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Secondary School Magazine.

No. 47.

JULY. 1926



BOYS' SCHOOL: DYNEVOR PLACE.

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EDITORIAL.

The late Editor left School rather suddenly in the middle of this term, and certain contributions, including the reports of the House Socials, cannot now be found.

This Term has been specially remarkable for three School excursions. One was to the G.W.R. Works at Swindon during the Easter holidays when over 200 boys thoroughly enjoyed seeing railway engines and carriages in courses of construction. The trip to Caerleon took place during London Matriculation week on a day when class rooms were also required for the supplementary Scholarship Examination. Pride of place, however, is given in this issue to the trip to Rhineland, but even these long accounts cannot convey to readers who did not go with the party, how thoroughly all enjoyed their Whitweek on the Rhine.

It was intended to include the full scores of the two cricket matches with Ystradgynlais County School, one of which was won, and the other lost, but this item was crowded out.

The School will be pleased to know that Monsieur Mafray is returning to us for a second year.

This Term we shall bid good-bye to the old School. Next year we shall be guests in the new Girls' School, and shall once more have a full-sized playground and be free from the noise, dust and inconveniences that we have endured for nearly three years.

Meanwhile, our own School will be remodelled and extended. In the new wing there will be the School Hall, the Art Room, a special Physics Lecture Room and additional classrooms. Other new features will be a Geography Room, a Higher Physics Laboratory, a Library Room, a store-room for bicycles, two Fives Courts, open ventilation and NO FAN.

Thus September, 1929, will be the beginning of the Millennium for those of us who are still here to see it.

PRIZE DAY.

The Prize Distribution was again held in the Central Hall and this year there was quite a large number of parents and friends present. The Mayor, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, acted as Chairman, and in opening the proceedings thanked the headmaster for having asked him to preside that afternoon. The town of Swansea, he said, was anxious to give boys and girls the opportunity of obtaining a good education.

On rising to present his report, our headmaster was received with tremendous applause from both boys and visitors. After dealing with the question of Welsh in the School and discussing the merits of the Matriculation Examination, which Mr. Beanland said was overworked and overestimated for boys who were not proceeding to a University. He went on to urge boys to be truthful and honest, to develop an ability to do hard work, a power to keep a stiff upper lip in troublous times and circumstances, and always to play the game. Our headmaster also stated that we were now occupying the best gymnasium in Wales and hoped shortly to have possession of the new school buildings.

Mr. W. J. Davies, Chairman of the Swansea Education Committee, reminded us that education was not finished on leaving School, and it was up to us to see that it was continued on right lines. He hoped that we would not allow sport to absorb all our interests as it was not nice to see a boy's horizon bounded by sport and a daily newspaper. Referring to the playing fields on Town Hill, Mr. Davies expressed the hope that by next season a shelter would be provided for our use.

The prizes were distributed by the Mayoress. During the afternoon selections were excellently rendered by the school orchestra, composed of N. Williams, W. Evans, J. Danpey, Glyn Davies, Gwyn Hitchings, Herbert Penhale, and Cyril Gregory. A duet was rendered by Frank Newbury and Hubert Joseph, and recitations by B. James (Welsh) Percy White (French) D. J. Thomas (German) and H. Davies (English). Solos were given by Haydn Davies, L. Webb, and F. Newbury.

After the distribution of the prizes, C. Davies (VI) rose to thank the Mayor for being present in his full robes and to ask him for a holiday the next day. He was supported by Harry Williams and A. John (in Welsh).

THE TRIP TO CAERLEON.

At 7 a.m. on Thursday, June 7th (the day fixed for our trip to Caerleon) the weather was anything but promising, but the old saying "If it rains at seven, it's fine at eleven" proved itself to be true, for gradually the sky cleared, and old Sol shone forth in all his glory. We left High St. Station about 11.15 a.m. chaperoned by Messrs. Williams, Powell and Phillips, and after a pleasant journey of 60 miles reached our destination at 1.15 p.m.

Here we were met by a guide, who led us over an old bridge which crossed the railway lines, and soon reached the scene of the once beautiful palaces, theatres, baths, temples, towers and crowded streets, in the days when Adrian reigned, and the fierce Silures chafed under the yoke of Roman power. Having walked down the lane leading to the centre of the city (for a city it still is in name) we arrived at an empty thoroughfare where grass grows, lined by poor houses of stone. Every foot of this ground is saturated with ancient history. Here stood the old capital of Britannia Secunda, the "City of the Legions"; and here, half a century after the Romans had taken their last leave of this island in 412 A.D., King Arthur and his knights of the Round Table held their dazzling court. (Hence we were recommended to have our tea at the Round Table tea-rooms).

