racing crews are due.

The schoolboy flaunts his colours,
His sister waves a flag,
'Mid cries of "High" and "Grammar,"
And many a year old tag.

The flying race-shells sparkle,
The oars are flashing fast,
The mingled colours glisten,
The eights are speeding past.

The pistol booms its message,
The cheering's like a blast;
The flag ascends the flag-pole—
And "Regatta Day" is past.

The race is won, and well won,
The crews have shown their best;
The laurels to the victor,
All honour to the rest.

—K. PARK (4D.).

SPRINGTIME IN AUSTRALIA.

The frowning skies now change to sapphire blue,
Grey winter's sombre cowl is not for 'Spring,
That dancing Nymph whose feather'd Dryads sing,
In discord sweet their songs of joy unto

The flimsy flowers bursting in full hue,
Soft-kiss'd by dewy orbs that gently cling
Like priceless jewels, flashing, shimmering,
One moment past, to scintillate a-new.

O, blushing Nymph, your warm breath melts the grey
And icy touch of Hiem's bitterness;
The fickle woods smile in their gold array
Of dancing wattle flakes; soft roses bless
The silken greens and passing on her way,
Dame Nature beams in new-born happiness.

—A. CLARKE, 5A.

THE RECORD.

NATURE'S CATHEDRAL.

The harshness and the discords of this mortal life
Are lost in distance, and the sounding song
Of countless birds, and stream in noisy strife
O'er everything transcends with cadence strong.

Through interlaced boughs, a red sun throws
Its golden beams on mottled brown leav'd floor;
In blending lights and shades it lies and glows,
The radiant light, pure gold from nature's store.

In vaulted roof of arch'd blue o'erhead,
And shadowy nave with wall of tree trunk sheer,
Here God has beauty full, majestic, shed;
While ever pealing sounds the music clear.

The diapason soft from bird on wing,
And bass, of waters chafing at their bounds;
Of nature full and free this music sings,
And fills the air with its melodious sounds.

But now the face of nature all is changed,
The storm roars loud, and low the great trees bend;
The rippling stream, now swollen in its rage,
Tears at its banks and loud its warnings sends.

'Mid cataclysmic sound of crashing branch,
The raging torrent and the shrieking wind,
Adown the mountain slides the avalanche;
The storm will leave its marring mark behind.

And so the storms of life will leave on us,
Their imprint, when the weary fight is o'er;
But Right triumphant leaves a peace, and thus
True joy will come, the best of God's great store.

—G. SMEE, 4A.

TO THE FALLING LEAF.

When Summer's awful blast thou hast withstood,
And, faithful, clung unto thy parent frame,
Hast shielded from the heat, the grass and wood,
When Autumn comes with stealth, what is thine aim?
From off thy host, the cruel snow, to shield?
Ay, but Autumn whispers and the tree forgets thine aid.
And thou, who once in furnace blasts hast reeled,
Art Conquered by a season, yellow made.

THE RECORD.

Thy glossy green destroyed, thy blood afire,
Thy feeble holding, slack'ning, great thy dearth,
The sharp unloving winds but raise thine ire,
Thou hast a friend, hath fed thee from thy birth,
Fall on her bosom, and, warming her, rest.
Thou, sleeping there, shalt for thy good be blest.

—A. TUCKER, 4B.

LIFE.

First gift of God to man, O Life, thou art!

Without thee he is not, for silent Death

Then claims his withered frame. His vital breath

Would cease if thou shouldst e'er at last depart.

Denied thy quick'ning force his throbbing heart

Is stilled. But thou art more: thy shibboleth

Is Pleasure, Death's grim watchword, Woe. Thus saith

Thy voice: "Be happy now, or joyless smart."

This world's a garden plot, and man a flower:

If rain of Life descend, the flower is green,

The garden, beauteous, fresh, with colours gay.

But if that rain ne'er fall, there is no power

Can save the drooping stem, the petal's sheen;

The flower must fade, the garden soon decay.

F. Bowler (5A).

A HOLIDAY FRAGMENT.

Feel the rollicking roll of the waggon,

The straining of harness and yoke;

Smell the heart-warming odour of damper,

With the pungent aroma of smoke.

Come and rise with the crow and the skylark,

And ride with the fiery red sun,

And we'll laugh with the care-free old jackass,

Take a horse and a dog and a gun.

Let us sleep under starry blue heavens,

And live in a world that is free,

Let us breathe the sweet breath of the country,

And be lulled by the drone of the bee.

John Miller.

MAD !

I'm mad, yes, mad! By gad, I'm mad!!

My head throbs like a heart—

A heart! A lusty demon—lad,

Has torn my brain apart!!

I'm mad!!

THE RECORD.

Ten thousand Hell-bent, pulsing thoughts
Stir chaos in my skull!
Oh! Twisting shapes with red cohorts,
Are tearing—now a lull.
Ugh! I'm mad!!

I'm mad, mad! Mad!! By G-goodness, mad!
The Devil's poison dart
Has stung me; oh, this thing's a fad,
I'm cornered! Torn apart!!
I'm mad!!!

J.M.

NOVEMBER.

November is a time for fun,
When ev'ryone should laugh and cheer,
When all is bright beneath the sun;
November is a time for fun:
A time when work we'd like to shun,
When all know there is nought to fear;
November is a time for fun,
When ev'ryone should laugh and cheer.

T. Schachtel (2A).

WIND.

The blust'ring wind comes o'er the bight,
It blows the leaves away, away.
With a dart to the left, with a dart to the right.
The blust'ring wind comes o'er the bight—
It puts the sailors all to fright
And makes the sea birds whirl around
The blust'ring wind comes o'er the bight;
It blows the leaves away, away.

S. Anstee (2A).

SUNSET.

The setting sun adorns the west,
Beyond the farthest distant hill,
Each bird goes forth to seek its nest,
With many a song and chat and trill.

The fairest flowers that smiled to-day,
Are now wrapt up once more in sleep;
No longer chirp nor chat nor play
The birds 'midst forests still and deep.

The western breezes softly blow,
And murmur 'mid the silent trees,
While moonbeams with a gentle glow
Do flutter 'midst the dark green leaves.

C. Whiting (2A)

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SYDNEY HIGH IN 1888.

Some Reminiscences by G. P. Barbour, of the Toowoomba Grammar School.

I have read the pamphlet of eloquent addresses given at the opening of the New School in June, 1928. They stirred a pool of stagnant memories, awakening what has lain dormant for forty years. It occurred to me that I might write a chapter of early history that would be found interesting. A. B. Piddington, first Classical Master, had been given a year's furlough, and I, fresh from graduation, was made his "locum tenens" at the princely salary of ten pounds a month.

The Staff, mostly graduates had its interesting figures. Joe Coates was distinctly a last century Headmaster, departmentally trained. We respected him for his firmness, his justice, and his wide mathematical knowledge. His devotion to the exact sciences, added to his natural valiancy gave him a quiet contempt for the Classics, and for those softer virtues of sympathy with, and personal interest in the individual boy. Perhaps it was well that the main girders of the immaterial scholarastic fabric were at the start of steel and iron, no wood, hay or stubble. The left arm that had been the terror of many a Victorian batsman in the Interstate games, became a greater terror to erring youth, when the ball became a stick. Coates had some constitutional weakness that worried him a lot, and an occasional access of wrath under provocation was not unnatural. One morning among those marshalled for the stick was an old offender, who was insolent. Up came that "dirty" left, and the open palm caught the culprit fair and square, and lifted him clean off his feet. We are more lady-like now, and less effective. Yet to Coates' strong control and shrewd organisation were largely due High's early scholastic successes, and then was laid the foundation on which have been built many later triumphs.

Among the undermasters I remember well Jupp Elphinstone, a University athlete and footballer—a student of character with high ideals of conduct. He has since had many years on the C.E.G.S. Staff.

Another interesting but more erratic personality was Crompton, with more ability than ballast. He came from England at middle age, was first put up among the Gods or Goddesses of the top floor—the Girls' High held those upper regions, the mere males the lower. Crompton was no mean Classic, but his forte was History. He had a marvellous store of historical facts and anecdotes, and he voiced them in a rich and often violent vocabulary. The boys loved to lead him on to some pet theme; listening is much easier than having to think. As I said, Crompton began at the top among the angels, but his reign in heaven was brief as Lucifer's.

The old steam trams passed under the windows. Crompton had just embarked on one of his historical flights, where there squealed a blast from a tram whistle, and the orator consigned all trams to perdition in a blasting orgasm of eloquence, fiery enough to penetrate to the ears of the Headmistress. Crompton found his level; hurled headlong flaming from the ethereal sky, he brought up among us inferiors. If he could not claim to be a founder of High's future greatness, he at least beguiled many a tedious dinner hour for us with a rich fund of anecdotes, historical and others not found in text books.

Others among Old Boys, who are now on the wrong side of fifty, will remember good old Tom Trebeck, who let the boys worry him a lot mainly because he threatened much and performed less, and Taylor a wonder for examination results, mechanical in methods—the trait of Departmental training was over all his work—a son of the Church, but an adept at securing inspectorial praise, and he usually deserved it. In those days there was absolutely no provision for the Master's convenience, we flung our hats and bags on any old window sill, for lunch we turned the boys out of a Class Room and bestrode their dirty forms.

In the year I was there, the Sixth was potentially a rather remarkable form as these names should prove. There were Grafton Elliott Smith, the world famous anthropologist, Frank Doak, Gordon Craig, A.B.S. Zlotkowski and Falsham, eminent Doctors of medicine, and Wyndham Davies who passed on to the Grammar School and later became head of his year in mathematics, another was Drew, afterwards a Solicitor, remarkable for preserving an inextinguishable public spirit in a most extinguishing atmosphere. Frank Firth was there too, he and his brother became bulwarks of Waverley cricket.

Of sport there was and there could be hardly any, there was no quiet corner for a fight and S.H.S. is poor in tradition here.

The Head, though an Interstate man, seemed indisposed to strive against disheartening conditions. Elphinstone ran a sports meeting. Of football though I played senior football at the time myself, I can remember nothing. There was some desultory, but no organised cricket, a few boys played with outside boys teams on Saturdays, and I got a scratch eleven together of these and we played a few Wednesday games. One of these lives in my recollection as one of the most remarkable games in my fifty years of cricket. The Victoria Barracks had a team distinguished for brawn rather than skill. They swiped around for 80, and by 5.15 p.m. we were out for only 67, as most of our side had to travel far. I suggested that we draw stumps, the suggestion was received coldly. Out in the field we went again at 5.20. We had a very decent bowler in Traill, and I harmless enough against anything good, was always able to fiddle

out rabbits. In half an hour they were all out for 15 (about); it was their turn to suggest drawing stumps, the suggestion again met with a frigid reception. We had eight minutes to bat and 29 to get, two perhaps three overs, but the latter was extremely unlikely as Umpires Sergeants Mulvaney and Orthris were not likely to play into the hands of the enemy. I kept the strike for five balls, and ran a boy out off the sixth, but I still had the strike, we had one ball to spare and about two minutes to go when thirty went up. A game lost by 13 at 5.15 was won by nine wickets at six o'clock.

