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THE SILURIAN



VOL. IX. MAY 1958

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FOREWORD

BY THE HEADMASTER, MR. ANEURIN REES, M.SC., A.INST.P.

It affords me great pleasure to contribute to the "SILURIAN" on this occasion. This number of the magazine is of special interest to us all in that it commemorates our departure from Cradoc Road. Its pages carry a brief history of the School from its modest beginnings at the end of the last century.

The School has now been in existence for 62 years. Its history makes impressive reading and must serve as a source of inspiration for the future. Over the years it has built up a sound tradition and undoubtedly fulfilled its functions. We see a whole chapter of successes as lasting witness to the true work of the School.

But nothing has been achieved without considerable effort and we remember with due appreciation all who have contributed to its development. In particular, we remember those inspired people who through their untiring efforts gave us our first School. They laid the foundation and on it we have been privileged to build.

This tradition of untiring service has been readily apparent in the work of the Governors of the School throughout the years. Their unflagging support and interest in the welfare of the School have been a marked feature of their work. And at all times they have been blessed with gifted and far sighted chairmen.

Furthermore, our School has always been fortunate in its Staff, men of sterling qualities and true learning whom we remember with gratitude and admiration.

We look forward to the future with confidence and a feeling of excitement. Fresh opportunities and new tasks will come our way and we shall endeavour to be worthy of them. In our work we will strive to ensure that the School shall maintain its present eminent position and even rise to greater distinction.

Finally, I extend to all Old Boys our best wishes, with an expression of our appreciation of the handsome gift made by them to the School. Though we may be changing buildings, the School is still theirs and the welcome as warm as ever.

**GOVERNORS OF THE BRECON COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS, 1958.**

BRECON AREA :

COUN. E. D. MORGAN, Fennyfach, Brecon
COUN. J. G. JONES, Penlan Farm, Brecon.
COUN. J. E. LEWIS, Forest Lodge, Libanus, Brecon.
COUN. R. V. WILLIAMS, "Preswylfa," Camden Road, Brecon.
COUN. C. R. RICH, "Highwood," Camden Road, Brecon.
COUN. W. J. BEVAN, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes, Brecon.

CRICKHOWELL AREA :

COUN. JOHN THOMAS, Saledin House, Llangynidr.
SIR W. L. PARKER, Llangattock Court, Crickhowell.
COUN. J. G. REES, "Glannant," Crickhowell.

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COUN. R. O. JONES, Abersevin, Trallong, Brecon.
COUN. PENRY DAVIES, Penrhiw, Trecastle, Brecon.

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COUN. J. V. LIKE, "Skynlas House," Hay-on-Wye.
COUN. T. I. WATKINS, "Graigend," Talgarth.
COUN. D. P. HOPKINS, "Brynteg," Bronllys, Talgarth.

OTHER MEMBERS :

COUN. G. H. WOOD, 2 Mount Pleasant Gardens, Brecon.
COUN. F. H. JONES, 95 The Struet, Brecon.
COUN. MAJ. C. P. GLYN DE WINTON, Maesderwen, Llanfrynach.
COUN. D. MASON, Pwllwthead, Talybont-on-Usk.
ALD. GARNET MORRIS, Manest Court, Llanfrynach, Brecon.
MR. W. IFOR JONES, "The Sheiling," Cradoc Road, Brecon.
MRS. D. P. HOPKINS, Bronllys Court, Bronllys, Brecs.
MRS. MORGAN MORGAN, Bronwysg, Sennybridge, Brecs.
MRS. A. M. SPARROW, "Glawcoed," Talybont-on-Usk, Brecs.
ALD. S. E. JENKINS, "Coryton," Cerrigcochion Road, Brecon.
THE REV. PROF. D. J. DAVIES, The Memorial College, Brecon.
ALD. T. WATKINS, M.P., "Bronafon," Penyfan Road, Llanfaes, Brecon.
MR. IVOR MORGAN, "Cranleigh," Camden Road, Brecon.

THE SILURIAN

(VOL. IX).

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRECON BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

THE EDITORIAL BOARD.

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MR. HUGH THOMAS, B.A.

EDITORIAL.

As this is the last year in which the Magazine will be produced in the old School, every effort has been made to achieve an even higher standard of presentation than hitherto. It is hoped that articles which have become established features of the magazine will prove as pleasing as ever and that this year's innovations will maintain the general tone.

This year has seen the necessity of an increase in price, which, though unfortunate, is long overdue, for it has long been recognised that the quality of the The Silurian has been far superior to that of other school magazines, at a lower price.

Inevitably, this Editorial must contain at least a paragraph about the departure of the School from its present buildings in Cradoc Road to the magnificent edifice at Penlan. Despite its oriental architectural features and woebegone appearance, the School has won a place in the heart of every boy who has entered its precincts, and we are sure that everybody will feel certain pangs of sadness and nostalgia at the termination of this phase of the School's existence.

Mr. Hugh Thomas, the senior History Master, has most kindly compiled a historical survey of the School from its foundation to the present day. The survey forms an integral part of this issue.

Mr. Lewis and Dr. Price are leaving at the end of this term. We would like to take this opportunity of wishing them a long and happy retirement. They have served the School devotedly for many years and we are sorry to see them leave.

To pupils, past and present, we therefore extend our best wishes and cordially invite them to re-live their boyhood through the pages of this magazine.

R. S. SAMUEL.

SCHOOL NOTES.

STAFF CHANGES.—The new School year again brought changes in the ranks of the Staff. Last July, Miss C. M. Culpeck, M.A., took her leave as temporary French teacher after completing two terms at the School. Mr. J. H. Williams, B.A., made a very welcome return, after his long illness, to resume the teaching of French in the School.

In September, Mr. A. B. Winstone, B.Sc., joined the staff as assistant mathematics master, following the departure of Mr. C. E. Roderick, B.Sc. His position as senior mathematics master was taken by Mr. G. Angell, B.Sc. Mr. Roderick is now with the N.C.B.

* * *

THE NEW SCHOOL.—A dream of many years has almost been fulfilled, for the new School at Penlan is almost ready for use. It is expected that a fortnight at the end of this term will be spent in moving there.

* * *

We must congratulate G. S. Porte who, for the second time in succession, won the first prize in the Junior Section of the Breconshire Playwriting Competition with his play "The Middle Way."

* * *

At the end of the Easter term the County Pageant was performed at the Guild Hall, Brecon. Many of the actors were members of this school, and they must be congratulated on their fine performance. We should also like to congratulate Mr. D. J. H. Thomas (Producer), Mr. D. Davies (Stage Manager) assisted by Mr. R. Morris, Mr. A. R. Williams (Lighting), Mr. W. H. Williams (Translator), and Mr. G. Angell (Publicity Manager), for their excellent work. Sections of the Pageant were later performed on I.T.V. R. Hitch has also been interviewed on B.B.C. Television.

Those fifth-formers who acted as stage-hands should also be thanked for their efficient work.

* * *

We should like to congratulate Mr. D. J. H. Thomas, B.A., senior History master, on his appointment as head-master of the re-organised Brecon Secondary Modern School which will occupy the Cradoc Road buildings vacated by us. He takes up his new appointment in September.

* * *

It seems worth remarking that the first issue of the Magazine, for Easter, 1926, also contained a short article, "So This is America..." from the pen of Mr. Ivor B. Powell, B.A., at Ann Arbor University, Michigan, comparable with the "Letter from America" in this issue.

AN APPRECIATION.

WE shall soon have to bid farewell to Mr. L. Lewis and Dr. J. G. T. Price, who will both be retiring at the end of the Summer Term after teaching in the school since 1919. No masters have ever taught for so long in the school, and they are the only members of the present staff to have worked under Mr. Percy Morton. How fortunate the school has been to have masters who have given it such long and faithful service. It is service like this that reminds us that the school has a proud past, as well as a flourishing present and a bright future. It is through such men that invaluable links with the past remain unbroken, and that school tradition has been kept alive in a period when masters have come and gone with alarming rapidity.

Mr. L. Lewis came to the school after serving as an infantry officer in the 1914-18 war. In his early days he taught a variety of subjects, but when it became the custom to have specialist teachers for all the main subjects he gave almost all his time to the teaching of Geography. The School Examination results reveal the quite exceptional success he has had in teaching this subject. Year after year almost every candidate has passed in Geography, a tribute to his patience and the lucidity and thoroughness of his teaching.

He has been Senior Assistant and Deputy Headmaster since 1929, carrying out his duties with the quiet, unostentatious efficiency he has brought to everything he has been called upon to do.

In his younger days Mr. Lewis was an unusually gifted games player. He was captain of Rugby at Aberystwyth University and he played Soccer for many years for Brecon with a skill still talked of by an older generation of Breconians. He has also been captain of the Brecon Sports Club Cricket XI. Boys of the 20's and 30's who played Soccer against him will still remember how easily he tricked them and how rarely they ever succeeded in tackling him. They will also have vivid memories of how they were deceived by the cunningly flighted off-breaks with which he tormented them in the annual Staff v. Boys Cricket Match.

Few schools can claim to have a Master and an Old Boy of such high academic distinction as Dr. J. G. T. Price. After an outstanding record at school he entered Cardiff University College and there achieved the rare feat of gaining 1st Class Honours in Latin and high Honours in Greek in the same year. Many men would have been content with this but for Dr. Price it was merely a first step, for, during his teaching career, he turned his attention to Law, obtaining first his M.A. degree, then becoming Barrister-at-law and finally gaining the degree of Doctor of Laws. He was the first in Wales to gain this degree by examination, and we believe he remains the only LL.D. in his own right of the University of Wales. We can pay him no greater tribute than to say that he has remained a student and

scholar all his life and that he has set a fine example of scholarly accuracy and exactness to the boys who have come under his care. No boy studying Classics at school has ever sought his help in vain and his profound knowledge, freely shared, and wise counsel, readily given, have been a great help to Old Boys studying Classics at the University.

Mr. Lewis and Dr. Price have set us an example of modesty and integrity. They have scorned any form of self advertisement and have never sought the limelight. Their qualities have won our respect and affection and we count it a privilege to have worked with such loyal colleagues and a special privilege to have had them as trusted friends for so long. May they both enjoy a long and happy retirement.

J.H.W.

* * *

PRIZE-DAY.

THE Annual Prize Day was held in the Market Hall on Wednesday, 30th May, the guest speaker being Professor Williams, who is Professor of Welsh Language and Literature at the University College of Wales, Swansea.