Having told us to be careful, the guide conducted us along the remains of the Roman camp. At first, we had to jump over narrow ditches (in this process, I lost my lunch), but we soon arrived at the ruins of the buildings themselves. Our guide explained that the camp was of the usual type; a large square with rounded corners protected by a wall, a great bank of earth and a ditch, the corners of the building being defended by turrets, and the gateway set in the middle of each side. The field was on the south side of the camp, where the soldiers' barracks and a corner turret had been discovered by the excavators. A drain which encircled the camp had been opened, and it still performs its original duty, for much water collects in it. In this place, the large bank of earth and the protecting wall could be seen, with a shallow depression, which gave the position of the ditch. The method adopted by the Romans for heating purposes was explained by our guide, black soil showing the remains of the fire. These ruins are in the middle of a wide plain, while the wives and children of the soldiers lived around the soldiers' quarters.

We then wended our way through fields to the ruins of the amphitheatre, where deeds of valour had been accomplished by both man and beast. This is an oval structure of great size, a little more than 200ft. long, and a little less than 200ft. across. There are eight entrances, two of which are the most important, and included in the latter is a room reached by steps, where the competitors perhaps made their preparations for the duel. Across the length of the amphitheatre runs a culvert, to draw away the water and thus keep the arena dry inside, while a smaller one runs around the interior circumference, for the purpose of collecting the water which dripped from the shelter running right around, showing that in the Roman times, just as now, the climate of these islands must have been wet. The grass bank on which the spectators sat is the only part of the amphitheatre which has remained as it was in Adrian's time. The walls and gateways of this building used to be plastered and painted, and some parts of this decoration have defied the test of time, still remaining, and giving us an example of the good craftsmanship of the Romans. Inscribed stones had been placed by the builders in the arena wall, and one inscription, COSIXX, was quite legible, meaning that this portion of the wall was built by the twentieth cohort. Some of the finds of tiles, lead, glass, coins, rings and skulls and bones of animals were exhibited, and most of us bought post-cards of the ruins of different parts of the amphitheatre.

Having seen the home of our ancestors, we asked — to read his vote of thanks from a scrap of paper to the guide for his interesting lecture. This he did in a trembling voice, which was succeeded by three cheers from the rest. Our last place of interest was the museum, which looked like a miniature Greek temple, and had been built on the spot where its contents had been dug from the ground. Here we saw brass and silver coins, fragments of crosses, lamps, altars, columns, seals, vases, etc., and a very good example of their tessellated pavement, of which there are very few in our country. Another interesting exhibit was a large glass burial bottle, containing real human ashes. Having seen everything, we departed in different directions for tea, and returned to the station by 5.15 p.m. (I succeeded in finding my lunch).

We were soon going farther and farther away from the scene of an enjoyable day's outing, but our memories will always linger with these relics of the days of our ancestors, and we greatly appreciate the kindness of Mr. Bealand and the masters who accompanied us, for arranging such an interesting and instructive trip.

5 THE TRIP TO RHINELAND.

The railway travelling on the Continent was not always as comfortable as at home, but then we were often travelling Fourth Class at about a farthing a mile—half fare. We made several long journeys, one of the longest being from Bruges (Belgium), to Trier (Germany). We left Bruges at 1 p.m. and did not arrive in Trier until about 9.15 p.m. We stopped about twenty minutes in Brussels, and about 120 miles further on at Arlon, where we had to move further up in the train. From there we went right on to the German border, stopping only at Luxembourg, where we changed. About half-an-hour later, we all had to get out at the border town of "something-Wasser" to have our baggage inspected for contraband, etc. Here we had some trouble about pass-ports, and some glorified and pompous-looking official, presumably the Customs Officer made quite a comical picture as he strutted up and down the platform, waving his arms about, and generally causing us to go into fits of laughter. The trouble was about our not having obtained German visas to our pass-ports. As a matter of fact, visas were done away with last January, but the official did not know this, and was not easily convinced. However, the trouble was at last smoothed over and after a delay of half-an-hour, we got back into our compartments. We then continued our journey uninterrupted to Trier (Treves).

Our last hundred or so miles had been through the famous forest-clad Ardennes, and we were continually plunged into gloomy canyons and tunnels.

We left Trier next day about two o'clock, and we had a hearty send off by our German friends. The next stage of our journey lay alongside the famous tributary of the Rhine, the Mosel, and we followed it all the way until it reached the Rhine, of which we had the first glimpse at Coblenz. After Coblenz, we deserted the railway and travelled much more comfortably on the Rhine steamers. We joined the railway once more at Bingen, and travelled to Mainz, and then to the beautiful town of Heidelberg.