In general equipment things were lamentable. The two highest forms had separate rooms. Three others were in corners of the main room, but surely no forms were ever worse housed than the lowest three, who were huddled together in a narrow iron shed flanking Castlereagh Street. The shed was as stifling in summer as it was bitter in winter, the rumble of lorries and medley of street noises incessantly contended with the human voice to its utter discomfort. Personally I suffered serious and permanent injury, the constant shouting in a dusty draughty atmosphere, gave me a chronic inflamed throat with such damage to the ear tubes that I lost the use of one ear, and damaged the other, and all this for ten pounds a month. That I bear the place something of a grudge is natural. Against this loss I have to place a year's hard but useful experience and a few rich friendships.

I said I would tell something about the initial tottering steps of the Magazine.

There was always much, most healthy rivalry between the two floors. The girls claimed to have the brains and had just issued their first number. I had with another, a year or two before launched "Hermes" then a disreputable Rag, but the true original of the present pretentious Magazine. Drew, Doak and other knights of the inferior order asked me to help them in a rather ungallant tilt with the upper storey, I don't remember any title other than "The Boys High School Magazine." I do remember spreading myself on the opening pages and was rather proud of it then, but considerably less proud now, pioneering work is necessarily crude.

At the June opening, Mr. Dettman in a generous reference to myself said I was responsible for the fact that the "High" School was admitted as a Great Public School. He added that my casting vote was contrary to custom. If I remember rightly the S.G.S. was not fully represented that night and I felt that morally I had a deliberative as well as a casting vote. I was President of the Association for over twenty years of progress and peace (mostly); and these were at least partly due to the fact that I tried to make the basis of control one of equity rather than law.

ONE GOOD TURN.

Worrangain made a fine athletic figure as he stood on the end of a fallen tree, which projected over the river. The morning sun shone on his wet brown body, throwing its fine proportions into relief as he poised ready to dive. He entered the water with scarcely a splash. Presently his head appeared above the surface, and he struck out with clean, graceful strokes for the further bank.

Suddenly there was a disturbance in the water behind him, and a crocodile's snort broke the surface, following the unsuspecting native. There was a shout of warning from the opposite bank, a swirl, a cry of pain and fear, a shot, and the water was thrashed into an inferno of spray and foam. The river was startled out of its dreamy silence by the commotion, and the birds flew shrieking from the trees on either bank.

As the disturbance subsided, a white man ran into the water, and began swimming towards the struggling native. Grasping the latter with his left arm, he began beating the water with the other. But the reptile did not attack them again; for it had been struck in the eye by the bullet, and was in its death struggles. The two made for the shore, and after a few minutes the newcomer pulled the other from the water and carried him to the shade of a tree.

The black man's leg was badly torn by the crocodile's cruel teeth, and he was suffering from pain and loss of blood. The other stood looking at him for a moment. Then, with some hesitation, he mounted a horse, which was standing a few yards away, and galloped off. The native watched him till he was out of sight. He could not understand the white man's actions. He must have come from the cattle station, the homestead of which was about a mile and a half distant. Perhaps he was leaving him by himself to die, for he could not walk with his leg like this.

He suddenly remembered his reasons for being in this place. He had been given a message-stick from his own tribe, two days' journey behind, to take to another tribe one day's journey further on. He would have to deliver that stick. The throbbing in his leg interrupted his thoughts, and he had to bite his lips to suppress a groan, for a Bora-man does not groan at pain. But the message-stick—it must be delivered—he must take it.

The agony he suffered and the loss of blood were telling on him, and he fainted away.

When Worrangain regained consciousness he felt comfortable, but his leg was still throbbing. He opened his eyes and saw that he was in some strange place. At first he thought it was a mia-mia, but as his brain cleared he saw polished wood above him. Slowly he began to think of what had happened. He remembered a crocodile, and the white man leaving him beside a tree. Where was he now? He tried to sit up, but he was too weak, and sank back with a gasp of pain. Then the truth dawned on him: he was in the white man's mia-mia.

He shut his eyes again, for the glare from an opening in the wall troubled him.

After a while he opened them again, for he had heard footsteps. The white man was standing beside him.

"Feel any better now?" inquired the man. Then he looked foolish as he realised that the other could not understand.

Worrangain, however, knew what he must have meant, for he grinned. The white man smiled happily, and left the room.

Once more he fell to thinking. He had always been taught to distrust the whites. He had heard many a time of their black-trackers and massacre of his fellow-natives. He had grown to regard them as thieves, who stole the lands of his people. Yet if they, in their turn, stole his cattle, the result would be slaughter. In spite of this disregard for black lives, this man had saved him, Worrangain, at the risk of his life. His primitive mind could not understand it. Had he seen a white man in the same position, he would not have helped him. Perhaps some of these whites were good after all.

His thoughts were broken into by the return of his rescuer, accompanied by one whom he took to be his lubra. Worrangain looked at her in admiration. He had never seen a white woman before, and he felt a liking for this one.

They spent some time in washing his wounds and binding cloth round them, as he guessed, to heal them. He himself would have rubbed dirt in them had he been without this attention. Later he was given food, and left alone.

For nearly a week he remained with his new friends, waiting impatiently till he would be able to walk. All the time he was disturbed by the thought of the message-stick. He knew he would not be missed by his tribe, who would expect him to spend some days hunting before he returned.

At last he made known to his host by signs that he wished to borrow a horse. Although he could not walk yet, his friend assisted him to mount. Slowly he rode off to recover the stick where it lay by the river-bank and to deliver it.

The circumstances connected with the message-stick were unusual. He had been made to promise not to read it, but to deliver it within nine days. The stick, to ensure secrecy, was placed in a hollow piece of bamboo and sealed at both ends. He had never seen anything like it before.

Having recovered it, he rode off towards the camp.

He arrived at his destination in the afternoon. It was a typical blacks' camp, consisting of a number of mia-mias in the shape of a V. That of the chief at the point, and the others extended in two lines right and left on either side of it.

There were a few little milla-millas playing various games about the mia-mias, and a few men and women could be seen moving about. The majority of the male inhabitants were hunt-

ing, and the women were digging yams or performing other domestic duties. Worrangain was greeted with the usual sign of amity (quickly raising and dropping the left hand) by an old man, who came forward. He was then assisted to the chief's mia-mia, where he made all explanations, and delivered the message-stick.

He remained the guest of the tribe till the following morning, when he bade the chief farewell, and was helped to his horse. He thought, however, that the chief and some of the old men looked at him harshly.

He returned to the homestead, turning over the events in his mind. Why had the chief looked at him so? He had handed him the stick in good enough time. It could not be that. He dismissed the subject, for it must have been his imagination. He wondered how he could prove his gratitude to Dick (for that was what his lubra called him) for saving his life. Perhaps he would have an opportunity some day.

After staying some days at the station, he at last set out, limping, for home. He would not take a horse, as he would not be able to return it; for his people would kill it, since it was a white man's property.

One night, after he had been in camp for four days, a corroboree was held. In the light of fires some men, painted with white clay to represent white men, were attacked in sham battle by a group in full war-paint. These symbolical dances were performed to the music of a lubra "orchestra." The "orchestra" slapped its thighs or beat the fleshy side of opossum-skins to the time of its chanting.

Worrangain's heart sank as he realised that this must inevitably mean an attack on the white people at some close date. He saw the black actors hurl the spears from the woomeras at the "white men" till all were lying on the ground as though dead. There was no doubt as to what this performance meant. He must warn Dick and his lubra. They must not be killed. It was no use arguing with the natives, for they were too determined to be turned aside.

At the conclusion of the corroboree all the Bora-men were called together and addressed by the chief.

"My men," he said, "we have been driven from our towries (domains) by the white men. They have sent the Choc mulla warlos (bad fellow trackers) to kill us, and yet we have not been able to avenge ourselves. But our time has come. A message-stick in a bamboo case has gone round the tribes telling them to attack in an arrolko (three days). Then we shall be free."

All the following day the men were preparing for battle. Some sharpened their weapons, other painted themselves; all was hustle and movement.

THE RECORD.

Worrangain was busy painting himself with ochre, apparently as enthusiastic as any. But his mind was in a turmoil. How could he warn Dick? Would he be in time? These questions and many more troubled him all day.

The war-party arrived at an appointed spot the afternoon before the attack, within a couple of miles of the homestead. When the sun had set, and final preparations were made, Worrangain slipped away unnoticed, and made for the station as fast as his wounded leg would allow.

An hour or so later, when final instructions were being given, he was missed. The chief knew why he had been delayed on his mission, and of the white man's kindness to him, yet he did not think for a moment that a Bora-man would be a traitor to his tribe just for the sake of a white man. He concluded that, to show his valour, the young warrior had gone ahead to slay the unsuspecting victims himself.

The party took up their positions for the attack an hour later. At a given signal they rushed forward at the house, with fierce yells. A number hurled themselves at the door; other charged the windows with spears and nulla-nullas at the ready. But there was no answering cry, no shots. The door gave way under the strain, and a dozen entered the building, murder in their eyes. They had hardly crossed the threshold, when there was a cry of amazement. In the centre of the room stood Worrangain! There was a disturbance at the back of the crowd, and the chief entered and stood in front of the young man.

"Worrangain," he said, "you are a traitor to the tribe. You have helped these people to escape. They will tell the police, and our tribe will suffer. You are not fit to live."

As he finished speaking, a small, withered old man came forward, who began pointing a small bone at Worrangain and chanting, with his mouth close to it. He was the crargee or medicine man.

Worrangain knew his life would not last much longer. He walked slowly through the circle of hostile faces and limped down towards the river to the spot where his adventures had begun. He seated himself against a tree and gazed upon the moonlit waters of the river. He had saved Dick's life and that of his lubra. They would be safe at the settlement now. His debt was repaid. He was happy.

Next morning a crow might have been seen to alight on the ground near a dark object reposed against a gum-tree by the river. It was followed by another and another, till a flock had gathered.

The crargee's death-bone had taken another life.

J. McCredie (4A).

THE TRAGEDY OF HEATHCOMBE HALL.

It was midnight at Heathcombe Hall—and elsewhere. The drawing-room was on the second floor. In it were seated two persons. One of these was Miss Marjorie Matling, the Venus of Heathcombe Society. Her beauty was “truly blent,” partly by “Nature’s own cunning hand laid on” and partly by herself from a vanity case. Her slender fingers were rippling over the ivory keys of a piano. From the glorious melodies which emanated therefrom, one would imagine that Venus (Miss M.M.) had at least four manual organs, for chords comprising at least fourteen notes were being evolved. However, as we shall see later, there was no hidden mystery in this singular fact—the piano was not playing, but “player-ing.”

The other occupant of this second floor room was Sir Henry Hallicombe, guardian of the beautiful young damsel described above. He was reclining comfortably on a small stool, whiling away the time in the extremely satisfying occupation of imbibing loudly and deeply from a flask, which to judge from his nasal appendage, might contain methyated spirits—and actually did. Sir Henry was adding to his diversion by carelessly marring the physiognomy of an erstwhile bust of a young man, through the persuasive medium of a “45 Colt.”

