

PRACTICAL SCIENCE Henry Whitty & Son.

Every requisite for
Private, School, College
and Technical Work's
LABORATORIES. . .

Enquiries Solicited.

Baird & Tatlock

Laboratory Furnishers,
160-164, Brownlow Hill,
LIVERPOOL.

Telegrams: "Physical, Liverpool."
Telephone: 1934 Royal.

Sole Agents in Liverpool.

Messrs. Hobbies Ltd.

FRETWORK TIMBER
and TOOLS.

Catalogue 1/- post free.

Messrs. Bassett Lowke, Ltd.

for
MODEL RAILWAYS.

Catalogue 1/6 post free.

MECCANO, PRIMUS and
ELECTRICAL GOODS.

METALS, SHEET, ROD and TUBE.
INLAY, TRANSFERS, Catalogue 6d.

35, MANCHESTER STREET,
LIVERPOOL.

ALL THE BEST
WARRANTED GOODS FOR

Football, Golf, Cricket,
Cennis, Badminton,

Skates, Roller Skates,
Indoor Games,

At Reasonable Cost.

SPECIAL TERMS TO SCHOOLS.
REPAIRS A SPECIALITY.

15 Basnett Street,
LIVERPOOL.

(Only Address.)

JACK SHARP

Expert Sports Outfitter

Lancashire County and Test Match XI's.
Everton and International Football Teams.

Cricket, Tennis,
Croquet, Golf,
Bowls, Hockey.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED
CATALOGUE.
POST FREE.

All Requisites for Indoor and Outdoor Games

Football, Badminton,
Scouts', Running,
Gymnasium Outfits.

JACK SHARP,
38 Whitechapel, Liverpool

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE MAGAZINE.

Editor: L. M. FRASER.

Sub-Editors: H. J. ABRAHAM AND H. WORTHINGTON,

Vol. XXXIII. No. 1.

DECEMBER, 1921.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
EDITORIAL	2
"RIPTED LUTE"	3
CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR	3
LEAGUE OF NATIONS SOCIETY	5
LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY	6
HOUSE NOTES	10
"A CHRISTMAS TALE"	13
CONCERTS	14
L.I.O.T.C.	16
"A SUGGESTION"	17
SWIMMING NOTES	18
O.T.C. AT CAMP	20
CHESS CLUB	22
CAMERA AND FIELD CLUB	23
UNIVERSITY LETTERS	25
"THE 'DENOUEMENT'"	30
SCHOOL FOOTBALL	31
L.I.O.B.A. NOTES	36
CORRESPONDENCE	37
EDITORIAL NOTICES	40

Editorial.

IT is always best to look one's difficulties in the face. Of this there can be no doubt; for if one decides that they can be overcome, one is inspired with an enthusiasm which makes the victory doubly easy; and if one realises that they are insuperable, one is at least spared the fruitless expenditure of a great deal of energy in the attempt. We will follow this maxim at this juncture, and will boldly examine the task that lies before us. An editorial should be dignified and weighty, without being either pompous and affected, or ridiculous and bathetic. It should say the same things that former editorials have said, but should say them in an entirely new and original way. Above all, it should have some particular and definite subject to which it should adhere closely and from which it should not be allowed to stray; it must not, in short, say anything irrelevant, but must keep to the point.

Now there is no point in an editorial. It is possible that those people who, in the remote years of the past, invented editorials, may have done so for some definite object, and as long as that object remained, so long was there a certain point in editorials. Time, however, has blunted this point, and to-day its rounded stump is used as the peg from which to hang subjects of sufficient interest to merit a place in the Magazine, but yet not strong enough to stand on their own legs, and have a special article devoted to them.

There is, however, one redeeming feature. The lapse of years which has destroyed the purpose of the editorials, has, at the same time, destroyed their interest. One can well believe that in the days of their youth editorials were eagerly read by all into whose hands they came. Now, however, when an editorial is merely a matter of form, a necessary evil, it is left severely alone. Convention forces us to publish an editorial; but no convention can force anybody to read it. We can ourselves distinctly remember hurrying over the editorial when reading the Magazine which appeared in those far-off days; and we see no reason to believe that the passage of a year or two will have put an end to this practice.

It is with this conviction firmly implanted in our mind, and relying on it solely, that we have decided that we can write an editorial. But for it, we should have been tempted to follow the laudable example of M. Horrebow, whose well-known chapter on the "Snakes in Iceland" need perhaps hardly be quoted. As it is, we are secure in the inviolability of the editorial page. Eyes will be cast upon it, and will see that the usual custom has been adhered to; they will therefore assume that we have been able to write one, and after all,

"Satis est potuisse videri."

"Rifted Lute."

O pity him, the inarticulate;
Soul-stifled; mute; the poet without a tongue;
Poor, mean, "romantick"; artist-fool of fate:—
O pity him, ye happier heirs to song!
He, too, hath thrilled against the pulse of life,
Gloried in sunset, and the scents of earth,
Drunk of the sweetly-bitter cup of strife,
And hearkened to the lilt of children's mirth.

Here was a soul, had destiny been just,
Whose voice had charmed the mourners to a song,
Singing of love, and faith, and gay delight,
And joy triumphant over every wrong:
Here was a very perfect, gentle knight,
But God forgot, and earth was grey with dust.

H. W.

Chat on the Corridor.

WE offer our heartiest congratulations to the five members of the School who were awarded Senior City and University Scholarships during the examinations of last term. Only two were accepted.

At the beginning of this term, Miss Riddell became one of the permanent staff of the School. We take this opportunity of welcoming her.

On October 4th, the School were privileged to attend an entertainment given by Mr. Beaufort, on behalf of the Cornish Tin Mines Fund. Mr. Beaufort, as usual, delighted his audience both by his conjuring and by his vocal items.

Owing to the courtesy of the management of the Scala Cinema, the School were also enabled to be present during a private exhibition, at that cinema, of the film "Christopher Columbus."

The School have been brought into contact in more ways than one with the World's Service Exhibition. Thus, the larger part of the School paid a visit *en masse* to the exhibition at St. George's Hall, where they spent an extremely interesting and educative hour.

Again, certain members of the School took part in an inter-school debate, held during the exhibition, and acquitted themselves with honour.



The upper part of the School also competed in two essays each on World's Service topics; in both of these H. J. Abraham and A. Wilson came through with flying colours.



The School Prizes were awarded as follows:—Latin: S. Milburn; Essay: S. Milburn; History: J. Gross; French: R. W. Buckley; German: R. W. Buckley; Chemistry: H. Worthington. J. Gross, having won the History Prize last year, resigned it, and the prize was therefore awarded to R. W. Buckley, who was second. Buckley thus enjoyed the unique distinction of having won three School Prizes in one year, and deserves special congratulations.



In the Inter-School Swimming Gala, the School covered itself with distinctions, being first in both the junior championship and the aggregate, and third in the senior division. Our thanks are due to those who helped to make these results possible.



It is our very pleasant duty to extend our warmest congratulations to Mr. Doughty on the occasion of his becoming a father.



We wish to express our sincere thanks to the Head for all the time and trouble he has spent in arranging the Chamber Concerts, which have proved so enjoyable.



We hear that Mr. H. M. Brown has organised a Junior Literary Society for lower forms, and hope that his enterprise will find much support and interest.



Our warmest gratitude is due to Mr. S. V. Brown, whose genius for organisation and management has been one of the main factors towards the success of the football season at Thingwall Road. Nothing seems to come amiss to him.



The Housing Problem is becoming more and more acute; the Head of the School is without a House.

We must congratulate Mr. R. E. Williams on gaining the degree of B.Sc. with Honours, and Messrs. R. G. Baxter and A. E. Russell on having been appointed to the editorship of the "Downing College Magazine," and the "Sphinx," respectively. For further exploits of O.I.'s, we refer our readers to the Oxford and Cambridge University Letters.



League of Nations Society.

FOOLS are ye who strive in war to obtain the virtue-prize by the shaft of the strong spear, and in your ignorance cease from the labours of men. For, if the contest of blood bringeth a decision, then never will strife be wanting in the cities of mankind."—*Euripides*.

Our numbers this year are between fifty and sixty, a drop from last year's total. This is due partly, perhaps, to the rash action of the secretaries in trying to screw a whole shilling at once, instead of two sixpences, from the pockets of the seemingly impoverished upper school. If, however, our numbers have fallen slightly, our aggregate of enthusiasm has not. We have the satisfaction of knowing that our members are all keenly interested in the progress of the ideal; they are those who join, not in a moment of post-war elation, but with a well-reasoned assurance of their duty.

There has been a good deal of activity this term; members have attended a Model Assembly, and also two lectures on China and Italy respectively. By the time this is in print, we hope, a second Model Assembly will have been held. At external meetings, such as the visit of Lord Hugh Cecil, a respectable contingent has been present from the School. It was very noticeable on all these occasions how much the members were enjoying themselves, quite apart from any considerations of solid advantage.

A good programme has been arranged for next term, both in the School and in the district. It is hoped that at these meetings an even larger attendance will be made.

The Library is still in existence, but not used quite as much as it might be. For the purchase of new books, and indeed, for all work, money is urgently needed; to get money, we want new members. An opportunity for joining will be offered next term, of which we hope many will avail themselves. It should be remembered that part of our subscriptions go to headquarters to help the work of the Union in its larger aspects. Yet even more important than this is the fact that our district, numbering

twenty or more school branches, is the first of its kind in the world; if it succeeds, then there may be many such districts; if it fails, the blame rests on us.

W. C. K.

Literary and Debating Society.

THE Annual General Private Business Meeting of this Society, which was held against all tradition during the summer term, on July 22nd, 1921, has proved to have been the precursor of a most successful session. The enthusiasm which the Society has aroused has been shown not only by the speakers at the meetings, but also by the exceedingly good attendances which have accompanied the debates. This keenness was first evinced at the Annual Meeting, though in a rather unruly form. The usual appointments of the Headmaster and Mr. Hickinbotham, as President and Chairman of the Society, were passed unanimously, but there came heated discussion before Abraham and Kennan were elected as secretaries for the coming year. The election of vice-presidents and members of the committee also provoked fiery discussion, but on the completion of these duties the meeting amicably adjourned.