To Frankfurt was our next journey, and according to the seniors, the most enjoyable, because on the way they made the acquaintance of three German Frauleins and altogether they had a very happy time.

Our next stage lay to Coblenz, but nothing very exciting happened on the way. We saw from the carriage windows views we had already seen to better advantage from the

steamer. A sort of Mumbles train took us the last five miles from Niederlahnstein to Coblenz.

We again left the railway, and took the boat down to Cologne (Köln) where we stayed the night.

From Cologne we had another fairly long train journey, across the German borderline to Brussels, and it was on this stage that we met a party of German girls, who came into our compartments; we had a very enjoyable journey. At Brussels my over-coat went for a stroll on its own. I got out at Brussels, but I forgot the coat, and it went on to Ostende, where it found a telegram from me awaiting it and asking it not to feel downhearted. We had a happy reunion next day.

Now came the worst part,—the channel crossing. Well,—it is a painful subject for some of us and the least said about it the better. We were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours on the water and arrived in Dover at about 2.30. We immediately caught the train to London where we stayed about an hour, and then commenced our last stage, to Swansea. We had a meal on the train, and finally arrived home, fagged out, at 10.0 p.m., having been on the move since 8.0. a.m.

FRANK JONES (Form 3A).

BOATS AND BOATING.

On our German trip a great deal of our time was spent on boats of various kinds.

The channel steamer "Marie Louise," sailing on a very calm sea, was full of interest for everybody; even the seniors were not satisfied until they had explored the first-class deck. We had a great deal of time to explore the ship going over, but it was surprising how retiring the boys were on the way back—only a few seemed at all interested in the ship—the others were occupied elsewhere.

A few of us spent a very enjoyable day at Heidelberg, rowing and canoeing on the Neckar in fine style; it surprised us to see the great speed at which some men were able to paddle their canoes.

But above all, the boats appreciated by everybody were the Rhine boats. Our first trip on one of these, the "Rotterdam," after our visit to Castle Stolzenfels, took us from Kassel to Bacharach.

We passed through Rhine scenery at its best—hills towered above us on either side, covered with terraces of vines, the grapes of which, as a German boy at Bacharach assured us,

are used to make the finest wine in the world. Picturesque old German castles in impregnable positions were dotted here and there on either side. We all experienced a sense of awe as we passed the famous "Lorelei" rock, upon which the maiden used to sit and entice many mariners of old to their doom. It was an argument about the exact position of this rock which led the senior members of our party into conversation with two German young ladies, one of whom had lived in England for quite a long time. The conversation had a Geneva-like atmosphere—three languages being used. We left the boat at Bacharach, almost at the spot where Blücher, with his gallant men, crossed the Rhine in 1815.

Another long trip on the Rhine boat was from Koblenz to Köln, and lasted about four hours. We had a great time on this boat. The scenery was not quite as good as it had been near the "Lorelei," but there was a party of German school-girls on board, who spoke surprisingly good English, and some of our party had a very enjoyable time.

In the opinion of a few members of the party, who have been on all three trips—Paris, St. Nazaire and Rhineland, the scenery along the Rhine was the most beautiful they had ever seen, and everyone of us carried away a lasting impression of that glorious river—the Rhine, "der malerische Rhein."

H. J. RICHARDS, Form VI.

JUGENDHERBERGEN.

A Jugendherberge was translated by one who had received some tuition in German six years ago, as "a young castle," but Mr. Beanland's translation was "a hostel for youths." There are about 2,500 of these in Germany. It may seem a great number but 2,500 Jugendherbergen are not enough for the younger generation of the Germans during the holidays. Nearly everybody between the age of 12 and 20 seemed to be on the tramp with their flags and musical instruments, and they stay at the hostels at night at a cost of $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. each.

When we entered the first Herberge it seemed very strange to us. We were taken to a room where there were about 50 beds. We chose our beds on which were two neatly folded blankets, which were our bedclothes. They proved to be quite warm, and we slept quite well despite the strange beds and surroundings. Herberge beds are usually double deckers.

The German boys are always in bed at 10 p.m. and up at 6 a.m. This was somewhat strange to us at the start, but we soon became used to it.

One can obtain a meal, if desired, at the Jugendherbergen, but many of the German boys carry their own food and utensils.

Everything is provided there, wash basins, footbaths and shower baths, and often there is hot water provided. We slept at Jugendherbergen at Trier, Coblenz, Bacharach, Heidelberg, and Cologne. At Bacharach the Jugendherberge was at the top of a hill in an old ruined, and haunted castle. We did not see any ghosts, but we exchanged cat calls with the German boys till 1 o'clock in the morning, when a still small voice bade us "Be quiet now and go to sleep." At Frankfort the Herberge was on the top floor of a hospital which was being repaired. Two ambulances dashed up while we were waiting at the entrance.