Professor Williams was welcomed on behalf of the School and the visitors and friends present by the chairman of the Governors (Ald. Garnet Morris), who, in his introduction, outlined our guest's academic career.

After reminiscing on his scholastic career at Ystalyfera Grammar School, and its cricketering associations with the Brecon school, Professor Williams developed two themes.

He emphasised, first, the need for further education, a need not always appreciated and more often than not neglected. Professor Williams explained that further education need not necessarily be the extension of Grammar School work but any education which was enjoyed by a person and was a benefit to that person. This education was not the monopoly of any one class of people or age-group but was open to all willing to undertake it. He added that one sphere of education which satisfied all these requirements was the Sunday School which was unfortunately neglected by many people.

Professor Williams's second point was that although he realised this was a scientific age and the emphasis in education was on Science, we should not neglect the Arts, and he strongly urged any boy with an inclination towards the Arts not to allow himself to be stampeded into taking-Science, for we must strike a balance between the two so that we can enjoy fully the social, intellectual and cultural benefits which are to be derived from both.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

MR. REES began his report with the announcement that the School would be moving to the new building at Pen-y-lan on 4th July, 1958, and after commenting upon the growth of the School from eighty to three hundred and twenty-five, and on the staff changes, gave a brief but well documented history of the School from its inception to the present and outlined future plans.

The Headmaster paid tribute to Dr. Price and Mr. Lewis who are retiring at the end of the year. These two members of the staff, he said, had been perfect examples of men devoted to their work and had never spared themselves throughout their long and exacting careers and were held in high esteem by all who had been privileged to come into contact with them.

The Headmaster then passed on to report on the School's achievements in the W.J.E.C. Examinations which, he thought, were quite satisfactory, and on its sporting activities. He then singled out three boys whom he thought merited special attention: this year's winner of the Jacob Morgan Prize, J. Lindsay Powell, who is at present pursuing an agricultural course at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; this year's Head Boy, Geraint Jones, a State Scholar; and D. H. R. Lane who had been accepted by the Australian Government to receive an assisted passage to Australia to have training for fruit farming.

To conclude, the Headmaster said that with the facilities for new subjects, and the improvement in the conditions in which the present subjects were taught, he felt sure the new school would achieve even greater distinction in the academic and sporting fields.

This year, the School Choir, under the direction of Mrs. John Williams and accompanied by Mr. John Thomas, sang "Ask if yon damask rose be sweet" by G. F. Handel.

ALAN S. JOBBINS, VIa.

* * *

THE SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE.

ON Monday, 11th November, the Boys of the School joined with members of the Old Boys' Association in the Annual Service of Remembrance.

The Service, held for the last time in the School's Gynnasium, was conducted by the Head Master, Mr. A. Rees, M.Sc., A.Inst.P. The Rev. Geoffrey Davies, B.A., of Oystermouth, attended the service. Mr. Jacob Morgan, M.A., the previous Headmaster, was also present.

Representatives of the Old Boys' Association included Mr. F. Beverley Jones, the President, Mr. Prosser Roberts, B.A., and Mr. H. C. Jones, B.A., the past and present Secretaries of the Association, Mr. Bryan Williams, and other other officials.

The Headmaster began the Service with the Speech of Remembrance, which was followed by the singing of the hymn "The Lord's My Shepherd." Mr. L. Lewis, B.A., the Senior Master, then read the Poem. After this the whole congregation joined in the singing of "O God our Help in Ages Past." The Lesson was read by the Rev. G. Davies, and Geraint Jones, the Head Boy, read the Tribute.

The Roll of Honour for the First World War was read by Dr. G. Price and that for for the Second World War by Mr. H. C. Jones. The two minutes' silence was then observed, followed by the singing of "O Fryniau Caersalem."

Wreaths were laid by Mr. F. Beverley Jones, on behalf of the Old Boys' Association, and by Geraint Jones on behalf of the School.

The Rev. G. Davies then concluded the Service with prayers and the Blessing.

C. A. LEWIS.

TOP TUNES.

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|
| The School | ... | <i>Ain't a gonna need this house no longer</i> |
| A. S. Jobbins | ... | <i>Little things mean a lot.</i> |
| D. A. Thomas | ... | <i>A bachelor gay am I.</i> |
| Mr. J. M-r-an | ... | <i>Any old iron ?</i> |
| Mr. H. C. J-n-s | ... | |
| R. B. Williams | ... | <i>The —shire poacher.</i> |
| G. A. H. Thomas | ... | <i>Butter Fingers.</i> |
| A. R. Parry | ... | <i>Dream of Olwen.</i> |
| Mr. G. A-g-l- | ... | <i>Get out and get under.</i> |
| Mr. D. D-v--s | ... | <i>You won't go to heaven in an Old Ford car.</i> |
| R. S. Samuel | ... | <i>Rosemary I love you.</i> |
| VI. B. | ... | <i>I've nothing to do and nowhere to go.</i> |
| The Head | ... | <i>Green Door.</i> |
| The Juniors | ... | <i>Water, water, everywhere.</i> |
| Dr. Pr--e | ... | <i>Good luck, good health, God bless you.</i> |
| Mr. L. L-w-s | ... | |
| Mr. Hugh Thomas | ... | <i>My son, my son.</i> |

THE JACOB MORGAN PRIZE.

THIS is awarded annually to the boy who has done most for the school, both socially and academically. This year the prize went to Mr. T. L. Powell, who is now reading for a degree in Agriculture at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Lindsey, during his time in the VIth, was a prominent member of the school. He was House Captain of Gam House for two years and in his final year became Deputy Head Boy. He also played an active part in many of the school Societies, becoming Chairman of the Badminton Club.



Tom L. passed the 'A' level of the G C E twice in three subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), staying an extra year in order to sit for scholarships. He succeeded, obtaining in a competitive examination one of the few Evan Morgan Scholarships to University College, Aberystwyth. He also obtained a distinction in Biology which with the Evan Morgan Scholarship entitled him to a well-deserved State Scholarship.

In the field of sport, Lindsey shone just as brightly as he did on the scholastic side. He became vice-captain of the school's Football Association 1st XI and Rugby XV; also, he became school captain of the Cricket 1st XI. We are proud to say that his cricketing prowess enabled him to play for the County side on a number of occasions.

Everybody was sorry to see Lindsey leave B.B.C.G.S. for the last time and we should all like to convey to him our thanks for what he did here, and our good wishes for his future success.

R. B. WILLIAMS.

SWITZERLAND, 1957.

On Monday, 22nd June, 24 boys, 3 masters, including Mr. H. Thomas and Mrs. Thomas, left Brecon at 8-30 a.m. We arrived at Mariastein, a village several miles from Basle, at 8-30 a.m. on the Tuesday morning after a very uncomfortable ten-hour train journey across France.

The whole of Tuesday was occupied in exploring Mariastein, with the exception of a short, but rather strenuous walk to a ruined castle (called a Schloss). In the evening, most of us saw an Italian film in the hotel.

On Wednesday morning the local church was visited. It was called the Basilica and seemed to be a place of pilgrimage, for its splendour compared admirably with many of the large Catholic churches and cathedrals. Its "centre piece" was the altar, which was a gift from Louis XIV of France. In the afternoon we visited Basle to window-gaze.

Thursday was spent in a trip to Berne. The outward journey took us through Laufen, Delemont, Balsthal and on to Berne. The beauty of the Swiss scenery could be clearly seen from the 'bus in which we travelled. A sight which highly amused us was our seeing farms and farmyards at the sides of the main roads. Stacks of hay and farm implements could easily be touched from the 'bus. Because of the long journey to and from Berne only a few hours were spent in the capital. This limited our activities to the buying of presents in the very expensive shops. Our return route lay through Dangenthal, Aarburg, Ulton (where we stopped for an hour), Liestal, Basle and thence to Mariastein.

We were free to do as we pleased on Friday morning, while in the afternoon we visited a village called Bottmingen where there was a swimming pool. After about two hours of enjoyable 'splashing about' we continued our journey to Basle where the rest of the afternoon was spent in shopping.

Because of rain no outdoor activities could be carried out on the next day (Saturday), when several table tennis tournaments were played.

On the Sunday morning several of us went to the Basilica to see what a Roman Catholic service was like. In the afternoon another visit was paid to the swimming pool at Bottmingen. Afterwards we went on to a village called Dornach, where we visited "The Goetheanum" which is a school of Spiritual Science. The builder was Rudolf Steiner, the founder of Anthroposophy.

Monday was our last full day in Switzerland and was spent on a tour of Zürich. This tour was exclusively for shopping, for it is always found that on the last day of a Continental holiday most of the presents are still to be bought.

Tuesday was our departure day, although we were not to leave until 7 p.m. The morning was spent in packing, for we had to be out of our rooms by 10 a.m. so that another party could move in.

Exactly how close we were to the French border was not fully realised until two of the party crossed it, unknowingly, at Fluh, a village about a mile from Mariastein.

We left the hotel at 7 p.m. and arrived at Basle station about 7-30. We then looked for food to sustain us on our long journey home.

An example of the poverty in which the majority of schoolboys find themselves at the end of a holiday abroad was clearly shown on Basle Station. Five members of the party clubbed their remaining Swiss currency together. They added to this another ten shillings which was changed into Swiss francs at the currency bureau, and the total amounted to a little over 21 francs (about 35 shillings). They then entered the station restaurant to eat. When they came out, two of the five had 30 cents (6d.) and the other three had 20 cents (4d.) left.

It was 10 p.m. on Wednesday before a very tired but very happy party reached Brecon.

I feel sure that the whole party would wish me to thank Mr. H. Thomas for arranging the holiday and for taking such very good care of us.

D. A. THOMAS, VI.

THE CAROL SERVICE.

THIS year's service of eight lessons and carols was held in St. Mary's Church on 19th December and I should like to thank (on behalf of the school), the Very Rev. W. E. Jones, M.A., for allowing us to use the Church.

The lessons were read in English by A. R. Parry, D. A. Thomas, D. Adami, P. Phillips, D. W. Jenkins, and R. Hausheer, and in Welsh by E. M. Lewis and J. A. O. Davies.

