

THE STRATHALLIAN

THE MAGAZINE OF STRATHALLAN SCHOOL
PERTHSHIRE

VOLUME FOUR

NUMBER FIVE

School Notes and Notices

SEPTEMBER, 1942, will always be remembered as that most poignant time during which our beloved founder and headmaster, Mr. Harry Riley, passed from our midst. No mere words can testify to his great life, although a tribute—an inadequate one, we fear—has been paid elsewhere in this magazine. Here, in our School Notes, we can only record some of the more recent events connected with his life and death. Mr. Riley had been ailing since July, 1940, and few—except those who knew him intimately—understood with what difficulty and yet with what gallantry he carried on his work as headmaster during the last two years of his life. Two glimpses are characteristic of his determination to fight on. In January, 1942, in spite of his ill-health, he filled the gap in the English Department caused by the calling-up of our senior English master, Mr. Langstaff. And there was that intimate sad scene at breakfast on the last morning of the Summer Term when, after having spent three very trying weeks in bed, he insisted against all advice, on taking his usual place and wishing his boys—so dear to him—a happy holiday. None of us will forget the echo of the cheers he received—the last we were privileged to give. During the holiday period he gradually grew weaker in strength and, by the time the boys returned for the Xmas Term, it was painfully apparent that the end was very near. This came only too tragically when he passed away in the early hours of the first Sunday morning of the term, on September 20th, 1942.

It would have been his wish for the School to continue its normal routine during those few bitter days before the funeral, yet all activities seemed strangely unreal. The last rites were paid at the

service in the Chapel by present pupils, former pupils, staff, parents and friends, when we sang with reverence and deep emotion Mr. Riley's favourite hymn, "Abide with me." The ceremony at the graveside, conducted by the parish minister, Rev. D. Mailler Yule, was simple, yet appropriate, and after the pall-bearers, Messrs. W. E. Ward, R. N. Bain (from the staff), S. Gillanders (representing the parents), J. Lusk, A. S. Thomson, C. L. Thomson (representing former pupils), I. B. Petrie and N. H. Stewart (the School Captain and Vice-Captain), had lowered the coffin to its last resting place, all seemed finished. But we know that all is not finished for, as we were reminded by Mr. Yule at the Memorial service and by Captain Baker at the Christmas service, we must carry on as the welfare of the School—Mr. Riley's School—is now in our hands, and each one of us is engaged in the work of perpetuating Strathallan and maintaining those high traditions so ably built by our late Headmaster.

We cannot conclude this part of the School Notes without expressing to Mr. Mailler Yule our gratitude for his inspiring messages both at the Funeral service and the Memorial service. The latter, a private service held in the Chapel on Sunday, 27th September, was attended by Miss May Riley, the School staff, and the pupils. Mr. Yule's tribute to the memory of Mr. Riley as a gentleman, as a great headmaster, and as an inspiring leader, was most eloquent.

On behalf of all Strathallians we tender our deepest sympathy to the Misses Riley, and particularly to Miss May, in their bereavement.

To the many parents and Old Boys who have written kind expressions of sympathy,

the Misses Riley wish to convey their sincere thanks. To the many who have sent words of encouragement personally to the new Headmaster, Mr. Ward is most grateful and apologises for not being able to reply individually to the large number of letters received.

Mr. Cecil R. Shaw, our games master, is a prisoner of war in Germany at Oflag VI. His army career was a short one for he was abroad for only a few months before being taken prisoner on one of the beaches in Greece at the end of that unfortunate campaign. Mr. Shaw was a lieutenant in the R.A.O.C., and no doubt the nature of his duties was such that he would be one of the last to arrive at the coast. We hope to welcome him back to Strathallan in the not too distant future.

We offer our hearty congratulations to our music master, Dr. W. R. Pasfield, now a Doctor of Music of the University of Dublin. This is a very high honour in the music world as we understand that since 1939 there have only been two doctorates granted in music by the University of Dublin, and Dr. Pasfield's outstanding ability has won one of these coveted honours. We shall look forward in the future to his contributions in the field of music composition. No doubt the Strathallan Music Society—the latest and one of the most vigorous of the Strathallan societies—started by Dr. Pasfield last session will follow the career of their president with special interest and pride.

A branch of the Spotters' Club is another addition to Strathallan activities, and some of the members—stimulated by Lt.-Col. Dunlop Linton's talk on aircraft recognition—have already an uncanny knowledge of the subject. The Club members have appropriated for their use one of the rooms above the rugby changing rooms, and also have converted the walls of the stage in the Gym. into an art gallery of silhouettes and photographs of all types of aeroplanes. The aircraft identification instruction is in charge of Mr. H. A. Nimmo of Perth—an old Strath. boy—who is an expert on the subject, and the Spotters' Club, as well as the A.T.C. Flight, will no doubt progress still further under his able tuition.

Strathallan, we are pleased to report, has fully maintained the usual standard of work in the classroom; two of the pupils—R. W. Gregory and J. S. Lowden—have had outstanding successes. Gregory was awarded a Crabtree Scholarship in Science at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, in addition to a State Bursary also tenable at St. Catharine's. Lowden, also in open competition, gained a Harkness Scholarship at St. Andrew's University. Both these boys have completed their school careers with distinction, and we offer them our heartiest congratulations on their awards. We also offer our congratulations to the following boys who gained their Scottish Leaving Certificates in March, 1942, at which examination the results were 20 passes out of 24 candidates: A. H. Allan, I. A. Campbell, J. B. Clark, R. H. K. Common, C. C. Davison, J. C. Dawson, W. A. Don, E. F. Duncan, J. H. H. Fraser, R. W. Harrington, G. S. Lowden, D. McLauchlan, E. I. Macnaughton, A. C. North, A. E. M. Reekie, H. F. Russell, R. A. Sharp, A. H. Thomson, P. J. Whitaker, and J. L. Wilson. It is pleasing to record that most of these boys obtained the Certificate of Attestation of Fitness for entry to Scottish Universities.

We would like to wish the new Headmaster, Mr. W. E. Ward, every success in his new sphere. Mr. Ward has been at Strathallan for just over twenty years, first as assistant master and later as senior master. We are very happy to have as our "Head" a man richly qualified to carry on our fine tradition, yet guide our future course to keep abreast of changing times.

The School has been unfortunate in temporarily losing the services of Mr. George Langstaff, our Senior English Master, who was called up to the R.A.O.C. early in 1942. We extend our welcome to his temporary successor, Miss Larkin, and to the other two newcomers, Miss Treacy and Miss Howie.

We wish Mr. R. O. Cole and Mr. W. J. Batt every success in their new posts. Mr. Cole has left us to take up a senior Chemistry post at his old school in Southampton, and Mr. Batt has joined the Zoology Dept. of Edinburgh University.

The session 1942-43 opened with practically a new set of prefects in the

Schoolhouse, but we know instinctively that they will maintain the traditions of their predecessors. The following promotions have been made:

School Captain: I. B. Petrie.

Vice-Captain and Captain of Ruthven:
N. H. Stewart.

Rugby Captain and Captain of Simpson:
G. A. W. Marshall.

Captain of Freeland: A. S. Headrick.

Captain of Nicol: J. K. McGregor.

Prefect: A. D. Turnbull.

House-Prefects: J. S. Mitchell, J. B. Clark, E. I. Macnaughton, J. P. Alexander.

Sub-Prefects: J. Hall, G. S. Lowden, R. A. Hunter, T. L. G. Lacey, E. W. Linton, E. C. McCracken, N. Sanderson.

In the temporary absence of an Editor this seems the appropriate place to remind the present members of Strathallan that this is their own magazine and that their participation in compiling its contents is solicited. We would welcome articles of any kind, prose or verse, serious or humorous, for our next issue, and we hope that many budding authors will experience the thrill of putting pen to paper and of seeing their efforts appear in print for the first time.

Roll of Honour

"These died that we may live."

McDONALD, Ian Leslie, Sergeant/Pilot
R.A.F.V.R.

MELVILLE, Andrew Macdougall, Pilot
Officer, R.A.F.V.R.

THOMSON, Derek, R.A.F.V.R.

WILSON, Ian A. D., Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.

WOOD, David, Pilot Officer, R.A.F.V.R.

ANDERSON, Peter Gordon, Pilot Officer,
R.A.F.V.R.

Gordon was formerly reported missing while on bombing operations over Germany on 24th July, 1941—one of the biggest daylight raids of the war—and is now officially presumed to have lost his life. He was at Strathallan from 1932 to 1935 and was well known on the rugby field both at School and as a playing member of Perthshire R.F.C. He was only 22 years of age.

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CRAIG, James Wilson, Pilot Officer,
R.A.F.V.R.

Jim was a bomber pilot and had successfully carried out numerous air raids over enemy territory; on one occasion his plane was shot down over the Channel and the crew were later rescued. For about twelve months prior to his fatal accident, Jim had been an instructor in the North of England. He was at Strathallan from 1935 to 1937 and always retained a lively interest in the school and paid us a visit in the Spring of

1942. Jim has left a widow and a baby daughter who is one year old.

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DON, Charles, Sub-Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.A.

Charlie lost his life in a flying accident during November, 1941. He had given up his work at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in Edinburgh after a year's study to volunteer for the Fleet Air Arm, and at the time of his death was a sub-lieutenant in a fighter squadron. Whilst at Edinburgh he had the honour of representing the University in the Boxing Inter-varsity Tournament in 1940 and in boxing a drawn encounter with the Scottish amateur light-weight champion. Charlie was at Strathallan from 1935 to 1939 and did good work as house-prefect and as full back with the 1st XV.

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FORREST, John Gordon Scott, Lieutenant,
R.N.V.R.A.

John, familiarly known as "Springy," was killed on active service during September, 1942, in the East. He was born in Rhodesia and came to Strathallan in 1931. He excelled at all kinds of sport and was captain of rugby as well as captain of cricket. He was also vice-captain of the School during sessions 1934-35 and 1935-36. "Springy" was immensely popular with everyone and had a delightfully natural and modest manner.

From School he went to Cambridge where he won his Rugby Blue and was captain of the University 1st XV. He had three caps for Scotland as a wing three-quarter in the 1937-38 season, but an injury kept him out of the game the following year and prevented him gaining further honours.

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KIRKLAND, David, R.A.F.V.R.

David, the younger of the two brothers Kirkland of Ayr, was at Strathallan from 1932 to 1936 when he did well in upholding Strath. traditions in work and games. He was killed while on operational duties during 1941 at the age of 22 years.

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MACKAY, Edward Bruce, Sub-Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.

Bruce was attached to the cruiser "Dunedin" and when the ship was torpedoed in December, 1941, he was amongst those missing, since which time there has been no further news. Whilst at School he proved himself a quiet but energetic personality who did much to build up the strength of the 73rd Perthshire Boy Scouts at Strathallan and was head-scout during the time of the most rapid growth of the troop. Academically he made outstanding progress while in the post-matriculation business class towards the London Inter B. Com. degree. He leaves a widow and infant son.

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McLACHLAN, William Allison, Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.

William was killed in action when H.M.S. "Hermes" went down in April, 1941. He will always be remembered by Strathallians of his time for his sportsmanship and cheerfulness, always evident in every sphere of school life.

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MITCHELL, Matthew, Captain, A. & S. H.

Matthew was killed in action in the Madagascar campaign by the explosion of an enemy shell. At Strathallan from 1928 to 1935, he was well known in the rugby field as a hard-working forward and a stalwart of the team. On leaving school he took up dental studies at Glasgow but, prior to the outbreak of war, he abandoned dentistry for the more arduous duties of

army life and received rapid promotion to the rank of captain.