On our return journey the Herberge at Koblenz was full up and Mr. Price dreamed of a night on the Rhine. However we managed to put up at the Hotel Zum Karpfen.

At some of the Hostels we were provided with various amusements, Gymnastic Displays by Young England, and a Gramophone Recital. Thus our stays at the Jugendherbergen were quite enjoyable.

THE HONOURABLE TRIP

SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT GERMAN TOWNS THAT WE VISITED.

The first German town that we visited was Trier (Trier in German), situated in a well cultivated valley on the right bank of the River Moselle. This town is considered to be, so we are told, the oldest in Germany and is easily the richest in Roman remains.

On Saturday morning, May 26th, accompanied by students who spoke excellent English, we visited some of the most important buildings, among them being—1.—The Porta-Nigra, one of the most interesting monuments of the town, in the form of a three-storied Roman gateway, believed to have been built in the First Century. 2.—Roman Baths, Amphitheatre, and Basilica. 3.—The Public Library, an immense building with a lending circulation of 10,000 volumes and the museum containing many Roman and other antiquities.

This city is worthy of mention if it were only for the very warm welcome given us here.

Passing through the smaller towns, Boppard, Bingen and the larger towns of Mayence and Worms we arrived at Heidelberg, a very beautiful town built around the Heidelberg Castle, where Prince Rupert was born. Our stay here was far too short and we were only able to see a very small part of the town.

On the Monday night when we arrived some of us had a row on the Neckar, and in the morning we had a fairly long journey to the top of the hill called the Konigstuhl by way of trams and a small mountain railway. From the top of this hill, the loftiest in the district, we obtained a very extensive view of surpassing beauty of the surrounding district. On the way down we visited a part of the castle where we saw the noted Heidelberg "tun," kept in a cellar underneath the castle. This is the largest wine-cask in the world and I heard that its capacity was equal to 49,000 gallons. We also saw in this castle a very fine well with a depth of 40 ft. before the top of the water was reached.

Frankfort-on-Main (German, Frankfurt am Main) is known to all Germans as the place where all the old emperors were elected and crowned. The building where this was done is called the Römer. It contains the room where the electors of the empire met and made arrangements for the election of the new emperor and where he was banqueted after his election. This large hall is full of the portraits of the emperors, many of these being fine works of art by great painters. We had to put on felt slippers before we entered, and some boys had to be checked in their natural desire to skate on the polished oak floor.

We also visited the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew, in which the German emperors after 1711 were crowned, the opera house, a very fine building, the beautiful chamber of the City Council, and the house where Goethe lived. We shall also remember Frankfort for its very fine railway station (24 platforms), where we "enjoyed" a very "comfortable" two hours, waiting for the next train.

At Cologne (Köln) we visited the Cathedral, had a char-a-banc ride through the city, saw the townhall clock, where a figure puts his red tongue out every time the clock strikes, had supper at the Press Exhibition and saw the illuminations before we hurried back to the Herberge (500 beds) in the former military barracks.

Next morning we actually washed in Eau de Cologne, hot and cold, before hurrying across the great bridge to catch a very early train to Brussels.

W.H.

10
SHOPPING.

This proved to be one of our most interesting and amusing experiences, and proved a novel diversion.

Our first opportunity of visiting the shops on the Continent, was at Bruges, where small articles were bought at very reasonable prices. Although purchases were made at the smaller towns, most of the shopping was done at Frankfurt, Cologne, and Brussels.

At Frankfurt we were very much surprised to find that many articles, such as toys, fishing rods, etc., were quite as dear as in England. Jewellery, however, was very cheap, and several boys took advantage of this. At Cologne the chief article bought was Eau de Cologne, (or Kölnisches Wasser), of which a large bottle could be bought quite cheaply. Many and varied were the articles purchased here, ranging from a gramophone to a penknife. At one of the shops, two of the party had a very amusing experience. Wishing to buy a toy pistol as a present for a small boy, they entered a Sports Shop, but were unable to make themselves understood. They tried to do so by signs, but their efforts were in vain. The shopkeeper brought them pistols galore, but they were all the real thing. At last, thinking he understood, he brought them a pistol, which appeared to be what they wanted. Imagine their surprise when they discovered that this pistol, when fired at any one at close range, would render him unconscious. Needless to say, they decided that this would hardly be suitable for a small boy. (*Query*.—Was this all imagination, for how could these innocents recognise the German words for "render unconscious"? *Editor*).