A head appears at the window! It is the villian. Branden Casse!! He throws at Miss M. M. a look embodying love, envy, scorn, hatred, malice, etc., etc., etc. The beautiful young thing pales, and gives a loud sob. Not so, Sir Henry. Nonchalantly picking up a beautiful Doulton vase, he projects it forcibly in the direction of the open window. A faint tinkle, tinkle indicates that the plotting rascal has entered the glass-house in the garden below, through a closed skylight.

Almost immediately, at the other window, appears another face. It is the hero, Norman de Vere, as handsome a young man as ever entered the ancestral hall. Sir Henry springs to his feet, sending a last shot over his left shoulder, in the direction of the bust, and, grasping Norman with both hands, pulls him into the midst of the parlour, at the same time slapping him on the back, by way of welcome, in a most spirited manner, as well he might. Naturally, Miss M. M. fainted. Of course, Norman, nothing loath, essayed, with no small degree of success, to restore her.

“How can we exterminate him?” hissed our hero, as he released his hold of the now recovered damsel. “It must be to-night.”

“Poison,” suggested Sir Henry, off-hand. “I always have plenty for I buy it by the drum. It’s cheaper than by the gallon.”

“No,” replied de Vere. “Not sure enough; no poison would kill him.”

"Can you shoot?" asked the Knight.

"A little," replied the bashful young man, at the same time drawing a "Webley" automatic from his vest pocket, and nonchalantly blowing a leg off a fly fifteen paces distant.

"You'll be all right!" cried Sir Henry exultantly, as he registered amazement at this feat of marksmanship. "Woe betide the rascal Casse!"

The clock struck one! (Unfortunately, a fold in the original manuscript prevents us from learning which one—Author.) Immediately our hero sprang to his feet exclaiming "I must be off!" Blowing a kiss to Miss M. M. he sprang through the window and a few seconds later the recurrence of the tinkle, tinkle heralded his entry into the precincts of the glass-house below.

Up in the drawing-room the piano, under the control of Miss M. M., was "player-ing" a dirge-like accompaniment to the low crooning of the love-sick maiden. Her guardian had resumed his care-free attitude on the stool, and nonchalantly punctuated the music with audible sips from the methylated spirits flask, varied with what now amounted to volleys of shots at the crumbling bust. At last he picked up the remains of the bust and hurled them out of the window. Then, taking a key, he opened a cupboard, in which were nine similar busts (there were originally a gross), and, selecting one, continued his amusement.

Miss M. M. was now singing to herself, her soft, mellow voice being comparable to that of the nightingale only. The beautiful melodies caused the Knight to pause, momentarily, as he asked, "Are you really happy, my dear?"

"Yes," murmured the tender young thing, as she pressed to her snowy bosom a locket containing the image of her lover.

It did not take Norman long to extricate himself from the glass-house, and in a few moments he was standing at the door of his garage. Calling to Hopkins, his mechanic, he opened the doors, and pushed out his chariot. The Fates were certainly with him, for in less than ten minutes he had his machine, the "Red Racer," in motion.

We must now leave our hero for a minute, to pursue the action of Branden Casse, since he was last under our notice.

When the Doulton vase found a billet on his cranium, he momentarily released his hold, and, in less than two seconds, he found himself on the floor of the glass-house.

Jumping to his feet, he ran to his home and mounted his motor-cycle. Imagine his chagrin, however, on finding his front tyre flat. Some valuable time was lost in repairing this accessory, but he was not unduly worried. Try to picture his anguish of mind, however, when, after covering only three chains, he heard a loud report, and he realised that the tyre of his side-car had burst. He was now desperate; he had now no time to repair it, but a little judicious driving and a sturdy post, relieved

him of the encumbrance of a side-car. Light-heartedly, he was just starting again when he saw, not far behind him, the glaring headlights of the "Red Racer."

On board the pursuing car expectancy ran high. Suddenly, on rounding a bend, the two chasers saw their quarry not far ahead. A low cheer burst from their lips, and, as if in unison with them, the "Red Racer" surged forward like a living thing. Faster and faster grew the pace! The "Red Racer" swayed dizzily! The speedometer was soaring near the twenty mark!!! Suddenly a little sickening click told the occupants that this latter fitment had collapsed under the strain!! Still they were seemingly as far off as ever!!!

"Can't we throw something out?" cried Hopkins hoarsely. Norman threw him out.

The result was soon apparent, for the "Red Racer" began slowly to overhaul the cyclist. In about half an hour Norman was within range. Thrusting his hand into his vest pocket he drew out his little gleaming "Webley." A flash, a report, and a slight bump as the car struck the inanimate form. . . .

Joyfully did Norman return to the ancestral hall, and speedily did he mount to the window. Miss M. M. had dozed off into the realms of slumberland, though the piano was still playing. Sir Henry was slipping into blissful unconsciousness, urged by the subtle powers of the flask. The supply of busts had become exhausted, as also had the flask abovementioned, so what blame is to be attached to the worthy knight for his slight indifference to reality!

The entrance of our hero, however, caused great excitement in the parlour. Miss M. M., blushing, despite "the pink and white, by Nature's own cunning hand not laid on," immediately continued her task of allowing her rippling fingers to roam over the motionless keys. Sir Henry was even more effusive in his welcome than before, and, in recognition of the safe return of his projected "ward-in-law," brought out, from the hidden recess, two whole bottles of "meths."

"Dead?" queried Sir Henry, in his usual abrupt manner.

"As a coffin-nail," crowed Norman exultantly.

Sir Henry's burst of applause was lost in a scream that came from the cherry lips of Miss M.M. The attractive young damsel fell fainting on the floor. Sir Henry sprang to feel her heart, to be able to pronounce life extinct, or otherwise, while Norman, unthinkingly and most wastefully, began to pour a whole bottle of "meths." over the young lady, and would have done so, had not Sir Henry prevented him.

"Dead," was the only word the guardian could ejaculate.

Norman, placing one hand to his brow, slowly slipped the other into his vest pocket, drew his "Webley," placed it to his temple, and in this "devinely" befitting manner, passes from our story.

Of course, the reader will have guessed that Miss M. M. was secretly in love with Branden Casse. The foolish Norman imagined that his love was being warmly returned, but it was not so. Miss M. M. had been wearing Branden's image in her locket. When she heard that he had passed forever from her, the shock had prostrated her in an unconsciousness from which she never returned. The grief of her death had so affected Norman that he too had decided to quit the miseries of this life.

Sir Henry sat a long time in a pensive attitude. Then his face lightened. He was ever an optimist. Life was not so gloomy as it had at first appeared. Why not enjoy himself and relax. The thought suited the action, for, with a careless toss of his head, he raised the "meths." bottle to his lips. Life was sweet, and so were the methylated spirits. The Knight's face brightened (in colour). Soon he seemed to be placing two bottles to his lips, though there was now only one left, and which of the two was real became a problem.

As he imbibed more and more of this most satisfying liquor, Sir Henry began slowly to become oblivious of his sordid surroundings, for his mind was raised to that plane whence worldly matters are lost to sight. In short, he was intoxicated. Finally his powers of consumption failed him—though it must be confessed that there still remained half a bottle of spirits. He dropped the bottle and—O, shame to tell! the good beverage was wasted in a pool on the carpet.

Then it was that supreme felicity encouraged Sir Henry to exercise his terpsichorean abilities. But his excessively generous imbibitions had rendered his pedestrian faculties inoperative; with a loud crash he found repose on that part of his anatomy in which, fortunately, no bones can break.

But, by an unhappy miscalculation, he alighted none too gently, it must be averred, not on the Axminster, but on the fender; and by another unhappy misjudgment, a half-empty revolver magazine in his hip-pocket interposed between the fender and the abovementioned detail of his corporeal substance. The report was heard fifteen miles away, and the great sheet of flame which flashed across the pool on the floor sealed for ever the doom of Heathcombe Hall and its master.

As the first ruddy rays of dawn began to steal across the sky, they were met by the deep glow from the smouldering ruins of an erstwhile mansion. When the sun rose, in the fulness of his splendour, he revealed to the astonished gaze of the passer-by a heap of black ashes, in place of the former lordly pile.

Many and varied were the rumours that were shouted here, whispered there, but accepted everywhere, as to the tragic ending of the Knight and his ward; but I am sure the reader will believe with me that the above is the true account of the fate of the inmates of Heathcombe Hall.

(From "Tales Told by the Turf," by Professor Ken Sington—G.G.).

"FORTUNE CREEK."

"Gold!" in the hush of the hot noon the cry boomed among the trees, echoing and re-echoing. The man on the hillside stared incredulously at the capering figure in the valley below. Then, with a half-choked yell, he ran headlong down the shelving bank. When he arrived at the turgid creek the gleaming nuggets in his mate's hands confirmed that first wild exclamation.

They were strangely contrasted these two. One was evidently from the city, and not the best quarter of it at that. He was stunted and weedy, shifty of eye and loose of lip. Even the excitement of the discovery had not forced him to drop the dirty, ill-made, raggedly-untidy cigarette which hung from the corner of his mouth. His companion was a typical bushman—lean, wiry, and brown-skinned, with clear, frank eyes, filled with that vision of the far-away that the bush gives to its beloved children.

The first mad transports of joy over, the two set to work. At sundown the four small, bulging bags set inside the door of the slab hut represented a small fortune. Too excited even to eat, the two men sat down at the fireside. Varied emotions were revealed in their faces by the light of the leaping flames. The face of the bushman and the restless glint in his blue eyes showed honest pleasure in work well rewarded and joyful anticipation of the happy days to come. He spoke but little, seemingly overwhelmed with the immensity of their good fortune. But in the face of the city-dweller showed the greed for gold that, hidden by the thin veneer of civilisation, lies so close to the surface in many of the world's citizens.

That there was something on his mind was shown by his quick, furtive glances towards the other man. When at last the bushman "thought he'd turn in," the man on the other side of the fire scarcely raised his head. But when his mate rolled himself in his blanket, his little pig-like eyes glowed with murderous hate. Never a desirable citizen at the best of times, his lust for blood and his fierce envy had been awakened by the sight of the shining gold.

Gold! Responsible for many of the crimes in this world, and stained with the blood of a thousand victims! The consuming fire of avarice seemed at last to arouse the miserable wretch to passionate frenzy. Picking up the short axe he had used that afternoon he crept round the fire. At the sleeping-bag he halted. Urged on by jealousy, drawn back by the last beckonings of his better nature, he hesitated. For an hour he fought with himself, and right had almost triumphed, when one of the gold-bags fell over on its side. It was the last straw, the deciding factor.

With his mind made up, he took a tighter grasp on the axe and bent over the motionless body of his mate. Once, twice the

axe rose and fell, and his grim, self-appointed task was over. Then, with the tension relaxed, a ghastly shaking came upon him, and he fled shrieking into the surrounding gloom.

The creatures of the bush watched, terrified, while he stamped round and round alternately cursing, praying, and shouting weird, unintelligible sounds.