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MOODIE, Arthur M., Lance-Corporal, Australian Imperial Force.

Arthur was serving with the Field Ambulance and was killed on active service as a result of enemy aircraft action. He joined up in Australia at the outbreak of war. Arthur was at School from 1924 to 1928 and was a prefect in his last year.

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SMITH, Norman J. W., Merchant Navy.

Dr. Smith had been practising in Cleethorpes, Lincs., for the past twelve years and only recently volunteered for service in the Merchant Navy. Information has been received from the Admiralty that the vessel on which he was serving is gravely overdue and is presumed lost with all hands. He was at Strathallan from 1919 to 1924.

MISSING

HUNTER, William Richard, Lieutenant, Indian Army.

"Bunty" was posted missing as from February 2nd, 1942, as a result of the campaign in Burma. He was School captain during the session 1939-40 and one of a sequence of School captains—all stalwarts—provided by Freeland House. He left school to join the Indian Army and, after excellent results in the army entrance examination, he was posted to the Military College at Bangalore. It was a cruel fate when, after holding his commission for seven weeks, he was thrown into the maelstrom of the Burma campaign. His parents in Glasgow received two cables from him when he went to Burma, and then followed the tragic silence.

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MACNAUGHTON, Douglas Henry, Pilot Officer, R.A.F.V.R.

Douglas was reported missing from operations on the night of 27th August, 1942, by Bomber Command. He was at Strathallan from 1936 to 1939 and was a keen sportsman, being captain of rugby in 1938-39 and captain of cricket in 1939. He was also a prefect and was captain of Freeland House. He was 21 years of age,

An Appreciation

SOME twenty years ago on my first visit to the city of York I met, for the first time, Mr. Harry Riley, who there concluded with me the appointment which brought me to Strathallan. I well remember my first impression of him, and I caught at once his spirit of enthusiasm for Strathallan and his eagerness to mould it into a great public school—a school which should have a character and individuality of its own. And through his personality Mr. Riley did provide the spirit of his School—in short, he was Strathallan.

And so in this tribute to his great life let me first speak of the School which was his life's work. It began in 1913 with a few pupils in a comparatively small house in Bridge of Allan. The Headmaster, then an athletic young man of about twenty-five years of age, soon began to make Strathallan known in the fields of academic achievement and sport. The single house became two, three, four houses, between which the Headmaster travelled by means of the plebeian bicycle. He piloted the School through the difficult war years of 1914 to 1918 with a staff of mistresses and, by his own very great personal effort, saw his pupils grow up to attain responsible positions in military and civilian life. Shortly after 1919 he realised that the School houses in Bridge of Allan were too small and, with great vision and enterprise, he moved the School to the present mansion-house in Forgandenny. Freeland House was then a mere shell for Strathallan, for it lacked class-rooms, laboratories, games fields, swimming pond, adequate common-rooms, and most of the other amenities which are associated with the Strathallan of to-day. In 1928-29 he added the new wing of Simpson House containing the dining-hall and swimming pond; the main cricket lawn was extended and the

famous cricket square with its perfect surface was completed. New rugby pitches, class-rooms, changing-rooms and bathrooms brought the School to the state in which we now know



From a portrait in oils, by Mr. Stanley Cursiter.

it. Mr. Riley's enthusiasm for Strathallan knew no bounds; his restless energy for improvements seemed limitless.

His labours were not unrewarded. Two events in particular meant much to him, although he was the last man to desire pomp and ceremony. The first was on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of Strathallan when, at the Old Boys' Dinner held in Glasgow just before Christmas, 1938, he received with deep emotion from present and past pupils of the School his portrait in oils painted by Mr. Stanley Cursiter

of Edinburgh. That portrait now occupies the place of honour in the School, and typical of his outlook were his remarks in accepting the presentation when he said: "How I do value this. It is the realisation that my life's work has received from you recognition, that there is something in it, something worth preserving, that touches me so deeply. It is as though the whole of my life's work were an organ theme which I have played to you — and from you has now come an answering, an approving, Grand Amen."

The other great honour was his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the prime reward for great work in any sphere of life in Scotland. This distinction was bestowed on Mr. Riley for the service he had rendered to education by establishing Strathallan.

It had, of course, always been Mr. Riley's desire that Strathallan should continue after his death, and in 1938 he took the first necessary steps to ensure this by handing over to Trustees the heritage of Freeland, and in his will he made provision for the transfer of the other School properties. These provisions are now being carried out according to his wishes, and the Trustees will form the nucleus of a Board of Governors of the School. By this means Mr. Riley wisely ensured a continuity of existence for Strathallan and no account of his life would be complete without reference to this magnificent gift.

Such was his life. But what of the man himself, his character, his ego? No headmaster ever regarded his boys with greater affection or concerned himself more deeply with their welfare than did Mr. Riley, for he had an almost uncanny memory for the numerous members of his large family. When a former pupil visited his old School, Mr. Riley would greet him as if he had left Strathallan but yesterday, would remember his exploits at School, would be fully acquainted with his career, and be able to talk to him as a counsellor and friend. It is not surprising that his

former pupils reciprocated this warmth of feeling and many are those who have lost a personal friend by his death. With all this, Mr. Riley never made the mistake of spoiling his boys. In some ways perhaps he was a hard taskmaster, for he never tolerated indiscipline, inefficiency or idleness. Himself an untiring worker, he demanded industry from others, and it is no accident that the motto of Strathallan is "Labor Omnia Vincit." The prefect in the schoolhouse, the player on the games field, the pupil in the class-room were all expected to put forward their best endeavours, for Mr. Riley would never accept anything but the best. The careless and the inefficient received stern rebuke from him, tempered, sometimes, with a touch of humour.

Mr. Riley was a man of simple tastes and enjoyed few pleasures outside of his life-absorbing interest in Strathallan. He was a keen student of foreign languages and of economic conditions at home and abroad and employed many of his vacations to enhance this knowledge by travels on the continent of Europe. Above all, he was a man of great and penetrating vision, capable of appreciating the varied aspects of a complicated situation and of assessing the rights and wrongs of any course of action. Having once made a decision, nothing would dissuade him from following the line of action determined upon to its invariably successful conclusion. His was a strong personality for he had the courage of his convictions and this made him oblivious of the criticism of lesser men.

It is not possible to pay just tribute in words to Mr. Riley and his work, for he was indeed a great and gallant gentleman, and many are those who, like myself, will ever think of him as a dear friend and mourn his passing. Strathallan has lost a great Headmaster, and Scotland has lost a noble teacher who devoted the whole of his life to the service of education in all its diverse aspects — physical, mental, and moral.

The Musical Society

Chairman: Dr. W. R. Pasfield.

Committee: I. H. H. Fraser (*Secretary and Treasurer*), R. W. Harrington, I. A. Headrick, C. C. Davison, G. W. Pate, D. R. C. Mackenzie, J. Thomson.

A LONG-FELT blank in Strathallan's activities has been filled this season by the formation, under the energetic leadership of Dr. Pasfield, of a Musical Society organised to encourage and increase the interest of the School in matters musical.

A membership of 33 is an encouraging start to a new society, the more so as such a large number of the members are recruited from the ranks of those who do not actually play any instrument at School—officially at any rate.

The programme this season has been an interesting and varied one. The gramophone has been put to considerable use; records played on it were from the late Mr. Riley's collection, from the private collection of Dr. Pasfield and others and, later, from the collection started by the Society itself with the funds. There have also been two visits to the North Church, Perth, where Dr. Pasfield, who is the Church organist, has arranged programmes of considerable variety for the members of the Society. In this direction our thanks are especially due to Mr. MacOwen, of Perth, who has twice entertained us with his delightful violin playing.

The works studied this year included Beethoven's Fifth Symphony (grown unusually popular of late with the general public on account of the prevailing rhythm of the morse "V" which pervades the music), Wagner's "Tannhauser" Overture (studied from records and the score), Tschaiakowsky's "Nutcracker Suite," and Mozart's Serenade (Eine Kleine Nacht Musik), of which the records were purchased with the Society's funds, and many others.

At the end of the Summer Term a Members' Concert was held, at which piano, vocal and violin music were provided by the members. Of special note were R. W. Harrington's superb rendering of Beethoven's C Minor Sonata and Kuttner's treble solo, "Ye who have knowledge"

from Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro." Thanks are due to Dr. Pasfield for acting as accompanist both to the choir and to the violin and vocal soloists.

It is hoped that the new venture may prosper in the future to as great an extent as the energy and sincerity of Dr. Pasfield have enabled it to do this year. We have made a good beginning; let it not be denied that "well begun is half done."

I. H. H. F.

The Dramatic Society

Chairman: J. S. Lowden.

Vice-Chairman: A. H. Mill.

Secretary: B. S. T. Bruce.

Treasurer: S. R. P. Lyle.

Committee: H. F. Russell, P. J. Whitaker, R. H. K. Common, E. S. Dawson.

Stage Manager: I. H. H. Fraser.

Assistant Stage Manager: R. W. Harrington.

MR. SHAW ably carried on the office as President for yet another year, and the Society owe him a debt of gratitude for his work. He remained late at nights to attend the meetings throughout the winter, even although he had to travel in to Perth.

The first meeting of the season was as usual devoted to the electing of the office-bearers and the committee. At the next meeting there was presented a rehearsed reading of "A Pot of Caviare." The only new member who took part was J. Hall, who showed promise and was later chosen for a major role in the end of term play. During the Christmas term a rehearsed reading in three episodes of Ian Hay's "The Sport of Kings" was given, and at the concert J. S. Lowden produced "The Monkey's Paw," which was a great success. The number of meetings in the Easter term was somewhat curtailed owing to rehearsals for Ian Hay's "Housemaster," which was produced at the end of the term despite the epidemic of mumps.

The Society is much indebted to A. E. M. Reekie and D. McLauchlan, who stepped into the breach to understudy H. F. Russell and P. J. Whitaker, who had taken ill. Reekie, however, himself fell ill and H. F. Russell returned at the last minute to take his original part.

B. S. T. B.

“Housemaster”

Presented by the Dramatic Society, March 31st, 1942.

ONE might have added to the title “only just presented by courtesy of the mumps,” for the Dramatic Society could never have been faced by a greater array of difficulties. The Society had set itself a difficult enough task in presenting this ambitious play in a short term, but when illness struck down members of the caste and their understudies in quick succession, it seemed as if the production must be postponed. The company, however, stuck manfully to its task and “the show went on” in the true traditions of the theatre. Hats off to all concerned!

The play on the whole was not quite the type expected by the rank and file of Strath, as a school play. It is a study of school life from the adult point of view and one must identify oneself with the character of the Housemaster fully to appreciate it. One could scarcely expect McTavish minor in J3 imagining himself actually to be that bane of his existence, and so it was noticeable that the audience as a body enjoyed most those scenes in which youth alone monopolised the foot-lights.

The great length of his script gave A. H. Mill as the Housemaster a formidable task. Physically, he fitted the part well, and this, allied to an excellent make-up, created a good opening appearance. His performance, however, was lacking in consistency. At times he was good solid Charles Donkin, the ideal housemaster, but he was too easily put out of his stride by minor hitches and took too long to slip back into gear.