The Society's first public business meeting of the session was held in the Masters' Room, on Tuesday, the 20th of September. Mr. Hickinbotham graced the chair with his wonted urbane presence. After the Society had approved of the Programme for the Session, and had passed a perfunctory vote of censure on the secretaries, the Chairman called on Worthington to propose that the Study of Science formed the best education. Starting on the premise that genius was born, not made, the proposer showed that classical knowledge was of no value in future life. Science he then proved was the only thing which could bring back our trade. Binger, in supporting modern education, followed the former speaker's utilitarian line of argument, and reducing everything to pounds, shilling and pence, felt sure that the modern student could secure the goodliest number of the first. This base materialism Fraser—who rose on behalf of classics—nobly scorned, and after speaking vaguely but enthusiastically on humanising influences, informed the Society of a poet's original view on the Proper Study of Mankind.

In opening the debate, Kneale gave a characteristically able speech, in which he spoke of the world as the employer of men and not some tyrannical individual of former speakers, while after Ball had gravely doubted the efficacy of classics for fighting life's battle, Kennan remarked that true education was not mere acquisition of knowledge. Silverman, whose eloquence is now almost intelligible, and Wardle ably supported classics, and science received an adherent in Mr. R. E. Williams, who spoke

of the æsthetic joy of scientific research. The debate was soon afterwards ended by Abraham, who thought that modern education was the most suitable for the ordinary man. When the voting was taken, classics proved to have won 15, modern study 10, and science 7 votes respectively.

On October 4th, the Society met to debate on the proposal that "Complete and Unconditional Independence be immediately granted to Ireland." After a private business meeting, in which the question of puns predominated, Kneale opened the proposal. He first asserted that England had always oppressed Ireland, chiefly in the question of trade, and then showed that it would be decidedly to the advantage of England to grant her that independence. Ulster he ignored. Wardle, in opposing, spoke of the strength of the many different ties which bound Ireland to Great Britain, and the division of the former country into two distinct and opposing countries, so that Dominion Home Rule could be the only cure. Abraham seconded the motion, and yielding to his love of analysis, dissected his opponent's arguments and divided into classes all people who could oppose such a motion, while Ball, who rose to support the opposition, spoke in his very best tragic manner on treachery. After asking what happened in 1914, he brought tears to all eyes by a touching reference to the sinking of the "Lusitania." Pearson was the first to speak when the subject had been thrown open to debate, and his eulogy of Wentworth was followed by speeches from Ball, G. S., and Jones, E. B., the last of whom mentioned Cromwell. Graham then spoke, and the advantages accruing to England, should she grant Independence, were voiced by Fraser. Following Dennis, Mr. R. E. Williams attacked Ball and denied the present existence of religious distinctions in Ireland. After Kennan had supported the motion, though refusing to believe that anyone would reap any advantage, speeches from Bridge and Wignall closed the debate. The voting was then taken, and the motion carried by 34 votes to 24.

The third meeting of the Society in the present session was held on Tuesday, 18th October. After an interesting private business meeting, in which the subject of puns again arose, Kennan was called upon to propose that Scott was a greater novelist than Dickens. The proposer contended that in both artistry of plot and characterisation Scott was the superior of the two. The characters of the one, he said, were true to life, were developed and revealed, while those of the other were grotesque and exaggerated. The humour of Scott he also extolled. Worthington, in replying denied that Dickens could only portray one vice and one virtue in a character, and asserted that he was superior inasmuch that he spoke to the common man, not to the intellectual. After speaking of the supremacy of the humour of Dickens, he confidently stated that that novelist's

characters lived. In seconding the proposition, Fraser showed that unlike Dickens, every character in Scott had at least one redeeming feature, and compared the two novelists to Aeschyles and Sophocles. Abraham again demonstrated his propensity for analysis, this time dividing his auditors into three classes, though bravely admitting his indebtedness to G. K. Chesterton for the scheme. Paradox became now the fashion of the speakers. In speaking first, Wardle supported the motion because Dickens, although a greater writer, being more than a novelist, was inferior to Scott. Silverman, having read more of the novels of Dickens, also supported Scott, while Kneale agreed with the argument Dickens was more than a novelist, and spoke of Scott as a pioneer. After Jones, E. B., had supported the latter novelist, Dickens found an adherent in the person of Evans, J., who refused to believe in the existence of humour in the works of Scott. After the proposer had replied the voting was taken, which proved to be 17 for the motion and 21 against.

The first of the many papers, which the programme of the present session has scheduled for the delectation and information of the Society, was read on Tuesday night, November 1st. The subject of the paper was Zionism, and the reader Silverman. The paper was precluded by a stormy, but fascinating private business meeting over the choosing of representatives to the Inter-School Debating Society meeting. The opposition party bent their horns and charged while the secretaries cowered down in terror. Harmony, however, was at last restored by the melodious tones of the reader of the paper's voice. Zionism, he said, was Jewish Nationalism on a territorial basis. It was no new ideal: ever since the destruction of Jerusalem, Jewish aspirations had steadfastly turned thither. It was, however, closely bound up with Jewish religion, for it was only this religion which had preserved national spirit throughout the middle ages. But this feeling had only in modern times aroused a world-wide movement, for the first real step was taken in the formation of the "Alliance Universale Israélite," and in the holding of the first international congress of Zionists at Bâle in 1897.

The war had naturally revolutionised Zionism, for Mr. Balfour had declared that Britain would establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine, and in 1920 a mandate for Jewry had been obtained. Since then, Colonial activities had progressed. Silverman then concluded his admirable paper by reading an article which proved the necessity of Zionist restoration from every point of view.

Interested discussion on the subject then followed, and much healthy criticism. Baxter, Ball and Hutchison all doubted the practicability of Zionism, while Binger, Kneale and Kennan paid compliments to the Jewish nation. The chairman expressed the views of the Society completely when he said that rarely had he

heard a paper on so difficult a subject read with such tact. The proposed vote of thanks was unanimously carried.

"That the Cinema, in the present day, exercises a Degrading Influence," was the subject which occupied the attention of the Society on Tuesday, November 15th. The Debate was conspicuous by the enforced absence, through illness, of our esteemed chairman, Mr. Hickinbotham. His place was filled first by Mr. Brown and then by Mr. Doughty. After Ball had been appointed Lord High Chief Poker of the Fire, an office which he fulfilled so ably that the fire was nearly extinct before public business began, Broadbent was called on to propose the motion. He informed the Society that he knew the correct pronunciation of the word cinema, but would not use it. The fact, he felt sure, that one bad film more than counterbalanced many good films proved his case. Williams, in answering, spoke humorously of the real and acquired attributes of the British race, but forgot to mention that he was opposing the motion.

Of the two seconders, Wilson emphasised the importance of the child in such a motion as this, while Dennis, after performing stalwart work for the opposite side, lost himself and the Society in an exposition of the subconscious mind. Great keenness was evinced when the subject was thrown open to debate. Hutchison said that it was only the evil mind which derived evil from the pictures. Ball condemned the Cinema, and Abraham refuted the argument of the evil mind, and stated that it was the children who were of vital importance. This statement was repeated soon afterwards by Kennan, and Kneale spoke at some length. When the voting was taken, the Cinema proved to have won the day by 28 to 20.

One of the chief features of this term has been the outside activities of members of the School Debating Society. During the World Service Exhibition, in the St. George's Hall, a debate of the representatives of the city schools was held on Nationalisation. For the Liverpool Institute, both Fraser and Abraham spoke with great ability. Following on this, chiefly through the energy of Fraser, an Inter-School Debating Society of the Secondary Schools of Liverpool has come into being.

Its first meeting was held on Monday, 31st October. The Pioneer of the movement was forced by ill-health to be absent, but the School was represented by Abraham, Kneale, Worthington, Wardle and Kennan, all of whom took part in the debate on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Civilization. We can only end by hoping that this new society will continue to flourish, and that in this school, at least, there will be no abatement in the enthusiastic and loyal support of the meetings of the Society during the remainder of the Session.

House Notes.

DANSON HOUSE.—It is our first duty to congratulate Leiper on being made a prefect, and also to thank Youngson, who has left us for another House, for his past services, both on the cricket and football field.

After entertaining great hopes of the Headmaster's Cup, we were beaten in the semi-final by Hughes, after two replays, at the end of last term. We have started this term rather badly, for owing to the illness of certain swimmers of our House, we only came out sixth in the Gala. Our thanks are due to those who did swim.

F.R.B.

HUGHES HOUSE.—Our first duty is to congratulate the cricket team upon their victory over Alfred Holt in the final of the Headmaster's Cup. This is the fifth time we have won the cup in successive years.

Another pleasant duty is to offer our heartiest congratulations to our late House Captain, G. M. Coomer, upon his winning a Senior City Scholarship in the examinations held last July.

This term's activities have not been many as the Swimming Gala is the only inter-House event which has taken place. In this we failed to uphold our high position, as we were only fifth.

The only addition to the prefectorial staff of the House this year is that of J. Shankland, and we tender him our hearty congratulations. Next term many important events will be upon us: (1) the Horsfall Cup, which we must retain at all costs; (2) the Gymnasium Competition, whose trophy we have not yet won; (3) the Hobby Show, in which there is a Singing Competition for the Houses, besides the marks which can be obtained, through individual efforts. It is up to the members of the House to train for *all* these events.

P.J.B.

COCHRAN HOUSE.—To other Houses, perhaps, which have failed to win honours in the School Competitions, the past term may have seemed uneventful. Let such Houses speak disparagingly of the little that has happened, talk grandiloquently of the future, and exhort each other to greater achievements; Cochran House rejoices in the present. In happy forgetfulness of past misfortunes and blissful ignorance of the future, we proclaim to all the world "Cochran House was first in the Swimming Gala."

In view of such overwhelming evidence of our pre-eminence, it would be superfluous to urge the House to resolve to gain further distinctions. The mere memory of our victory on the "watery fields" of the swimming baths will help us to victory on the football fields of Thingwall Road.

Nothing remains but to offer to Milburn and Jarvis our best wishes for their success at Oxford and Liverpool Universities respectively; to congratulate Dewhurst, Renault, and Roberts, A. T., on being made prefects; and to welcome all the new boys, who, of course, always form the most important part of a house.

H.J.A.