But the lure of the gleaming gold was irresistible. At dawn he returned to the clearing. Avoiding the bloodstained thing at the side of the blackened patch in the centre of the camp, he stumbled white-faced towards the hut. At the door he paused. The place was full of memories. It required every exertion of his will to step over the threshold which had so often rung to the footsteps of the dead man. With trouble, due to his frequent fits of trembling, he made himself a cup of coffee and forced himself to swallow some food.

Then he set out to catch one of the horses. This done, he packed the gold and some rations on its back, and mounting, set off.

He travelled till sunset, urged on by deadly fear. After the evening meal the thoughts of the dead man, which were ever-present, crowded his tormented mind. Every night-cry brought him from his blankets in a cold sweat. In the flickering lurid shadows thrown by the dancing light of the fire he saw horrible, gibbering figures, strangely like his dead mate. When he fell into a broken sleep, his dreams tortured him.

He awoke. To his fear-stricken eyes appeared the figure of a man whose body was hacked about as though by the strokes of a blunt axe. With an inarticulate scream, the terror-stricken wretch, hardly human in his terrible dread and suffering, jumped to his feet and rushed headlong into the night.

His blind panic led him to where the cliffs sloped steeply to the river. His vision, restricted by darkness, aided and abetted by the black thunderous clouds, which ever and anon spat lightning, he blundered on. All unknown to him, his grave opened before him, and he stumbled forward into eternity.

A faint splash, and ever-widening ripples in the slow-moving stream were the only signs which heralded his death.

It may, perhaps, have been a particularly vivid streak of lightning, but the heavens seemed to flash and shatter to the downward stroke of an avenging sword.

In the glow of the camp fire the gold, lying by the blankets of its former possessor, seemed to glow with intense light and to mock the petty searchings and ambitions of men. At the edge of the open space, in the moving kaleidoscope of shadows thrown by the branches of a huge gum, there appeared ever and anon a strange shape as of a man, whose body showed rents resembling those made by a heavy axe. And the thunder roared and the lightning flashed, and the rain poured down in a blinding sheet—an awful yet fitting requiem for the dead.

K. Park (4D).

TWO PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The Royal Hotel at Nulwarra had never been renowned for peacefulness and sobriety. As it was noon on the hottest Saturday of a summer in the early 'sixties, the bar was a noisy place. It was crowded with as many of the more fortunate diggers from the neighbouring field as could reasonably find admittance. The smell of stale beer, raw whisky, and worse tobacco pervaded everything. The miners were, for the most part, assembled in small groups, each discussing, apparently in no disinterested manner, the questions of the hour. One of these groups, congregated round the counter, appeared to be engrossed in a debate on the possibilities of the consignment of gold, which had left by the coach less than an hour before, getting safely through to the town some twenty miles away. The coach had been successfully "stuck up" by a bushranger twice in the last week, and five times altogether. From the tone of the remarks, it boded ill for the robber, if he were ever caught.

Sammy Wright, a quiet old miner, was carrying on the conversation. "What I says is this," he said, rather ungrammatically, "the next time this fellow gets the gold we want to go out after him ourselves. The troopers can't catch him, so it's for us to do it. We can't let him go on like this. He must have a hiding-place somewhere around here; and we might find it if we hopped out quick next time the coach's stuck up."



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At this a murmur of approval passed through the throng. The landlord agreed with Sammy. "You're right," he said. "And what's more, I think that hiding-place is somewhere north of the road. The ground's too open to the south; he'd be seen, if he hit it there. If we rode out a couple of miles on the road and then spread out we might find it. We might even get him, if he stayed long enough."

At this moment there was an interruption caused by a rather loud chuckle near the door, as a tall, stooping man entered the bar.

"Sure, if it ain't old Skinflint," shouted someone. "Come to shout drinks all round?"

"No," was the snappy retort. "Have any of you seen Fred Norris. I lent him a fiver a week ago, and he ain't paid me yet."

This last remark was greeted with a roar of laughter from the miners. Someone near the door shouted: "I say, Skinflint, here he is now, and riding like the dickens!"

Just at this moment a horse was heard approaching at a gallop, and the men rose simultaneously to their feet. Most of them had sent some gold by the mail, and the same question flashed through every mind. Pulling up sharply outside the hotel, the newcomer swung down from the saddle and pushed his way through the doorway.

"Has he got the coach again?" some one asked in an anxious voice.

"Yes," replied the dust covered Norris, breathlessly. "He stuck 'em up just on the top of Turner's Hill. I passed them about half a mile further on."

There was a grim silence on this news, broken by the somewhat shrill voice of old "Skinflint" asking: "Have you got my fiver, eh? You reckoned you'd pay me to-day and a bob interest."

Despite the fact that many of them were now nearly penniless, they could not resist a laugh at this, which was cut short by the practical suggestion of the landlord that some of them should go out as a search party.

"Coming, Fred?" he asked Norris, and at a nod from the latter he jokingly remarked to Skinflint that he had better come, too, to see that Norris didn't disappear.

Within a few minutes the cavalcade was on the road, the horses moving at a brisk trot towards the low hill that lay to the east of Nulwarra.

They rode in almost complete silence for two miles, after which they split up and spread out to scour the country closely. At his own request, Norris was near the centre of the band, and he set his course for a sugarloaf hill a mile or two away. Skinflint, evidently keeping the advice offered by the landlord, was riding with him.

It was wooded country, with a dense growth of bracken, through which the horses ploughed their way, not without some noise. It appeared fairly obvious that they would not find the bushranger; but if he had hidden his spoils in the vicinity, and they should chance upon them, it would mean a lot to the miners.

After some time the hill came within view, after being hidden temporarily from sight. Norris and Skinflint were still riding together. As they emerged from the trees Norris cast his gaze in all directions, but could see no one. None of the other searchers was in the vicinity, and all seemed quiet.

"Look, Skinflint, quick," he suddenly exclaimed. "Did you see it? Over in that clump of scrub there. You ride round this way, and I'll go the other way to stop him going that way."

Skinflint rode off, reluctantly, it seemed, while Norris hastened round to the other side. The old miser rode through the bushes, and for a while was lost to view. Suddenly Norris, who was waiting with his gun ready to shoot, heard a crashing in the undergrowth, and a horse and rider appeared.

Rapidly sighting, he fired, and then, spurring on his mount, galloped up to the clump of scrub. Hastily he bent over the fallen man, feeling his heart and fumbling near his coat. Then he rose, and pushed through the bushes hastily, as if in search of something. After a short while he re-appeared, and, as a shout came to his ears from nearby, rushed out into the open.

"What's wrong?" It was the landlord, who, hearing Norris's shot, was riding to ascertain its cause.

"I've got him," shouted back Norris, and, as the rider drew nearer, added, "it was old Skinflint."

The landlord was obviously puzzled. "Skinflint?" he asked, in a bewildered tone.

The others rode up at this time, and Norris, in explanation, said: "Yes, old Skinflint. I was riding with him, and he rode over here to investigate, and I rode round this side to stop anyone escaping this way. After a bit I saw a masked man riding out, so I shot him, of course. When I ran up it was Skinflint. It must have been his hiding-place. I suppose he was frightened I'd find his gold, so he took it and decided to make a bolt for it."

"But, why the mask?"

"I suppose he was frightened I'd recognise him. We'd have missed him in any case, so it wasn't much use."

"Did he have any gold on him?" asked one of the men, coming to the thing that interested them most.

"Yes, but not much. He must have removed the other lots, or else he's got several hiding places. I found one in here, but it's empty."

By this time the party had come to where Skinflint lay. He was stretched out on the ground, one leg curled up near his body, arms sprawled. He had evidently been rolled over on his back by

Norris when the latter was examining him. By the dead man's head lay a black mask, torn off by Norris to see the man's face.

Sammy, the shrewd old miner, who had advised this search, nonchalantly approached Norris's horse. At first Norris did not see him; but suddenly noticing what the old miner was about, he cried out, "Here, what are you doing with my horse?" And, darting forward, he tried to seize his animal; but Sammy, pulling on the bridle, brought the horse out of Norris's reach. Then he turned his attention to the saddle, and suddenly cried out, "Here, grab him someone. Here's all the gold in his saddle-bag."

Norris waited for no more, jumped on the nearest horse, and, crouching low in the saddle, rode his hardest. But the landlord, raising his pistol, fired and Norris, by a queer turn of fate, fell in similar circumstances to his victim, Skinflint, and like him, was found to be dead.

"Two public improvements!" facetiously remarked Sammy, and, as though for a relief, the men all laughed, though, it is true, rather harshly.

"Of course, it's all clear now," said Sammy, who commanded great respect among the miners. "Norris used to hide his gold here. He became afraid that someone would discover his plant, and sent Skinflint over here. Then he shot him, dropped the mask and put some gold in his pockets to put us off the track, while he put all the rest of the gold in the saddle-bag. Where he slipped was in leaving his horse. I thought that mask a bit fishy, and I decided to see if he had anything hidden. His sudden anxiety, when he saw me, settled it."

Late that night a band of riders slowly came into Nulwarra, bringing with them the two men who had fallen victims to the God of Greed, which both had worshipped so devotedly while on this earth.

—F. BOWLER.

HEAD OF THE RIVER DANCE.

A most successful "Presentation Head of the River" Dance was held in the Assembly Hall, on Friday, 22nd instant. Recently the Parents and Citizens' Association decided to recognise the work of the coaches of the School Crews by suitable presentations. Mr. George Hancock was presented with a handsome wireless set; Mr. C. Smith, with a complete set of the works of Alexandre Dumas (48 volumes); Mr. K. Dainer with a handsome gold pocket watch, suitably engraved; and Mr. H. Varker with a set of cut glass, including jug and goblets. Mr. Sullivan, President of the P. and C. Association, spoke in glowing terms of the services of the coaches, and of the position of pre-eminence which Sydney High was attaining in the school world of New South Wales.

THE STORY OF CALEB ROSS.

When I first saw Caleb Ross behind the wheel of the "Saucy Sue," as she slid alongside the wharf in the sunshine, he was a sight for the gods. Standing in rubber boots, which must have been sticky from the heat, he wore a faded jacket which flapped in the breeze. His gleaming bald head defied the sun. His huge saucer-like glasses made his eyes look like two glistening moons. To add to this almost ludicrous appearance, he wore whiskers underneath his chin, which rimmed his face from ear to ear.

Ludicrous as he appeared, before I had spent an hour with him I knew him to be the kindest, most unaffected man I had ever met. He was as mild as a spring morning, and I was not a little surprised to find his expletives never stronger than "Thunderation!" "Living Jonah!" and "Let 'em go hang!" As for his crew, a more mangy and vagabond lot never sailed the seven seas. Yet I found these men working like niggers under the benign command of Captain Caleb. So impressed was I that immediately I joined up with Captain Caleb as ship's doctor.

Two days out of port Caleb said to me, "I'm feelin' spry, because we're heading for home." It was then he told me about his wife. About twenty years his junior, she was a very pretty girl; but I suspected that if it was not for Caleb's money she would never have married him.