S. R. P. Lyle as “Flossie” Nightingale the dandified son of a diplomatic family, scored the most notable success. The contrast between his manner towards his fellows and to those in authority was first-rate. Dealing with lesser lights, he had a suave air of easy confidence which switched to a tentative wheedling when faced by the redoubtable Donkin. J. S. Lowden as “Flossie’s” father also did well. The scene in which he hoodwinks the headmaster into believing that it his duty to accept a bishopric was very successfully put over. J. Hall, in the role of the Rev. Edmund Ovington, newly appointed headmaster, bent on monasterial reforms, had

just the right poise, pious countenance and reedy voice to give the part realism.

The Farringdon girls, forward minxes who undermine the disciplinary structure of Donkin’s house, were played by E. S. Dawson, R. W. Harrington and H. F. Russell. All maintained the Society’s reputation for female impersonation, although Russell, as Chris, was more dignified and statuesque than the writer had pictured this character when reading the book. Harrington was very confident and knew his part well, but overacted at times. Dawson, as Button, was a great success, whilst F. F. Robb as the maiden aunt to the girls, very cleverly conveyed the impression that “she” really was a rather amiable middle aged lady. Robb’s self-possession and diction left nothing to be desired. As Bimbo, brother of the girls and leading light of the junior school at Marbledown, B. S. T. Bruce had a part to his liking and no fault could be found with his performance.

David Littlejohn had a smaller part than usual, that of the friendly but cynical mathematical colleague of Donkin. He played well within himself but made good use of several clever lines. D. McLauchlan, at short notice, took over the role of the swaggering young sports master, but did not extract quite as much humour from his lines as he should have done. The other member of the staff to appear was de Pourville. Here, A. D. Turnbull made good use of the opportunity to show how well he can read a character. His acting of the part of the music master, enthusiastic over his work but hopelessly timid in dealing with either boys or love affairs, was just what Ian Hay intended. In minor roles, J. S. Mitchell, E. I. Macnaughton, I. H. H. Fraser, D. K. Common and J. A. Davidson did everything required of them. One had not imagined that Common could make himself look so vapid or that Fraser could be such a strict looking matron. Incidentally, the latter, assisted by Harrington, made a grand job of the elaborate staging and wholesale scene shifting.

Apart from his leading role, A. H. Mill gave Mr. Shaw considerable help as assistant producer. To them and to all concerned we record our sincere thanks and appreciation of a most entertaining show.

R. O. C.

Sports Day, 1942

GENERAL interest in our third war-time Sports Day was somewhat subdued by the fact that Nicol already held a commanding lead in points which made it impossible for any other house to effect a serious challenge. By clever use of their resources the Nicol boys steadily consolidated their lead throughout the day, although most of the credit must go to I. B. Petrie who won the individual championship with 20 points. R. W. Harrington and E. C. MacCrimmon with 8 points each were runners-up. Except in the half mile, in which he established a new record, Petrie's performances were not up to his 1941 standard, which is hardly surprising in view of the task he undertook. The best performance of the day was that of J. A. McIntyre, junior champion, with 22 points. In the high jump under 16, McIntyre cleared 5 ft. 2½ ins. It should be an easy matter for him to break the senior record of 5 ft. 3½ ins. next year. In the under 14 events, major honours went to D. Shannon, whilst D. G. F. Paul was the star performer among the under 12's.

From the appended list of results in all contests for the shield, it will be seen that the full programme of events was carried through as in normal times, together with the addition of swimming heats which proved very successful and should do much to improve the general standard of swimming in the School.

Many difficulties had to be faced this year and, owing to shortage of staff, the prefects had to carry out a good deal of work normally done by masters.

Nicol won the House Championship with 195 points, Freeland being runners-up with 136 points; Simpson scored 114, and Ruthven 92.

RESULTS.

Open Events.

- 100 Yards—
1. I. B. Petrie (N); 2. I. A. Campbell (N)
(10 secs.)
- 220 Yards—
1. I. B. Petrie (N); 2. I. A. Campbell (N)
(25 secs.)
- 440 Yards—
1. R. W. Harrington (F); 2. R. W. Gregory
(N) (60 secs.)

880 Yards—

1. I. B. Petrie (N); 2. R. W. Harrington (F)
(2 min. 15 secs.)

High Jump—

1. A. D. Turnbull (S); E. C. MacCrimmon
(N) (5 ft.)

Long Jump—

1. I. B. Petrie (N); 2. J. D. Wright (F)
(18 ft. 10 ins.)

Throwing the Cricket Ball—

1. E. C. MacCrimmon (N); A. N. Low (F)
(93 yards)

Under 16 Events.

100 Yards—

1. J. A. McIntyre (S); 2. D. B. Murdoch (F)
(11 secs.)

220 Yards—

1. J. A. McIntyre (S); 2. S. M. Ritchie (N)
(26 secs.)

440 Yards—

1. J. A. McIntyre (S); 2. S. M. Ritchie (N)
(63 secs.)

880 Yards—

1. J. A. McIntyre (S); 2. J. Hall (N) (2 mins.
24 secs.)

High Jump—

1. J. A. McIntyre (S); 2. H. F. Bushe (S)
(5 ft. 2½ ins.)

Long Jump—

1. A. L. Campbell (S); 2. J. A. McIntyre (S)
(16 ft. 7 ins.)

Throwing the Cricket Ball—

1. J. B. Clark (R); 2. M. G. W. White (N)
(74 yards)

Under 14 Events—

100 Yards—

1. (equal) D. Shannon (F) and D. A. Sword
(R) (14.8 secs.)

220 Yards—

1. D. Shannon (F); 2. D. A. Sword (R)
(29.4 secs.)

440 Yards—

1. D. Shannon (F); 2. D. A. Sword (R) (68
secs.)

High Jump—

1. F. C. Kelly (R); 2. D. A. Sword (R) (4 ft.
3 ins.)

Long Jump—

1. T. H. James (F); 2. D. A. Sword (R)
(12 ft. 10 ins.)

Under 12 Events.

80 Yards—1. D. G. F. Paul (S); 2. J. Porter (S)

High Jump—

1. D. G. F. Paul (S); 2. I. P. Johnston (S).

Other Events.

Relay Race—1. Nicol; 2. Freeland.

Tug-of-War—1. Simpson; 2. Ruthven.

Swimming Heats—Simpson, 12 pts.; Ruthven,
12 pts.; Freeland, 11 pts.; Nicol, 10 pts.

Swimming Relay—1. Freeland; 2. Simpson.

Track Heats—Ruthven, 50 pts.; Freeland, 44
pts.; Simpson, 42 pts.; Nicol, 40 pts.

Junior Rugby—1. Simpson; 2. Ruthven.

Senior Rugby—1. Nicol; 2. Freeland.

Cricket—1. Nicol; 2. Freeland.

Tennis—1. Nicol; 2. Freeland.

Fives—1. Nicol; 2. Ruthven.

The Air Training Corps

JUST over twelve months ago No. 1517 School Unit of the Air Training Corps came into being. The formation of such a unit had been under consideration for some time but its actual inception was only made possible by much hard thinking and careful planning on the part of the School authorities. One by one the initial difficulties were surmounted, and during the past school year twenty-eight cadets have been wrestling manfully with the intricacies of navigation, theory of flight, and aerodynamics. They have mastered successfully the somewhat arduous task of learning to send and receive morse code signals; they have done good work in recognition of the many types of aircraft in use to-day and, in addition, have tackled their physical training, air force drill and instruction on armaments and gas with excellent results. These things have not been achieved without a great deal of hard work, often carried on under difficult and even discouraging conditions, but keenness on the part of the cadets coupled with the untiring efforts of their instructors has induced splendid progress.

Just before the end of the Summer Term tests were held in mathematics, navigation and electrical theory for part I of the A.T.C. Proficiency Examination; 25 Proficiency Stars out of 27 have been gained, this being very satisfactory for a first attempt.

The training is not, however, all "swotting," drilling, and frantically attempting to take down morse code against time. There is another aspect which offsets to a very great extent the more exacting and perhaps less exciting labours outlined above, and one, too, which is of the highest importance to those wishing to enter the R.A.F. During the Easter vacation this year arrangements were made whereby a certain number of cadets were enabled to visit a local R.A.F. Training Centre each Saturday during the Summer Term. Other cadets were given the opportunity, each week-end, of seeing something of the methods in operation at an Observer Corps Post. These excursions

were very greatly appreciated and were, indeed, of the highest value to trainees. Earlier in the year the whole flight attended a lantern lecture in Perth on the work done by the Fleet Air Arm. A visit was also paid to the aerodrome to which, later, the Unit became officially attached. On another occasion two cadets were chosen to represent the Flight in an Aircraft Recognition Contest open to the various squadrons of Perthshire and the adjacent counties. Though not successful in carrying off the shield, these two competitors scored excellent marks and we are hoping to do better still in future similar events.

At the beginning of the Summer vacation the majority of the cadets attended the A.T.C. Summer Camp for one week where they had splendid opportunities of seeing and taking an active part in the everyday life of the Royal Air Force under wartime conditions.

So has ended the first year of the Strathallan School A.T.C. Unit.

W. J. B.

The Air Training Corp's Camp

Five weeks previous to the end of term, members of the A.T.C. were informed that a Summer Camp was being held. Weeks of speculation were terminated when Strath's notorious A.T.C. set out on the 11th of July for an aerodrome somewhere in Scotland, to be initiated into the ways of the R.A.F. at a service station.

On our arrival we were formed up and marched to the aerodrome, where, fortunately, we discovered tea was being served. In this sphere the Strath. contingent acquitted themselves with distinction. This meal was an epic in our existence. We joined a queue of gargantuan proportions and filed past a row of tea urns. Having helped ourselves to a quantity of tea (varying from 50 ccs. to 2 pints, depending on the size of the cup), we were issued with a plate. On this, one W.A.A.F. placed a meat pie, another added

a quantity of potatoes, another a pat of margarine, and, to end the issue, a gentle maiden placed a large spoonful of jam between the potatoes and the pie. Believe me, to consume such a meal was no easy matter. The heat of the pie soon reduced the margarine to a molten oily substance, while the jam tended to unite with the potatoes. The prevention of all this was an art which had to be cultivated. As a matter of interest, after a meal, we were exhorted by a flight sergeant to lend our eating utensils to less fortunate comrades who had forgotten theirs. We were assured of their return. With commendable wisdom, acquired through many terms at Strathallan, we hastily concealed our knives, etc., in our respirator containers, and informed all enquirers that we had no property for loan.

After tea we once again formed up, and marched a further two miles to the camp. Quarters were allocated, and we were fortunate in that the Strathallan representatives were not spread throughout the camp. We were given two tents, and thus were able to see it through together.

While walking round the camp, we discovered six odd looking individuals attired in greasy overalls, with greasy hands and faces, peeling potatoes, stoking fires and

cutting vegetables. We concluded they were hired orderlies of some sort, and dismissed the matter from our minds. To our intense amusement two hours later, six representatives from Strath. were detailed to don the dirty overalls, and prepare to get on with the job.

On Sunday we were taken for a conducted tour of the aerodrome. This was one of the most impressive sights many of us have been privileged to see. We surveyed the complicated system upon which operational flights are based, and we were given a general idea of how planes are prepared for departure. We were told how they are looked after while in the air, and how they return to their bases in strict rotation. We were shown how the machines are cared for while on the ground, and were instructed in the precise duties of each member of the crew. The functioning of radio equipment was explained to us, along with many other interesting things which cannot be mentioned. As we gazed upon this vast organisation—a massive striking force against the enemy—we ceased to consider the issue of the Battle of Britain a miracle, because if the running of Fighter Command is as efficient as the running of Coastal Command, then the Luftwaffe will never be victorious.