OWEN HOUSE.—We have tasted of the wine of success and yet are not intoxicated. And little wonder, for last year, when we were but a new House keenly striving after all the cups and shields which at present adorn our House rooms, and but narrowly missing those one or two which now enhance the beauty of other House rooms, not a word of encouragement or congratulation was vouchsafed to us. This silence might be attributed to many reasons; the most obvious one is that we were no longer regarded as a new House, and this, I suppose on account of our many successes. We would therefore remind the old members, and advise the new, that the prestige of our House can only be maintained by the greatest exertions on the part of everybody in the House. This will be the more difficult, not only on account of our glorious record, but also because it is not so much the individuals of the House that have achieved our successes as the House itself, and the co-operation of the teams which represent it. Thus in the Gala, we won the squadron race, and were only two marks behind in the swimming championship. It is this spirit which, combined with the fact that five members of the 1st eleven at the opening of the season were "Owenites," leads me to believe that we will again play in the final of the Horsfall Cup.

We congratulate all who were successful in their examinations last term and sympathise with those who failed.

It is worth while remarking here that all the members of our gym. team which won the Cup last year are still with us, and not one of the football team which played so well in the final, two terms ago, has left. Supported by the rest of the House, these teams ought to be still more successful this year.

R.W.B.

PHILIP HOLT HOUSE.—The Christmas term is notoriously lifeless as regards House activities and rivalries. It is a period of recuperation after the strenuous duties of the last year, a period in which the energies of a House are indicated by a vocal rather than by an active demonstration, and a season of yet-to-be-fulfilled promises.

Thus, the only event of inter-House importance this term has been the School Swimming Gala. In this, we occupied the last place. There is no blinking this fact, and there is scant solace to be found in saying that we were not prepared, or that

we were rushed into the fray. Other Houses were similarly situated. Our failure was primarily due to lack of talent. The true swimmer is born, not made.

This setback may, however, serve its purpose, if only as a means of stimulating our enterprise in other spheres. The annual Hobby Show, the football competitions, and the athletic sports should already be receiving earnest consideration, for only by a whole-hearted fostering of the House-spirit can our immediate mediocrity be raised to the brilliance it well might become. Training and enthusiasm are always the most profitable of teachers.

Both Gross and Jermy, who left us last term, are now at the University; we wish them every success in their future careers.

H. W.

ALFRED HOLT HOUSE.—It is our pleasant duty in the first place to congratulate Clouston, Fraser, and all others who distinguished themselves in the examinations at the end of last term. We are extremely sorry to lose Fraser, but may console ourselves that, at least, he has not gone to the camp of a rival. We welcome Ball, F. A., and Youngson, who came to be, with Silverman, our new House prefects.

This term is one notoriously lacking in competitive events for the Houses, but in the belated Swimming Gala which did take place, Alfred Holt acquitted itself creditably, being a good third.

It only remains to add that we hope the members of the House will support all School institutions enthusiastically—this is a hint about work for a possible Hobby Show!—and particularly those in the two coming terms by which the House may gain honours.

W. C. K.

TATE HOUSE.—The only event of House interest this term has been the Swimming Sports. In these we gained the fourth place, merely because there were three Houses worse than us.

There have not been House football matches this term, but next term the ties for the Horsfall Cup will be played off. Tate see to it that this Cup is transferred to our walls and, younger generation, let it remain there.

The term after come the Sports. Our House rooms are above all others, and likewise let us resume our rightful leadership. Start training early next term, and do not leave it till a week before the Sports. Any person of average ability can obtain standard marks in any event, and the shields are won not by the House with a brilliant runner who wins many events, but by the House in which many people gain standards in one or two races. Remember this.

Buck up, Tate, and a little more enthusiasm.

J. M. H.

"A Christmas Tale."

In a rock-girt cove on the Devonshire Coast

A wild and a desolate spot

You may see an old mansion (its name I'll not mention)

—On the other hand, though, you *may* not.

This house, now the home of a middle-class man,

(Whose name I've no need to tell),

Had once been the Hall of a baronet tall,

A black-hearted villain as well.

Sir Jasper Tregenthen—for that was his name—

Had done a bad deed one day,

And then in his room, he had murdered a groom

Who had threatened to give him away.

Each Christmas Eve, on the stroke of twelve,

(For the deed had been done at that time)

The ghosts of those twain, the slayer and slain

Revisit the scene of the crime.

One Christmas there slept in the Haunted Room

(It may interest our readers to hear),

A prefect of Muddlepool Secondary School,

The Captain of football that year.

As twelve rang out, the ghost of Sir J.

Came up through a trap in the floor:

He stood by the bed, a spectacle dread,

When in came the groom at the door.

He crossed to his master with ghostly tread,

And denounced him with threatening mien,

But the baronet grabbed him,

Drew a dagger, and stabbed him,

And the groom gave a horrible scream.

The sleeper awoke: in a drowsy voice,

"There's far too much row," said he.

"You can each take a good big dose of lines—

Er—'The Wreck of the Hesperus'—fifteen times—

And bring them on Saturday. See?"

D. B. W.

Concerts.

At last, after a long, and unfortunate, lethargy, the School has been roused into musical activity, by the Headmaster's efforts to provide us with concerts. All we now need to complete the excellency of this reviving interest, is the formation of a musical society, through which the practical side of music might be developed. Papers could be read upon the various composers and their works, whilst a small orchestra might possibly be formed, so that the School should not be entirely dependent on other people for all its music.

Our first recital came rather as a surprise. Messrs. Rushworth and Dreaper very kindly lent us their wonderful "Welt-Mignon" piano. The Headmaster explained to the School that this famous instrument is not merely a player-piano, but that it possesses a virtue which the latter does not—a faithful personal interpretation such as is reproduced by the gramophone. Thus it was not very hard for us to imagine that Miss Fanny Davies was actually touching the keys, when the "Kinderscener" roll was being played. Her interpretation was a revelation of the wonderful depth of feeling lying in those simple little pieces. All the items were vastly enjoyed, especially the two movements of Beethoven's "Sonata Pathétique." Our only complaint is that Busoni played a variation of his own on Schubert's "Marche Militaire" instead of the march itself. The most notable feature of this little recital was the great variety of the music, and in this way, the concert also served a useful educational service, since the audience had the chance of comparing Schuman with Debussy, and Beethoven with Scriabin.

Far surpassing the most optimistic expectations of all who were present, the first chamber concert was a delightful entertainment, especially for those to whom it was the first of its sort. Although Miss Isobel McCullagh was new to these boys, this was by no means her first introduction to the School, and on account of the enthusiastic reception with which we always greet her, she is probably as pleased to play for us, as we are to listen to her spirited renderings. It is a pleasure to watch a good violinist, and her bowing and fingering were quite as fascinating as her interpretation. Mr. Frank Merrick destroyed any illusion one might have of the comparative subordination or humility which is usually the accompanist's rôle. But in a trio, all the instruments are equally important, and Mr. Merrick played his part as only a great musician with marvellous technique can. His interpretation of the solos was incredibly beautiful, and more than merited the prolonged applause by which, much against his will, he was forced to give an encore. To one not too well acquainted with such matters, the players did not

seem to have settled down in the first movement of the "Horn" Trio by Brahms. The other movements were superb, especially the adagio. The second Trio was a typically Mozart piece, and such was very happy and lively. To the sympathetic accompaniment of Dr. Wallace, Miss Helen Anderton sang us some very fine songs, which had a splendid reception. The most surprising success of the evening was the duet for violin and viola. It must be extremely difficult to play, and for this reason, as well as because there is not very much great music written for these two instruments, this item was of great interest. Only the best players can make such works worth hearing, and I certainly enjoyed it.

The increased attendance at the second concert was the greatest tribute paid to the success of the first one. It was also due to the appearance of our idol, the ever popular Miss Taormina Meo. Her charm and grace immediately won the boys' hearts, and they applauded her songs most heartily. Her singing is very wonderful, but more than that, the sentiment underlying the music expresses itself on her face so well, that it can be discerned without reference to the programme or listening to her words. One would indeed have to be almost as versatile as she to understand her words, for she sings in so many different languages. Everyone was charmed by the delicate way in which she sang the little French songs, but more impressive was the beautiful and soulful interpretation of Schubert's "Junge Nonne." The Brahms songs were also enthusiastically received. The Scottish melodies, with Trio accompaniment, had a rather mournful, unpleasant strain, which is not entirely surprising when one reflects on their subjects, and the musical combination of Beethoven and Scotch. More lively and pleasing was the Irish song, which showed to much more advantage the fine effect produced by Trio accompaniments. As at the rehearsals, Dr. Wallace seemed in one of his most playful moods, and he echoed on the piano the sentiments which Miss Meo voiced, with unerring skill and genius. The "McCullagh String Quartette" played two very fine pieces of work in the Brahms and Beethoven Quartets, and they were immensely enjoyed. The last item, two movements from a String Quartet by Frank Bridge, based on two well-known airs, "Sally in our Alley" and "Cherry Ripe," made rather an interesting, if uncouth, study of an attempt to blend old tunes with modern harmonies. After the success of these concerts, we are looking forward, with hopeful impatience, to what will probably be the concert "*par excellence*," at which the Bohemian String Quartet and Miss Fanny Davies will play. We will be the more able to appreciate them because of our experience of the first two concerts.

L. I. O. T. C.

THE numbers of the Corps have, happily, by dint of strenuous recruiting methods, been raised to full strength, and as a direct consequence, the prospects of the Corps are distinctly rosy.

In regard to past events, the most important was the Annual Inspection. The ceremony was carried out by Major Green and, on the whole, was quite successful. The March Past, which this year, owing to unforeseen mishaps, was carried out without a band, was quite good, and the Company Drill movements, carried out by several N.C.O.'s picked indiscriminately, showed that the N.C.O.'s knew their jobs, but the ranks had not had sufficient practice in complicated movements. The individual efforts by sections were moderately good. The extended order drill was very good, and herein most of the N.C.O.'s excelled. In the afternoon following the inspection, a humorous cricket match between the N.C.O.'s and the officers and men, was arranged. The outstanding personality of the match was Capt. Ellis, O.C., who resolutely refused to leave the wickets even when his middle stump had been removed from its position seven times!

The remainder of the term was occupied in shooting matches, and the usual parades. The Efficiency Cups were competed for, and a complete table of results will be found at the foot of this article.