The school choir sang "As Joseph was a-walking" "The Night is Dark," "I saw Three Ships" and various other carols. M. J. Owen, J. Twining, D. P. Jones, G. Davies, B. L. Jones, G. J. Davies, H. C. Lewis, P. A. Gittins, W. D. Morgan, B. Hicks, and H. G. Giles were soloists. The organist was Mr. Bryan Williams and the choir was trained by Mrs. J. Williams.

Amongst those present at the service were Mr. Jacob Morgan, M.A., and Mr. F. Beverley Jones, president of the Old Boys' Association.

C. A. LEWIS, VI.

THE TOWER.

THERE was only one thing that the boys in the choir were not allowed to do: they could fight in the vestry, talk during the sermon, but they could not enter the Tower. The Tower was a sanctum where only the enlightened few could go. Of course, to the boys it represented every single thing they longed for and could not get. Compared to the thought of entering the Tower even the drawings, by past generations, of course, of vicars, etched on the back of the Hymn books seemed daringless. The Cross-bearer, who held the record for the most daring deed, the hitting of all the lights as he carried the Cross up the aisle, done by a member of the choir, knew only too well that, if someone should manage to enter the Tower, his record would be forever lost. The little urchin who had tripped the rector up had vowed, when he was not voted the title, to enter the Tower, but this deed was easier to contemplate than to do.

One day, long after everybody else had left the Church, he attempted to enter the Tower; the consequences were disastrous. Just as he reached the ringing-chamber a voice said, "Hey, what are you doing here?" and the heavy hand of the Captain of the Tower fell upon his shoulder. Alas! for days after he feared to sit down, so sore was he. It seemed unbelievable that the end of a rope could do so much damage! Defeat, however, only encouraged him to try again.

Eventually he managed to enter the Tower without being seen. In the ringing-chamber his eyes beheld ropes, great long ones, reaching from the ceiling to the floor. Some of the ropes were tied in a curious way, evidently, he thought, to prevent the end of the rope from touching the floor. In one corner of the room was a ladder, a great, high ladder, higher than any he had before seen. The top of this ladder vanished through a hole into the room above. The boy looked all around him, but he could see no other way of going aloft, so, with a trembling heart, he started to climb the ladder. At first it was easy, but as he got higher so it became more difficult to move. Feet below him was the floor, high above his head the other room; with the sweat of fear dripping from him he climbed on. Now, at last, he had reached the room above, and for a while he lay panting on the floor, until the ticking of the old clock ticking away the hours of history, cleared his dizzy head. Yet the ropes still went up, up into the unknown heights of the Tower. Once again, as in the room below, there was a ladder leading to the room above, this time, though, a shorter one, with reeling head he climbed it.

As he reached the top he saw, all round him, with their mouths pointing to the sky, bells. Between the bells were a number of beams, to which some of the bells and their wheels were fixed. He saw now that the ropes were fixed on to these great wooden wheels, and these wheels were themselves fixed to the bells. One of the bells was at a higher level than the others, so high, indeed, that when rung it

passed just over one of the beams. In the far corner the boy noticed a little platform, and on it a chair. He was tired and frightened, and the chair looked like a haven of rest to him. Slowly, fearfully, he walked across the beams to the platform and its chair.

In the ringing-chamber the ringers themselves were gathering, ready for their weekly practice. They were a happy group; the captain was a retired doctor, and many of the team were professional men, whose hobby was bell-ringing.

"All right, stand to," said the captain.

The ringers tightened their holds on the Sallys.

"Treble's going, she's off," said the leader.

"Bob's gone," repeated the captain.

In the bell-room, high above their heads, the bells began to move, treble, two, three, four, five, six, seven, Tenor. As the mighty weight of the Tenor, all two tons of it, swung, the boy, crouching on the beam beneath the bell, felt momentarily a great pain, then all was dark, and he felt no more.

Down below the ringer of the Tenor muttered,

"Almost seemed as if she hit something."

"Aye, good job there's nobody up there," said another, "she'd have killed him if she hit him."

C. A. LEWIS, VIB.

HOMEWORK.

Come, listen to a tale of woe
As homeward on the 'bus I go,
A load of books upon my back
For swotting is my evening's whack.

"What is this life if full of care
We have no time to stand and stare,"
They make us learn this English sonnet
So why on earth don't they act on it?

French and Welsh are one big muddle,
History puts me in a fuddle,
I groan at all I want to do,
Shoot, play football—Indians too!

So when you see me homeward bound,
My satchel drooping to the ground,
Think of me while you are 'viewing,'
At my beastly homework stewing.

P. R. WILKINSON, IX.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS, 1957.

ADVANCED LEVEL

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Griffiths, W. | ... Chemistry, Biology. |
| Gwynne, T. A. | ... English, Latin, History. |
| Jones, A. J. | ... English, Latin, History. |
| Jones, G. | ... Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry (with distinction). |
| Lewis, D. T. | ... English, Welsh, History. |
| Powell, T. L. | ... Physics, Chemistry, Biology (with distinction). |
| Pritchard, R. | ... English, History. |
| Pritchard, S. J. | ... Chemistry. |
| Thomas, G. A. H. | ... Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics. |

ORDINARY LEVEL.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Adams, B. F. | ... *Welsh, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Bastin, C. E. J. | ... Mathematics. |
| Burr, M. R. | ... English Language, English Literature, Welsh, Latin, History, Geography, Chemistry. |
| Carvell, T. A. P. | ... Commercial Subjects. |
| Cochrane, D. G. | ... English Literature, Woodwork, §English Language |
| Crook, L. C. | ... §English Language, Mathematics, Physics. |
| David, H. | ... §English Language, §Geography, History, Chemistry. |
| Davies, T. D. J. | ... *Welsh, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Evans, T. B. | ... English Literature, Geography, Chemistry. |
| Ferguson, D. G. | ... §English Language, English Literature, Geography |
| Gallagher, G. R. | ... Commercial Subjects. |
| Gallagher, M. B. | ... §*Welsh, Geography. |
| Gallagher, S. J. | ... §English Language, English Literature, §*Welsh, History, §Geography. |
| Gittins, D. A. | ... §English Language, *Welsh, History, Geography, Chemistry. |
| Gittins, G. P. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, *French, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Hamer, E. L. | ... *Welsh, oz, Mathematics. |
| Hepton, B. | ... Biology. |
| Hirons, A. C. | ... *French, Mathematics, Chemistry. |
| Isaac, K. B. | ... Mechanics. |
| Jenkins, D. W. | ... §English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, Geography, Mathematics. |
| Jones, D. T. | ... English Literature, *Welsh, *French, Mathematics. |
| Jones, I. L. | ... Geography. |
| Jones, J. M. | ... Biology. |
| Jones, P. J. | ... *Welsh, Geography, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Lane, D. H. R. | ... English Language, English Literature, *French, History, Geography. |
| Lee, C. D. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, §History, §Geography. |
| Lewis, C. A. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, History, Geography. |
| Lewis, H. D. | ... §History, §Mathematics. |
| Lowry, R. M. | ... §English Language, English Literature, Geography. |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Morgan, E. T. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh oz, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Moses, J. W. | ... §English Language, English Literature, *Welsh oz. |
| Nichols, W. J. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Parry, D. J. | ... *Welsh, French, §Mathematics, History, Geography, Chemistry. |
| Parry, R. W. | ... English Language, *Welsh oz, *French, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Porte, G. S. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, *Latin, History, Geography, Mathematics, Chemistry. |
| Powell, D. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, Latin, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Powell, D. G. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, Latin, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Price, C. R. | ... English Language, *Welsh, History, Geography. |
| Price, D. H. | ... French, Chemistry. |
| Pritchard, I. T. G. | ... *Welsh oz, Woodwork. |
| Reardon, D. J. | ... Geography. |
| Speake, R. M. | ... Geography, Mathematics. |
| Stephens, M. B. | ... English Language. |
| Twist, A. S. | ... English Language, *Welsh, *French, Geography. |
| Walters, D. G. | ... English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, History. |
| Waters, S. M. L. | ... English Literature, History, Geography, §*Welsh, Chemistry. |
| Watkins, T. N. | ... §*Welsh, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. |
| Weale, A. W. | ... English Literature, *Welsh, Woodwork. |
| Williams, D. I. | ... English Language *Welsh, Geography, Mathematics, Chemistry. |
| Williams, R. B. | ... Biology. |
| Young, R. G. | ... §*Welsh, §Geography, Chemistry. |

*Indicates a pass with oral proficiency in the subject.
§Indicates a pass at the November Examinations.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. In what country did Bagpipes originate?
2. Name three flightless birds.
3. Who was "Little Boots"?
4. What is the smallest Principality in Europe?
5. In what manner is Antarctica different from Arctica?
6. What is a Grampus?
7. Who was the last Tsar of all the Russias?
8. What two countries of major political importance are not members of U.N.O.?
9. What does O.T.A.N. stand for?
10. What is the name of the U.S. Army rocket that carried the satellite "Explorer"?

Answers on page 23.

VARSITY REPORTS.

ABERYSTWYTH.

THIS year four old boys, all of whom were quite well known at school, were initiated into the mode of life at Aberystwyth University.

Lindsey Powell and Windsor Griffiths, who plan to increase the productivity of the land and improve the methods of stock-breeding, aspire to eminent positions in the sphere of agriculture. Early every morning Lindsey, straddling his bicycle, can be seen hurrying on his way to Penglais to busy himself amidst the acrid chemicals.

D. T. Lewis and I are concentrating our efforts on linguistic courses. Lewis, as might be expected of a Welshman of great fervency, is resolved upon attaining to the highest success in the study of his native language. The commendable qualities of Latin Literature have rivited my attention and I am directing my aspirations towards a Latin Honours course.

"Dons" of more ancient vintage are Rice, who is undergoing his teacher's training course, and Alan Thomas, who has been working upon a thesis on the dialects of Breconshire, which he intends presenting for his M.A. degree.

A. J. JONES.

BRISTOL.

THE only boy left at Bristol, I am now in the fourth year of the dentistry course here, and spend my time filling teeth, pulling them out, and writing reports for the 'Silurian.' Along with three other dental students I now live at the Y.M.C.A. and find it much better than 'digs.' I look forward very much to Saturdays, when I play soccer for the Y.M.C.A.; Sundays, when I don't have to buy my own tea; and the end of term, when I get back to Talgarth.

DAVID GEORGE.

BANGOR.