1517 Flight, A.F.C.

The remainder of Sunday was occupied with drill and instructional classes, and it was a weary body of cadets who retired to rest. During the night it became colder and colder. I expressed myself confident that no Eskimo in his igloo had ever felt himself quite so chilled. The cool breezes from the North Sea had so reduced the temperature that I am of the opinion it was just a trifle below freezing point. In the morning it was discovered that a comrade with intelligence rather under the average had slashed our tent with a bayonet. Compensation, however, was just round the corner, and we were moved into a nice new hut. Thereafter, life in this sphere became more congenial.

Drill and instructional duties were varied day by day, but every minute of time was occupied, including the evenings. In fact, to our intense disappointment, we were only granted one late pass.

Our domestic troubles, of course, were fairly numerous. Sewing on buttons, and attempting to darn socks ranked among the major difficulties. The problem of cleaning shoes was felt acutely. Many times in the past have I gazed at my shoes and felt that Strath. could dispense with the services of Mr. Graham without observing any change in the appearance of

the shoes. Believe me, this is a fallacy of the first degree. Mr. Graham's services as batman to 1517 Squadron would have been invaluable.

Having our morning wash was quite an ordeal. When I arrived, an extremely large queue had formed. One gentleman from Perth, who had just completed washing his feet, suggested that since the tap was inaccessible I might wash in the water he had used. As the condition of his feet had reduced the water to the consistency of treacle, with much embarrassment, I hastily declined this generous offer.

Gradually the week slipped past, every day bringing new experiences. The path was not easy, but in this we shared our troubles with hundreds of men and girls who have left their homes to serve their country. We who would, after seven brief days, relapse again into the luxuries of civil life, felt a deeper understanding of the trials and perplexities that dog the trails of these people on active service. Theirs is no pleasant lot, but, side by side with the army and the navy, they stand firm in their resolve to see it through, so that when once again they revert to civilian existence, they can leave the Service with a feeling that theirs was a job well done.

E. C. M.



"A" Company, 4 Perthshire Home Guard.

Home Guard

Since the formation of the School Home Guard unit, keen interest has been shown by all members. It has—for the older boys at any rate—taken the place of the Scout Troop. The Home Guard activities have been looked on not only as a duty but as an interesting adjunct to school life. Under Smith and Calder the Home Guard swiftly gained popularity, and when in July, 1941, many members were transferred to other units on leaving Strathallan, T. M. Nicol was left to carry on. At the commencement of the session he was lance-corporal in charge of about 15 men, but within nine months Nicol was promoted sergeant with two corporals—A. C. North and R. W. Gregory; two lance-corporals—A. N. Low and J. K. McGregor, and 35 men.

The highlights of the session were the manoeuvres carried out during the summer term. In these each member was given the

opportunity to show initiative and a thorough knowledge of all that he had been taught during the previous two terms.

Both at the Elcho and indoor ranges a high standard of marksmanship was shown by all.

Possibly the only criticism which can be made is that the shortage of boots and anklets caused considerable inconvenience to many members, but it is expected that these deficiencies will be remedied soon after the commencement of next session.

At the end of July, Cpls. North and Gregory, together with L/Cpl. Low, spent a hectic but pleasant week at a Commando training camp. Unfortunately, the censor will not allow details to be disclosed, but no doubt other members of the Home Guard will have a similar privilege in the future.

A. C. N. and R. W. G.

At Coniston

THERE is a magic here.

Around me is the village of inns and memories where are the houses which no architect has designed, no measurer gauged; and their walls are as drystone dykes. Rock is fitted upon simple rock, a many fretted jigsaw whose design is of great beauty.

But the magic of Coniston is not the magic of its beauty.

This little churchyard, these obscure graves have known only shadow and silence; for this is as the near shore of Acheron, where the sun shines not, and the footsteps make no sound, as they pass down the long grass to the unknown.

Neither is the magic here the magic of death's mystery.

In this earth John Ruskin was buried; and, where I now stand, the mourners once stood. From here they saw the coffin dropped and the last sod cast. Do they

remember Ruskin? Do they remember him as he is remembered? Ruskin, the beautiful, the suffering, the lover of the people; who had found the meaning of art; had come to know honour without peace—Ruskin has walked the roads I now walk: nor has nature forgotten him. In all the aea nature shall forget nothing.

The magic of Coniston is of its memories.

I do not know who have passed this way, but it is known. The Old Man, with his benign and sombre brow: he knows. The Lake whereon, as in a pallid eye, I have seen, reflected, the vague sculpture of my face: she knows. It is remembered! The artist who came here, where there is beauty; who came with his medium of expression which was colour or word or sound—he is not forgotten! And in these memories there is magic.

There is a magic here.

A. B.

How to Grow Tomatoes By One Who Didn't Know

IF the gentle reader is interested in this subject, so much the better; but if not, let him turn to some more enthralling subject such as the season's sport criticisms. There may, however, be some solitary gardening addict perusing the magazine whom the writer's experiences may help in the avoidance of some of the pitfalls which lie in wait for the unwary.

"First catch your hare," said the celebrated Mrs. Beeton; but as in Mrs. Beeton's province there was not such a vast multitude of hunters pursuing the same hare, it is wise to extend her advice by adding, "the early bird catches the early worm." Go to your market gardener, seedsman, or what you will, as early as possible after you have decided to grow tomatoes and ask him to reserve for you the requisite number of plants. Neglect of this may find all the dealer's plants mortgaged in advance to other customers, leaving none for you.

The reader who has no greenhouse will be asking whether it is possible to grow them without. It is, but it is not a very easy task. Plants in pots indoors, of course, are usually fairly successful if placed in a well-lighted window; but if, in the garden, a corner sheltered by hedges or walls is not available, it is better to build a greenhouse, a much easier job than is at first imagined.

A small, lean-to erection does well enough. The height should be about five or six feet, the breadth should not be less than about one and a half feet, while the length may vary according to the number of plants required. A south aspect is recommended.

Building materials, of course, are hard to come by these days and glass all the more so, but even if the reader is not in the building and glazing trades it is still possible, by applying a little ingenuity, to put together a structure which will serve the purpose. The wood can be obtained from many sources—new wood is not at all essential—boxwood or even wood deputised for use as fire wood being sufficiently satisfactory for the structure which is not intended to last for ever. As it is assumed that the gentle gardening Strathallian is

not in the glazing business, he will probably be met at the glazier's with a forbidding stare and a stern denial that glass can be sold for such a purpose—"permit" and "priority" if sufficiently fiercely growled, being liable to intimidate the most persistent buyer; and has he not, for reasons not very clear, been referred to already as "gentle?" (insulted 1st XV forwards please accept the writer's apologies). No, the glazier's, especially in blitzed areas, is no place for him. Whither can he turn in a cold, hard world? The answer, surprisingly enough, is to one of those vast emporia where for a paltry sixpence one can buy anything—or at least a part of anything—the common or garden Woolworth's. The method of approach is worthy of study for it is not glass one wants, officially, in these premises; Woolworth's have, periodically, objects called "cloches" consisting of two pieces of glass held at an angle of about 45° by a wooden clamp, the whole to be placed over seedlings or small plants which it is desired to "force." The reader's most affable smiles having failed to move the red-garbed damsel into selling him more than two at a time, the correct (?) procedure to obtain sufficient glass is to send fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers and all available acquaintances hot-foot to Woolworth's, to return with two cloches each. The reader may be able to obtain the glass without the clamps, for the writer had the fortunate experience of meeting a man at the counter whom he overheard asking for the clamps alone. The request was refused, but a private arrangement was made with him to "swap" some of the writer's clamps for some larger pieces of glass.

The greenhouse built and the plants put in, real worries become apparent in the gardener's life. The soil, of course, must have been of the correct type—rotted sods are reputed to be very good. Too little water is bad for the plants—so is too much! The correct amount apparently must be determined for every individual case. Too little is shown by a drooping of the delicate plants. Too much introduces so many complications that it is better to

water them with just a little more than is required to keep away the "droops."

A word of warning may be put in about those "germ-killers" on the market. They may kill garden germs but they also killed half of the unsuspecting writer's plants.

Fertilizers should not be applied until the fruit has formed (dusting the blossoms with a dry camel-hair brush helps this process by transferring pollen, although a light tap on the stalk of the plant is said to be quite effective) as, if they are applied too soon the plants grow too tall and leafy. After the fruit has formed (if ever) the fertiliser should be applied along with plenty of water which is now required to swell the fruit.

The greenhouse being presumably unheated, the fruit will not ripen until about September when precautions should be taken against frost. Unglazed portions of the greenhouse, quite permissible in summer, should be covered if only with damp sacking, or even brown paper.

The past summer was considered by experienced growers to be very bad for the growth of tomatoes in unheated houses, and although tomatoes on the market were fairly plentiful, who knows what next season with rationing of fuel for the heating of greenhouses may bring? At any rate, tomato growing provides a fairly pleasant and fruitful way of spending that severely rationed commodity, spare time.

I. H. H.

BIRTH.

JOHNSTON.—On 2nd February, 1942, to Mr. and Mrs. Turner Johnston, 47 Carlawerock Road, Glasgow, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BALFOUR—DOBSON.—At Craigmillar Park Church, Edinburgh, on 23rd September, 1941, Dr. George W. Balfour, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Balfour, Las Invernadas, San Eduardo, Argentine, to Barbara Murray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Dobson, 33 Granby Road, Edinburgh.

BROWN—GRAY.—At Pollokshields Titwood Parish Church, Glasgow, on 18th May, 1942, Lieutenant J. Ruthven Brown, R.N.V.R., younger son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Ruthven Brown, 59 Aytoun Road, Glasgow, to Phyllis, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gray, Huelva, Spain.

DOW—TUSTIAN.—At St. Margaret's Church, Newlands, Glasgow, on 15th January, 1942, Sub-Lieutenant J. Alastair Dow, R.N.V.R., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Dow, Ruberslaw, Whitecraigs, to Eileen Mary, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Tustian of Swansea.

PAUL—GARDNER.—At Kilmarnock, on 1st August, 1942, R. Lamont Paul, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Paul, 67 St. Andrews Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow, to Margaret Gardner, 86 Donald Road, Kilmarnock.

ROWAN—PATON.—At Newlands South Church, Glasgow, on 1st November, 1941, by the Rev. Duncan Blair, M.C., B.D., Lieutenant William Gray Rowan, Royal Scots Fusiliers, second son of Captain J. G. Rowan, late The Border Regiment, and Mrs. J. G. Rowan, of Troon, to Mary Beaton, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Paton, of Whitecraigs, Renfrewshire.

WATERSTON—HANGER.—At St. Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, on 11th October, 1941, Dr. William Fyfe Waterston, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Waterston, Forfar, to Kathleen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Hanger, 3 Mortonhall Road, Edinburgh.

I WILL NOT BELIEVE IN SCIENCE

for Dr. J. S. Huxley

I will not believe
That the diamond
In her little finger
Is, chemically,
The lead of my pencil.
I will not believe
That the black coffee
We drink
In the brasseries
Is something like
 $C_8 H_{10} O_2$
 $N_4 H_2 O$
I will not believe
That, when our lips meet,
So, too, do
Billions of microbes.
Nor will I believe
That those depthless eyes
That make me tremble
Are negatively-charged
Electrons
Rotating round
A positive nucleus.