The present term has been one of reconstruction. The fifty new recruits have been arduously trained by the N.C.O.'s and are now in a fair state of efficiency. We have had a lecture on "Signalling" by Mr. Still, which was most interesting, and lessons on general tactics by the O.C. As the colder weather comes on, P.T. will be substituted for the usual parades, and if as successful as last year will be undoubtedly popular.

RESULTS OF O.T.C. COMPETITIONS.

Captain W. Murray Hutchison, M.C. Memorial Cup for General Efficiency.—Section 1: Corporal G. H. Cox.

Captain C. N. Wheeler Memorial Cup for Platoons 2 and 3 for General Efficiency.—Section 7: L.-Cpl. Rabett.

Sir Alfred Jones Shooting Shield.—Section 3: Corporal F. A. Ball.

Major Parkes Shooting Cup for Open Range Work.—Not shot for.

N.C.O. Crack Shot: Corporal F. A. Ball.

Cadet Crack Shot: Cadet Cashin.

The N.C.O. winner of the Captain Hutchison Cup will be presented with a silver spoon; the N.C.O. winner of the Captain Wheeler Cup with a medal; the two crack shots with medals; and the whole of the Section winning the Sir Alfred Jones Shield with medals.

The following were successful in the practical portion of the Certificate "A" examination: Corporals Rabett, Pople, Renault, Binger.

Promotions: Lance-Corporals Ball, F. A., Bell, J. A., Pople, H. W., Baxter, P. J., to be corporals, 30/8/21.

D.A.H.

 ◆◆◆

 "A Suggestion."

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

SIR.—During the last few years, there has been a deplorable tendency on the part of those in whose hands we trust the welfare of the young, to scrap the "general knowledge" paper. I say "deplorable" deliberately and advisedly, because I am convinced that the basis of true education is to be found, not in the highly specialised interrogations of the modern examination paper, but in the wide and comprehensive survey of the old-fashioned "general knowledge" paper. How many of our modern children, I would ask, are able to distinguish the egg of the greater blue-striped woodpecker from that of the common shrike? I think, none. Yet, in my schooldays, the days when eggs were eggs and Christmas was plum-pudding and postman's knock, any schoolboy would have been able to give a paper on the subject. Yea, verily.

My indignation renders it advisable for me to close this letter, but before I do so, I beg of you to help to combat the sinister influence I have referred to, and commence by publishing the following general paper in your influential columns.

1. Comment on the syntax and construction of any five of the following:—
 - (i) A little less noise, please.
 - * (ii) Do not hesitate to place your name up there.
 - (iii) And what may you want?
 - (iv) Here, gentlemen, we find ourselves in the middle of alluvial deposit.
 - * (v) And yours, mister!
 - (vi) I am very sorry, but the car service was temporarily suspended.
 - (vii) What's next two?

N.B.—In those sentences marked with an asterisk, particular attention should be paid to the *subject*.

2. Write an essay, not exceeding 500 words, on either (i) Grandmother's Yarns or (ii) "The Golden Gates."
3. Explain as briefly as possible (i) The Kolole (ii) The Lay Troom.
4. What do you understand by Specific Resistance? Illustrate your reply by repeated and detailed reference to (i) a "chester" (ii) an "unseen."
5. Define Work. Indicate the conditions upon which the excellence of your work depends. Prove that the amount of work done is inversely proportional to the square of the density of the do-er.
6. Criticise the following: "Napoleon's superiority to Cæsar was primarily due to Cæsar's lack of dividers." Underline any quotations or references.
7. How would you demonstrate (without using any expensive or non-replacable apparatus) that a glass vessel in the cold state is non-elastic? Would your method be applicable in the case of (a) treacle (b) concentrated nitro-glycerin, and why?

Papers, such as this, delivered at frequent intervals would, I am sure, speedily prove a boon to scholar and master alike.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

X.X.X.

Swimming Notes.

ON the 24th of October, the Inter-School Swimming Sports were held at Queen's Drive Baths. In them the School upheld its reputation nobly, by gaining the Junior Championship, and by being first in the grand total.

As is usual, the greater part of the swimming was left to two or three persons, who at the latter end of the gala were unable to do themselves justice. In the Senior Division, the School would have told but a sorry tale, had it not been for the excellent swimming of Swan, S. R. B., who gained all our five senior points himself. Two of our most promising in-winners, however, "went sick" after winning their heats, and so could not swim in the final.

In the Junior Division the laurels were more equally divided, Gleave and Beattie each gaining a "first" and Percival two "seconds."

RESULTS.

SENIOR.
Swan, S. R. B.—1st, 150 yards Free Style; 1st, 100 yards Single Overarm, 2nd, 100 yards Free Style.

JUNIOR.
Gleave, A.—1st, 100 yards Free Style.
Beatty, G. J. F.—1st, Standing Dive.
Percival, J. R.—2nd, 50 yards Back Stroke; 2nd, 50 yards Breast Stroke.
J. I.—2nd, Squadron Race.

Our School Swimming Gala should have been held last term, but owing to the closing of the baths, this proved to be impossible. When we were about to begin preparations this term, Mr. Eaves had to leave us for a time. Mr. Reece, however, to whom our thanks are due, kindly consented to fill the gap, and we proceeded merrily, if somewhat hurriedly.

The number of entries, although perhaps up to the usual standard, were shockingly poor. It is surely a distressing state of affairs, when out of 800 boys, only 60 enter for the gala. A boy may not be good enough to win a race, but does he realise that any ordinary swimmer may easily obtain 20 marks for his house in standards alone? Do buck up.

Swan, S. R. B., won most of the open events, and was easily champion. His 68 points went a long way towards raising his house to the premier position. Among the Juniors, Gleave, A., swam remarkably well; his breast stroke was excellent.

HOUSE RESULTS.

1st.—Cochran House	...	...	...	...	180 points.
2nd.—Owen House	...	...	...	...	178 "
3rd.—Alfred Holt House	...	...	...	...	125 "
4th.—Tate House	...	...	...	...	121 "
5th.—Hughes House	...	...	...	...	59 "
6th.—Danson House	...	...	...	...	57 "
7th.—Philip Holt House	...	...	...	...	41 "

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS.

SENIOR CHAMPION.—1, Swan, S. R. B., 68 points; 2, Slater, 44 points.

JUNIOR CHAMPION.—1, Gleave, A., 39 points; 2, Beattie, G. J. F., 22 points.

HOUSE SQUADRON RACE.—1, Owen; 2, Cochran; 75 2-5 secs.

50 YARDS BACK STROKE.—1, Swan; 2, Gleave, A.; 46 2-5 secs.

50 YARDS (Open).—1, Swan; 2, Williams, R.; 36 1-5 secs.

100 YARDS (Under 15).—1, Gleave, A.; 2, Ellis, E. T.; 95 4-5 secs.

NEAT DIVE (Open).—1, Moss, S.; 2, Beattie.

150 YARDS CHAMPIONSHIP.—1, Swan; 2, Slater; 3, Jacobs; 2 mins. 24 4-5 secs.

50 YARDS (Under 15).—1, Gleave, A.; 2, Percival; 50 1-5 secs.

LONG PLUNGE.—1, Burnett, 2, Lee, J. F.

100 YARDS (Open).—1, Swan; 2, Williams, R.; 86 2-5 secs.

NEAT DIVE (Under 15).—1, Beattie; 2, Dennis.

50 YARDS BREAST STROKE (Open).—1, Cox, G. H.; 2, Wade, S. M.; 44 1-5 secs.

50 YARDS BREAST STROKE (Under 15).—1, Gleave, A.; 2, Percival, J.; 45 1-5 secs.

J. Mc.H.

O.T.C. at Camp.

ON Tuesday, July 26th, at about 10.00 hrs., 60 happy members of the L.I.O.T.C. marched to Lime Street Station. We were a party keen, smart, and full of expectancy, as we entrained for Strensall. The railway journey was long and tedious. At Leeds, where we changed for our "special," the railway officials, with their usual admirable skill and foresight, had provided a train capable of carrying about 200 persons to transport at least 500 cadets. With many imprecations, we bundled into this train, and arrived at Strensall at about 15.00 hrs. The military officials, obviously possessed by a brilliant stroke of genius, kept us waiting for nearly three-quarters of an hour outside the station, burdened with full marching order.

After twenty minutes' march we arrived in camp and settled down to work. The first duty was to fetch tent boards and draw stores. After much confusion, the tents were prepared, and as a welcome change, tea was served, at about 17.00 hrs.; though, as one youth facetiously observed, the best part of the meal was the mustard. After this, the camp soon settled down, and by "lights out" everything was in a tranquil state.

The first full day was devoted to a demonstration of a section in the attack and the repetition of the demonstration by individual units.

In the evening, Corporal Slater, looking as if he had just left a fancy dress ball at the Savoy, gave some humorous songs at the sing-song.

The camp was now in full swing, and although there was more real work than at Tidworth Pennings, it was far more enjoyable. The whole idea of the camp was to serve us with demonstrations in the mornings and allow us to practise them in the afternoon. The scheme was gradually to lead up to the bed-rock idea of a "Platoon in the attack." This presumably will be the mode of fighting in any future war, and we were impressed

continually with the great importance of the platoon as a fighting unit.

The evenings were taken up by sing-songs and, later on, by some amusing exhibitions of how not to box. The food was consistently good, and although the ordinary arrangements were not good, we were all very contented.

One day a certain member of our contingent generously presented the Sergeant Cook with the complete outfits of the Corps' serving materials—carvers, large spoons, etc.—and so in the future those wonderful sergeants at the serving table were laboriously serving out skilly with tea-spoons!!

On the Saturday at camp, during our well-earned dinner, the fire-alarm was given, and we were rushed at the double to a moorland fire about a mile away. When we approached to about 200 yards from the outbreak, we were halted, about turned, and marched back to camp. It was certainly all very jolly, but this kind of thing between the courses does not tend to make the meal a success. The weather was persistently hot, and the bathing pool was in great demand. On Sunday, two distinguished members of the Corps left the camp before Church Parade and were seen rolling back to camp about 14.00 hours in a luxurious limousine. The remarks of the common herd at this ostentatious display of their nobility are better left unsaid. On Sunday about 200 youths awaited the opening of the Cinema—but, alas, 'twas not to be; they were thwarted in their purpose, returned to camp and joined in the evening church service. On Tuesday rain ruined the practice of the field day, but Wednesday dawned clear, and the field day operations were in every way successful. The actual retirement in which we took part was not wholly a success, but the enemy ruined any prospect of final success, by lining the firing butts, and so presenting for us a wonderfully distinct target. But for the fact that our ammunition was running short, the enemy at this point would have been assuredly annihilated.