On our return journey much shopping was done at Brussels, where we found goods cheaper than in Germany. Here we were able to converse more freely with the shopkeepers, our French vocabulary being more extensive than our German, which generally consisted of "Wie viel kostet das?" "Danke sehr," "Ja, nein," and a few numbers. A large range of presents was bought here, including lace, hand-bags, tobacco, silk goods, etc.,

On our arrival in London, several of the party, although fairly loaded with presents, were not content until they had further encumbered themselves with the all too familiar sweetmeat—London Rock. In conclusion, I must add that shopping on the continent is certainly an education in itself.

S. MEREDITH (IVC).

11
MEALS ET CETERA.

At Bruges, on the first night, we had soup followed by a hot dinner of meat and vegetables, and afterwards Bruges biscuits, something like pieces of dried, sweetened toast. They would not let us drink water—pas bonne, said the waiter—so we had limonade, a beverage we continued, with sundry variations, for the rest of the trip.

The breakfasts in Belgium and Germany were nearly always coffee, rolls and butter. The German Brötchen became very popular and usually a further supply had to be sent for. Our homeliest welcome was at the restaurant at Trier, where mother and daughters showed us true German Gemütlichkeit at the three meals we had there. Our most comfortable hotel was the Konditorei Schneider, 86 Zeil, Frankfurt, but we had all our meals except breakfast at a restaurant around the corner. This was typically German in its furnishing and appointments and provided excellent food, although here as elsewhere we seldom knew what we were eating, and sometimes excellent dishes were passed over as being too mysterious.

Our only disappointment was at Bacharach where we had to climb a steep hill to reach our Herberge at Schloss Stahleck (Stahleck Castle). When we reached our destination, hot and tired, we expected to have a good meal, but to our consternation the good meal we had was only soup, glorious soup, but nothing to follow.

However, we met such pleasant company there that we soon forgot our disappointment. Some of us went for a climb to the highest point, with boys and girls from Werdohl School. They recited "A wet Sheet and a flowing Sea" etc., were interested in English Coins, and exchanged addresses with the younger members of our party. Later there was community singing in German, Welsh and English and also some ring dances in which one of our number was brave enough to join. Later still there were revels in our dungeon dormitory. But all this is wandering from the subject of meals.

At Mainz we had our midday meal out on the pavement in true continental style. At Koblenz we felt quite at home at the Katholischer Leseverein, where the waiter spoke English and gave advice on food and things in general.

Our most luxurious surroundings were in the first class dining saloon of the Belgium Channel boat, but only seven boys came down to this meal and even some of these disappeared between the courses, so that the waiter complained they were like "birds fluttering about," and he found it difficult to serve them.

ADDENDA.

Many subjects of interest have naturally had to be omitted from the preceding accounts, e.g. The Bruges Belfry, Dutch auction of horseflesh, the Memling Museum, old fashioned Victorias, the Brussels train à places limitées, where you were not allowed to stand in the corridors, the bridge of boats, the view from Ehrenbreitstein, the marriage at Trier, the fire at Frankfurt, the German and Belgium cinemas, the Gutenberg statue, the refreshment wagon at Darmstadt, one way traffic on the pavement at Köln, England's ride on a pony, Clark's experience at the douane when he could not show his passport, the difficulty about tickets, the sunbathing in collapsible boats on the Rhine, the cry of "Schnabel Zu," the Tommies on the Channel boats, our boys wearing the School crest being mistaken for "sons of lords or barons," the ticket clerk who knew Port Madoc during the War, supper at 22 o'clock, smoke-writing in the sky, where the aeroplane looked as small as a lark.

In conclusion, our best thanks are due to Dr. Mainzer for having arranged to make our first day in Germany so pleasant, to the Heads of Herbeagen and to the Wandervogel for having received us so hospitably, to the railway officials and to our fellow passengers for having taken such a kindly interest in us. We certainly had a glorious holiday, in perfect weather and when £2 out of the original £10 paid, was returned to us, we regretted that this had not been used to give us a longer stay in Deutschland, a week being all too short.

Auf Wiedersehen—till we meet again.

SCHOOL SENIOR RUGBY NOTES.

The season 1927-28 was one of the most successful in the annals of the Senior Rugby XV. The result of the season's games were:—

Played.	Won.	Lost.
14	9	5

Early in the season we created a sensation by defeating the Grammar School in a convincing manner. Now it is to be hoped that we have broken the spell which has lasted seven or eight years.

The great enthusiasm in the team was manifested in the distribution of our school colours by Mr. Beasland who shared our enthusiasm both as spectator and as chairman.