A. B.

The Acts of the Alumni

1. Now when even was fully come, a place was made ready and all the young men of the tribe of Mac were gathered together, they and their teachers, and leaders of the people, and the strangers within their gates.
2. For great things were prepared for them and all were bidden to see and to hear.
3. And at the appointed time, the great veil before the High Place was rent asunder and behold! there appeared aloft that Wicked Man, he that troubleth Israel, mighty, and arrayed in panoply of war.
4. And the young men lifted up their voices and cried "Heil! Heil!"
5. And with a loud voice and in divers tongues spake he unto them and they were filled with amazement because of the words that he did say.
6. For the young men were wont to murmur secretly among themselves concerning their teachers, and did name them with names not their own, and did make light of their sayings, but only privily and below the breath.
7. But now he did shout these same things as from the house-tops.
8. Yet were none wroth, neither did any gainsay him. Contrarily, did laughter arise from their midst.
9. Then arose the very young of the tribe and gathered themselves together and lifted up their voices, making sweet sounds, like unto the singing of the angelic hosts.
10. And others beat upon instruments of music, by ones, by twos, yea even by threes.
11. And the tribe of Mac clapped their hands for joy.
12. And again came others aloft in their turn and did put upon themselves raiment not of their tribe and did more and speak as strangers, unfolding tales of great wonder.
13. Some there were even who took upon themselves the garments of women.
14. These same painted their faces and tied their hair, and their ways were the ways of Jezebel.
15. But the greater part bore weapons of war and appeared as mighty warriors

- before the Lord and waxed wroth the one with the other.
16. Then was there much clamour and strife and many were the corpses strewn upon the ground.
 17. Now among the tales that were told was the parable of the monkey's paw, which had power to accomplish the heart's desire of any man without fear in asking; but with the fulfilling came even greater sorrow and calamity, so that it were better to cast that evil thing into the fire.
 18. But behold! there came a man with purpose to ask, and the way of accomplishment was set forth before the people with much truth and discernment.
 19. And the people gazed with dread in their hearts, and a great silence fell upon them so that none spake to his neighbour.
 20. And when all was unfolded and the knocking of the dead upon the door had ceased, a sigh arose from the company as of relief after great tribulation.
 21. Now it came to pass after many hours that an end was made, therefore was the veil again drawn before the altar.
 22. Then did the tribe of Mac arise and go from that place, and darkness fell upon the land.

B. G. H.

SNOW

Down glide the flakes,
 So slow,
 They seem to waver,
 As in procrastination
 Of Descent;
 And they have all the delicacy
 Of the filigrane
 And have the chill pallor
 Of the Spirochaete;
 And each is wrought
 Of grains
 Infinitesimal:
 Leisurely they fall,
 Superbly conscious
 Of their chastity;
 So is the green world clothed,
 Clothed in a wedding-gown,
 A shroud,
 A winding sheet.

A. B.

Sports Notes

RUGBY, 1941-42.

WITH an unusual amount of team building to be done the opening practices were carried out in no desultory fashion. Many experiments were made as our principle was to find the best possible combination before matches started and to stick to it in so far as injuries would permit. The shuffling of the outsides finally produced a line-up which gave no cause for complaint throughout the season. Especially must we give a word of praise to Sanderson who, by sheer determination, won his place at scrum half, and to Wright who fitted himself so quickly into the stand-off berth. Petrie had a splendid season, and Baillie vastly improved upon his form of 1940-41. The captain, Low, operating in the centre was over-zealous in giving his team an example of unselfishness. In consequence we did not see as many of his brilliant individual bursts as we would have liked; nevertheless, Low and Gregory, with their strong defence, determined running, and well-timed feeding of their wings, made as good a pair of centres as Strath. has seen for a number of seasons. Taylor opened the season in good style at full back but dropped out through injury, his place being taken by Don. A splendid tackler, Don's work was marred by occasional glaring errors in judgment which unluckily for him were each time exploited to the full.

Forward troubles loomed large from the beginning. We had only two natural forwards of any merit in Marshall and Sharp, but three-quarter Stewart obligingly turned himself into a third. Every possible combination of all available material was tried and all those forwards who were constantly chopped, changed, exhorted and cajoled from day to day deserve a word of praise.

If hard work and enthusiasm alone could make a good pack we should have had one, but the weight and skill were just

not there to a sufficient degree. One had always to be sacrificed for the other and it was decided to keep lighter but clever forwards such as Hunter, J. C. Dawson and Alexander, in the 2nd XV. This policy was justified by the excellent showing of this team—certainly the best second string since the 1931-32 season. Of the remaining first forwards, Wilson as usual worked very hard in the set scrums but was seldom prominent in the loose. Similar remarks apply to Turnbull, Reekie and Mill, whilst North displayed uneven form. In one or two matches he was almost the ideal forward, whilst in others he was completely off form. A. Boyd showed up well in the line-out and in the loose, but could not master the art of using his weight in the set scrums. Low's captaining of the side left nothing to be desired, and, when called upon, Gregory proved himself to be an excellent deputy.

The 2nd XV are immune from any criticism, and one can only regret the paucity of their fixtures. The morale of the side was so good that when injury necessitated the introduction of an untried player from the lower ranks the newcomer was always inspired. J. S. Lowden, previously a wing, made a success of the scrum half position, whilst J. Hall at stand-off, though inclined to hang on to the ball too long, is a born outside half. Common and A. S. Headrick, the centres, were the mainstay of the side. The system of defence used by them in practice games against the 1st XV became so effective that as the season wore on the margin between the teams became a matter of less than a dozen points. S. R. P. Lyle, Harrington and I. A. Campbell all did well as wingers, whilst the debut of J. A. McIntyre was very promising. Reminiscent of J. G. S. Forrest in style and build, we hope to see him follow "Springy's" footsteps to Murrayfield.

Six matches were played by the 1st XV in the Winter Term, of which three were won and three lost. All eight fixtures for the Spring Term had to be cancelled owing to the weather.

The 2nd XV were unbeaten, drawing one game and winning three by increasing margins.

1st XV caps were awarded to:—

G. A. W. Marshall, R. M. Sharp, J. D. Wright, I. B. Petrie, J. S. Baillie.

2nd XV caps were awarded to:—

N. H. Stewart, N. Sanderson, W. A. Don, A. E. M. Reekie, A. Boyd, A. H. Mill.

Strathallan v. Aberdeen Grammar School.
Away. Lost 8-9.

With the forwards getting a reasonable share of the ball and the newly constituted back division functioning smoothly, Strath. pressed from the beginning and Baillie soon notched two tries, one of which was converted by Gregory. The Aberdeen defence then tightened up and, with their forwards gaining the upper hand, they were able to take the play to the Strath. 25 where an unconverted try resulted. The Grammar School continued to press in the second half, and another unconverted try followed by a penalty for a thoughtless infringement gave them the lead. Strathallan then regained the upper hand and pressed hard for the last fifteen minutes but the Aberdeen defence held out.

Strathallan v. The Leys School. Away.
Won 17-3.

It was soon obvious that the Leys forwards did not compare with their powerful pack of the previous season. After a spell of midfield play Petrie took a nice pass, rounded his winger and swerved past the full back to score a picture try which Gregory converted. Baillie obliged with a determined try all along the touch line after securing the ball from a lucky bounce, but his effort was unconverted. The first good run by the Leys back let the right winger into the corner for their opening score, but the kick failed so that Strath. led by 8-3 at half-time. Strath. maintained the upper hand throughout the second half. Gregory went through, following smart work by Sanderson and Wright, whilst the latter picked up to score after a fine forward rush led by Marshall. Gregory scored again near the end but neither this nor the two previous tries were improved upon.

All the backs did excellently in this game, whilst Marshall and Sharp were outstanding forwards.

Strathallan v. Allan Glen's. Home. Won
45-0.

Glen's came up to Strath. with a run of high scores against them, but by dint of superhuman efforts they held out for the first quarter of an hour. Two very nice tries by Gregory started an avalanche and the next ten minutes saw our backs put on a further 16 points. The outsides were now working like a well-oiled machine, though the forwards held little advantage over their opponents. The second half saw a further spate of scoring with the backs, now full of confidence, carrying out a succession of really good movements. Tries were scored by Petrie (4), Baillie (3) and Low. Gregory converted once, and Wright five in addition to a penalty. Allan Glen's stood up well to their gruelling, and during the last five minutes they set up a sustained attack during which our line was all but crossed on two occasions and an easy penalty was missed.

Strathallan v. George Heriot's. Away.
Lost 0-6.

The backs showed their pace early on and Petrie was sent away down the wing, but he was over-confident on reaching the full back who made a heroic tackle. Heriot's were not slow to appreciate the position and their slower backs, getting the major share of the ball, adopted a policy of hard kicking up field. First Don gathered a hard low kick on the line with two Heriot's men in attendance when the ball should have been allowed to run dead, and then Petrie misfielded a high kick close to the corner flag. Two unconverted tries resulted which looked lucky but were the direct result of Heriot's correct policy. The Edinburgh forwards now gained the upper hand completely and our backs had to work hard in defence. Play continued on the same lines in the second half but, profiting by a mistake by the Heriot's backs, Petrie made a magnificent effort, being brought down by corner flagging forwards within a yard of the line. Low also made a brilliant effort but it was

noticeable that the Strath. pack did not once get the ball back from a scrum in their opponents' 25.

Strathallan v. Morgan Academy. Home.
Won 6-0.

With Low off through injury, Gregory skipped the side, and R. H. K. Common was brought into the centre. For the first twenty minutes play was uninteresting. Strath. had an obvious advantage outside the scrum but by keen tackling and good defensive kicking the Dundee side managed to keep a blank score sheet. From a scrum on the 25, however, Strath. for the first time heeled quickly. Wright drew two men and sent Gregory in for a nice try which was not converted. A similar effort in the second half completed the scoring. The Morgan backs were seldom dangerous owing to their lack of pace but their forwards had slightly the better of the game.

Strathallan v. Morrison's Academy. Away.
Lost 12-3.

Morrison's held a definite superiority in the set scrums, but their scrum half's method of putting the ball in gave Sharp few opportunities to hook. The Morrison's backs continually held the ball, but had not the pace to break through although they made good use of two penalties from easy positions. This stirred our forwards into activity, and a clean heel from a good position inaugurated a nice run which sent Gregory in for an unconverted try. Early in the second half Strath. made a great effort to level the scores, but the forwards were unable to maintain command and a further penalty made Morrison's safe. Near the end their backs came into the picture and Don had to make some fine tackles. Finally, an unlucky break sent the ball past him when a clearance seemed certain and a fortunate try for our opponents resulted.

Second Fifteen

The Second Fifteen made a very creditable but, we must confess, unexpected draw at Aberdeen Grammar School. We led by 3-0 from a try scored by Common until Aitkenhead went off with a broken

collar bone when the Grammar School drew level.

At Pitlochry, the Leys 2nd XV were comfortably beaten by 14-0. The game was a vociferous affair punctuated by many penalties against the home side, due almost always to inexperience. McGregor converted one with an incredible kick, and MacCrimmon two others. Although Strath. pressed continuously, only Hunter was able to cross the Leys line for a try which MacCrimmon converted.

Morgan's Academy were soundly beaten at Dundee by 23-0, tries being scored by G. S. Lowden (2), D. N. Campbell, Headrick, McIntyre and Lyle (2), McGregor converting one.

An even more satisfactory result was recorded at Crieff when Morrison's Academy went down to the tune of 35-3, their only score being from a penalty. The scorers were Hall (3), Harrington (2), G. S. Lowden, McIntyre (2), and Alexander. Four of these efforts were converted, so the 2nd XV completed their short fixture list with a points record of 75-6.