We returned to camp supremely happy, and the rest of the time was devoted to striking camp. It was at this point that a certain sergeant, who distinguished himself at the inspection by a huge staff, became particularly prominent, and we all, as a direct consequence, are able to understand clearly why Caesar, in his "De Bello Gallico," wrote the memorable passage:—

"Sergeanti sunt divisi in tres partes, chestum (—chest), stickum (—stick), et profanum (—language)."

Our marquee was quickly struck, and after one or two other odd jobs, we were free. In the evening of the last day, the

strains of "Omaha" and other such classics helped to cheer us up, and the music was admirably rendered by the band of the 1st Batt. of the Yorkshire Regt.

The camp was now rapidly assuming an air of dejection, and on Thursday morning we completely cleared the ground. When the time came for handing in stores, the combined skill of Capt. Ellis and Sergt. Hutchison helped to keep us clear of "shorts," and after a little more fuss we moved off. The camp presented a woeful appearance as we left, a large sheet of green grass spotted with yellow circles where before had stood our tents; and, as we left, we were all full of regrets at leaving dear old Strensall.

Tent No. 4, under command of Corporals Renault and Rabett, won the tent competition; and the N.C.O.'s and members of the Corps who attended camp wish to thank publicly Captain Ellis and Lieutenant Reece for their indefatigable services in rendering the camp a success.

D.A.H.

Chess Club.

OF the Chess Club, as it affects the School in general, there is nothing to write. A few people appear on Mondays and Fridays in Mr. Eaves' room; no one else seems to be aware of the existence of the Club. There are, however, enough people to form a team; and this team has, to some extent, distinguished itself.

On October 26th we met Merchant Taylors', and gained a glorious victory, by 5 games to 1; an event such as even the "oldest inhabitant" cannot remember.

For our match against Wallasey Grammar School we were deprived, by their illness, of 33½ per cent. of our regular first team (of six). By superhuman efforts, the secretary gathered together two teams; but both, unfortunately, were defeated, by the same score of 7 games to 5.

At full strength against the Masters, on November 24th, we gained an easy victory, by 11 games to 4.

In addition to these matches, three members of the Club were enabled to play against Mr. Blackburne; and Broadbent played a game which we consider worthy of publication; it is, therefore, printed below.

It may be as well, in conclusion, to mention that at the beginning of the term Fraser was elected captain, and Abraham secretary for the year, and that there are some beautiful sets of chessmen in Mr. Eaves' room, crying out to be used. Will not some members of the middle school come, and learn the most fascinating of winter games?

DANISH GAMBIT.

White—Mr. Blackburne.		Black—Broadbent.	
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1. P-K4.	P-K4.	21. K×P.	Kt-Kt6 ch.
2. P-Q4.	P×P.	22. K-B3.	Kt×R.
3. P-QB3.	P×P.	23. K×B.	P-Kt4 ch.
4. B-QB4.	P×P.	24. K×P.	Kt-Q6.
5. QB×P.	B-Kt5 ch.	25. B-Q4.	KR-Q1.
6. K-B1.	Kt-KB3.	26. B-B3.	K-Q3.
7. P-K5.	P-Q4.	27. R-Q1.	K-K2.
8. P×Kt.	P×B.	28. R-Q2.	K-B2.
9. Q-K2 ch.	B-K3.	29. Kt-B5.	Kt×Kt.
10. P×P.	R-Kt1.	30. R×R.	R×R.
11. Kt-KB3.	Q-Q6.	31. K×Kt.	R-K1.
12. Q×Q.	P×Q.	32. K-B6.	R-K7.
13. QKt-Q2.	Kt-B3.	33. B-Q4.	R-R7.
14. P-QR3.	B×Kt.	34. B×1.	R×RP.
15. Kt×B.	K-K2.	35. B-Q4.	R-Q6.
16. Kt-K4.	P-B4.	36. B-K5.	R-Q7.
17. Kt-QB5.	B-QB5.	37. P-B4.	R×P.
18. K-K1.	P-Kt3.	38. P-R4 and	Black now wins
19. R-QB1.	Kt-R4.		by 33 - R-R7!
20. Kt-R4.	P-Q7 ch.		

H.J.A.

Camera and Field Club.

THE war seems really to be over and things normal once again. Surely we ought to be thankful that it is no longer necessary to repeat the excuses of war-time and high fares, etc., with which past secretaries have been compelled to explain lack of activities.

At the time of writing, some eight excursions have taken place, but there will probably have been more when this appears in print. Want of space prevents a more detailed account of each excursion.

On September 21st a party of 29 boys, accompanied by Messrs. Elliott and Stell, paid a most enjoyable visit to Stalbridge Dock, Garston. Here, by the kind permission of Mr. Long, manager of steamship department, Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., we went over s.s. "Zent," one of their newest boats. After that, we visited the chart house, etc., of s.s. "Miami," formerly the German boat s.s. "Pionier," sister ship to the famous German raider "Moewe." Then Mr. Long most kindly invited us to help ourselves in a room of ripe bananas. He presented the secretary with a diary and the other boys drew lots for two more he had. The boys gave him three hearty cheers, and, after a very enjoyable afternoon the party broke up.

On September 28th, a party of 24 boys, accompanied by Misses Buchan and Robertson, spent a most interesting afternoon at Messrs. Tinling and Co.'s Printing Press. Here, after being shown through the various departments, we saw the printing of the "Express," and each received a copy. The interest of the visitors was evinced by the numerous questions asked of our guides.

On October 12th, Miss Wilson led a party of 30 or more boys to visit Messrs. Johnson Brothers' Dye Works. One could not help noticing the obvious signs of a company which considers the interests of the worker. The processes we saw and heard described were very interesting, but particularly did we marvel at the skill of the invisible darning. Mr. Blunt, by whose permission we visited the works, most generously treated us to tea, and, as their humble best, the boys thanked him by three hearty cheers.

On October 19th, Mr. Graae kindly allowed some 30 boys, together with Mr. Elliot and Miss Buchan, to visit the English Margarine Works, Broad Green. Everything used in the manufacture is conveyed to the top of the building and gravity and machinery do the rest. Such an excursion has additional interest from the fact that the commodity is universal.

On October 26th, Mr. Elliott and 20 boys paid an interesting visit to Messrs. Brown and Co.'s Wire Rope Works, Bank-hall. It did not take us long, but the various machines proved most absorbing. The different combinations for various purposes were fully explained, and many would have lagged at the wire-testing machine.

The Curator of the Walker Art Gallery kindly offered to admit us to the Autumn Exhibition at half-price, and so, thanks to his concession, parties visited the Gallery on November 9th and 12th. The fifty-odd boys who went enjoyed the pictures immensely, but we deprecate the lack of interest shown by a certain section of the Club.

On November 12th, 19th, 26th, parties of boys visited Hatton Garden Fire Station by permission of the Chief Superintendent. This excursion was intended mainly for the younger members, and was as much appreciated by them as ever.

On November 26th, a party of 20 boys visited Messrs. Wilson Brothers' Bobbin Works, Garston. We saw everything from the arrival of the logs to the finished bobbins. Everything was most efficient. The woodscraps are made into charcoal and thence into acetate of lime, whence we get vinegar. The most interesting department perhaps was the shuttle department.

Here, at a very low figure, a most wonderful, complicated and well-finished shuttle is made in a few minutes. Our thanks are due to our guides.

In conclusion, we wish most heartily to thank the members of the staff who have come to our excursions, and express our deep appreciation of the kindness of those works-managers and others who have made possible the various activities of the term.

E.V.B.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

The term's work has been very great, and we find ourselves on a sound financial basis with all that is necessary for amateur photography. Hutchinson, D. A., was re-elected secretary for the coming session at the annual general meeting. The membership now touches the century, and we are glad to say "not out." The forthcoming session will be occupied with lectures, demonstrations and the usual dark room activities. All subscriptions are payable to the secretary of the Camera and Field Club.

D.A.H.

University Letters.

The Union Society,
Cambridge,
November 26th 1921.

The Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Behold us sitting down to write to you, obedient to your command.

It is a queer place, this Cambridge. You are no doubt familiar with our views upon it. We will not repeat them now. It will merely suffice to say that, since the beginning of the term, the weather has been typical, that is to say, muddy and grey; and consequently the townspeople have been typical, that is to say, ubiquitous; and consequently there has been no room in the streets; and consequently we have stayed in our rooms and have never seen each other.

Nevertheless, contrary to our usual custom, we can furnish you with some news this time. For example, our latest and most illustrious addition, R. H. Miller, has distinguished himself no less in the athletic line than in the scholastic; for, having passed the Little-go, he took to rowing, and rowed in a Downing eight with some vigour. He has also, we are informed, joined the Engineers' Company of the O.T.C. And we hear that in addition to the Natural Sciences Tripos, Part I., which

he proposes to pass in eighteen months time, he intends to add to his laurels, the Engineering Special, Part I. Here we have an example of what optimism combined with energy can do.

But really, of the rest of us, we have comparatively little to tell you. Some of us came up this term with H. P. Griffiths, who told us what he did in the Vac., and how he went on a campaign amongst the fruit-pickers of Wisbech. And we have met since, and he was looking very cheerful. And M. T. Sampson, who is searching for the secrets of Chemistry in Downing Street; he, too, is cheerful, and yet more and more dignified withal. It must be a great life, Mr. Editor, to spend all one's days in a large and beautiful building, measuring things.

Sometimes we have met Mr. R. G. Baxter; but not very often, because he is rather busy. He has been observed to run round Fenner's at a great speed, and, upon one occasion, we have been creditably informed, he competed in a cross-country race with great solemnity. And—dear me, what a lot of people—A. V. Russell, rather annoyed because a certain examination in which he is interested, has been postponed; but, nevertheless, smiling cheerfully as he goes about the town. And last, C. T. Musgrave-Brown, who lives not very far from Emmanuel College, and upon whose landlady we blundered one Sunday afternoon in a mistaken endeavour to find his rooms, and whom, when we did unearth, we discovered to be entertaining another O.I., to wit, Mr. George Morton, whom we were very pleased to see, although he was only a visitor to Cambridge, and rather an unlucky one at that, because he came when the whole place was smothered in fog, and it remained smothered in fog until he left; and it was rather thick fog, too, because we heard of one who ought to know better, and who was hopelessly lost one afternoon in the middle of St. Andrew's Street.