THE Colony of Old Boys in this remote corner of Wales remains the same for the third successive year and unless some fresh blood is sent out next session our numbers will be lamentably diminished. "Remote" Bangor may be, but she is also enchanting, and I would appeal to all prospective students to make amends and direct the flow of Old Boys from the southern "settlements" to partake of Bangor's charms.

TREVOR JONES.—A veteran of the community, Trevor has been here since pioneering days. Alas, this year he completes his research in Agricultural Chemistry and launches himself back into the world he abandoned six years ago. Age has not dimmed his keen eye, for he continues to represent Bangor at his favourite recreation, table-tennis.

ROY M. HOWELL.—Following what appears to be a Breconshire tradition, Roy is also studying Agriculture. With habitual calm and

easy disposition Roy is working hard this year, for in June he is sitting Final Agricultural Chemistry and Agriculture at the H.I. stage.

DAVID O. P. JONES.—Dop may be said to represent the "social" and "economic" aspects of the community. Socially he has a wide range of interests and a large circle of friends. The onerous task of Rag Secretary faces him this year. That he is a "student of economics" rather than an economist is understandable, but amid a busy life he assures me that he does find time for his H.I. Economics.

RONALD S. TUCKER.—I have found Bangor most suitable for reading two subjects which are traditionally those of the studious recluse. Of all things, time is the most valuable in the life of a student and this year mine has been so over-taxed by Latin, that my meagre contribution to the life of the community is restricted to the sales manager-ship of our weekly newspaper, which absorbs most of my leisure hours.

RONALD S. TUCKER.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CARDIFF.

AFTER weeks of endeavour, and by means of many well-laid schemes I have been able to track down and squeeze information out of the five other members of our school now in College. It is with great pleasure that I present this year's report from Cardiff, apologising, as I do so, for the scant information supplied about certain of the troops.

JOHN LLEWELLYN.—John is the senior member of the party, now in his fourth and final year. Having graduated in History last session, his work is now concentrated on the Teachers' Diploma. At the moment John is practice teaching at Howardian High School. This year he is secretary of the Golf Club, having represented the College team for the past two seasons; he has also been honoured by the History Society of which he is the Chairman.

D. I. THOMAS.—Here we have the first representative of the Engineers. Dai Thomas is battling with Part I Electrical Engineering, Subsidiary Physics and Special Mathematics. People tell me he is often to be seen on the Squash court and at the Union hops, but Dai confessed that his sporting and social activities are severely limited by the length of the course.

H. E. REES.—Edward Rees is now in his second year; having successfully passed Part I, he was accepted for Honours in History. When he is not working, it is possible to see him sometimes in the common room. However, he assures me that he has become completely anti-social because of his girl friend.

F. FANTHAM.—Frank Fantham who hails from Llangorse is also in his second year at the University. Curiously, he is studying the same course as David Thomas, so they are often seen together discussing Britain's future in Engineering. Frank makes frequent visits to Brecon and consequently little is seen of him in Cardiff at week-ends.

P. O. EVANS.—Philip Evans is the only "fresher" in our midst,

but since he has completed his National Service he cannot be considered as green as some of us were who came to Coll. straight from school. At present taking the two year Social Science Diploma, the pride of Sennybridge intends to take the Personal Management course in his third year. I understand Phil has already made his presence felt on the soccer pitch.

D. DAVIES.—Now in his third year, Dave is pursuing the Accountancy scheme which includes Law and Economics in the final degree. Having tried his hand unsuccessfully at soccer he was appointed secretary of the Basketball "B" team at the beginning of the session and has made some appearances for the first string. At the moment his time is taken up in choir practices in preparation for the forthcoming Inter-College Eisteddfod.

PETER JONES.—Having gained his National Diploma of Dairying at Aberystwyth, Peter has now launched himself on a course which will eventually, motor-bike allowing, lead to Honours Micro-biology. His main activities are running (he has gained his University of Wales colours in cross-country), and fishing.

DAVID DAVIES.

CARDIFF TRAINING COLLEGE.

THIS College was first opened in September, 1950, for the training of students for a Diploma in Physical Education.

In September, 1956, a two year course began. This is the first year that the college has been complete with 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students.

At the moment I am the only pupil from Brecon in this college, but I am being joined by T. J. Ralph next year.

For my teacher's certificate I am taking Main Physical Education and Mathematics and subsidiary Welsh and Drama.

I. T. WILLIAMS.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CARMARTHEN.

A last farewell to our Alma Mater from the Old Breconians at Trinity College, Carmarthen.

MR. D. J. MEREDITH, although frequently appearing as the College goalkeeper in the hockey team, seems to be almost entirely occupied in the English Literature library.

MR. W. E. B. WHITE, specialising in the intricate subject known as Arts and Crafts, finds adequate outlet for his pent-up energy in the College lawn-tennis and table-tennis teams.

MR. A. W. LLOYD, while attempting to pursue the threads of history and, also, recently married, still finds time and energy to captain the College cross-country team.

Our third year student, Mr. Brian Powell, has "retired" into the woodwork room; he seems bored with the College social life, now that female students have gained admittance into the College and its activities.

May we all extend our sincere wishes to both staff and pupils in connection with their forthcoming move to the "new centre of learning" at Penlan next year.

A. W. LLOYD.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

THOUGH this is the third occasion on which I have submitted a report to the Silurian, this is the first time that the report has dealt with anyone other than myself. In October, I was joined at King's by Bryan Tyler, now an old-stager who has spent the intervening years since he left school at Lampeter and Swansea.

Bryan has started a post-graduate course in Colonial History, and after two years of strenuous work he hopes to obtain an M.A. degree. His researches take him to devious places, and he is consequently rarely to be seen in college. A Welshman to the core, he was exceedingly pleased when the defunct Welsh Society was re-formed.

As for myself, I am now in my final year in college, and my principal aim at the moment is to obtain a Bachelor of Laws degree in June. Even so, my social activities do not seem to have lapsed. I hold the office of treasurer of the Liberal Association, and I represented the Association at Ipswich when I canvassed on behalf of the Liberal Party before the bye-election last October. I was also instrumental in re-forming the Welsh Society, and I am confident that this time it will not fall into abeyance.

W. E. P. PRICE.

SWANSEA.

THIS year finds five Old Boys at Swansea:

A. C. WENT.—During the summer vacation Tony was unfortunate enough to receive a serious injury which delayed his return to college and which makes any physical recreation difficult. We all join in wishing him a speedy recovery to good health and good luck for the future. He is now in his fourth year at Swansea taking an Honours course in Electrical Engineering.

W. P. RODERICK.—This is Peter's third year at Swansea and he spends his time pursuing a course in Honours Economics. He finds that the formidable amount of work with which he is faced renders active support of the various college societies very difficult. Occasionally however, he is to be seen and he does spare enough time to attend the weekly college hops.

D. W. PULLING.—David is in his second year at College and is taking his finals examinations at the end of this year in Fluid Mechanics and Chemical Engineering. Owing to his "retirement" from the world of soccer his activities are mainly concerned with the non-athletic side of College life. His interests centre around the Chemical and the Engineering Societies and the fictitious Chemical Engineering Society whose frequent excursions to Cardiff are greeted with much pleasure.

C. B. LIKE.—Bryn is also in his second year and is reading first year honours and final Physics, final Pure Mathematics and Elementary Scientific German. He is the only Old Boy from Brecon who resides at Neuadd Gilbertson—the new hall of residence for men students—where he is spending his second year. He is one of the more athletic “Old Breconians,” in as much as he makes good use of the College swimming baths. In addition he is a member of the Physics Society and the Clyne Anglican Society and is a regular attender at the college hops.

T. A. GWYNNE, who alone ventured to join the other Old Boys at Swansea, is well occupied with Part One History, Latin and English. He is a member of the History and English Societies and a fervent supporter of the College Film Society. Always of a leisurely disposition, he now gets most of his exercise walking to and from the local cinemas to the neglect of nobler pursuits, although occasionally he does enjoy a game of chess.

ARWELL EDWARDS.—Arwell is another fresher who, having obtained a distinction at Advanced level, is pursuing a course of History, Economics and Geography, with the idea of taking honours Geography. He is an active member of the Geography society and the Debating Club, while his rugger continues to improve.



PREFECTS, 1957.

G. S. Porte, D. Powell, P. G. Gittins, R. S. Samuel, K. B. Isaac, E. M. Lewis, Mr. Aneurin Rees (Headmaster), A. S. Jobbins, G. A. H. Thomas, G. Jones, J. G. Prosser, A. R. Parry, Mr. L. Lewis Inset : D. A. Thomas.

A PILGRIMAGE TO ST. DAVID'S.

THE Headmaster has invited me to tell you about what I did during the summer holidays. This may seem odd to you, but when I tell you that along with 5 other Grammar School boys and a vicar from Swansea I went on a Pilgrimage to St. David's in Pembrokeshire, perhaps you are not quite so surprised.

People usually associate pilgrimages with the Middle Ages, but even today the practice of worshipping God by making a journey to a Holy Place is still encouraged by some churches.

We decided to forge a link with the past by following the old pilgrim's route from Neath Abbey to St. David's.

We began our journey on the 16th August with a service in the ruins of the Abbey. Ours was the first Communion Service held there since the time of Henry VIII. After breakfast we started our walk westward:

By the end of the day we had arrived in the little village of Llan-y-felach.

The second day's target was Llannon, an isolated village in Carmarthenshire. We had, however, found out that Medieval pilgrims visited a small church on a marsh near the estuary of the river Loughor.

Leaving the main road we tramped down a muddy lane until we reached the tiny church. After a short service we attempted to ford the river but, failing, we did something which I am sure no medieval pilgrims had done—we crossed over by a railway bridge. By late afternoon, however, we reached our destination.

The third day's walk was to lead us to Carmarthen. The road, we found, was very hilly, but the weather was fine, and we arrived at Carmarthen, on time, but very tired.

By now our faces were well known as a result of photographs in the local papers and all along our route people smiled and wished us God's speed. This kind reception did much to keep us happy.

On the fourth day we were to walk to Whitland on the Pembrokeshire border. When we arrived after a lovely walk over fertile countryside we visited the ruins of the Cistercian abbey which had once given shelter to travellers in pre-Reformation days.

The next day's walk took us to Haverfordwest where we were presented with our pilgrimage badges, one of which I have here. Though very simple it means a great deal to all who own one.