House Matches

The weather, having completely "washed out" the School fixtures for the Easter Term, generously relented at the end and rigger-starved Strathallan enjoyed a hectic week. The games were carried out in an unusually sporting spirit despite the intense rivalry. The marathon game between Ruthven and Simpson Juniors, put to a dramatic end by Bell, was a memorable occasion. The actual play lasted about 80 minutes and is a tribute to Strathallan endurance. Nicol well deserved the Senior Championship, with Freeland worthy runners-up. After their terrific battle in the first round, Simpson Juniors were not fancied in the final, but the unexpected happened and Freeland were well beaten. A new system was introduced which requires a play-off for second place between the losers of the final and the team they did not meet in the first round. This worked admirably and will be adhered to in future.

MATCHES.

Junior. 1st Round.

1. Simpson beat Ruthven in the fourth extra period 3-0 by a try scored by Bell.
2. Freeland beat Nicol 8-0. Scorers—Stubbs and James.

Final.

Simpson beat Freeland 8-3 after extra time. McHarg and H. Bushe scored for Simpson, and Common for Freeland.

Play-Off.

Ruthven beat Freeland 3-0. Scorer—Bone.

Senior. 1st Round.

1. Nicol, 10; Freeland, 5. Petrie scored twice for Nicol, Gregory converting both. Low scored for Freeland and Wright converted.
2. Simpson, 6; Ruthven, 0. McIntyre and Maclauchlan had unconverted tries.

Final.

Nicol, 3; Simpson, 0. Gregory scored the only try.

Play-Off.

Freeland, 8; Simpson, 3. Wright scored a try for Freeland. He converted this and landed a penalty also. Don got Simpson's consolation try.

R. O. C.

CRICKET, 1942

With the bulk of the 1941 side still at School we looked forward to a record-breaking season, but events did not live up to our expectations. Of the seven matches played, four were won and three lost. The team touched its best form in heavily defeating Morrison's Academy who came to Forgandenny with a string of easy victories behind them. Glasgow Academy were also beaten in workmanlike style as were an Army Maintenance XI and the M.T.E., Rosyth XI. The team was soundly trounced, however, by a powerful Guards XI and George Heriot's scored a narrow victory in a thrilling finish. The most entertaining game—that against the Leys School—gave our opponents a comfortable win, but we were by no means disgraced. Details of the matches are as follows:—

Strathallan v. M.T.E., Rosyth. Away.

Won by 45 runs.

With the exception of J. S. Lowden, our early batsmen were very shaky against some good fast bowling by Tapp, but courageous hitting by R. H. K. Common (18) and E. C. MacCrimmon (14) helped Lowden to stop the rot and brought about a double change of bowling. This, however, resulted in the dismissal of Lowden—clean bowled for an invaluable 52. The tail-enders, Boyd, Nicol, G. S. Lowden and A. H. Thomson, all contributed useful scores and the innings eventually closed at 133.

Three good catches, two by Boyd and the other by Aitkenhead, saw three of the M.T.E. wickets down for 36, but their opening batsman was settling down to play attractive cricket. He was well bowled by MacCrimmon for 24, and Aitkenhead, brought on in place of Nicol, rattled the stumps twice in quick succession. With 60 runs on the board and the last man in, Aitkenhead came in for heavy punishment but Nicol, brought back to the attack at the right moment, bowled the hitter at 88. Nicol had 4 wickets for 22 and MacCrimmon 3 for 32.

Strathallan v. George Heriot's. Away.

Lost by 2 wickets.

The Heriot's slow leg break bowler was in fine form with both bat and ball and this game will be remembered as "Whittaker's match." His length was remarkably good considering the extraordinary amount of spin he got on the ball, and Gregory, who adopted forcing tactics, was well bowled for 6. Aitkenhead then joined Lowden and played a remarkable innings of 19 in which he survived four appeals and was badly missed on three occasions. Lowden, who had played the slow bowling very carefully, reached out too far and was neatly stumped at 28, and Aitkenhead shared the same fate. A little later Nicol and MacCrimmon hit out but did not last long, and the batting honours went to W. Boyd (11 not out), who successfully defied the wiles of Whittaker whilst his Strath. colleagues were all at sea. The total eventually reached 79 and it was obvious that we should have to fight hard for victory.

Low elected to open the bowling with Nicol and both kept a steady length. Heriot's adopted a defensive policy and only 6 runs came in the first half hour. A smart catch behind the wicket by Lowden off Nicol and a l.b.w. by Low saw 2 wickets down for 11 and Whittaker batting. Low quickly came in for heavy punishment and, bringing on MacCrimmon, changed himself to Nicol's end. Runs still came freely and with the total at 48, Hall came into the attack and broke up the partnership by dismissing Durie lbw at 53. In the next over, MacCrimmon bowled Whittaker for an excellent 29. Hall at this period was bowling splendidly, as was MacCrimmon, and with the score board reading 60 for 6 our prospects were good. MacCrimmon lost his length, however, and 13 runs were scored before Hall claimed another victim, only to be replaced by Nicol who had no success. Our total was passed with seven wickets down, although MacCrimmon claimed a further victim with the remaining ball of the over. In all he had 3 wickets for 30 and Hall 3 for 9. Had the bowling been more effectively handled, the result would probably have been reversed.

Strathallan v. Army Maintenance XI. Home. Won by 101 runs.

Our Service opponents won the toss and elected to bat on an excellent wicket. To the bowling of Low and Nicol they made a bad start, losing 3 wickets with the total at 11, but when Sergeant Cooper, who had batted confidently from the start, was joined by Lt. Deplige runs came freely off Low and, as in the previous game, it was Hall who got the much needed wicket—this time at 54. Private Johnson then joined Cooper who completed a very sound 50. At 79 Aitkenhead was brought on in place of Hall and a complete collapse followed. Cooper was clean bowled for 51 and Johnson left with the total unchanged. The remaining wickets fell to Nicol and Aitkenhead for the addition of only one extra, and the innings closed at 80. Aitkenhead took 3 wickets without conceding a run, whilst Nicol had 4 for 21. Boyd took three good catches at point and

the fielding in general reached a high standard. Lowden and Gregory opened confidently but the former was unluckily caught off the handle of his bat, and with Aitkenhead and Low failing badly three wickets were down for 4 runs. Common then set about the bowling in resolute style and compiled an excellent 31, mostly by powerful straight drives. Gregory, who had opened quietly, now began to score freely with nice shots to leg, whilst MacCrimmon in his usual boisterous style rattled up a quick 14 which included a fine six. At 77 Gregory was joined by the more sedate Boyd and our opponents were quickly passed. They elected to continue the innings, however, and with the dismissal of Boyd (12) at 121 Gregory entered into a whirlwind partnership with Nicol which produced 60 runs in 25 minutes. Gregory (70 not out) made a number of very fine off drives which included two sixes, whilst Nicol (37 not out) pulled the ball fiercely to leg, scoring 23 runs in eight consecutive balls on one occasion. Stumps were drawn with the Strath. total at 181 for 6.

Strathallan v. Glasgow Academy. Home. Won by 27 runs.

Academy elected to bat on an uncertain wicket, rain having fallen during the night. Low, who had consistently bowled with devastating effect in the nets, again failed to find his length, and the Academy, despite the unlucky loss of a wicket with only a single on the board, looked like collaring the bowling. G. Lowden slowed up the scoring by keeping a nice length and took his first wicket in 1st XI cricket when he got Stevenson well caught by MacCrimmon at 25. J. Denholm, youngest of a line of cricketing brothers, always a thorn in our flesh, helped himself freely off Nicol but was very unlucky to play on to MacCrimmon at 46. Hall now came on to conduct a "blitz" with MacCrimmon's help and wickets fell in quick succession so that the last pair came together at 70. They managed to knock Hall off his length and Aitkenhead finished off the innings at 87. Hall had 4 wickets for 22 runs and MacCrimmon 3 for 8.

The Strath. innings opened disastrously for Gregory fell into a nice leg trap off the second ball, but Low, opening the innings in place of the absent Lowden, looked to be in good form. He was beautifully caught at 12 when Common came in to join Aitkenhead. This pair attacked the bowling with determination and laid the foundations of a win by scoring 31 runs in quick time. After clearing the boundary with a hard pull, Aitkenhead (21) was well held in the outfield, and Common (24) was bowled at 54. MacCrimmon (14) and Boyd (9) continued the good work and the game was won with 4 wickets in hand. Hall (13) and G. Lowden (12 not out) showed batting form which augurs well for next season in carrying the final score to 114.

Strathallan v. Morrison's Academy. Home.
Won by 171 runs.

Strath. took first knock on a perfect wicket and our opening pair scored freely until Gregory was caught at 40 for a well played 27. Aitkenhead then scored rapidly, playing more off shots than usual, and the score was carried to 92 before he was lbw to Dunsire, a slow leg break bowler of considerable promise. Joined by Low, Lowden opened out until at 112 he was caught behind the wicket for a very useful 37. Low (36) played a really good innings which included a number of flashing square cuts which had the ball over the boundary before the fielders could move. Common (11), MacCrimmon (12), Boyd (14), Hall (10 not out), and Lowden (9 not out) all did well, and the innings was declared closed at 210 for 9 wickets.

Low's faith in himself as a bowler was completely justified in this game for he was instrumental in bringing about an astonishing collapse of the Morrison's batsmen, 5 wickets being down for 8 runs. Low kept a splendid length, sending up in-swingers at a fast medium pace which beat the batsmen time and time again. His final figures were 6 wickets for 6 runs, 4 being clean bowled. Hall (2 for 8) maintained his good form, and Morrison's were dismissed in 50 minutes for 39 runs of which

Dunsire scored 14 and Sturrock 18 not out. Seven batsmen failed to bother the scorer.

Strathallan v. Leys School. Home. Lost
by 61 runs.

Excellent weather, a fast wicket and two fighting sides provided a pleasant day's entertainment. Leys had first use of the wicket but Nicol, in an inspired spell of bowling, looked for a while as if he might repeat Low's feat of the previous match. Five maidens followed by 2 off Low's third over and then Nicol bowled Withrington with a snorter. In his next over Nicol obliged with a repeat performance and 2 wickets were down for five runs. Lees and Dunkerley then proceeded to dig themselves in and, having thoroughly mastered the bowling, proceeded to make hay in all directions despite frequent changes of bowling. Finally at 114 Low got Lees (36) brilliantly caught by Boyd at point. Leys still held the upper hand until at 147 Aitkenhead got Dunkerley lbw for a splendid 72. The innings was declared at 178 for 8 and towards the end G. Lowden bowled extremely well—his figures being 2 for 12. Aitkenhead had 2 for 33, Nicol 2 for 27, and Low 2 for 54.

J. S. Lowden reached his best form behind the stumps in this game, but, though opening the innings confidently, he was badly lbw with the total at 14. Dunkerley, bowling at a great pace, had all our batsmen in difficulty and he beat Aitkenhead all ends up in the next over. Gregory (18) who had been batting well, was run out at 25 owing to a bad call, and Common's stumps were spreadeagled by Dunkerley at 40. A medium-paced bowler, Rawlinson, now exploited a clever off side trap in the gully to which Low (13) and Boyd quickly fell, so that 6 wickets were down for 46. MacCrimmon (27), nobly backed up by newcomer Stewart (10), retrieved the position to some extent, but the brightest batting of the day from the Strath. point of view came at the end when G. S. Lowden completely collared the bowling and, with a quick 28 not out, he was mainly responsible for raising our total to a respectable 117.