Another pleasing feature of the season was the inclusion of three new fixtures namely Bridgend, Swansea Univ. "A" and Swansea Y.M.C.A. This term we are making an effort

to obtain more new fixtures. Next season we shall not have the valuable services of Mr. George H. Messer as trainer and school referee. Nevertheless it is to be hoped that the enthusiasm will flare up again at the beginning of the season as something well begun is half done.

After Christmas it was proposed that a Second XV should be formed. This proposition was eagerly accepted and several practices and fixtures were arranged, but the results were:—

Played 0. Won 0. Lost 0.

This was a very disappointing conclusion to the enthusiasm shown at the meetings.

Next season we shall require every support owing to the loss of most of our players at the end of the school year. This will be a good opportunity for the best of the Juniors and Second XV to win their colours, and we hope that they will have a successful season.

A. JOHN, (Captain).

THE SLAVE'S DREAM (1928).

Beside his unfinished French he lay,
His pen fell from his hand.
Just one last look—he shut his book,
Said further work was banned—
And there in the midst of his homework sleep
He saw his native land.

He saw a realm of pure delight
Which students helped to run,
Where honest students rose at ten
And finished work at one—
The prefect's badge upon his breast
Flashed in the setting sun.

His kindly masters on him showered
Their full-marks fast and thick.
The Education folk supplied
Long trips to France on tick—
A tear fell from the sleeper's lids
And he was almost sick.

He did not hear the chime of ten
Resound from Big Ben's tower,
His peaceful sleep was undisturbed
For many a further hour,
And in the morn—the whistle blew,
And he was in—detention's queue.

H.T. (O.B., 1920).

YALE AND HARVARD.

Yale and Harvard, two of the oldest university colleges in the Great States of America, are always looking for opportunities to "scrap." Yale is situated in the town of New Haven, Connecticut, one of the small New England States. It has New York to the south and Boston to the north. New Haven is only 150 miles from Boston, and Harvard University is in Cambridge, which has only the Charles River to divide from Boston. The University, now with an annual enrolment of about seven thousand, owes its foundation, in 1636, to one John Harvard, an Englishman, of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who gave to Massachusetts and to America, its Cambridge and its Harvard. Hence, partly by the establishment of a tradition from England, the warmth and kindness which certain New Englanders and Bostonians feel towards England, which, in the way described above, had been, in the earliest days of the settlement in America, a mother and nurse to her. But that was long before the Revolution (1766-83), and it is only since that time that the United States of America has come into being. The six "New England" states (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island) are but one corner, and that a small one in the north-east, of the entire "States," which, of course, are forty-eight in all. "Massachusetts" is the name of an Indian tribe; so, also, probably, is "Connecticut."

Yale University, in New Haven, Connecticut, was founded by one Elihu Yale of English descent. He was a Madras merchant (Madras, India) of the 17th century, and, having settled in America, gave his money to the founding of "Yale" college. Yale men call themselves "Sons of Eli." Yale and Harvard were founded about the same time; they are both in "New England"; they take their students from the same "prep" schools; they have, therefore, a natural contempt for each other and the fiercest rivalry in athletics. The crucial tests of the athletic year are the annual football, (not "soccer"), baseball and rowing matches. The annual ice-hockey (a glorious sport), boxing, basket-ball and tennis matches are close seconds. The baseball and football are held alternately at the Yale "bowls" (capacity 80,000 seats) and at the Harvard "stadium" (capacity a mere 55,000 seats). The rowing always takes place on the Thames—in New London, Connecticut, half-way between Cambridge and New Haven. Half America turns out for each event—the other half is unfortunate but has entire sections of newspapers, devoted to the games, in which they read about what they wish they could have seen. School-girls and schoolboys, college men and women, parents and friends, all sport-crazed America (or that portion able to do so) enjoys a fresh wave of excitement when the "football" game takes place. There are other equally important games—Westpoint, Dartmouth, Princeton, University of California, Army and Navy—all games create their thrills. The Yale-Harvard game is one of the many in a vast world of universally appreciated but it is, in brief but graphic "American" a "big" game; in the east of America, probably the big game of the year. Boys, girls and men and women, the "alumni," or old boys and girls, all "root" or yell for the Harvard Crimson or the Yale Blue, for those are their colours. Since prohibition, too, by a sad but natural paradox of human life, proportion not to be guessed at of boys, girls and men (but not women) take freely of spirituous liquor (gin and whisky and bad, very bad stuff) in order to get into a perfectly wild state of excitement. The results are unhappy; occasionally fatal. In these notes I intended describing that tremendous scene, the Yale-Harvard game, but I have used more than the space for them. In the next, perhaps.

A.R. O.B. 1927.

GROVE HOUSE SOCIAL, Xmas, 1927.