At Haverfordwest we were joined by a party of Boy Scouts and we began the last stage of the journey to St. David's. Local people say of this route that it is 16 miles with 17 hills. This is quite true. Although we were footsore we managed to reach St. David's on time.

At the boundary of the City we were joined by more people and we made our way in procession to the Cathedral.

After a beautiful service in which visitors joined to help with the singing we dispersed and made our way to our lodgings.

Every day we had kept half an hour's silence in the morning and there had been very little unnecessary talk. We enjoyed a few days basking in the sun before we returned—by train—to our homes. We all felt better both physically and spiritually and ready for the new school year.

R. H. LEONARD.

THE LEEK.

One cold wet day, young Dewi Jones
Was feeling so dejected ;
'Twas not because of aching bones,
Though these he had expected.

He'd sat indoors the whole long week
With now't to do whatever.
"I know," he said, "I'll plant a leek,"
Regardless of the weather.

So to the garden Dewi went,
With spade upon his shoulder.
"This place will do," said he, and leant
His spade against a boulder.

"If I do plant it now, it will
By March the First be ready.
I'll keep on watering it until
I've got it growing steady.

The weeks passed by, and, slow but sure,
Eisteddfod day drew nearer.
The leek grew on. You may be sure
To Dewi now't was dearer.

At last the leek was out ; you'd think
'Twas dug up with a razor.
His mother washed it in the sink
And pinned it on his blazer.

To school next day young Dewi went,
Leek should have had a hammock ;
But by the time the day was spent,
'Twas all in Dewi's stomach !

D. SIVELL, U.V.A.

RUGBY.

RUGBY, the National Sport of Wales, was introduced into the school in 1955. At first it was received with mixed feelings by the majority of the boys, the thought of rugby on the sacred turf of Pwll-y-calch nearly causing a minor revolution. By now it is very much accepted and in the Junior school, especially, is fast becoming The Game.

At first, little rugby was ever seen, only a mass of 30 boys wandering aimlessly like lost sheep over the field. This caused the few hardy members of the staff, who joined in, acute pain, and several have been seen talking to themselves after our early efforts at the game.

Towards the end of the second term we ventured to field a School team, and in our only game were beaten 17—11 by Cyfartha 2nd XV. From this game it was evident that the boys were badly lacking in experience.

During 1956 we saw the first full season of rugby in the school. None of the teams was outstandingly successful but the boys accepted their new game admirably and attempted to play it as it should be played.

The first honour came the way of the school when R. Pritchard was selected for an Area trial for the Welsh Secondary Schools XV.

This season has seen the standard of Rugby on the up-grade. The Junior teams were undefeated and the Senior team had a fairly successful season. The hard work put into Rugby in the School by Mr. Arthur and the Staff is beginning to bear fruit. G. A. H. Thomas was selected for an Area trial for the Welsh Secondary Schools XV.

Rugby is only in its stages of infancy in the school and it is at the moment suffering from its teething troubles. Though the boys are still inexperienced it augurs well for the future. The Game has been accepted by all throughout the school and the sportsmanship of the boys, even when defeated, has been a tribute to the school.

Answers to "WHAT DO YOU KNOW."

1. Probably in that part of the world which is now Communist China.
2. Emu, Ostrich, Casowary, Kiwi, Penguin.
3. The Roman Emperor Caligula.
4. Lichsteinstein : about 3 x 7 miles.
5. Antartica is ice on a land mass, while the Arctic is ice on sea only.
6. A killer-whale.
7. Tsar Nicholas II.
8. Fascist Spain and Communist China.
9. Organisation Treatise Atlantique du Nord, the French name for N.A.T.O.
10. Redstone rocket.

THE SCHOOL EISTEDDFOD, 1958.

THE Annual School Eisteddfod was again held at the Guild Hall, Brecon, on March 4th. The hall was full and many parents and friends were present. This year the adjudicators were Prof. D. J. Davies, B.A., and Mrs. Ogwen Thomas, B.MUS., for literature and music respectively. We would like to express our thanks to them for the admirable way in which they carried out their duties. His Worship the Mayor of Brecon (Coun. Ivor Morgan), presided over both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Mr. Harvey Williams ably conducted the eisteddfod throughout and our thanks are due to him for the immense amount of work he put into its organisation. The singing competitions were accompanied by Mrs. J. H. Williams, a part-time member of the staff.

This year, the eisteddfod opened in a tense atmosphere, Vaughan and Gam tying for 1st place on standard points. However, Vaughan gradually gained a narrow lead which they maintained throughout. Gam was second, Theophilus third, and Siddons fourth.

The final result was as follows:—

| | | |
|---------------|-----|------|
| 1. Vaughan | ... | 397½ |
| 2. Gam | ... | 373½ |
| 3. Theophilus | ... | 283 |
| 4. Siddons | ... | 250 |

Thanks are due to Mr. Angel and Mr. Winstone for scoring.

In the afternoon, the ceremony of chairing the bard, which is now an established feature of the school eisteddfod, was performed with the usual pomp and dignity. Prof. D. J. Davies, who was adjudicator for the chair competition, brought his adjudication to a climax by announcing the non-de-plume ("Never-say die") of the winning poet. The young bard, A. R. Parry (who answered to this non-de-plume), was then ceremoniously led to the stage by the second and third in the competition and chaired in the traditional manner. The ceremony was brought to a close when the stirring words of "Rhyfelgyrch o Capten Morgan" were effectively sung by E. M. Lewis. Then, verses of praise were read in honour of the young bard by the Head Master (Llew o'r Lluchwr), Mr. Harvey Williams (Wil o'r Giedd), Mr. L. C. Moses (Lewsyn o Fronllys), Mr. Dewi Davies (Dewi o'r Fera), Mrs. Ogwen Thomas (Llinos y Bont).

The eisteddfod was brought to a close with the presentation of the Cup to Geraint Jones, Captain of the winning house.

SENIOR COMPETITIONS.

Welsh Recitation : "Gwyn ap Nudd."

1, T. H. Owen (V) ; 2, A. Griffin (G) ; 3, D. T. Boxhall (T).

Essay : "National Feeling in Wales."

1, G. S. Porte (V) ; 2, G. Jones (V) ; 3, R. S. Samuel (V).

Pianoforte Solo : "Andante" (from Beethoven's Sonata No. 10).
1, G. Clayton (S) ; 2, D. Kendrick (G) ; 3, A. Griffin (G).

Any Subject in Colour :

1, T. H. Owen (V) ; 2, B. Jones (V) ; 3, T. B. Evans (G).

Coloured Map of Wales.

1, D. Powell (T) ; 2, H. W. Gittus (S) ; 3, D. I. Williams (T).

Short Story.

1, C. A. Lewis (T) ; 2, R. S. Samuel (V) ; 3, A. R. Parry (G).

Humorous Poem : "The Leek."

1, D. A. Sivell (S) ; 2, G. S. Porte (V) ; 3, T. H. Owen (V).

English Recitation : "War Song of Dinas Fawr" or "This bread I break" or "Rev. Eli Jenkin's Prayer."

1, D. T. Boxhall (T) ; 2, C. A. Lewis (T) ; 3, E. M. Lewis (G) and A. Davies (S).

Handicraft in Wood.

1, T. B. Evans (G) ; 2, I. G. T. Pritchard (G) ; 3, B. Jones (V).

Solo : "Hen Wlad y Mynyddoedd" or "Mae Benyw annwyl lan ei phryd."

1, D. G. Evans (T) ; 2, E. M. Lewis (G) ; 3, D. A. Sivell (S) and C. A. Lewis (T).

Welsh Recitation : (for boys with a good Welsh background)

"Tut-ankh-amen."

1, A. Davies (S) ; 2, G. Jones (V) ; 3, E. M. Lewis (G).

Poem : "Three Breconshire Rivers."

1, A. R. Parry (G) ; 2, G. S. Porte (V) ; 3, C. A. Lewis (T).

SIXTH FORM ONLY.

Scripture Reading : (English), St. John's Gospel I (1—14).

1, C. A. Lewis (T) ; 2, A. R. Parry (G) ; 3, R. S. Samuel (V).

Scripture Reading : (Welsh), Sant Ioan I (1—14).

1, G. Jones (V) ; 2, G. A. H. Thomas (G) ; 3, E. M. Lewis (G).

OPEN COMPETITION.

Parody : "The Brook."

1, D. A. Sivell (S) ; 2, D. Powell (T) ; 3, R. S. Samuel (V).

MIDDLE COMPETITIONS.

Essay : "Any Great Welshman."

1, A. Griffin (G) ; 2, J. G. Tuthill (G) ; 3, R. L. Gant (V).

Any Subject in Colour :

1, A. Frame (V) ; 2, R. Bastable (G) ; 3, F. Charters (S).

Coloured Map of Wales.

1, J. K. Bryant (T) ; 2, R. Spencer (T) ; 3, D. O. Keddle (G).

Short Story.

1, D. Price (G) ; 2, W. J. Griffiths (G) ; 3, D. O. Keddlle (G).

Humorous Poem : "I love a glass of sparkling pop."

1, D. O. Keddlle (G) ; 2, P. G. Powell (S) ; 3, G. Williams (V).

Handicraft in Wood.

1, E. Joseph (S) ; 2, M. C. Davies (G) ; 3, A. R. Muddiman (V).

Poem : "Merlin."

1, M. Williams (V) ; 2, G. Williams (V) ; 3, A. C. Watkins (G).

JUNIOR COMPETITIONS.

Poem : "Owain Glyndwr."

1, B. Williams (V) ; 2, P. S. Jones (G) ; 3, M. Stephens (T).

Pianoforte Solo : "The Merry Peasant."

1, D. P. Jones (T) ; 2, D. I. L. Jones (V) ; 3, P. Evans (T).

Essay : "Holidays in Wales."

1, G. Davies (V) ; 2, M. Morris (T) ; 3, P. R. Wilkinson (G).

English Solo : "The Vale of Llangollen."

1, C. Lewis (G) ; 2, P. Brown (G) ; 3, M. Owen (V).

Humorous Poem : "Homework."

1, P. R. Wilkinson (G) ; 2, G. H. Jones (V) ; 3, J. Smith (G).

Welsh Recitation : "Mae Llaw y Gaeaf."

1, K. T. Price (T) ; 2, D. I. L. Jones (V) ; 3, T. B. Williams (V).

Any Subject in Colour.

1, M. J. Owen (V) ; 2, R. C. Price (G) ; 3, W. K. Price (V).