Strathallan v. Guards XI. Home. Lost by 5 wickets.

This talented side beat us comfortably, but one feels certain that a much closer game would have resulted but for a remarkable display of fielding which broke the back of our batting. After Lowden had performed his usual feat of getting himself well caught behind the wicket and Gregory had been bowled, the fun began. Aitkenhead, who had some success with the long handle, hit a terrific ball about waist high towards mid wicket. We looked instinctively towards the boundary, but a pair of hands which seemed as big as a fish net stretched out like lightning, and that was that. Then when Corporal Mountney was bowling to Common he saw fit to follow up his bowling on the off side; Common, however, hit the ball even harder than Aitkenhead had done straight back at the umpire's head! This individual took evasive action like the well trained air-raid warden that he is and then got up again to signal the four; noticing that Common was walking away from the wicket and that Mountney was inspecting the seam of the ball, the umpire felt that the larger Guardsman would take a poor view of his action and thought it safer to desist. When, a few overs later, the same man who had caught Aitkenhead performed a half roll off the top of a loop into the sun to catch a ball from MacCrimmon—which by all known laws just had to pitch yards behind him—the rest of the team calmly surrendered and we were all out for 39. Early successes by Hall and Nicol cheered us up, but Captain Dixon (30) defended stubbornly until the arrival of Lt. Howland Jackson (46 not out) whose whirlwind hitting soon took the score to 106 for 7.

Nicol had 3 wickets for 52, Hall 2 for 28, and MacCrimmon 1 for 11.

At a second venture, against change bowlers, we scored 97 for 7 wickets, V. S. Lowden—a welcome visitor for the day—making 42 not out, G. S. Lowden 14, and Common 12 not out.

Team Criticism

A. N. Low, the Captain, did not have a good season. It was a great pity that he was only able to produce his real bowling

form in one match. In batting, his old fault of playing his stroke and then taking his eye off the ball before it had reached the bat was often obvious. His management of the team was good but did not reach the very high standard of 1941.

T. M. Nicol, Vice-Captain, was not the match-winning bowler of 1941. This season he bowled extremely well whilst there was still shine on the ball, but thereafter was ineffective. His batting was adventurous and entertaining but never solid.

J. S. Lowden was an accomplished bat with one glaring fault. Playing to a ball on, or just outside the off stump, he did not get his right foot across far enough. Catches in the slips or behind the wicket resulted.

R. W. Gregory fulfilled his promise of the previous season, being the most successful batsman. He missed many opportunities of using his best shot—the off drive—through not getting his left foot across far enough. His fielding was of high standard.

W. A. C. Aitkenhead displayed in and out form owing to lack of restraint. He must wait till he has got his eye in before attacking the bowling. He has good off shots but prefers to pull the ball to leg. Will make a good leg break bowler later on.

R. H. K. Common had always suffered through playing his strokes with insufficient power. He cured this fault and played several attractive innings.

E. C. MacCrimmon, like Nicol, did not prove a match-winner in 1942. He kept a good length with the ball but seemed to have lost his nip off the pitch and did not turn so quickly from off. Though he had some useful scores he was unlucky with the bat, being brilliantly caught on several occasions.

All the above were awarded 1st XI caps.

J. Hall was the best bowler of the season. His medium-paced off breaks are the most effective; he must avoid a tendency to bowl too fast. His batting is immature, defence being sound enough but he has not learned to get his foot well forward to attacking shots.

G. S. Lowden must be congratulated on his position in the batting and bowling averages, particularly considering his years. He is a whole-hearted natural cricketer and has a bright future.

A. H. Thomson played good strokes but never with sufficient force to make a big score.

W. J. Boyd made a surprise jump into the 1st XI by virtue of an excellent innings in the trial match. He was never quite able to reproduce this form but showed a good defence. His fielding at point was excellent.

Batting Averages.

	Innings.	% five out one.	Highest Score.	Total Runs.	Average.
G. S. Lowden	6	4	28*	59	29.5
R. W. Gregory	7	1	70*	131	21.8
J. S. Lowden	6	0	52	105	17.5
R. H. K. Common	6	0	31	94	15.7
W. A. C. Aitkenhead	7	0	35	92	13.1
E. C. MacCrimmon	7	0	27	91	13.0
T. M. Nicol	7	1	37	69	11.5
A. N. Low	6	0	36	61	10.1
W. J. Boyd	7	1	13	51	8.5
J. Hall	6	1	13	30	6.0
A. H. Thomson	5	1	8	15	3.75

*Not Out.

Bowling Analysis.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Avr. runs Wkts. per wkt.
J. Hall	30.8	7	101	12 8.4
G. S. Lowden	12	0	32	3 10.7
E. C. MacCrimmon	36.6	9	109	10 10.9
T. M. Nicol	64.4	15	177	16 11.1
W. A. C. Aitkenhead	16.5	1	94	8 11.75
A. N. Low	42	10	122	10 12.2

Catches — Boyd 7, MacCrimmon 3, Aitkenhead 2, Low, Hall, Gregory, Common and J. S. Lowden 1 each.

House Cricket

Nicol possessed the strongest side on paper and, for once, there were no surprises. They met Simpson in the first round and disposed of the first six wickets for a mere 37 runs. Two "unknowns" in Lacey (38) and Law (28) then got together and gave Simpson a fighting chance with a total of 103. Nicol won with two wickets

in hand despite the efforts of three 1st XI bowlers, McGregor (46 not out) being the star performer.

Ruthven could only amass 61 against Freeland for whom Common did the "hat trick," all three victims being clean bowled. N. H. Stewart for Ruthven played a fine 38 not out. Freeland put on the runs for the loss of only one wicket, A. N. Low being undefeated for 51.

In the finals Nicol's 1st XI men did not give much trouble but a splendid 42 not out by K. M. Anderson pulled the side together and the end of the 30th over saw 102 runs on the board with one wicket to fall. It looked to be anybody's game at this stage but the quick dismissal of Freeland's early batsmen put the Nicol side right on their toes. Common (23) and Dawson (10) made a gallant effort, but the end was inevitable and Freeland were dismissed 41 runs in arrears. Nicol were a very keen side and thoroughly deserved the victory.

Second Eleven

Of the six matches played, two were won and four lost. Details are as follows:—

9th May — Strathallan, 47 (K. M. Anderson, 15); M.T.E., Rosyth, 56 for 7 (K. M. Anderson, 3 for 19; N. H. Stewart, 4 for 19).

16th May — Heriot's 2nd XI, 106 (Stewart, 7 for 45; Anderson, 3 for 44); Strathallan, 47 (M. M. Milne, 11).

13th June — Strathallan, 65 (K. M. Anderson, 11; J. C. Dawson, 19); Leys 2nd XI, 110 for 4 (N. H. Stewart, 2 for 35).

20th June — Strathallan, 106 (J. B. Clark, 23; N. H. Stewart, 42; J. M. McGregor, 10); Morrison's 2nd XI, 89 (K. M. Anderson, 8 for 22).

27th June — Strathallan, 103 for 9 (N. H. Stewart, 26; J. G. Thompson, 28); R.A.S.C. XI, 79 (K. M. Anderson, 4 for 33; J. G. Thompson, 2 for 10).

4th July — Strathallan, 47 (K. M. Anderson, 11; J. G. Thompson, 10 not out); Army Maintenance XI, 67 for 6 (K. M. Anderson, 4 for 35).

Other Matches

14th June—Forgandenny Boys, 1st innings, 29 (G. T. Lamond, 3 for 5; J. S. Anderson, 2 for 4); 2nd innings, 26 (H. Bushe, 3 for 4; J. S. Anderson, 2 for 7).

Strathallan Colts, 1st innings, 43 for 7 declared (H. Bushe, 13; V. G. Milne, 20); 2nd innings, 18 for 3.

20th June—Forgandenny Cricket Club, 1st innings, 18 (Low, 4 for 2); 2nd innings, 26 (Gregory, 3 for 3; Aitkenhead, 3 for 6). A. N. Low's XI, 1st innings, 35 for 2 declared (A. H. Thomson, 15 not out; Nicol, 18 not out); 2nd innings, 13 for 1.

18th July—W. A. C. Aitkenhead's XI, 79 (Clark, 30; Aitkenhead, 25; Chapelle, 10).

R.A.M.C. XI, 167 (Clark, 2 for 9; Aitkenhead, 4 for 44).

TENNIS

It was only to be expected that the serious reduction in the supply of tennis balls, together with the fact that many hours which would, in normal times, have been available for the use of the court but which this year have been devoted to Home Guard and A.T.C., would to a marked extent curtail the season's tennis. This, unfortunately, proved only too true and it was reluctantly decided to abandon the usual individual competitions.

The one official event held during the season was the inter-house tournament. In this the standard of play was, on the whole, fairly high even although it was obvious that most of the players were handicapped by lack of practice. The result was Nicol first with 9 sets, Freeland second with 8 sets. Playing for Nicol, R. W. Gregory and J. S. Lowden won all their sets, while for Freeland, A. N. Low and R. H. K. Common were only once defeated.

R. W. G.

FIVES

This year, chiefly owing to a prolonged spell of severe weather during the Easter term, more time than usual was available for fives. Many boys took advantage of this opportunity to improve their standard of play, and it may be said with truth that fives has again found its true position as an excellent and popular school sport.

During February, in spite of the proximity of the Scottish Leaving Examinations, a fives "ladder" was started and

in this considerable enthusiasm was shown. Although it was not possible for sufficient games to be played so as to fix a definite order, R. W. Gregory, A. N. Low, W. J. Boyd, and J. S. Lowden probably showed the most consistently good form.

In the inter-house tournament held during the Summer term, Nicol continued their recent run of successes by not losing a single game. Their team was J. S. Lowden and E. C. MacCrimmon, R. W. Gregory and I. B. Petrie, while Ruthven (the runners-up) were represented by W. J. Boyd and S. R. P. Lyle, J. Wilson and N. Sanderson. G. A. W. Marshall and G. S. Lowden—both Simpson boys—also showed excellent form and should form the nucleus of a fine team next session.

R. W. G.

SWIMMING

This year a special effort has been made to improve the swimming. Tests for the School Swimming Badge were held on two occasions and 15 boys received their badges.

This year it was decided that swimming should form a part of the inter-house sports competition and heats were innovated. These heats were based on the system which applies to the other athletic tests, *i.e.*, one point being allocated to every successful entrant. The results placed Ruthven and Simpson top equal with 12 points each, then Freeland with 11 points, and, lastly, Nicol with 10 points. It is to be hoped that these heats will continue to form an integral part of the sports championship.

Keen interest was shown in the House Relay Swimming this year when Freeland put up a very strong team with J. C. Dawson, J. S. Baillie, J. P. Alexander and E. I. Macnaughton. J. C. Dawson had a close finish with G. A. W. Marshall of Simpson, and only managed to beat him by a narrow margin. The remainder of the Simpson team consisted of J. G. and H. F. Bushe, and P. Lawrence. Nicol came third with R. W. Gregory, J. S. Lowden, E. S. Dawson and H. F. Russell, and close behind them came Ruthven with A. C. North, J. B. Clark, J. S. Mitchell and J. L. Wilson.

A. C. N.

Old Boys' News

WE congratulate Messrs. J. B. Fullarton, W. D. Lemnox, J. A. R. McIntyre and E. C. MacCrimmon on passing the first part of the Chartered Accountants' Intermediate Examination in May last. Mr. MacCrimmon sat his examination while still at School, the remaining three having left School in July, 1941.