This year, we held our social in conjunction with Burns House, on Monday, 19th December.

The first item was the whist drive which was held in the "Gym" under the supervision of Mr. W. T. Davies. There was an interval at 5 o'clock for the boys to satisfy their growing hunger. Then, with their waistcoat buttons open, they resumed the games. The prizes for the seniors in the whist drive were won by H. Williams (V) and Hopkins (IVc) and the junior prize by Newbury (). The ping-pong prizes were won by D. Thomas (VI) and

After these tournaments came the musical part of the programme in which we were joined by Burns House. Mr. George was both Chairman and Conductor; he led the "community" singing with zest. Mr. Powell also rendered valuable services at the piano. Mr. Beanland and Mr. Mafraye, who were our guests for the evening, contributed to the programme; our Headmaster delighted the boys with some of his foreign reminiscences and the latter mystified the audience with some of his card tricks.

ANNUAL SPORTS, 1928.

Our Annual Sports were again held on the Training College Ground, by kind permission of Miss Robbins. As Tuesday, June 26th, the original day fixed, was very wet, they were held on the following day when the weather was quite fine, but rather cold. This year the Tug-of-War was decided some days previously, in the gymnasium, and the Sports ended at 5 o'clock, rather earlier than usual.

Event 1, 100 yds, Over 16—1 M. Batcock L 5, 2 G. H. Davies A 3, 3 S. Thomas G 2, 4 M. Solomon D 1. Time—11 and four-fifths secs.

Event 2, 100 yds, 14½-16—1 R. Williams A 5, 2 A. Matthews L 3, 3 D. Thomas B 2, 4 W. Evans G 1. Time—11 and three-fifths secs.

Event 3, 100 yds, 13½-14½—1 T. Thomas B 5, 2 H. Penhale B 3, 3 W. Tasker G 2, 4 M. Northway D 1. Heat Winners—J. Solomon L. Time—12 and two-fifths secs.

Event 4a, 100 yds, 12-13½—1 G. L. Jones B 5, 2 I. Price L 3, 3 L. Webb G 2, 4 E. Williams L 1. Heat Winners—W. Owen L. Time—12 and four-fifths secs.

Event 4b, 100 yds, Under 12—1 F. Donnell A 5, 2 I. James L 3, 3 H. M. Davies A 2, 4 A. Hughes B 1. Heat Winners—C. Davies D, W. J. Williams A. Time—13 and two-fifths secs.

Event 5, Throwing the Cricket Ball, Over 14½—1 L. Matthews G 3, 2 W. Evans G 2.

Event 6, Throwing the Cricket Ball, Under 14½—1 A. Parfitt L 3, 2 T. Thomas B 2.