At last we arrived at port. As we set out to trudge up the hill leading to his house, a friend explained that a stranger staying at the hotel had fallen in love with Caleb's wife and had run away with her, knocking over the oil-lamp as he left. No one knew anything about him except that he was a seaman. Like a man in a dream, Caleb walked on till we saw the charred remains of his home.

A few days later I left him with his head sunk on his breast, a truly dejected figure in the rays of the setting sun.

The scene now changes to a year later. I was on board the "Old Maria," owned by three brothers, Matthew, Weir and Scren Fay. The first knowledge I had of the ship was when I boarded it late one night. As I stepped up the gangway, I heard a string of oaths above me. Looking up, I perceived a red and green parrot perched on the rigging.

What a beautiful sight the ship presented, bowling along under snowy canvas through the bright seas! She was indeed a goodly apple in a dirty hand. After being a year and a half on this veritable Hell-ship, I got fed up with the gin-guzzling masters, the Fay Brothers, so with several others of the crew I deserted to join the "Tower of Babel," an old tanker, which was steering from Boston with a cargo of hides.

We had barely started our trip, when a murky fog overtook us and we could not see a yard ahead. Then out of the gusty cloud of white vapour appeared a vague grey silent shadow—

the merest phantom of a sailing ship; hull all but obscured, sails lost high in the snowy drifts. Looming up at our port bow, she had blown past us like a breath of wind shaving us to the skin.

But it was not of the danger I was thinking. My knees shook and prickles were running up and down my spine. An open patch, a ragged, rent had appeared in the mist, showing up the rigging of the phantom ship. And then I saw them, three in a row lurching down the watery sky, legs swinging, heels treading mist. There I saw them, their clothes hanging limp, arms dangling, necks twisted, and horror of horrors! they seemed to nod to me. I stared, and they were gone. Three in a row, lurching down the sky, hung the "Bloodhound," the "Gorilla," and the "Pug," more politely known as the Fay Brothers.

Quickly turning the ship about, the captain gave chase. For two days we chased it half around the gulf. We would sight it, only to lose it again. At last, on the third day, we caught it and it fell to my lot to investigate. Arriving on board, I heard a voice that made my hair stand on end. Looking up, I saw that d——d cocky. Imagine my surprise when I heard him shriek "Thunderation!" "Living Jonah!" "Let 'em go hang!"

Six months later I was again climbing the hill that led to Captain Caleb's house. There, spick and span, stood the snow-white cottage. I stood in front of the house to regain my breath, when out of the door popped Caleb, not in the least altered.

Then I heard his story. Knowing his man went to sea, he had shipped as a seaman on different boats, until he secured a berth on the "Old Maria." One day he heard the cocky cry, "Lessie Ell," his wife's name. Then he knew who had stolen his wife.

I broke the silence that ensued with "What did you do about it, Cap'n?" He replied with a negligent shrug in the mildest voice imaginable, his face round and innocent.

"What did you do about it?" I asked again.

He replied in the most offhand manner in the world, "Let 'em go hang!"

—J. RUSSELL.

GIFT OF PICTURES.

Through Mr. Aiken, the following pictures have been donated to the school:—"The Pass of Glencoe," by F. Meade Norton, and "The Burragorang Valley," by H. C. Hadley. The school tends its hearty thanks to the artists for these valuable pictures. Also to Mr. Aiken for his interest in connection therewith.

CLOSING THE GATEWAY.

A farewell coo-ee awakened the echoes, as a small party rode away from the station homestead, in the grey light of dawn.

As the ring of hoof-beats died away in the scrub, the man who had farewelled them stroked the back of a dog which stood beside him, gazing through the trees, and said: "Well, Ginger, old boy, they're off; but Binghai's with them; so we needn't worry."

The party consisted of Jim Warren, whose father owned the station they had just left; "Blue" Connelly, a stocky, red-haired friend of Jim's, who had come into the bush for his holidays; and Binghai, an old aboriginal who had lived at the station as long as Jim could remember.

"Binghai will go and take care of you," the station owner had said, laughingly; but Jim knew that his father meant every word of it, and would on no account have let them go without the old blackfellow, as their destination was a lonely part of the coast south of Broome, about a hundred miles from the nearest white habitation. They meant to spend a few weeks there, and anticipated a splendid holiday.

At length after riding for four days and sleeping under the stars for three nights, they rode out of the scrub on to a sandy knoll, and beheld the sun dipping towards the Indian Ocean, which stretched out before them. They halted for a moment, then rode down to the beach, and soon found the shanty which Mr. Warren and a companion had erected a few years previously, beside a creek. The boys soon turned in, but Binghai remained crouching over the dying embers of the fire, staring out to sea.

When the boys awoke, the sunlight was streaming in golden shafts through several holes in the bark roof, and the billy was singing on a crackling fire.

An hour later they were standing at the edge of the surf, fishing. For bait they used some grubs, which the ever ready Binghai had unearthed, although he may have unearthed them for another purpose. When they had been there for some time, and had landed several fish of varying size, they were startled by a loud "Ho!" from the blackfellow. Looking round, they were amazed to see, approaching them with a jerky, shuffling gait, a bent old man.

He halted before them, apparently amused at their surprise, and they noticed that he bore an unmistakably Eastern cast of features. Jim took in at a glance his short loose jacket, baggy blue trousers, and his wizened old face, shaded by a straw panama. "What you white boys do 'bout here, eh?" asked the newcomer, in indifferent English.

"We've come along for a holiday, fishing and shooting and so on," explained Blue, "but you gave us a surprise walking up

"Me poor ol' fisherman, come here sometime, then go 'way again," was the somewhat vague explanation. After chatting for a few minutes, the old man shuffled off and disappeared round a sand-hill. "He seemed rather a likeable old chap," observed Jim, "I suppose his camp is on the other side of the creek."

Some time later, Jim and Binghai had departed to prepare a midday meal, and Blue was about to follow, when his ears detected a faint drone. Gazing skywards, he was amazed to see an aeroplane approaching from the west. He could hardly believe his eyes. A 'plane flying in from the sea, a hundred miles from civilisation, taking a course which would lead it into the most inhospitable country imaginable.

The 'plane banked round till it was right above the boy and he could see a pair of gleaming floats beneath the lower wing. Then it headed inland again, rising to cross the hills.

Blue did not perceive the little package tied to a tiny parachute, until it glided on to the sand about thirty yards from him. He ran forward and picked it up, realizing that it had been dropped from the aeroplane, which was by this time a speck in the distance. Jim now appeared, running to the beach, with Binghai loping along behind him. They were as puzzled as Blue, and Binghai was rather scared as well, though he presented a bold front to the boys, saying, "You be all right, stay 'longa 'old Binghai."

Blue was fumbling with the fastenings round the package, and at last they came apart, and he unrolled it.

"What's that, Blue?" demanded Jim, seeing it for the first time. "'Look!" exclaimed Blue, "A note of some kind. It seems to be in code. It was dropped from the 'plane." They sat on the sand and looked at the message in turn; even the dusky member of the party handled it with interest and decided that it was some kind of "yabba."

"S'pose this fella belonga ol 'man," suggested Binghai.

"G!" exclaimed Blue, "it may have been meant for the old man. They could easily have mistaken me for him, as I was the only one on the beach."

"Bird come again," interrupted Binghai suddenly; and, sure enough, the 'plane again appeared, flying very high up. It soon disappeared in the haze over the ocean, and they strolled back to dinner puzzling over the problem. "I think we'll keep this note for a while," said Jim later. "It seems queer to me, a 'plane dropping notes to a Chinese fisherman. I've a good mind to spend to-morrow climbing that bit of a range to see if it lands on the other side, or at least to see where it goes. Coming?"

"Yes, we'll all go, of course," replied Blue.

Sunrise next morning found them well towards the top of the range, which they finally reached about nine o'clock. They had been waiting for about an hour when the blackfellow declared that the seaplane was coming, and a little later they saw

THE RECORD.

it, still a long way from them. It flew over, and they watched it till it was almost out of sight. "Well, of all the awful luck—" began Blue; when Jim interrupted him, saying excitedly, "It's coming down!"

The tiny speck was gliding down in wide circles, and finally disappeared in the scrub.

"How much grub is there, Binghai?" asked Jim. He was like that. We didn't expect to see anyone within a hundred miles."

shown a bulging sack. "That will do, and we can shoot more. The horses'll be O.K. at the beach, plenty of grass there——"

"Here! What's the big idea?" asked Blue, wonderingly.

"We're going over there," came the reply. "We can take our bearing by that big hill behind where it landed. See what I mean, Binghai?"

The blackfellow nodded, and began to pick his way down the eastern slope, followed by the other two.

"We should be somewhere near now," observed Jim, after about three hours' walking. "What do you say, Blue?"

Receiving no answer, he stopped and glanced behind. Blue was not in sight. Jim shouted, but was greeted only by the sound of his own voice, echoing through the bush. "That's queer," he said. "I was sure he was following. We'll go back a bit, Binghai."

They back-tracked for a few hundred yards, and Jim had become very worried; when his guide halted, and pointed to the ground. Jim looked downwards, and saw several foot-marks, which led off at right-angles to the course they had been taking.

"This is a bit of a fix, Binghai," said Jim. "Someone's colared him." While he was speaking, the blackfellow moved off, following the tracks. Jim went behind him, feeling rather uneasy. He wondered vaguely what he would have done without Binghai, who was making his way unerringly on the trail of Blue's captors. He felt a sense of security in the thought of the old blackfellow's nearness. His thought were interrupted by a low whistle from Binghai, and, hastening forward, he saw him crouching behind a couple of logs, peering ahead. Jim knelt beside his companion and stared before him; hardly able to believe what he saw.

They were at the edge of a broad lagoon, several hundred yards in extent. Near the opposite side a large grey seaplane floated at rest, and a man standing in a launch, was handing petrol tins through a door in the fuselage, to someone inside the plane. On the shore behind the seaplane, was a large clearing, in which were several buildings, ranged on either side of a "street." A hangar stood at the water's edge. Men were hurrying to and fro as if attending to various duties, and the place presented a busy appearance. Jim also noticed a wireless aerial suspended above a low shed from two tall masts.

"So that's where they've taken Blue," he said. "I hope they haven't hurt him."

Having taken in all the details of the scene, the pair moved cautiously round the edge of the lagoon towards the settlement, and spent the remaining part of the day in observing it from different points, Binghai automatically taking the leadership, being more experienced in bushcraft and scouting.

When night came, they made mattresses of bushes, and turned in. Jim was so affected by the strange turn of events, that he lay awake far into the night, before sleep claimed him.

He awoke to find the sun streaming on him. Glancing drowsily around, he saw Binghai motioning him to be silent. He moved over beside the blackfellow, who pointed towards the clearing.

There was Blue, safe and sound, strolling about the hangar and inspecting the seaplane with interest. Jim noticed also that he was closely guarded by a man wearing the loose costume of the Orient, who prevented his escape by holding a rope, the other end of which bound Blue's wrists.

"If only we could let him know we're here," thought Jim, and remained alert for an opportunity. Before many minutes had passed he noticed that guard was not looking in their direction. As no one else was close by at the moment, Jim waved his rifle above his head.