And that, I think, completes our tale.

Perhaps the following Cambridge results may interest you: Natural Science Tripos, part II—M. T. Sampson, St. John's Class II; Diploma in Agriculture, part II—A. V. Russell, Downing; Mechanical Sciences, Inter-Collegiate Exam., 2nd year—R. G. Baxter, Downing, Class I; B. A. Degree—A. V. Russell, Downing.

It only remains for us to wish success to those who are endeavouring to collect Scholarships this year, even in spite of the fact that the Downing examinations do not happen until next March; and to take our farewells of you until next term.

Ever, Mr. Editor, yours,

University of Liverpool,

30th November, 1921.

The Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

It was like putting a pin in a bladder, really, your asking me to write you a letter about the life here. It has been dreadful since the beginning of the year—two months ago—and my not having anyone to confide in, has hardly improved matters. Everything has gone wrong somehow.

It began when the term commenced. First, the Dean wrote to say he would like to see me before I started work. Well, I thought that very kind and good-natured of him, considering I was just starting. I went to give him a visit and, at the end, found his room, or his suspension, as the people call it, whom I tried first. There was a nice-looking young gentleman inside, and I opened the conversation by remarking, "Mr. Kelly, Sir?" He bristled up stern-like, and asked me what my desire was. When I told him I had come to join, he gave me a lot of big papers to fill in, and I tried my best, and wrote all I could think of at the moment, about myself, on each of the forms. He said that that would do, and I retired, my opinion of the Dean having fallen. From subsequent information, however, I found that it was the Dean's clerk, at which I felt relieved, for the Dean's sake, him being an O.I.

I decided to begin rugger, because in conversation with another O.I. (Scott, J. A., by name), I found that I could not have been better framed for "scrum $\frac{1}{2}$," whatever that was. I found it rather cold when I changed on the day, but I felt warmer at the thought of school gym. On the field, a gentleman who wore a sleeping cap—which I thought rather premature—asked me to play "fly," and I just winked and said it would be all right. Among the other people there, however, another O.I. (Cosnett) remarked volubly, in his peculiar vernacular, on my attempting such a feat. I therefore told the other gentleman that I would rather not play "fly," and he was very obliging about it and offered me 3Q instead. That might have been all right for chess, but I asked him if he had anything else, and ended by arranging to play in the scrum (that being twice my proper position scrum $\frac{1}{2}$) where there were a lot of others, and I soon felt quite at home with Stern and other O.I.'s.

After that, everything was crooked. The ball was not right—it had two ends: the people were not right—they had no manners whatever. They rubbed my face in muddy parts of the field, pulled my hair and kicked me whenever I came near the ball. When I did catch the ball and threw it on, as hard

as I could, one of the men objected and blew his whistle. Everybody shouted, "Scrum down forwards," and started pushing each other, packed together like may-horses. Another of them, rather more deliberate, said "Coming in left," and when I made room for him to come into our gang, I was told to keep my head down. Now the ball was not so small that they all needed to do that to find it, and I picked it up for them, and was going to give it to somebody, when that same man blew his wretched whistle. That was very unfair, because I was only beginning in any case.

I must stop this, it is too horrible; but I found lectures just as bad. The people with the biggest feet had the privilege of coming in late, and if they did this very well, everybody applauded. Nobody thought it necessary to mention to the lecturers that they had been on duty or anything. I felt sorry for the lecturers, too, though they seemed to like it, one of them telling us funny stories while people kept coming in.

It would be difficult to explain the difference between this and the old School. People attend lectures as an alternative to billiards or bridge; no one seems to think of work *here*. There are lots of entertainments, too. I thought of going to what they called a "hop," being Scottish, but the double-tickets being 23/-, I went to a social instead. There I was a duck in thunder at the exploits of a person you have probably heard of—R. E. Williams, professional prestidigitator. He subsequently prestidigitated on an inclined plane and pulley for my especial benefit—being a physics demonstrator in his spare time.

If you add to all this stream of woe, terminals in a week, you will understand. I forgot to tell you about the other O.I.'s, but that will do for next time.

Wishing you a happy Xmas,

Yours ever,

G.

Museum of Ornithological Antiquities,
Oxford,
1st December, 1921.

The Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR SIR,

The Curator (by kind permission of the Vice-Chancellor, and the Worshipful the Mayor) desires us to express a proper gratitude for the recent gift of two new specimens of Mythological Birds. You will be glad to hear that they are both in very good preservation.

Mr. Thomas, K. St.C., has been seen in the High, looking very hearty. He is an authority on the hang of a muffler, and his gloves astonish all that behold them. On the Isis, moreover, coaches have been heard explaining to him all the mysteries of rowing, in a tub-pair; while latterly he has appeared upon the Soccer field as well. None the less those who have penetrated into his snug rooms at Pemmie report signs of considerable classical studies.

Mr. Milburn seems a person of unbounded energy. We have met him on occasion, grave and dignified, returning from a Logic lecture. In the afternoons, however, when he is not scouring over Oxfordshire and Berkshire on a bicycle, he is to be found valiently rowing upon the Isis: and withal it is said that at times he rides the high horse somewhat in the Artillery—though this we have never seen with our own eyes, as it is really much too early in the morning. And his pleasant rooms in Univ., overlooking the High, are enough to make even his seniors horribly jealous of him.

Of these Seniors, Mr. Laver is now a B.A., and so, of course, looks impressively senior, in his new gown. He has, however, been caught playing hockey, and is very regularly out with the beagles—an athletic and muddy performance, so it is said. For the rest he now has his eye on a gown still more decorative, that of B.Litt., and to that end he is busily developing a thesis on eighteenth-century pirates or slave-traders or something, under the ægis of the Theological Faculty.

Mr. Hutchison has created a sensation of late by appearing all at once with a very knowing pipe, which he manages quite like an expert. He leads a strenuous life, playing soccer for Corpus, and deep-buried in his historical studies. Final schools cast their shadow before; and it is not wise to be too lyrical to him in praise of June.

The same shadow impends over Mr. Harvey, of Exeter, who is also a historian. But we are glad to say that neither gentleman's life seems exactly to be blighted by it; and of Mr. Harvey, in addition to his open-air interests, we hear rumours of solos in Exeter College Choir.

Mr. McKie still persists in living at the top of his fifty-four steps in Brazenose; but he does not seem worried about it. He is trying to learn lots of Greek dates, and professes to find Logic, Ethics, and Metaphysics absorbing. But he won't tell us what these words mean, or what they are good for. We observe, however, that his college has recently rewarded him with the Junior Bridgeman prize for an essay, on Sovereignty, so these things must mean something to him. And the rest of

us can at least appreciate that argument, and are happy to congratulate him. In the meantime, he has been seen, and heard, coxing upon the river—which he perversely finds pleasant.

Mr. Knox is also in the toils of Greats; but seems to like it provided he can flavour "metapheesics" with Bach. He has of late indulged in unwonted dissipation; and we are afraid we must congratulate both him and Mr. Hutchinson on the attainment of their majority during the term.

"Eheu fugaces"

It is not fair to remind us like this how soon we shall all be "going down."

We are looking forward very much to the rare pleasure of a flying visit from the Head this next week-end. And by the time this is in print, we understand, we shall have entertained here a gay party of Scholarship-seekers. We are delighted to welcome them, and we wish them the best of success. Mr. Editor, people are always telling you your duty, in one thing or another. Don't ever be led away. Your prime duty is to encourage a steady supply of new specimens for our Museum.

Yours ever,

J. I. NOXUCHLAVE.

"The Denouement."

One wondrous bright Bank Holiday,
(It rained not nor did snow)
With hearts as light and spirits gay
To S. on sea we'd go.

Excursion rates had been revived—
'Twas cheap at four-and-nine—
The "two to two" stopped; out we dived
To greet the ozoned brine.

On deaf ears fell that blatant band:
Strange speech attention drew,
Where awesome spake with lifted hand
A sage of dusky hue.

The throng hung round all tense and still
So 'trancing was his lore.
Reincarnation—such his skill—
Scarce seemed so true before.

With mystic names his discourse flowed
Revered, the Keda's store,
Siv, Nirvan', Varun, Manu's code
Prajapati, Tagore.—

Alas! It's due soon gained that band,
When, rouséd from the trance
As though struck by an icy hand
From clouds to mundane wants,

"The god above can cure all ill,
And give you mental peace.
This I can do," said softly still,
"I'll make your toothache cease:
Extract your teeth, the voids I'll fill
And give you dental peace."

I.S.

School Football.

THIS season we have not been able to use our own ground in Greenbank Park, as the turf has not yet recovered from the picnics held there last year by Sefton Park, as a whole. We have, however, through the genius of Mr. S. V. Brown, succeeded in obtaining three pitches at Thingwall Road, Wavertree, and these have been the scene of hard-fought battles, not only inter-school, but also inter-form. The first eleven have played nine matches, of which seven have been won and the other two lost. The goal average, 41 for to 22 against, shows a certain amount of weakness in the defence. The chief goal scorers are Baxter (23) and Buckley (11). This latter player is the only over-age man in the team, and he will be very difficult to replace for the Shield Matches. The second have not been so successful, having won two, drawn two, and lost three games. Their goal average is 28 to 16, but, as 14 of these goals were scored in one match against the Holt, this aggregate is very flattering. The most consistent members in the team are G. S. Ball, King, Drinkwater and Glover; the two last are both under-age for the Junior Shield Team. There is plenty of room in that team, and those footballers who are under 15 are recommended to train hard.

We have not had the valuable advice of Mr. R. E. Williams this term, as his University duties do not permit him much spare time. Messrs. Reece and S. V. Brown have given a considerable amount of time and advice, and to them and to "Peter" we must extend our hearty thanks.

SCHOOL v. HOLT SECONDARY SCHOOL.

Played at Wavertree, Wednesday, September 21st. Won 9—4.

For this, the first match of the season, the School were represented by Ball, E. S.; Loughlin, Hogg; Roberts, Kennan, Goldblatt; Shankland, Deacon, Baxter, Buckley and Danks.