Mr. Horace Thomson, of Elgin, has successfully passed his first and second professional examinations in medicine at Aberdeen University, where he takes a prominent part in the athletic side, being a playing member of the University Rugby Team and vice-captain of the University Golf Team.

Many of his old friends will be delighted to know that Mr. Ian McBride, of Trinidad, has been made a director in the well-known firm of Messrs. Geo. F. Huggins & Company, Port of Spain. Mr. McBride is a 2nd Lieut. in the local volunteers. His younger brother, Jim, is captain of one of the R.A.F. bomber crews.

We congratulate Mr. Nicol Brown, of Giffnock, on receiving his captaincy in the Royal Corps of Signals about eighteen months after joining up.

We also offer our congratulations to our Secretary, Mr. J. B. Maitland Cowan, on receiving his majority.

Dr. Ian S. Robertson Bain, of Bridge of Allan, has been promoted to Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander, M.B., R.N.V.R., and we understand is now on active service in the Far East.

We received a very interesting letter from Mr. Hugh Scott, of Busby, while he was in the U.S.A. taking part of his R.A.F. training. He was stationed at a training school in Florida, where the normal working hours were from 4.30 a.m. to 9 p.m., and he thoroughly enjoyed his sojourn amongst our American friends.

Early in the year we had a letter from Mr. Roy Fernie, whose home is at Cristobal, Panama, asking for news of his

old schoolfellows. Roy is serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force and letters addressed to him at 1050 Gilford Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, would always be sent on to him.

Mr. Eric Nicholson, of Innerleithen, paid a visit to the School recently. He took his B.Sc. in Pure Chemistry at Edinburgh University in June, 1941, and since then he has taken up technical work in radio-location and is now a commissioned officer in the Army in charge of a radio-location unit.

We notice that Rowan Roy—the youngest of the three Roys from the Virgin Islands—who is now at school in Ontario, Canada, is making a name for himself in the School 1st XI and also as a yachtsman. In the Xmas Number of the Canadian "Boating Magazine" Roy's name appeared as winner of first place in last year's racing at Nantucket Yacht Club against an expert field. He is 15 years of age and had as crew an 11 year old companion.

In a letter from South Africa, Mr. R. J. Dunlop tells us that he joined up in June, 1940, in the S.A. Tank Corps. Mr. Dunlop went out to South Africa about two years before the outbreak of war and was employed with Albion Motors Ltd. as technical and service engineer, in which capacity he had ample opportunity of visiting practically the whole of South Africa, including Portuguese East Africa. We hear that he has been promoted to Captain. His younger brother, Jim, has done one year's work in the agricultural department of Reading University and is attached to the University Air Squadron.

Round about Christmas time we had a letter from Captain David Bogle, who is a prisoner of war at Oflag No. VII C/H Camp. During his incarceration he takes a class for C.A. apprentices and he also adds that he is very grateful to Mr. H. R. Botting, Buenos Aires, for the parcels of food sent to him. Captain Ian R. Wood and Captain David Thomson, who are also at Oflag VII, send their kind wishes to the Club.

Dr. C. L. Maclay and his wife are at present in Rhodesia, where there appear to be few war restrictions as yet. Before leaving Britain, Dr. Maclay added F.R.C.S. (Edin.) and F.R.C.S. (England) to his other qualifications.

Strathallians of 1929 will remember the three Guthrie brothers who in those days resided at Jesmond, Bridge of Earn. Captain W. Guthrie, who recently returned to this country from an engineering administrative post with the Chilian railways, surprised and delighted us with a visit one Saturday during the Summer term. He is now engaged on engineering work in the Army and no doubt will find the experience very useful when he returns to civilian life. His elder brother, Major J. Guthrie, is serving with the Indian Medical Forces, whilst Lindsay, the youngest brother, is finishing his medical studies at King's College, London. We offer our congratulations to Lindsay on his marriage to a lady in his own profession.

We extend our congratulations to Dr. W. O. G. Taylor on his engagement to Miss Murielle Martin of Ayr. Miss Martin's brother, Lawrence, is an O.S. and was employed with a firm in Rangoon for about three years prior to its capture by the Japs. Dr. Taylor is at present serving with the R.A.M.C. as an eye specialist.

We also offer our best wishes to Mr. Hugh Cowper, who was married last year to an Australian lady. We understand Mr. Cowper is now serving with the "Aussies."

Mr. R. S. Johnston, of Glasgow, who left School in 1936, is now a Member of the Faculty of Advocates and is in practice in Edinburgh. Mr. Johnston graduated at Glasgow University LL.B. with distinction. His brother, Mr. Turner Johnston, is a wireless mechanic in the R.A.F.

We are very proud to state that Squadron-Leader Charles Lambert Roy has been awarded the D.S.O. for skill and courage in the face of strong enemy opposition. Squadron-Leader Roy's operational sorties included six raids on Cologne and five on Hamburg, during which he set an example of admirable cool judgment and determination, and was an inspiration to the rest of his squadron.

Dr. J. Dow was married recently to Miss Moira Newton of Glasgow and the young couple have taken up residence in London, where Dr. Dow is a resident physician at St. George's Hospital. We offer them our best wishes.

We see that Mr. Allan Watt's name is still to the fore in the world of sport. His 220 yards leg in the relay race at Ibrox Park War Charities' Sports pulled the Shettleston Harriers to the front with a three-yard lead, maintained to the end.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. Vonde Mackay, who was married early in the year.

We also offer our congratulations to Mr. Douglas Gardner on his marriage to Miss Margaret McCall.

On going to press we learn that promotion has come to Major Dunlop Linton, of High Burnside, Lanarkshire, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations.

Strathallians of 1926-31 will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Crawford (Jerry), who was chemistry master and housemaster for a considerable part of that time. Everybody—boys and staff alike—admired Jerry, even in spite of his Irish temper; perhaps this was somewhat of an asset on occasions when dealing with youthful delinquents. He was a splendid housemaster and, under his regime, discipline and kindness were merged together in their right proportions. At School he did much to build up the chemistry departments. His death occurred in May, 1941, in the Wirral Peninsula as a result of enemy action, and since then his wife and family have returned to Perthshire to which county Mrs. Crawford belongs.

We had a visit from Sergeant Ronald Orr of Alloa during his leave. He is a wireless operator with a bomber squadron and has taken part in operations over Germany and has also had experience in the Middle East.

We see little of the O.S.'s at Forgan-demy nowadays since they are busily occupied in settling accounts with our enemies but we are always more than delighted to hear of and from them.

List of Members—continued

<i>No.</i>	<i>Dates of attendance at Strathallan.</i>		<i>No.</i>	<i>Dates of attendance at Strathallan.</i>	
69.	1928/31	Dunlop, Q., Greenan, Ayr.	228.	1937/38	Grant, Wm. J. M., 3 Balmuildy Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow.
139.	1929/34	Dunlop, R. W., Greenan, Ayr.	149.	1930/35	Gray, A. G. R., 88 Picton Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad.
151.	1930/35	Dunlop, Wm. A. M., Greenan Farm, Ayr.	258.	1936/41	Haddow, S. A. Haig, Craigend of Capelrig, Newton Mearns.
142.	1924/27	Easterbrook, A. A. F., Arnprior, Gorebridge, Midlothian.	132.	1929/34	Hamilton, Hugh B., jr., P.O. Box 664, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.
185.		Ferguson, S. S., c/o Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., Jamshed Katrak Chambers, Machi Miani, Karachi, India.	182.	1927/32	Harley, E. C., 1 Hillpark Terrace, Wormit, Fife.
61.	1916/17	Ferguson, T., Port Commission, Raigoan.	44.	1925/28	Hart, E., 115 St. Andrew's Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow.
153.	1929/35	Fergusson, George, Alexandra House, Kirkcaldy.	159.	1931/35	Hay, Drummond, Glenearn, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire.
48.	1926/30	Fraser, S., c/o Hudson Bay Company, 100 McGill Street, Montreal (Deceased).	19.	1920/23	Hays, D., c/o Dunlop Rubber Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
177.	1933/36	Forbes, A. G., 12 Lyndhurst Gardens, Hampstead, London, N.W.3.	267.	1935/42	Headrick, Iain A., 48 Corroun Rd., Newlands, Glasgow, S.3.
176.	1932/36	Forrest, John G. S., Arden, Eastwoodmains Road, W., Giffnock, Renfrewshire (Deceased).	55.	1926/30	Henderson, I. D., 6 Newton Place, Charing Cross, Glasgow.
60.	1917/19	Forrest, J. H., c/o Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, Beaver Hall Buildings, Montreal.	210.	1920/22	Hepburn, J. Harley, Coniston, Boglily Road, Kirkcaldy.
179.	1922/24	Fraser, Alex., jun., Priorybank, W. Victoria Road, Kirkcaldy.	62.	1920/25	Hird, Walter J., c/o Fabrica Argentina de Alpargatas, Patricious 1053, Buenos Aires.
181.	1925/27	Fraser, Henry, Priorybank, W. Victoria Road, Kirkcaldy.	121.	1927/29	Holmes, John, jr., Drumharrow, Luncaarty, Perth.
180.	1922/25	Fraser, R. Ritchie, 8 Bennochly Avenue, Kirkcaldy.	247.	1933/39	Hood, D. Ruthven, 28 Prestwick Road, Ayr.
195.	1932/37	Fulton, D., 15 Douglas Avenue, Burnside.	154.	1932/35	Hood, W. R., 18 Portland Road, Kilmarnock.
117.	1920/24	Galloway, Leonard, 15 Nairn Street, Dundee.	196.	1932/37	Houston, R. A., 8 Maisonhouse Road, North Mount Vernon, Glasgow.
115.	1920/24	Galloway, Wilfred, 9 Binsted Avenue, Dundee.	71.	1927/31	Howie, A., Craigielea, Kilmacolm.
106.	1929/33	Gardner, D. S., 86 Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock.	165.	1921/24	Huie, J. C., c/o Messrs. Hewat, Bridson & Newly, P.O.B. 71, Alexandria, Egypt.
253.	1934/40	Geddes, Ian C., 143 Market Street, St. Andrews, Fife.	46.	1929/30	Hunter, D., 34 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh.
257.	1937/41	George, Bryan H., 14 Craignethan Road, Whitecraigs, Renfrewshire.	168.	1933/36	Innes, R. A., 47 Hamilton Drive, Hillhead, Glasgow, W.2.
204.	1935/37	Gjertsen, R. R. B., Craigholm, Leven, Fife.	163.	1930/36	Irons, David M., Lochbank House, Forfar.
270.	1937/41	Glen, J. Douglas, 3 Hamilton Avenue, Glasgow, S.1.	36.	1922/26	Irvine, T., 16 Windsor Avenue, Newton Mearns, Renfrewshire.
264.	1937/41	Goodbrand, Edward H., 7 Rubislaw Den North, Aberdeen.	246.	1932/39	Jack, Kilpatrick, 51 Woodend Drive, Jordanhill, Glasgow, W.3.
166.	1925/30	Grant, F. W., Montague House, Marshfield, Chippenham, Wilts.	250.	1934/39	Jackson, D. Clive, 77 Eastwoodmains Road, Clarkston, Glasgow.
233.	1927/29	Grant, G. Mitchell, Rose Cottage, Leven, Fife.	73.	1926/31	Johnston, J. T., 21 Carlavereck Road, Newlands, Glasgow.

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