Blue made no sign of recognition; but he began slowly to stroll towards them, the guard following unsuspiciously. Jim saw Binghai swing the short waddy which he always carried, and trembled with suspense.

When the two came opposite the logs behind which Jim and Binghai were waiting, the blackfellow leaped forward, and lunged at the guard, who fell stunned. Jim loosened the rope about the prisoners' wrists, and they ran into the scrub, bent on getting as far away as possible, before the escape was discovered.

After covering a mile or so, they halted for breath. Jim was bursting with curiosity as to Blue's experiences. Binghai probably was, too, but he rarely showed his feelings. As they moved on, Blue told them all about it.

"I dropped behind a bit," he began, "and suddenly a hand closed over my mouth, and a couple of Chinamen grabbed me. They were little chaps, but about strong—. They took me to that collection of shanties, and locked me in one of them for a time. After a while, a chap called Fu-Chang came in, and told me that I would have to stay there and—Mind who you're shoving with that rifle!—stay there and work at something or other, as he didn't want me to tell everyone about his old settlement. It wasn't his, as a matter of fact. He said he didn't know who, or where the boss of the place was, but he receives instructions from him by wireless."

"It seems that a ship heaves-to regularly about thirty miles off the coast, and loads a few Chinamen on to the seaplane, which flies to meet it. The plane then returns to its base, where I was held. The Chinamen are helped to reach civilisation, where they settle down. It's a kind of smuggling, really; it's pretty hard for uneducated foreigners to enter Australia, so they are brought in like this for a small fee. The chap who told me all this must have thought I was staying for good, or he would have kept quiet. They seemed a decent enough crowd, and treated me rather well. I'll never forget the roast fowl they gave me last night."

"H'm, you seem to have had a better time than we did, looking for you," remarked Jim, winking at Binghai, who had been trying hard to understand the motives for the smuggling, without very great success.

They decided to return at once and tell their story to the officials at Broome.

A few days later, they were sitting on a wide verandah talking to a sunburnt man in a white drill suit, who lounged in a chair before them, with the result that they accompanied a strong police party, which set out overland for the settlement.

.. Taken by surprise, the Chinamen, as a whole, stood little chance of beating off the police; but a few scattered groups here and there put up a terrific resistance before being captured.

The police decided to return via the camp at which the boys had stayed, leaving a few men in charge of the settlement. As they rode along, the officer in charge of the party asked Blue innumerable questions concerning the information which Fu-Chang had given him.

"It was a marvellous smuggling organisation," said the officer, "But what beats me, is its apparent lack of a leader. We learnt nothing of a man in charge of the organisation from the men we captured, and we found no man who seemed to hold that position. It's very puzzling.

"The Government owes a lot to you boys, and your old blackfellow, but for whom we would have experienced the greatest difficulty in locating the settlement. From what you tell me, his tracking led to its discovery in the first place."

When their camp was reached, the boys entered their shanty to collect a saddle they had left there, while Binghai rounded up the horses. Seeing some tinned beef on a shelf, Blue suggested that they give it to the old Chinaman.

"Gee!" exclaimed Jim, "I'd forgotten him; he must be one of them if that note was meant for him. We'd better get the police to round him up, too."

Accordingly they set out with a couple of police to search for the Chinaman's home; the rest were to follow later. They soon located it, a low, wooden structure in a clump of ti-trees. They approached it cautiously, and a constable crept forward and

peeped through an open shutter, taking in the details of the interior, which appeared to interest him greatly; then he returned to the others.

"He's one of them all right," he said excitedly. "There are aerial photos all over the walls, wires wrapped round the rafters, aërials, I suppose; and maps and radio gear, and he's sitting in the middle of it all, tapping on a keyboard. Come on, Johnston, we'll get him now."

They entered the shack, the police leading. The man twisted in his chair, with a startled expression on his face. As two police revolvers covered him, he gradually calmed down, and actually grinned at the boys.

"You come see ol' Chinaman, eh?"

As he spoke the rest of the police rode up, and entered the shack. Binghai came in, too, and seemed vastly interested in the keyboard, and regarded the complicated wireless apparatus with awe.

An exclamation came from the officer in charge, who had been searching the various drawers about the room. "This man is the leader; the brain of the whole organisation," he said. "According to this, he is Sin Kiang-Ho, a highly educated Chinaman. Put the hand-cuffs on his wrists, Harris."

As the constable moved to obey, Sin-Kiang twisted suddenly from the grip on his shoulder, and leaped at the apparently solid wall. He went right through! A light door swung to and fro, where before had seemed to be a stout slab wall.

"Quick," barked an officer. "After him." But no command was necessary; a couple of men rushed through the opening, closely followed by the others. As Jim emerged into the sunlight, he saw the policeman gazing at the sand with a bewildered air. There was no sign of the escapee, nor was there a single mark on the sand where he must have landed. It seemed uncanny—miraculous. Even Binghai was at a loss. His tracking ability was limited to cases where there were tracks to follow. Men dashed into the scrub and began to search, beating their way backwards and forwards; but Sin-Kiang-Ho seemed to have faded into the atmosphere.

The searchers had begun to despair, and some were returning, when a constable suddenly stooped beside a tree trunk, which rose out of some bushes near the shanty, and hauled forth—the Chinaman.

The searchers were recalled, and they clustered round excitedly. They could see now how he had fooled them. A branch of the tree, under which he had been found, leaned towards the opening in the wall. He had made a tremendous effort, and had leaped on to it; but in climbing down he had fallen and hurt his leg. Now he sat on a log, nursing his ankle.

Jim walked up to him, and showed him the code message questioningly.

"Ah!" said Sin-Kiang, the light of understanding dawning on his wrinkled features. "Now I understand. But had I received it as I should have done, I would have transferred my headquarters to the seaplane base, and you would never have suspected my enterprise. I lived on the beach to observe passing ships, and to give warning, by wireless, of any newcomers who might become suspicious. I thought you had gone home when you left the beach. Ah! Well, what has happened has happened, and we shouldn't complain."

"You seem to have picked up a lot of English since we saw you last," said Blue.

"Me learn him velly quick all ri'!" said the prisoner, grinning painfully; then, turning to the policemen, he said: "Carry me to that fallen tree yonder, and I'll show you something interesting. Bring your horses and equipment."

"We may as well," said an officer, and they carried him to the tree indicated, bringing their horses and equipment.

Sin-Kiang grasped what seemed to be a stout twig, and jerked it downwards.

There came a shattering explosion, and they saw his dwelling disappear in a searing flash of red; and they felt a hot rush of air on their faces.

"That, gentlemen," said the prisoner, as the smoke cleared, "is to prevent my plans and apparatus from falling into the wrong hands."

The police and the boys were dumbfounded. When they had recovered, they slowly lifted Sin-Kiang-Ho on to a horse, and the party moved off on the homeward journey.

Only scattered, smoking debris remained to mark the place where, a few minutes before, had been the headquarters of the strangest smuggling enterprise in Australian History.

—CURRAJONG.

THE GHOST OF LAMIS CASTLE.

"Here we are," said Jim Bull as the train drew up at the small station of Lamis. At once there was a scramble for bags, for Jim Bull was taking four of his school chums to an old castle which belonged to his father, Lord Lamis, to spend the holidays there.

The five boys alighted, and passed through the barrier into the village street.

"I thought you said there would be a car to meet us," remarked Jack Arthur.

"So there would be," Jim replied, "but don't forget that we caught an earlier train than we intended. What will we do—walk or wait?"

"Let's walk!" exclaimed Jack's brother, Phil; and so it was that, in the dim twilight of a winter evening, the five boys were seen leaving Lamis village and making their way to the castle,

which, on reaching the top of a hill, was suddenly revealed to them.

"I say," exclaimed Joe Thornby, the fourth member of the party, "doesn't it look just like an old fairy castle, with all those turrets and things?"

"You're right about its age," replied Jim. "We don't know the age of the oldest part of the castle, but that 'Keep' you can see was there in some form or other in 1016."

"Is it true about the castle being haunted?" asked Ben Thornby, Joe's brother.

"Of course not," replied Joe. "Don't you know there are no such things as ghosts in these days?"

"Don't you be so sure of that," Jim said. "If you were to live in the village for a few months you would soon begin to wonder. Some of the inhabitants, and even the minister, say they have seen a Lady in Grey gliding through these trees on some dark nights."

During this conversation the party had entered the castle grounds.

Jim went on:

"There is another story of four men playing cards with the Devil in some secret room in Lamis. These four men were playing when——"

"Look!" shouted Joe suddenly. "What's that?" and he pointed towards the trees, where a faint, shadowy figure could be seen gliding along.

"That must be the Lady in Grey about whom I was telling you," said Jim. "Come on," he called, and set off towards the figure. The boys did the same, apparently thinking there was safety in numbers, but the figure disappeared.

"There! Now what about it?" Ben asked Joe. "You said there were no such things as ghosts. What was that?" Joe said nothing. He was too perplexed to speak, and, as it began to rain, the five boys hurried on in order to reach the castle before they became too wet. They soon came in sight of the castle again, which had been lost to view among the trees. It was only dimly visible in the half-light, and the surrounding trees cast weird shadows on the walls as if to announce their arrival; the wind sprang up and went whistling and shrieking through the trees. The rain came down in torrents, the lightning flashed, and the thunder growled. In the weird light yielded by a flash of lightning a figure could be seen, dressed in white, slowly walking along the battlements, contorted into grotesque shapes by the shadows. In the next flash it had gone. With nerves on edge, the boys were ready for anything.

"What's that?" asked Jack, in a trembling voice. They halted again, but only for a moment; for on their left, about three feet off the ground, was a lady dressed in white robes. They did not dare to investigate again, but set off for the castle on the

run. They arrived at the old oak door and knocked. Hollow rumbles rang out, and the door was opened by Lord Lamis. They went upstairs to the crypt, and sat down before a blazing fire, not without accident, for Jack tripped over a large stone in the middle of the floor.

"That closes the opening to the dungeon down below," explained Lord Lamis. "In olden days the prisoners used to be lowered down there, and when the rope was drawn up again there was no possible escape. I remember once——"

"Where's dad?" suddenly Jack asked, astonished that his father was not enjoying himself by the fire.

"He disappeared this afternoon," Lord Lamis said. He went out for a walk, I heard a yell, and he has not been seen since."

In a short time the light went out—Lord Lamis had had electric light installed for his own convenience—and a click was heard. The door had been locked! Then, through the deep silence, in a weird, unearthly voice and accompanied by a shuffling noise, was heard: "My deal, gentlemen." Instantaneously the same thoughts sprang into the minds of the five boys and the man. It was the card party. As if moved by the same spring, they all rushed to the wall whence the noise had come, seeming, as in the case of the Lady in Grey, to find safety in numbers.

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THE RECORD.

While they were searching for the secret of the hidden room, a hollow, mocking laugh rang out. It was the Devil, laughing at them. After an unsuccessful search, Lord Lamis led the way back to the fireside.