Baxter won the toss and the Holt kicked off against a light wind and bore down upon our goal, but they were repulsed by our backs. After about five minutes play, Baxter opened the score. This bucked the Holt up and their centre-forward equalised. After a good deal of dithering about, our forwards broke away and, before the interval, increased the score by four goals. The second half was about as good, from the point of view of football, as the first half. Play was very scrappy and goals frequent. The third goal of the Holt was obtained from a penalty against Kennan, who was so unfortunate as to handle in the penalty area. The weather was so hot that it was a relief to all when the whistle blew for full-time.

Ball, in goal, was very clever in rushing about hugging the ball in his arms (probably a result of his mania! for ruggie). The backs were very unsteady in the first half, but played better in the second. The halves were weak, and it was mainly due to them that the Holt scored their four goals. The forwards combined quite well considering that it was an entirely new formation and that at least two members were playing in strange positions. Danks especially played well on the left instead of his usual position on the right wing which, by the way, occasionally lost itself.

SCHOOL v. ALSOP HIGH SCHOOL.

Played at Lynwood Road, Walton, on Wednesday, September 28th. Won 7—1.

Team: Ball; Loughlin, Hogg; Roberts, Youngson, Goldblatt; Shankland, Deacon, Baxter, Buckley and Danks.

Alsop kicked off against the sun, but with the predominant slope of the many in their favour and immediately reached our goal. They were repulsed and mid-field play prevailed for some time until Buckley opened our score from a good corner by Danks. Another two goals were added and then Alsop gave our defence a gruelling which it stood well, only one goal being registered just on half-time. In the second half we played much better football and scored four more goals despite the efforts of the Alsop backs and the referee to introduce the offside game. We only played 30 minutes each way, but that was quite long enough in the terrible heat (terrible for football, that is).

Ball, in the first half, treated us to another exhibition, but in the second half, he had to be content with one goal-kick. The backs were much steadier than last week and are beginning to understand one another. Youngson, in the place of Kennan (injured) played a capital game and was easily the best of the halves as Roberts is only returning to his old form very slowly. The combination of the forwards was better, the game being conducted on more open plans, but the shooting was poor.

SCHOOL v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.

Played at Wavertree on Wednesday, October 5th, in very hot weather. Won 6—1.

For this game, which we regarded as one to test our mettle, Kennan returned and Youngson replaced Goldblatt, but the team was otherwise the same as last week.

A light wind was in favour of the Collegiate when they kicked off, but a strong sun was against them. We attacked, but did not score through Baxter's missing, almost impossibly, an open goal. After about 10 minutes play, Buckley put the ball into the net via the goalkeeper's legs. The Collegiate tried to equalise and did so eventually with the help of Youngson, who, in trying to stop a shot, diverted it very cleverly into the net just out of Ball's reach. Buckley again gave us the lead with a surprise shot, and a few minutes later it was supplemented by Deacon. At half-time the referee gave us a small lecture on the hardness of his lot. He did not seem to relish the idea of another 40 minutes running up and down the field, but he got it with a vengeance, as the second half consisted mainly in end to end play. Deacon and Baxter (2) added to our score, and then the forwards rested allowing the halves to have a few pots whenever possible, but nothing else happened until the whistle blew and the "ref." (Mr. R. E. Williams) gave a sigh of relief.

SCHOOL v. LISCARD HIGH SCHOOL.

Played at Rake Lane, Liscard, on Wednesday, October 12th. Won 3—1.

With the same team as last week, we crossed the river in weather, although somewhat cooler than previously, still rather oppressive. The toss was again won by Baxter, who elected to kick down the slope. Liscard immediately opened with a good piece of combination on the right, but we succeeded in staving off their attack. We forced the play into their half and met with no better success. End to end play followed in which we had slightly the better of the bargain, but no goals were scored, although several opportunities missed. After about 20 minutes play, Liscard scored, their centre-forward lying well out from a mêlée put in a shot which gave Ball absolutely no chance. This reverse served its purpose, for Baxter immediately broke through, and although his shot was stopped, the ball fell at Buckley's feet, who had no difficulty in scoring. In the second half play was rather faster than in the first half, the ball being swung from end to end with surprising rapidity. A movement on the right led to our second goal, Shankland centring and Baxter scoring. A few minutes later a similar episode occurred, and we obtained a two goals lead. Liscard tried very hard indeed, but owing to the brilliance of Ball, in goal, who made some remarkably good saves, they did not increase their score. That this was so, was due entirely to our defence, which played their best game of the season, that we retained our unbeaten record.

SCHOOL v. ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE.

Played at West Derby, on Saturday, 15th October. Lost 6—1.

With the game team which beat Liscard on Wednesday, we lost badly to St. Francis, our first reverse this season. St. Francis won the toss and we kicked off. A spasmodic attack on our opponents' goal resulted in nothing, but a return attack from which they scored. This did not improve matters, for in less than another five minutes a second goal was added, then a third and then a fourth. At this point (at the end of about 25 minutes play) Ball left the field, as he was decidedly unwell, and it was owing to this fact that four goals had been registered against us. Roberts went in goal, and Shankland half-back. Shortly before half-time Shankland ran through and put in a fine centre which alighted at Buckley's feet. The latter, although in an awkward position, scored a beautiful goal. After half time Ball played outside right, but was very little good, although he nearly did score, being absolutely a passenger. In this half the

S.F.X. forwards scored two more goals, for neither of which Roberts could be blamed. Roberts in goal was playing quite well, although at one point he did dribble an opponent before kicking clear. At the other end we had wretched luck in not scoring more than once, as the goalkeeper was most lucky in saving several shots, notably from Baxter and Buckley. The latter played a very good game, but got no help at all from his wing. Even before the disorganisation of the team we could not do anything. Both backs were weak and unreliable, and a large amount of their work fell upon the halves, who played quite well. Kennan was easily the best player in our team, both in "feeding" and defending.

SCHOOL v. OULTON SECONDARY SCHOOL.

Played at Wavertree, on Wednesday, October 19th. Won 5—2.

The team differed in one respect from that which lost to St. Francis Xavier's on Saturday. Loughlin was absent and Lord took his place. Losing the toss, we were set to face the wind and, afterwards, the rain. We immediately attacked, but nothing came of our efforts. Oulton replied after a short time and met with better success. A smart piece of work on the left which took the attention of both our backs gave the Oulton outside-left a chance to pass to his inside-right, who was standing unmarked, and who scored with a shot that gave Ball no chance. A series of attacks on our part led to a goal. Buckley put in a fast cross-shot which the goal-keeper fumbled, and Baxter, who had arrived at the goal, carried the ball into the net with him. At this point we were compelled to stop by the rain, and again a few minutes later, so that at half-time the score was level. The rain continued to descend, and as we were all wet through, we decided to continue, and with the rain at our backs we ran riot. Baxter ran through twice and scored each time. We now rested a little while Oulton's forwards "stunted" until Baxter added two more, both longish shots. We now rested completely, so completely indeed that Oulton scored, or, rather, Hogg scored for them—the slippery ball glancing off his boot, in an attempt to block a shot, and entering the goal in such a position as to render Ball incapable of stopping it. Considering the state of the ground, the team played quite well, the only remediable faults being the passing, mainly of the halves. Their direction was quite good on the whole, but the passes were high instead of low.

SCHOOL v. BOOTLE SECONDARY SCHOOL.

Played at Bootle on Wednesday, November 9th. Won 4—2.

Team: Ball, E. S.; Lord, Hogg; Bell, Kennan, Youngson; Danks, Roberts, Baxter, Buckley and Shankland.

Losing the toss, we were set to face a sun which was almost noticeable through a mist, owing to the cold nature of the atmosphere. The surface of the ground was exceedingly slippery, and control of the ball was very difficult. A series of miskicks by our defence, which opened very shakily, led to a goal against us, Ball having no chance with the shot. We had hardly restarted when Ball in the act of picking up the ball was charged, dropped it at the feet of the opposing inside right, who scored easily. This double reverse woke us up, and following a smart pass to the left, Buckley scored. A few minutes later Baxter shot hard, but hit the upright. The ball rebounded to the feet of Roberts, who had no difficulty in registering the equaliser. In the second half our defence easily held the Bootle forwards, Lord especially playing a very good game. At the other end, we had hard lines in not registering more than two more goals, Roberts and

Buckley again being the scorers. Both were cross-shots, which entirely beat the goal-keeper. Another period of attack by our forwards was fruitless, as the Bootle defence played a good if somewhat rough game.

SCHOOL v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Wavertree, on Wednesday, November 16th. Won 4—2.

Team: Ball, E. S.; Loughlin, Hogg; Lord, Kennan, King; Roberts, Drinkwater, Baxter, Buckley and Danks.

Winning the toss, Baxter elected to kick with the wind, and thus set Wallasey to defend the "pavilion" end. The early stages of the play were all in our favour, and Baxter had hard lines in not scoring with a terrific drive which hit the upright. An attack by Wallasey was fruitless, and play was again carried into our opponents' half, and Baxter scored with a shot which the goalkeeper could not gather. A few minutes later a pass to Buckley found him unmarked in front of the goal, and he scored with a well-placed shot. Play then became more even, and it was not until some minutes later that Baxter broke through to add a third. A few minutes before half-time the same player again broke through and added a fourth. On turning round Wallasey soon began to feel the effects and benefits of the wind, and after a flutter by our forwards we were kept strictly on the defensive, during which period two goals were scored. Both shots were well out of Ball's reach, and were due to some very faulty kicking on the part of our defence. In fact, Hogg very nearly succeeded in scoring (for them). Light now began to get very bad, but we still played on with no noticeable event, except an excellent save by Ball. At the finish it was just possible to see from one end of the pitch to the other.

SCHOOL v. BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

Played at Birkenhead, Wednesday, November 23rd. Lost 3—2.

Baxter and Lord were absentees, and therefore we lined up: Ball; Loughlin, King; Goldblatt, Kennan, Youngson; Roberts, Drinkwater, Buckley, Hogg and Danks.

Roberts lost the toss and Buckley kicked off against the wind. After a raid on Birkenhead goal our defence was kept busy and at length the home inside-left scored after an individual effort. Buckley equalised a few minutes later after some good work by Roberts. Birkenhead again attacked and succeeded in regaining the lead. After the interval our defence was severely taxed and at length the Birkenhead inside-left again scored. The lead was reduced shortly before full time by Buckley, but we left the field vanquished by 3 goals to 2. Of the forwards, only Buckley and Roberts were effective, but the defence played well.