Coloured Map of Wales.

1, D. M. Adami (V) ; 2, A. M. P. Davies (S) ; 3, G. D. Gittus (S).

English Recitation : "Peace."

1, W. G. Powell (T) ; 2, T. B. Williams (V) ; 3, E. G. Davies (V).

Welsh Solo : "Y Fwyalchen Ddu Big Felen."

1, C. Lewis (G) ; 2, J. Twining (S) ; 3, P. Brown (G).

Handicraft in Wood.

1, D. M. Adami (V) ; 2, L. Hobbs (V) ; 3, D. D. G. Williams (G).

Pictorial Craft.

1, D. M. Adami (V) ; 2, J. Devereux (S) ; 3, R. Smith (S).

Welsh Recitation : (for Juniors who speak Welsh fluently).

"Tomi."

1, G. Davies (V) ; 2, M. Davies (S) ; 3, E. G. Davies (V).

1896 - 1958

THIS modest essay is in no way a history of the School ; rather it is a brief review of the earlier chapters in a story of which there is yet much to be written. We are saying a long overdue farewell to the building which has housed the School since 1901 because it is no longer adequate for the needs of mid-twentieth Century Grammar School education. The School as a community will live on and future generations of Brecon schoolboys will grow to manhood hardly aware of this phase in the history of the school which is now closing. But the traditions on which so much of their education will have been founded will be a heritage of the efforts and achievements of men and boys who toiled in the red brick building on Cradoc Road. For this reason it is fitting that our valediction should take the form of a brief narrative of the progress it has witnessed

The rapid development in Welsh education during the second half of the 19th Century reached a climax in 1889 with the passing of the Welsh Intermediate and Technical Education Act. This Act was, in a large measure, responsible for the Secondary system of education which existed in this country until the Education Act of 1944. The implementing of the 1889 Act set the tone of the development of secondary education in Wales. Despite the criticisms which have been levelled at it in recent years the schools which were established in consequence of this Act have contributed much to the well-being of the communities which they served. Brecon Boys' Grammar School is certainly no exception.

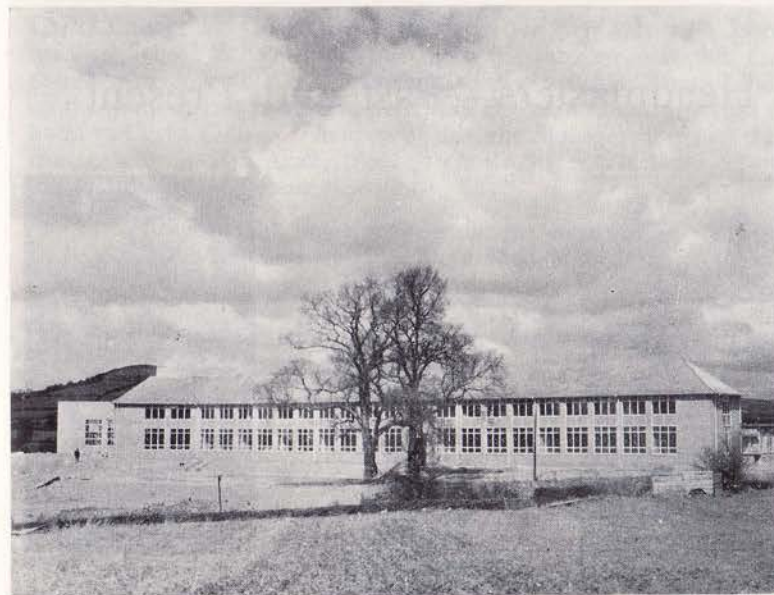
During the 1890's were established Joint Education Committees of the County Councils whose duty it was to ascertain the educational needs and wishes of the areas for which they were responsible. A certain degree of uniformity was guaranteed by frequent conferences of these committees. The Counties were divided into school districts and a school was to be established in each district.

It was on Saturday, 16th February, 1895, that the School-Managers of the Brecon County School met for the first time at Mount Street Board School. They elected as their chairman the Mayor of Brecon, Mr. J. A. Jebb, who was also to be their representative on the County Governing Body. Within three months, another step had been taken when the Sites Committee decided on 13th May, 1895, "That the most suitable site for the erection of Intermediate Schools was Field No.106 on the Ordnance Map, belonging to the Marquis Camden, situate on the right hand side of the Cemetery Road, adjoining Vronwen Terrace." Consequently they made a request to the Marquis who agreed to give the land as soon as funds were available and the Committee was ready to build.

Meanwhile, measures had to be taken to make temporary provision for the education of the boys. Negotiations were conducted with



THE OLD SCHOOL



THE NEW BUILDING

PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE — 1896-1958

STAFF AND PUPILS AT Dr. COKE'S
(c. 1901)



THE STAFF, 1957-58.—A. Williams, R. Morris,
J. H. Thomas, J. D. H. Thomas, D. Davies, Mlle.
Lemonon, J. Morgan, C. Giles, G. S. Angell, B.
Winstone, R. Arthur, L. C. Moses, J. H. Williams,
L. Lewis, A. Rees (Headmaster), Dr. J. G. T. Price,
W. H. Williams, H. C. Jones.



Headmasters - Past and Present



NATHAN JOHN
1896-1909



PERCY MORTON
1909-1923



LLEWELLYN WOOSNAM
1923-1929



JACOB MORGAN
1929-1954



ANEURIN REES
1954—

Christ College for the provision of places for boys who held Intermediate School Scholarships, but these fell through. At this time there was considerable local opposition to the idea of a County School on the grounds that it was not needed in Brecon and that it would do harm to Christ College. In spite of this, the Managers pursued their course, and on 28th April, 1896, 12 Castle Street was taken for one year as a temporary accommodation.

Almost immediately, however, negotiations were entered into for the leasing of two rooms in Dr. Coke's Methodist Church. At the same meeting, on the 29th July, as this transfer was decided upon, the first headmaster, Mr. Nathan John, B.A.(London), was appointed. Mr. Thomas Butcher, who conducted the Middle Class School in the town, was to be his Assistant Master.

The School was opened on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1896, and on the 28th of the same month it was reported that there were 47 boys present. The boys, then as now, provoked complaints from the School's neighbours, for, on 11th December, 1896, the Managers considered a complaint of the "nuisance by noise" of boys entering and leaving school.

From the beginning, the School went into full operation. It is interesting to note, in view of future comments and developments, that from the beginning the Science and Technical subjects were well represented. Mathematics, Physiography, Geometrical Drawing and the Principles of Agriculture figured prominently in the early timetable, while Practical Surveying was added in 1897. At the first School Prize Day in this year the headmaster could report that the eighty boys at the school were taught Scripture, English, Welsh, Latin, French History, Mathematics, Geometrical and Freehand Drawing, Physiography, Chemistry, Principles of Agriculture, Shorthand, Book keeping, Music, Drill and Physical Exercises—a comprehensive and well balanced curriculum. The pupils' physical welfare was not ignored for part of the Recreation Field was leased at £5 a year for school games.

In the meantime, the work of building the school was occupying much of the attention of the School Managers. They proposed the establishment of committees in every parish to solicit subscriptions. The proceeds were to be shared equally between the Boys' and Girls' Schools; each to receive £616. Each school was to have provision for seventy-five places but in the case of the boys this was modified in 1898 to provide for a hundred boys.

The work of the Managers was made the more difficult by various incidents which provoked public opinion. One such incident was the increase in salary to the Clerk of the School Managers. This stirred up strong feelings—so strong that an appeal was made in the local paper that "until the salary of the Clerk is brought back to a reasonable limit, the people of Brecon will not subscribe a single farthing

PRESIDENTS OF O.B.A.



*ALD. GARNET MORRIS
1950



W. I. JONES, J.P.
1953



G. W. DAVIES, J.P.
1956



MR. JACOB MORGAN, M.A.
1951



E. B. POWELL, M.B.E.
1954



F. B. JONES
1957



ALD. STANLEY JENKINS
1952



F. M. THOMAS
1955



W. B. HARGEST
1958

*Chairman of Governors, 1958

to the building fund." This matter was finally settled to everyone's satisfaction and subscriptions came in.

By 1899 matters were well in hand. The approximate cost had been estimated and it had been agreed to apply for a Building Grant and loans, from the County Governing Body, of £2,200. In November of this year the final decision was taken in respect of the tenders submitted for the building of both schools. It was decided to accept that of £5,681 plus fees for both schools, submitted by E. Groom of Port Talbot. The completed school was opened on 10th July, 1901, by Mr. Charles Morley, M.P.

During these early years the number of pupils varied, reaching a peak at the turn of the Century when there were 87 boys in the school, but falling to 78 in December 1902 and falling still further in 1906 when the Secondary School was opened at Ystradgynlais. School work progressed steadily and the headmaster was able to report successes in examinations regularly. One prominent extra-curricular activity of these days was the Cadet Corps, officered by members of the staff, which won repeated praise for its turn out and performance. It continued until about 1910.

In January, 1909, Mr. John died. He had done much for the school in its early days and had laid a solid foundation on which his successors could build.

Mr. Percy Morton, M.A.(Oxon.), who had been the Senior Science Master at Christ College, became the school's second headmaster in September, 1909. His vigour and wide interests led to an expansion in the school, in numbers and the work done. From the beginning he pressed for a longer stay at the school by the pupils. His analysis of the school population in 1910 illustrates his approach and sheds light on the school of those days. Of every seven boys in the school three were in their first term while of the eighteen leaving school only one had reached Form VI. One reason for this early leaving undoubtedly was the poor travelling facilities. Boys from the Talgarth district, for instance, arrived in Brecon by train at 7-45 a.m. and could not leave the town until 6 p.m.

Additions to the work of the school reflected Mr. Morton's interests for gardening was revived and geology introduced into the syllabus. Geological expeditions to Craig-y-Nos and elsewhere were organised and the annual perambulation of the Beacons was introduced. During his first term as headmaster he obtained the school playing field where a pavilion was built and cricket pitches laid. Tea was provided in the school to encourage the boys to stay after school for cricket. He also established the Annual School Sports which have continued with few interruptions to the present day. Dramatics were encouraged and, although the first venture in 1910 was rather discouraging, the following year saw a highly praised production of *The Rivals*.