Suddenly there was another click. This time the noise was in the ceiling. A trap-door had been opened, and framed in the opening, a face could be seen resembling that which is usually attributed to the Devil. The firelight, dancing in the grate, gave it a horrible appearance. This was too much for Phil, who was the youngest of the party, and he promptly fainted. Apparently satisfied, the Devil withdrew, not, however, without first showering down on his trembling victims a pack of cards. The trap-door was shut, the light switched on, and the door unlocked. At once they rushed to the door, but all they heard was a peal of mocking laughter echoing away in one of the distant corridors. With Lord Lamis still leading, and with Jim second, they rushed off; but, as there were so many short passages leading nowhere, they soon had to give up the hunt. Returning to the crypt, they found it empty. Where was Phil? That was the question that came into every mind.

"One of us should have remained behind," said Lord Lamis.

"We forgot about him in the excitement," remarked Jack.

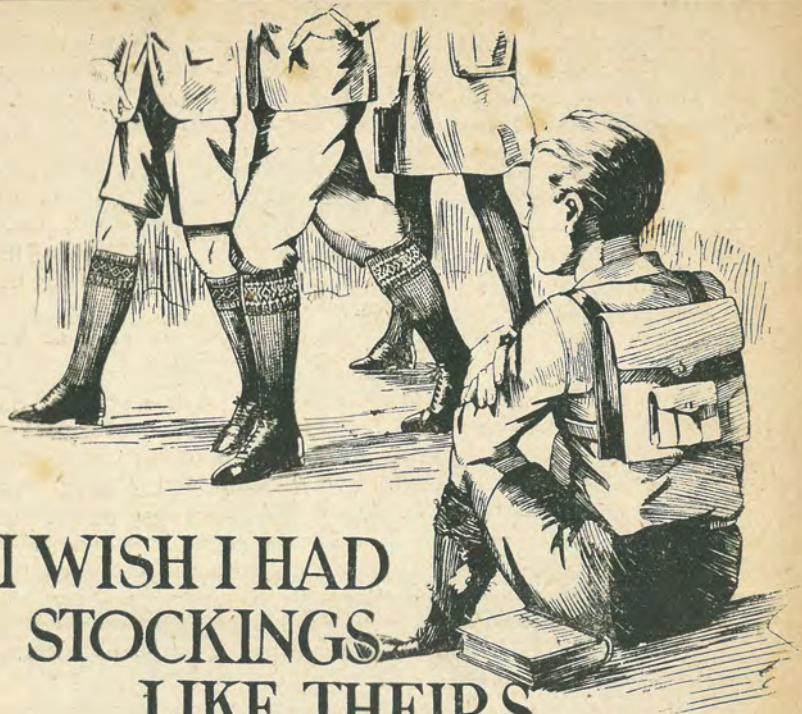
"I thought," Ben said, "that he was safe here, as the Devil was——"

Away in the distance a shriek rang out. "Help!" As though to hide this, an appalling burst of laughter was heard. But it was in vain, for the shout for help had been heard. Forgetting their previous failure, they raced up the stairs, following a groan which was heard down to their left, and which sounded as though it was mounting higher. It led them out on to the open roof. In a flash of lightning a ghost-like figure could be seen hurling something over the battlements into the moat far beneath. When the next flash lit up the sky, the roof was vacant. After a long search on the roof Lord Lamis decided that nothing could be done until morning, so he proposed going to bed.

The next morning Jack reported that during the night he had heard mysterious knockings on the wall of his room. Joe and Ben, who shared the room next to Jack's, had also heard these knockings. But Jim had the most sensational report to make. In his room, just near the door, he had found a red tail.

"What's the truth about that card party?" Joe asked at breakfast.

"One Saturday night," replied the Earl, "four men were playing cards. On being warned of the approach of midnight, Earl Beardie, who was losing, said he would finish the game though they should play until Doomsday. On the stroke of 12 a stranger, the Devil himself, entered, and the five are still playing in some secret room, and will play till Doomsday according to local legend."



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"I think I can explain everything except this man who kidnapped Mr. Arthur and Phil," remarked Joe. "But I've made one discovery that convinces me that this ghost lives in the village. I picked up one of those cards, and——"

Click! Again it came, and outside the door the Devil raised his voice in a loud peal of laughter, as if trying to interrupt Joe and prevent him from making his discovery known. If those were his plans he succeeded, but almost at the risk of losing his identity, for Lord Lamis suggested that they should leave the room by a hidden door, of which he alone knew the secret.

"You stop here," he whispered to Ben, "and bang on that door with a chair, so as to hold the Devil's attention."

Ben did this, and the rest of the party crept out into the hall, to see the Devil at the door. But a slight noise disturbed him, and he turned and fled, with the boys after him. Ben, seeing the turn affairs had taken, came through the secret door and followed them. Upstairs raced the Devil and turned into Ben's bedroom. Jack, who was close behind, slammed the door and locked it, then waited for the others to come up.

"He's in here," panted Jack, and flung open the door. The room was empty.

"I say, Joe, you're a bit of a detective, how do you——hullo, where is Joe?"

"He went into your room, Jim," said Ben. So the remainder of the party went into Jim's room. But it, like Ben's room, seemed empty, until they caught sight of Joe behind the door, on hands and knees.

"Eureka, I've got it!" Joe suddenly exclaimed, and a section of the wall swung back, exposing a flight of steps leading down. Looking the other way, a passage could be seen which evidently led to the room between Jack's and Joe's bedrooms.

"Keep together, whatever you do," warned Joe, as he walked into the hole in the wall and descended the stairs, with the others following. At the foot of the stairs was another passage in the floor of which was the trapdoor above the crypt. Ascending more steps the party came out on to the roof. This time they were more successful in their search, for a slide was soon exposed to view.

"Do you think it's safe to go down?" asked Ben.

"I think so," Joe replied, and stepped on the shoot, immediately being whizzed out of sight. Growing accustomed to the light, Joe noticed a blank wall in front of him. He made frantic efforts to stop himself, but failed. All his past life flashed up before him, until he suddenly found himself on the other side of the wall, which had given way before him. Facing him was the Devil, getting ready for a flight. However, the rest of the party came through the wall one after the other, and the Devil was soon secured. The mask was torn off his face, and who

should it be but Mr. Arthur. It appeared from his incoherent explanation that he had murdered somebody.

"That seems to have turned his brain," Lord Lamis said, "but nobody has been murdered round here."

By further questioning they found out where the murder had taken place. Finding a door open, Joe went out to investigate, and soon came back with a dead dog.

"This is what he murdered," Joe said, laughing. "If my reckoning is correct, I think we can explain the man in the same way as the Lady in Grey. Anyway, we'll find out to-night."

"That night, under the leadership of Joe, the boys, including Phil, who had been found in the room at the bottom of the slide, went outside to test Joe's theory, which happened to be correct. Joe accounted for the Lady in Grey and the man whom Mr. Arthur had murdered, by the fact that one of the boys and Mr. Arthur respectively had had their shadows reflected in the air. These shadows had appeared to them like people gliding along near them. Their imagination had done the rest.

Just near the main entrance, on their return journey, Phil suddenly burst out laughing.

"What's the matter?" asked Joe.

"Look at that," was Phil's reply. "There's our Lady in White."

"That" was a statue of a woman dressed in white, which stood on a dark base. Coming so soon after the appearance of the figure on the roof, it was easy to understand how the boys had taken it for something supernatural.

In this way the whole mystery was solved. As for Mr. Arthur, under the care of an expert doctor, he soon regained his former condition, and lived for many years to laugh over the episode of "The Ghost of Lamis Castle."

E. Williamson (4A).

Note: This story is woven round the traditions of the ancient and historical home of Macbeth.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

On first entering this new school many strange facts stood out. What a long way that first walk to the main entrance seemed, and how lost I felt in the massive corridors during that day and the next. As weeks passed on, I gradually became more acquainted with this new school; but what a long way and a lot of turns and twists there were on the first journey to the Chemistry room. But this distance is decreasing little by little, and I think the scholars who see five years here will think it but a step. Gymnasium exercise came as a surprise to me, although I had suspicions of that white house near the gate. At change of lessons, visiting different rooms was rather annoying; but I think I am at last used to these strange arrangements. I am now settling down to study and sport, and trying to make myself worthy of this great school, although pleasant memories of my last school often return.

LITERARY PRIZES.

During the year W. M. Nimmo, Esq., of the Coogee Preparatory School, donated the sum of £5 as a prize for the best imaginative composition, the object being to encourage the production of such composition in the school. With the donor's consent, the money was divided to provide for prizes in upper and lower school and verse composition was included.

The upper school competition closed on the 31st May. In the short story section twenty-four entries were received, and twenty-two in the verse. The quality in both sections fell very far below expectations. After very careful consideration of both stories and verse, it was decided that no entry was of sufficient merit to justify the award of a prize. A fresh competition in both sections, therefore, will be organised next half-year.

For the guidance of competitors in the next competition we offer a few criticisms of the efforts submitted in the first.

None of the entrants in the Short Story section seemed to have any clear conception of the purpose of his story. He had not visualised any striking situation or imagined any particular effort towards which to conduct his plot. There was no adequate sense of climax in any one of the writers, and in consequence the story did not contain sufficient plot interest. The writer carried his characters forward through a series of incidents, and in some cases wildly melodramatic adventures, and then dismissed them. The story began anywhere, led everywhere, and finished nowhere.

Now to write a successful short story the writer must have a clear conception of the purpose of his story and the object at which he aims. That object may be to give his readers a surprise, to startle them with some extraordinary situation, or to amuse them with a humorous one, or to satisfy them with a sudden solution of a mystery. Whatever his purpose may be, the writer must first vividly conceive the situation or the event or combination of circumstances which will achieve that purpose. Then he must imagine a chain of incidents that lead straight to the climax, and conceive appropriate characters to carry on the plot. A short story, it may seem strange to say, is really written backwards. First conceive the climax, and then imagine the plot and characters.

A second criticism of the stories submitted for competition is that the great majority were wildly, even violently melodramatic in quality, and altogether too suggestive of certain cheap, illustrated periodical magazines not unknown to school-boys. However alluring the adventures, or however meritorious the conduct of these youthful heroes of boyish romance, students who have reached the upper section of a high school should already be aware that great and good stories may be woven out of the material of real life.

THE RECORD.

In the next place the style of most of the entries was particularly poor. The writers seemed to have no ability to express clearly and concisely their ideas. There was little sense of the value of word or phrase. Sentence construction was weak and loose. Paragraphs merely trailed off to an indefinite close. No attempt appeared to have been made to organise the material before formal composition began.

In the verse competition there was in each of the entries some more or less serious defect, which precluded the award of a prize. In many there was a very deplorable lack of genuine inspiration. Imaginative and emotional elements were entirely lacking. In one or two cases a flash of inspiration could be detected, but the inspiration was not sustained.

In addition to the poverty of poetic qualities, all entries failed in the handling of verse form. For some reason the majority of aspirants chose the sonnet form, the most difficult of all. Apart from the fourteen lines the sonnet imposes upon its user, other very important conditions which were frequently not fulfilled.