- Event 7, Long Jump, Over 14½—1 N. Williams L 3, 2 O. Gregory B 2. Length—17ft.
- Event 8, Long Jump, Under 14½—1 E. James D 3, 2 H. Penhale B 2.
- Event 9, 220 yds, Under 14—1 J. Solomon L 5, 2 L. Webb G 1, 1 G. 1. Jones B 2, 4 B. Bayton G 1. Heat Winner—C. Davies D. Time—28 and three-fifths secs.
- Event 10, 220 yds, 14-15—1 D. Thomas B 5, 2 M. Northway D 1, 1 J. Thomas B 2, 4 R. Jones A 1. Time—27 and three-fifths secs.
- Event 11, 440 yds, 15-16—1 R. Williams A 5, 2 W. Evans G 3 3A. Matthews L 2, 4 J. M. Thomas A 1. Time—61 secs.
- Event 12, 440 yds, Over 16—1 G. H. Davies A 5, 2 L. Hughes B 1, 3 S. Thomas G 2, 4 R. Green B 1. Time—58 and four-fifths secs.
- Event 13, Wheelbarrow, Over 15—1 M. Solomon D and H. Richards D 1, 2 A. Matthews L and W. Thomas L 1.
- Event 14, Peggathering, Under 13½—1 E. Evans B 2, 2 T. Evans R 1, 3 L. Webb G, 4 W. Thomas D. Heat Winners—W. Northall A, 1. James L.
- Event 15, Three-legged, 13½-15—1 N. Bevan R 2, 2 G. David A 1.
- Event 16, Obstacle, Over 15—1 R. Williams A 3, 2 H. Thomas D 2, 3 L. Hughes B 1, 4 H. Richards D. Heat Winner—W. Evans G.
- Event 17, Obstacle, 14-15—1 D. Humphries G 3, 2 T. Minney G 2, 1 K. Jones A 1, 4 M. Jones L. Heat Winner—W. Tasker G.
- Event 18, Obstacle, 13½-14—1 D. Hopkins R 3, 2 H. Goldberg B 2, 3 B. Bayton G 1, 4 A. Emanuel B. Heat Winner—J. Solomon L.
- Event 19, Obstacle, Under 13½—1 R. Lewis L 3, 2 W. Owen L 2, 1 B. Hiles L 1, 4 L. Davies G. Heat Winners—C. Davies D, D. Lewis D.
- Event 20, Sack Race, Over 15—1 R. Short A 3, 2 P. Ace R 2, 3 S. Rock L 1, 4 A. Jones B. Heat Winners—G. Davies D, H. Thomas D.
- Event 21, Sack Race 14-15—1 R. Bate A 3, 2 B. Davies R 2, 3 W. Davies B 1, 4 B. Jones L. Heat Winner—L. Griffiths L.
- Event 22, Sack Race, 13½-14—1 K. Thomas R 3, 2 J. Osman G 2, 3 D. Hopkins R 1, 4 A. John D.
- Event 23, Sack Race, Under 13½—1 D. Edmunds G 3, 2 E. John B 2, 3 W. Williams D 1, 4 H. Jones L.
- Event 24, 80 yds, Special, Under 4 ft. 7 ins.—1 J. Dadds A, 2 S. Piley B, 3 R. Williams L.
- Event 25, Boat Race—1 Grove (W. Tasker, Cox) 2.
- Event 26, Despatch Race—1 De-la-beche (Senior G. H. Davies) 2, 2 Dillwyn (Senior A. John) 1.
- Event 27, Chariot Race—1 De-la-beche (Rider, J. Dadds) 2, 2 Llewelyn (Rider, L. Griffiths) 1.
- Event 28, High Jump, Over 14½—1 S. Thomas G 3, 2 D. H. Thomas D 2.
- Event 29, High Jump, Under 14½—1 H. Penhale B 3, 2 G. Thomas R 2.
- Event 30, Tug-of-War—1 Llewelyn 2, 2 De-la-beche 1.
- Championship—Robert Williams A 13 points, Trevor Thomas B 9 points.
- House Points—Burns 46, De-la-beche 43, Llewelyn 39, Grove 37, Dillwyn 16, Roberts 16.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The following are some of the recent successes of Old Boys:

Basil Thomas, B.A., who obtained First Class Honours in French last year, has now taken First Class Honours in German.

Leonard Rees, B.A., First Class Honours in History.

D. Trevor Jones, B.A.

Dillwyn Jones, B.A., Second Class Honours in Latin.

John Williams, M.A. (London).

The School has never known so many Prefects to leave during the year:—J. Povolny, Reg. Williams, Harry Williams, Arnold Bowen, Elvet Lewis.

For nearly six months the School was without the services of three members of the Staff, absent owing to serious illness. During this period we had the services of three Old Boys:—Mr. Hector Rees, B.A., Mr. G. Messer, B.A., and Mr. H. Simons, M.A.

Mr. Evan Thomas and Mr. W. H. Lewis rejoined the Staff after Whitsuntide, but Mr. J. B. Abraham never returned. His sudden death was a great shock to all. His memory, however, will still live on in the minds of his colleagues and of his many pupils, past and present, who will all value the portrait published with this number of the Magazine.

Mr. D. L. Harris retired at Easter after very long service as Chief Manual Instructor at the School. All wished him much happiness in his retirement.

Mr. S. Hopkins, B.A., formerly of Glanmor School, has recently joined the Staff of our School. He is welcomed back as an Old Boy.

IN MEMORIAM.

Mr. J. B. ABRAHAM was a Master at our School for more than twenty-five years (1902-1928) and his work and influence was such that his memory will live in the minds of his former pupils for an even longer period.

Mr. Abraham was our Chief French Master for twenty years, Form Master of the Fourth Classical and principal House Master in Roberts House. He was an Old Boy of the School and was trained at Bangor Normal College.

His energy, enthusiasm and determination were an inspiration to his pupils, who afterwards always spoke well of him and looked back with pleasure and satisfaction to the hours they had spent with him. Apart from their special work, perhaps the chief lesson they learned from him indirectly was to aim high, have a definite purpose and never to relax their efforts until this purpose was achieved.

He took a keen interest in politics, in literature and music, especially in drama and opera.

He was an enthusiastic rose grower, a popular figure and a determined player on the golf course, an ardent leader in the lively discussions of the Masters' Common Room, and a very successful teacher in the class room.

His premature death is felt as a personal loss by all who knew him, and has created a void which it will never be possible to fill.



MR. J. B. ABRAHAM,

Chief French Master,
Municipal Secondary School, Swansea,
1902-1928.

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