Mr. Morton's period of office came to an end in 1923 and he was succeeded by Dr. Llywelyn Woosnam, M.A.(Wales), D.Phil.(Cantab.) who assumed his duties in September of that year. His period as

headmaster saw further consolidation and development. In numbers there was a slight increase and by October 1928 there were 134 boys at school. It was during this period that the House system, which has been so significant a feature of the life of the school, came into being. He it was, also, who established the School Eisteddfod on St. David's Day. This is an event which has gone from strength to strength and has been marked in recent years by the introduction of the ceremony of crowning the bard. In 1926 a School magazine was published but the difficulties confronting such a venture proved too great.

The year 1929 marked Dr. Woosnam's departure to Howard Gardens School, Cardiff, and Mr. Jacob Morgan, M A (Oxon), was appointed headmaster. It was not until 1954 that Mr. Morgan relinquished his post. During his time there were further important developments. On 3rd March, 1931, the gymnasium was opened by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, supplying a long felt need. The school accommodation was extended to the full and this made possible a two-form entry once in three years. As a result, the school population had by 1939 risen to 170. In 1948 further accommodation was acquired in the Central Hall of the Plough Congregational Church. This provided sufficient accommodation for an intake of 52 boys a year and by 1953 there were 230 boys in the school.

This expansion in numbers was paralleled by other developments, some of which were peculiar to the school and others the result of general progress in education. In 1950, for instance, was established the first successful Old Boys' Association. There had been earlier attempts to form such an Association but, despite the energetic work of a few and the sympathy of many, they had not come to much. This was largely due to the lack of cohesion between the Association and the School. This was overcome in 1950 when the all-important post of Honorary Secretary-Treasurer was undertaken by a member of the staff. Since 1950 the Association has, directly and indirectly, contributed much to the life of the school. The same year also witnessed the publication of "The Silurian," the school magazine which, unlike its predecessors, has been published annually and still flourishes.

At his retirement Mr. Morgan established the Jacob Morgan Prize—to be awarded to the boy who has made the greatest contribution to the life of the school during the year.

In September, 1954, Mr. Aneurin Rees, M Sc. (Wales), A Inst.P., succeeded Mr. Morgan. Once more the shape of the school changed for three new classrooms were built on the school premises. This made possible an annual intake of 60 boys which, by 1958, has brought the number to 325. Under Mr. Rees's leadership the school will undertake the task of establishing itself in new surroundings. Meanwhile he has made his mark on the school. Woodwork is now an examination subject which is pursued at the Advanced Level and Craft has been introduced into the curriculum of the lower school.

On the games fields rugby has taken its place beside soccer as a winter game and, although this innovation was greeted with mixed feelings, the new game is now well established.

During its existence the school has increased enormously in size : from the one Assistant Master and 47 boys of 1896 to the sixteen and 325 of 1958. It has widened the scope of its activity in the academic, sporting and cultural spheres. It can look forward with confidence, certain in the knowledge that a solid foundation has been laid, worthwhile traditions created and an ideal established.

All walks of life have been enriched by former pupils. Apart from eminent men, too numerous to mention individually here, old boys have been pillars of strength in the local government of Brecon and Breconshire. Others who might well have made their mark in life were not given the opportunity, for the two World Wars took a heavy toll of the old boys of the school. Their sacrifice does not go unremembered nor are the names forgotten of those men who gave their lives that such institutions as the Brecon Boys' Grammar School might live and flourish in a free world.



The Chaired Bard (A. R. Parry, VIA) receives his award from the President (His Worship the Mayor of Brecon, Coun. Ifor Morgan) at this year's Eisteddfod.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

AFTER a wonderful crossing on the Dutch boat S.S. Ryndam, I have arrived here at Cornell University and now I have been here three weeks and feeling part of the University already.

Most people have been very good in helping me to settle down and I am sure I am going to enjoy my stay here. I have not become Americanised yet and I think it will take me a long time to make all the changes, if that will ever happen, for Americans are so different in many ways, compared with the typical Englishman, or should I say Britisher, if there is such a person.

On a cold and windy morning, 3rd February, 1958, I obtained my first view of the United States. It was not very impressive for I could just see the twinkle of the lighthouse on Nantucket Island as we rounded Cape Cod. During that morning we sailed down past Long Island in S.S. Ryndam to enter New York harbour at mid-day.

The weather gave us a cold welcome as the strong winds blew snow flurries off the mainland. However, we were fortunate in having a brief spell of sunshine to light up the Statue of Liberty at the entrance to the harbour, and the majestic buildings of Manhattan Island.

I cleared customs in the late afternoon and obtained a room, eleven stories up, from which I had a wonderful view of the Empire State Building which was brilliantly illuminated throughout the night. This is one building which really had to be seen to be believed, and I am sure it is the pride of all New Yorkers.

February 4th was spent seeing some of the sights of New York. However, the weather was not ideal as the temperature was below freezing point all day. Late that night I took the Lehigh Valley Railroad to Ithaca and I arrived there the following morning.

Here I was presented with a scene of mid-winter, for there was more than three feet of snow, much of which had recently fallen. Snow was an entity which I had experienced before, but I was far from being used to the temperatures which were below zero and had been like that for some time; fortunately all this cold was to be compensated for by the warmth and good nature shown by the people.

On leaving the train, another Englishman and myself were given a lift to the Cornell University Campus which is situated on a hill above the town looking over the beautiful lake Cayuga. After a much needed meal I was able to contact the Foreign Students' Adviser. In a very short while accommodation had been arranged for me and I had been introduced to most of the people in the Department of Vegetable Crops, where I was to work.

Now I have been here a few weeks and have made many friends and I feel like one of a family, and this family is very large, there being over 10,000 students on the campus alone. I have been taught the finer arts of playing Bridge, which is a "must" for all students; I

have also been taught how to say 'tomato' the American way and I have been introduced to the American sports for whose sake about half the students seem to attend University.

I have much to look forward to here during my stay, for they say that the Spring and Fall seasons are wonderful here in the Finger Lakes Region, but the summer season is reputed to be very hot, and if it is much hotter than the central heating installed in every building then I can well imagine that my conventional English mode of dress will have to be abandoned, in part, at least.

I hope to be able to give a fuller account of life here in New York State next year when I have seen all the seasons through, have completed a full academic year as a Graduate Research Assistant, and have travelled about as I hope to do.

ANTHONY HEPTON.

Department of Vegetable Crops,
Cornell University, Ithaca,
New York, U.S.A.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES.

LE CERCLE FRANCAIS.

President : D. A. Thomas.

Secretary : A. R. Parry.

ON the return of Mr. J. H. Williams after his long illness the "Cercle Francais" was revived, since, during Mr. Williams's absence, the "Cercle" had not met regularly.

Two meetings were held during the Christmas term. We welcomed on both occasions, the presence of Mademoiselle Lemonon in our midst. She is this year's French "assistant" and the "Cercle" found much interest in her talks on French education and French life in general.

During the second meeting much amusement was aroused when the members sang "Alouette," a well known French song. There was competition between our voices and those of the Welsh society next door.

Despite the lapse of time since the last meeting of "Le Cercle Francais" the two sessions were well attended and it is obvious that they do arouse interest to quite a number of boys. It is hoped that they will continue to be a success and a contribution to the social life of the school.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

Secretaries : K. B. Isaac, A. S. Jobbins.

THIS Society enjoyed a vigorous year and once again had to be split into two groups. Topics discussed included "Is Antarctic exploration a waste of time?" and "Racial Segregation." The debates all proved lively and there were many forceful questions from the "floor."

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

President : Mr. G. Angell.

Chairman : R. B. Williams. Secretary : G. P. Gittins.

THIS year the Scientific Society held several meetings, the most notable were :—

5th December, 1957.—A party of about 25 members visited Murphy's Radio Factory at Hirwaun.

9th December, 1957.—Another party of about 25 members visited the N.C.B. Exhibition at Merthyr.

Three distinguished speakers gave talks during the course of the year. The first, delivered by Coun. E. R. Morgan, J.P., and illustrated by slides, was on Astronomy. This was followed by an extremely interesting talk by the well-known stockbroker, Sir John Morgan, whose subject was the stock market. The third visitor, Sgt. LeFeuvre, a radio mechanic who has just returned from the Antarctic, illustrated his talk with some wonderful coloured slides.

Y CYMDEITHAS CYMRAEG.

Chairman : G. Jones.

Secretary : E. M. Lewis.

THE Society has held two meetings, both of which took the form of lectures. At the first we were fortunate to have with us Principal Pennar Davies who came at very short notice to take the place of Prof. D. J. Davies, who was unable to attend because of ill health. Principal Pennar Davies gave a very interesting and informative lecture on Welsh literature with many illustrative examples and numerous comparisons with other literatures.

The second meeting took a more informal course when we were fortunate to have with us Mrs. Odwyn Jones who gave a short talk on Welsh folk music and then led us in a general "sing-song."

BADMINTON CLUB.

Captain : G. A. H. Thomas. Secretary : D. G. Powell.

BADMINTON has continued to hold the interest of the VIth Form, especially the lower VIth, whose members are the mainstay of the club. The final of the Singles Championship, however, was won by a member of the "old firm," Andrew Thomas, who defeated one of the young hopefuls, T. B. Evans. Two matches, both against the Girls School have been played at home, the boys winning 8—0, and away, winning 6—0. From these results it may be seen that the killer instinct prevails amongst our team and nothing will deter them from giving of their best. Next year, in the new school, we hope that no gymnastic equipment will impede the flight of our shuttle and Peter Gittins will have room in which to swing his racket.

D. G. POWELL.

ATHLETICS.

THE Annual School Sports were held, as in preceding years, at the I.T.C. Sports Ground on Thursday, 18th July.

We wish to thank Major G. Egerton, for the use of the ground ; Mr. Arthur, sports master, for organising the meeting ; and the members of the staff who acted as judges.

Unfortunately, for the first time in many years, the sports had to be abandoned because of rain, with less than half the programme completed.

Siddons were leading at the time of the cessation of the meeting.

Despite the adverse weather conditions, however, four new records were established and one equalled, as can be seen from the table of results. (New records are marked with an asterisk).

MINORS.

100 Yards. Record, 13.4 secs. R. Adams (T), 1956.

1, J. Ainsworth (V) ; 2, G. Gittus (S) ; 3, R. Adams (T).
Time : 13.5 secs.

Cricket Ball. Record : 136 ft. 11½ ins. B. Hicks (T), 1956.