The most general fault was failure to sustain the metre chosen. Time after time after the first or second line the metre broke down entirely, or hobbled lamely to the end of the stanza.

Rhyme, of course, is pleasing to the ear; but, when it is achieved by doing violence to the sense of the lines, the result is disastrous.

On the whole, it appeared that insufficient time and care had been devoted to the production of the verse. It is to be hoped that the next competition will be marked by more serious effort.

—Adjudicator.

JOHN WATERHOUSE PRIZE.

The John Waterhouse Prize is awarded annually to the Prefect (not necessarily the Senior Prefect) who does most in the interests of the Sydney High School, particularly in maintaining *esprit de corps* and a high moral tone.

"THE RALLY."

"The Rally" is a monthly publication devoted to the activities of the Great Public Schools. The needs of this school are at present catered for by Brett and Chapman, and either will be glad to receive extra orders each month. The school also profits by the sale of "The Rally," as a certain amount of the money goes to the school funds. Any matter submitted for publication will be gladly received by either of the above representatives, or by Mr. Smith.

THE RECORD.
LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

"W. M. Nimmo" Prizes.

The literary prizes, available through the generosity of Mr. W. M. Nimmo, will be awarded in connection with the issue of the December "Record," in which, it is hoped, some of the efforts will be published. All entries must be in the hands of a member of the English Staff before the last day of October. If possible, entrants should have their manuscript typed. If they are written, the writing must be clearly legible, and on one side of the paper only, with a margin. Failure to observe these instructions may lead to disqualification. Other details are given below.

1. Senior Short Story Competition, open to Fourth and Fifth Year pupils of the school: Stories must not contain more than 3000 words. Prizes: 1st, £1/10/- 2nd, 10/-.

2. Senior Verse Competition, open to Fourth and Fifth Year pupils of the school; any verse form may be employed. Prize £1.

3. Junior Short Story Competition, open to all pupils of classes below Fourth Year; stories must not contain more than 2000 words. Prizes: 1st, 15/-; 2nd, 7/6.

4. Junior Verse Competition, open to all pupils of classes below Fourth Year; any verse form may be employed. Prize, 17/6.

EXCHANGES.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge the following exchanges, with apologies for any omission:—*"The Carillon"* (Ottawa Technical School), *"Vox Lycei"* (Collegiate Institute, Ottawa), *Hermes* (University of Sydney), *Hawkesbury Agricultural College Journal*, *The Sydneian* (Sydney Grammar School), *The King's Magazine*, *The Newingtonian*, *Glasgow High School Magazine*, *The Magpie* (Maitland Boys' High School), *Novocastrian* (Newcastle High School), *The Chronicle* (Sydney Girls' High School), *The Gleam* (Wollongong High School), *The Excelsior* (Methodist Ladies' College, Burwood), *Parramatta High School Magazine*, *Wesley College Chronicle*, *The Melburnian* (C. of E. Grammar School, Melbourne), *"The Armidalian"* (The Armidale School), *"The Katoomban"* (Katoomba Inter H.), *"The Babbler"* (N.S. Girls' H.), *"Orme Girls' Magazine"*, *"The Koala"* (T.H.S.), *"St. Joseph College"*, *"Black and Red Review"*, *"The Bindyite"* (Dubbo H.S.), *"The Fortian"* (Fort Street H.S.), *"Our Alma Mater"* (Riverview), *"Tattler"* (Ithaca H.S., U.S.A.), *"The Pillars"* (Young Inter H.S.), *"The Devonian"* (Devonport H.S.), *"The St. Georgian"* (S. George Girls' H.S.), *"Canterbury Tales"* (Canterbury H.), *"The Singletonian"* (Singleton H.S.), *"The Falcon"* (N.S. Boys' H.S.), *"The Eeh-rindian"* (Glen Innes).

ANSWERS TO CONTRIBUTORS AND OTHERS.

J.S.—Sonnets to Sydney winds show much promise. Your Muse's car, however, suffers from engine trouble, for which we have no doubt you will be able to find a remedy with practice. There are too many jerks and false starts in your work—but try again.

S.—We quote the conclusion of "The Boat Race."

"When going down the river clear,
Those on small boats, drink toasts with beer,
To our fine crew of eight—no fear
Is in these lads from front to rear."

G.A.M.—Your theme is excellent and executed in good taste; but the verse is rough, too rough in several places.

K.R.—"Song of Spring" strikes a false note now and again, but more practice will make perfect.

The Sylvan.—Metrical irregularities are too numerous to secure publication for your effort.

R.—"By the Sea" is a fair beginning. Metre needs more care.

F.C.—"The Storm" shows too plainly the 'prentice hand. You should be able to improve it for next issue.

R.A.—"Night" is at its worst in the middle. Try again.

M.H.B.—"Early Morning" limps badly and in the end—sad to say—leaves us completely "desolated."

"Alas! how soon the morning must depart,
And take its pleasures to some other part."

A.A.—"Winter" is a cheerless effusion. We have noticed that "In winter now, warm days are rather rare," and are prepared to admit,

"The bitter cold denoteth winters' grip,
The frost has fallen on the dull grey ground
And many a cold there is, or frozen lip,
For blasts of sneezing fill the air with sound,
And frozen noses at this time abound."

But we have not the courage to call this poetry, and believe that on second thoughts you also will have your doubts.

J.—"Mea Deserta." Your last stanza left us in doubts as to whether it solved the mystery or merely confused the problem.

"How I love the groaning camels,
Sinking on the lea;—
Heaven! How my soul cries out for love!
For Vera."

S.—"My Secret" resembles a number of poems which have even appears in "The Record" at times; but in justice to our readers we have decided that the vein of vaguely pathetic feeling has been worked out.

J.—"Is This in Sydney High School" may interest some of our readers who know better. For their sakes we publish a couple of stanzas:

THE RECORD.

Every boy throughout the years,
Tries to come top of his form,
All the last boys are in tears,
For they know, there'll be a storm.

Between lessons, not a sound,
Is ever heard in this school,
For the boys are always bound,
Never to break a good rule.

We regret that the senior literary prizes were not awarded; but the decision of the adjudicator is final in these matters. Some of the stories and poems entered for the competitions have been published in this issue. In some cases they have been patched here and there—a process of which some of them were woefully in need. Unfortunately it was impossible to deal with the short stories in this column, but if the author of any contribution desires it to be returned with a view to revision and re-entry in a later contest, he should apply for it as early as possible.

The copy submitted is much “cleaner” than in earlier issues of “The Record,” but we earnestly advise some of our contributors to discover the rules of punctuation and paragraphing. The contributions of the Junior School were almost conspicuous by their total absence. We trust this will not be so in the future.

“The Record” is becoming more and more concerned with chronicling school news, but much escapes our net. In a school the size of ours the school magazine is of vital importance in bringing before each pupil what his school stands for, and is actually achieving in all its multifarious activities. For news we are largely dependent upon the secretaries of the clubs and societies; but there is plenty of scope for freelance reporting, as well as for the exercise of journalistic talent in investigating our problems and advocating improvements. The pages of “The Record” are always open to those who realise that they have an individual part to play in the corporate life of the Sydney High School, which may result in their leaving it in some way or other a better place than they found it when they first entered its doors.

THE HAWKESBURY TRIP.

The Hawkesbury trip, although only a 2½ hours' journey, is much looked forward to. Recently a 1st and 2nd XV. visited, and were met at the station by the usual conveyance in the form of two large traps and four mules. The race to the school was keen, and at one time it looked as though the mules were travelling at 10 m.p.h.

Both matches proved to be hard and fast, as was anticipated, and good football was witnessed.

THE RECORD.

1st XV. v. Hawkesbury.

In this match, hard tackling was the main feature. High boys seemed to enjoy falling on the nice soft grass, and probably this enabled them to keep their opponents at bay. At half-time, High had a 6-0 lead. Oranges and pure country air so re-invigorated them that they extended the lead to 16-0. I may mention here that High plays the 2nd XV., the 1st XV. being a much bigger team.

2nd XV. v. Hawkesbury.

Hawkesbury proved to be superior in this match, but our lads were by no means belittled. A plucky game was played, and we were unfortunate to go down by 9-7.

After being entertained at tea, during which war cries were exchanged, we were invited to the A block dormitory, and were held in conversation till time for leaving. The day was a success, and as we sallied forth we lustily yelled into the still night the strains of Koomati.

—“ONLOOKER.”

THE ARMIDALE TRIP.

The School 1st XV. left Sydney by the Glen Innes mail train on Thursday, 29th June, at 9:5. All were excited, even those who had made the trip last year. The journey was marked by the singing of songs, the giving of war-cries, and the partaking of refreshments at numerous stations. Sleep was practically impossible with eight boys in each compartment, but some managed to get “forty winks.” Indeed, it was a very tired team that reached Armidale in time for dinner on Friday.

Friday afternoon was spent in practice; and at night we were entertained by the boys of the school for a short time before a general stampede took place for bed.

Saturday morning was spent in inspecting the town and its beauties. In the afternoon an exciting tussle took place in the match, which resulted in a close win for Armidale, 7-6.

Our opponents were granted “leave” and a very interesting night was spent at the local theatre, with plenty of time left to catch the Brisbane express, which passed through Armidale at midnight. The return trip was quiet and uneventful; and a very tired but happy band reached Sydney at 1.10 on Sunday.

—E.C.S. (5th Year).

The 4A. French Class has for the last few weeks been producing sections of a French play. The play is made very interesting by the fact that each boy has to learn at least one part. However, there is keen competition for the honour of representing the blushing heroine.

Teacher: "That boy is not paying attention. Son, what are you doing?"

Boy: "Thinking, Sir."

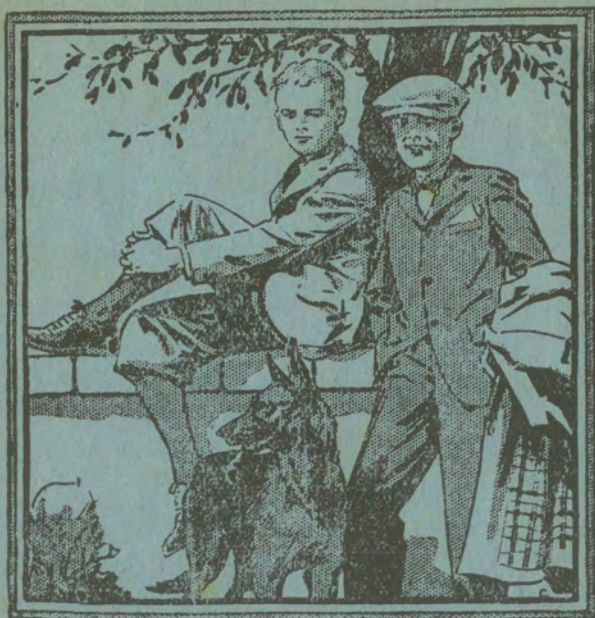
Teacher: "But you were writing; how can you think on paper? Anyhow, what were you thinking about?"

Boy: "What you just said, Sir!"

Teacher: "What did I just say?"

Boy: "I can't remember!"

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