SECOND ELEVEN RESULTS.

- v. Holt Secondary School, at Wavertree. Won 14—0.
- v. Alsop High School, at Wavertree. Lost 2—3.
- v. Liverpool Collegiate School, at Holly Lodge. Lost 2—4.
- v. St. Francis Xaviers' College, at West Derby. Draw 1—1.
- v. Bootle Secondary School, at Wavertree. Won 5—2.
- v. Wallasey Grammar School, at Wallasey. Draw 2—2.
- v. Birkenhead Institute, at Wavertree. Lost 2—4.

L.I.O.B.A. Notes.

THE session commenced with a well attended Annual General Meeting, held at the School on 5th October, 1921, the Headmaster being in the chair. Mr. Tiffen submitted the report for 1920-1, sundry alterations were made to the Rules (for details of which members are referred to the List of Members, etc.), officials and committee for the session were elected, and the question of the Annual Dinner discussed. An appeal for more help for the Florence Institute was also made.

The first social event of the term was the Smoker, held in conjunction with the School on November 26th. Messrs. Archer, Baker, Dudley, Elliott, Eustace and Hicks, together with the tuneless choir, so ably conducted by Mr. Brown, delighted us with their ditties or fables. The Old Boys present were astonished by the small part taken by the School in the programme, and it is hoped that our friendly jeers will have the right effect at the next soirée. We were very pleased to see Mr. Tomas there, after his recent illness. Mr. Brown earned our thanks for his masterly organisation; not only was the Concert most successful, but even the Old Boys present were able to get a plate of cakes and a cup of coffee this time!

Work has been proceeding steadily at the Florence Institute, under the enthusiastic leadership of Messrs. Tiffen and Stone. There is, however, much work to be done there—the attendances this term have been very large—and more helpers are urgently needed. May we urge those members who are so fond of sitting down and complaining that “the Association does nothing,” to volunteer their services, and give the lie direct to the saying? It is largely due to the work of Old Boys that the Florence is so flourishing at present; there is still much more work to be done.

Comparatively few members have as yet returned their reply forms. And although it is now only a fortnight from the date of the Supper, and although members were especially asked to say whether or not they would be able to attend, several have not yet begun to think about it. This slackness makes unnecessary difficulties for the organisers. We would also remind members that the List of Fixtures is sent for their information and use. It is not amusing to hear the remark: “Oh! was there a smoker on Saturday (then naively) I’d have come if I’d known.”

The date of the Dinner has not yet been decided, but it is hoped that it will be possible to announce it at the Supper, and all members will, of course, be notified.

We wish to remind members of the Chamber Concerts on February 9th and March 9th. They should need no recommen-

dation to O.I.’s; all those who attended the first two of this year’s series greatly enjoyed them. The price of admission for members is 1/6 only.

The next Smoker is to be held on February 25th, when the Association will also play football against the School.

J.L.D.B.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

SIR.—There is a problem which has been harassing me for some months. When I am alone, it tortures me; when I walk through the School, people rush forward and propound it to me—to me, who am wrapped in ignorance of its answer. I would, therefore, wish to pass it on to those two people who alone may be able to answer this perplexing question—What has become of the School Branch of the League of Nations Union?

Early in the term, a number of trusting people confided their subscription of one shilling to the hands of the treasurer. Where are those shillings? Their erstwhile owners registered themselves as members of the Union; and the Union has since been enveloped in the sleep of death. It has been hinted by some suspicious people that the secretaries have absconded with the money; but I will give my frank and honest opinion—I do not believe this true.

The inactivity of our own branch is the more deplorable as it contrasts so vividly with the Model Assemblies and lectures arranged by the Merseyside Inter-School branch of the Union. It is, indeed, to be regretted if this Inter-School Branch is to supersede the school societies, as the former can only actively interest the two or three representatives who take part in the Model Assemblies, and the few people who attend the lectures—very few, for at one of these, there was only one member of the School present—whereas the latter can include every member of the School, and provide interest for all. For this reason, the Inter-School Society should be subordinated in importance to the School Branch.

May I, therefore, urge the secretaries to do something—even if it be nothing more than to lead a procession, or to harangue a crowd from a window of the Prefects’ Room—to do something to bring life to the School Branch of the League of Nations Union? and thus to ensure the gratitude of all humble supporters of the League, and, amongst them, of

H. J. ABRAHAM.

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

SIR.—In bringing the following matter before your notice, I think I am voicing the views of some of the most influential members of the School. The complaint has been raised in certain quarters that there are two institutions in the School, which are fundamentally opposed to each other, the School Corps and the School Branch of the League of Nations. At the present moment, however, as a very distinguished statesman has recently pointed out, the two organisations can be quite compatible with one another; but on a certain condition, namely, that the Corps and the officers of the Corps do not reflect a spirit of aggressive militarism. While the spirit is absent, no friction can occur between these two equally honourable institutions.

Unfortunately, however, some rather unhappy actions and statements on the part of leading members of the Corps seem to have laid that organisation open to the charge of hostility to the tenets and spirit of the League. This is obviously very deplorable, especially as a little forbearance could restore the harmony that is wanting in present conditions.

Would it be impossible for this forbearance to be practised?

Yours sincerely,

J.M.K.

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

SIR.—I should like to bring before your notice, and before that of the School as a whole, a question which I think should be seriously considered. At the beginning of last school year, it was decided that, with the exception of the Horsfall Cup, house football should be discontinued, and form football substituted; and this plan, "mutatis mutandis," was also followed in the cricket season.

The innovation has been, to a large extent, successful in its objects, but I feel compelled to indicate one or two drawbacks, the bad effects of which already, I think, are making themselves felt, and which, if the form system is made permanent, will do material and possibly irreparable damage to the spirit of the School.

In the first place, I have noticed, and, I think, other members must have noticed, a tendency on the part of players to take their football less seriously than was their wont. I do not wish to suggest that their keenness has lessened—though, on the other hand, I am very doubtful if it has in any way increased. My point is that, for reasons which limited space forbids me to enter into, players have tended to regard their play merely as a means of amusing themselves, and, naturally take no extraordinary pains to improve.

My second objection is more serious. Very few people will deny that the house system is an admirable institution. The

arbitrary nature of the divisions into which it divides the School, renders it peculiarly fitted to be the basis of all sorts of competition; and, at present, it is particularly necessary that house spirit, house enthusiasm, and house recognition should be kept at a very high standard, indeed. This, I am convinced, cannot be affected if that sphere of school activity in which the vast majority of the School take the keenest interest, and which is, more than anything else, calculated to rouse the healthiest kind of enthusiasm, is almost entirely deprived of the house influence. Already, after little more than a year, the enthusiasm for the house has been unmistakably impaired; and, if the present system of form matches be continued, I am certain that the house system will become little more than a tradition and an encumbrance.

This, Mr. Editor, it seems to me, is the question to be asked. Are we to give the house system every chance to achieve its purpose, or are we to allow it to decay? As I have already hinted, the house system is a distinct asset to a school; and my experience teaches me that, other things being equal, most boys prefer house football to form football.

The primary reason why form competition has been substituted is the desire to provide a game for as large a number of players as possible, and it is a fact that more people have played since the alteration than before. My opinion, however, is that, if the house system must be sacrificed to ensure this effect, the price paid is far too great, and I would still advocate a return to the old house competitions even if I thought that thereby a considerable number of boys should be deprived of a frequent game. The deadlock is not, fortunately, without an effective remedy. I think it is quite possible to return to the old house system and yet provide as great a number of games as obtain under the present form system. Is it not possible, for instance, to arrange that, instead of the three lateral divisions into which a house is at present (usually) divided, namely, Senior, Middle, and Junior, five or six such divisions should be made? Each division of each house would have its team, and there would be, roughly speaking, the same number of teams in existence as there are form teams at present, and presumably, therefore, an equal number of games would be provided. The average age, too, of opposing teams would be more equal than at present, when it almost inevitably follows that the members of one team are older and bigger, if not more skilful, than their opponents. Above all, this plan would undoubtedly provide opportunity for the effective kindling, and abundant fuel for the advancement, of the house enthusiasm which is so much to be desired.

Believe me, very sincerely yours,

H. WORTHINGTON.

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

DEAR SIR,

Would it not be possible to make some adequate arrangements for the boys who have their lunch in the School tuck shop? The School is justly proud of its fine Gymnasium, its great Organ, its magnificent Library, and many other treasures. It is not proud of its tuck shop; in fact it ought to be ashamed of it. There is not enough room in it for half the number of boys who eat their lunch there. But this is not all. Not only is it far too small, but it is an uncongenial and unpleasant room in which to partake of a meal, on account of the lack of heating arrangements, want of reasonable lighting, and general gloomy and ugly aspect.

Hoping something can be accomplished in this matter,
we are, Sir, yours faithfully,

R. W. BUCKLEY.

J. McHUGH.

To the Editor of the *Liverpool Institute Magazine*.

SIR,

Is it not possible for the School, in the future, when singing the National Anthem, to omit the second verse? The reasons are obvious—it is harmful, it is contemptible, it is blasphemous. There is no ancient tradition to prevent us, as the verse certainly did not form part of the original; and there is a much better version—that of Dean Hole—which could be substituted for it.

Yours sincerely,

H. J. ABRAHAM.

W. C. KNEALE.

Editorial Notices.

The Editors acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries, and apologise for any omissions: *Alleynian* (2), *Caldeian*, *Cryptian*, *Elizabethan* (2), *Esmeduna*, *Hinckley Grammar School Magazine*, *Kelly College Chronicle*, *King's School (Pontefract) Magazine*, *Ruyum*, *Ulula* (2), *Wyggestonian*, *Xaverian*.

For VISITING CARDS,
NOTEPAPER &
ENVELOPES,
ACCOUNT BOOKS
and all Stationery Requisites
go to

**The Northern
Publishing Co., Ltd.,**

PRINTERS,
LITHOGRAPHERS,
BOOKBINDERS,
STATIONERS.

Works: 17 GOREE PIAZZAS.

Stationery Dept.: 11 BRUNSWICK ST.
LIVERPOOL.