1, R. H. Griffiths (G) ; 2, B. Hicks (T) ; 3, D. Kerr (V).
Distance : 158ft. 3ins.*

High Jump. Record, 3ft. 10ins. D. Jones (G), 1956.

1, R. Adams (T) ; 2, J. Ainsworth (V) ; 3, D. Evans (T).
Height : 4ft. 0½ins.*

Long Jump. Record, 13ft. 1½ins. J. Bowles (S), 1956.

1, R. Adams (T) ; 2, B. Hicks (T) ; 3, J. Ainsworth (V).
Distance : 12ft. 7ins.

JUNIORS.

100 Yards. Record, 12 secs. R. S. Samuel (V), 1954.

1, C. Ottewell (S) ; 2, D. J. Jones (G) ; 3, A. Davies (S).
Time : 12 secs. (equals record)

High Jump. Record, 4ft. 9ins. B. F. Adams (T), 1955.

1, D. Gould (S) ; 2, A. Davies (S) ; 3, R. Day (T).
Height : 4ft. 8ins.

Weight. Record, 38ft. 6ins. D. Gould (S), 1956.

1, D. Gould (S) ; 2, G. Phillips (V) ; 3, D. Burgess (T).
Distance : 41ft. 7ins.*

Long Jump. Record, 16ft. 1½ins. W. E. P. Price (V), 1951.

1, D. Gould (S) ; 2, A. Campbell (T) ; 3, D. Jones (G).
Distance : 14ft. 9ins.

Discus. Record, 76ft. 0ins. D. Gould (S), 1956.

1, C. Ottewell (S) ; 2, D. Burgess (T) ; 3, G. Lewis (T).
Distance : 95ft. 9ins.*

INTERS.

100 Yards. Record, 11.3 secs. M. T. Styles (G), 1950; K. T. Smith (V), 1944; R. Samuel (V), 1956.
1, B. F. Adams (T); 2, B. Tonge (V); 3, M. O. Jones (V).
Time: 11.4 secs.

Long Jump. Record, 19ft. 2ins. A. B. Ottewell (S), 1951.
1, K. Prosser (V); 2, R. Rees (G); 3, J. Poole (V).
Distance: 16ft 7ins.

Discus. Record, 116ft. 4½ins. D. Lane (S), 1956.
1, W. M. Jones (V); 2, R. Stroud (T); 3, G. Williams (G).
Distance: 111ft. 6ins.

440 Yards. Record, 57.8 secs. J. G. Griffiths (V), 1949.
1, G. Williams (G); 2, A. Twist (T); 3, R. Rees (G) and K. Prosser (V).
Time: 61.2 secs.

Weight. Record, 43ft. 5ins. D. Lane (S), 1956.
1, G. P. Gittins (T); 2, F. Rowberry (G); 3, J. Pearson (V).
Distance: 35ft. 11½ins.

SENIORS.

100 Yards. Record, 10.4 secs. W. D. J. Friday (V), 1935.
1, D. A. Thomas (S); 2, W. Griffiths (V); 3, T. D. Davies (V).
Time: 11.3 secs.

Discus. Record, 98ft 2½ins. B. T. Williams (S), 1955.
1, D. Evans (T); 2, D. Lane (S); 3, T. D. Davies (V).
Distance: 77ft. 9ins.

Long Jump. Record, 19ft. 8½ins. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.
1, E. M. Lewis (G); 2, W. Griffiths (V); 3, D. Thomas (S).
Distance: 17ft. 6½ins.

440 Yards. Record, 56 secs. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.
1, G. A. H Thomas (G); 2, R. S. Samuel (V); 3, T. D. Davies (V).
Time: 58.5 secs.

High Jump. Record, 5ft. 3ins. R. Lucas (T), 1956.
1, W. Griffiths (V); 2, G. R. Gallagher (S); 3, E. M. Lewis (G).
Height: 5ft. 0½ins.

THE Editorial Board wish to thank Old Boys and others who have supplied material relevant to the history of the School.

THIS Magazine was printed by J. Colwell & Sons, 1 High Street, Brecon, whose craftsmanship and up-to-date machinery ensures a job well done and gives service and satisfaction to all customers. All classes of work undertaken.

COUNTY SPORTS.

MAESYDDERWEN Comprehensive School were this year's hosts, and the sports were held in good weather on 1st June. The competition was keen, the standard high and the sportsmanship second to none.

A strong team represented Brecon and many honours were won both by teams and individuals. This year the Junior Section were supreme and won the Junior Trophy. The Middle Section did well to come second in that class. In the Overall Aggregate, Brecon were second.

We were proud to have two competitors who broke records—D. Gould bettered the Junior Shot Putt record and G. R. Gallagher, with a tremendous performance, bettered the existing record for the Senior Mile. There were seven Brecon boys in the County team at Colwyn Bay for the National Championships:—D. Gould, B. F. Adams, T. Thomas, D. R. Lane, G. A. H. Thomas, G. R. Gallagher, D. A. Thomas.

TEAM POSITIONS AND INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES.

Juniors 1st.

| | | | |
|------------|--|--------------|------------------|
| 100 yds. | C. Ottewell 1st | Pole Vault | J. Bowles 2nd |
| Discus | C. Ottewell 2nd | Hurdles | J. D. Evans 4th. |
| Weight | D. Gould 1st (record) | Long Jump | J. D. Evans 4th. |
| High Jump | D. Gould 4th | Cricket Ball | A. Campbell 4th. |
| Relay 1st, | D. Gould, C. Ottewell, J. D. Evans, A. Campbell. | | |

Middle 2nd.

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------|------------------|
| 100 yds. | B. F. Adams 2nd. | Javelin | T. Thomas 1st. |
| 220 yds. | B. Tonge 3rd. | Discus | W. M. Jones 3rd. |
| High Jump | B. F. Adams 1st. | Weight | J. Rowberry 2nd. |
| Long Jump | R. Rees 2nd. | Cricket Ball | T. Thomas 4th. |
| Hop, Step and Jump, | G. C. Williams 3rd. | | |
| Relay, 2nd, | B. F. Adams, T. Thomas, M. O. Jones, K. Prosser. | | |

Seniors.

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|--------------|----------------------|
| 100 yds. | W. Griffiths 4th. | Weight | D. R. Lane, 2nd. |
| 220 yds. | W. Griffiths 2nd. | Discus | D. R. Lane 4th. |
| 440 yds. | G. A. H. Thomas 3rd. | Cricket Ball | T. D. J. Davies 3rd. |
| 880 yds. | G. A. H. Thomas 3rd. | Javelin | D. Evans 3rd. |
| Mile | G. R. Gallagher 1st (record). | | |
| Pole Vault | J. Reardon 4th. | | |
| Hop, Step and Jump, | E. M. Lewis 3rd. | | |
| Relay, 4th, | W. Griffiths, R. Samuel, T. D. J. Davies, D. A. Thomas. | | |

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1957.

Youth (15—17). Weight. D. Lane 3rd.
High Jump. B. F. Adams 7th.
Boys 1(3—15). Weight. D. Gould 10th.
120 yds. Hurdles (17—19). D. A. Thomas 5th.
1 Mile. G. R. Gallagher 7th.

As can be seen from the results, boys selected for the County team did extremely well against strong opposition.

RUGBY REPORT, Christmas Term, 1957.

THIS season was the second full season of Rugby in the school, and on the whole all the teams had a successful season.

1st XV. Captain, G. A. H. Thomas.

| Opposition | Venue | Result | Score |
|----------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Brynmawr 1st VX. | Away | Lost | 0—29 |
| Maesydderwen 2nd XV. | Away | Lost | 3—16 |
| Cefn Coed 1st XV. | Home | Drawn | 0—0 |
| Builth Wells 1st XV. | Home | Won | 8—0 |
| Builth Wells 1st XV | Away | Lost | 0—3 |
| Maesydderwen 2nd XV. | Home | Won | 8—3 |
| Llandrindod 1st XV. | Home | Won | 9—0 |
| Old Boys XV | Home | Lost | 0—6 |

Played 8 Won 3 Lost 4 Drawn 1 Pts. for 28. Against 57.

JUNIOR TEAMS.

Under 15 XV. Captain, J. G. Pearson.

| | | | |
|--------------|------|-----|------|
| Builth Wells | Away | Won | 17—0 |
| Llandrindod | Home | Won | 18—0 |

Played 3 Won 2. Lost 0. Drawn 0. Points for 35. Against 0.

Under 14 XV. Captain, D. J. Jones.

| | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|------|
| Amman S.S. | Away | Won | 17—5 |
| Crickhowell | Away | Won | 12—0 |
| Gwernynyfed | Home | Won | 11—0 |

Played 3. Won 3. Lost 0. Drawn 0. Points for 40. Against 5.

Under 13 XV. Captain, R. Adams.

| | | | |
|------------|------|-----|------|
| Amman S.S. | Away | Won | 17—0 |
|------------|------|-----|------|

Played 1. Lost 0. Drawn 0. Points for 17. Against 0.

Overall Junior Record.

Played 6. Won 6. Drawn 0. Points for 92. Against 5.

Colour Awards.

Re-Awards :—E. M. Lewis, D. A. Thomas, G. Jones, G. P. Gittins, B. F. Adams, H. David and G. A. H. Thomas.

First Awards :—T. Thomas, M. O. Jones, W. M. Jones, F. J. Rowberry, D. M. Gittins, D. Evans, M. Waters and D. Powell.

Our first two games of the season were away to Brynmawr 1st XV and Maesydderwen 2nd XV respectively. In both games the team was depleted due to illness, but it was evident that the team was sadly lacking in stamina.

In our next game we entertained Cefn and although we had enough chances to win we only drew 0—0. These chances were frittered away through over-eagerness.

The next game was played against Builth on a mud-covered school field. Many chances were again lost through over-eagerness and inexperience, but we recorded our first victory 8—0.

The return game at Builth was lost 3—0. Although we spent the majority of the game in the Builth half of the field, we failed to capitalise on our chances and were beaten by a penalty goal.

In the return game against Maesydderwen the school gave its best performance of the season. Losing 8—0 at half-time, Maesydderwen threw everything into attack and but for some good work by our pack and halves, we held them to only a try, and we finally won 8—3.

In our next game with Llandrindod we ran out easy winners 9—0. It was evident that we lacked a goal kicker and many points were lost.

In the last game of the season we entertained an "Old Boys" XV on the School field. This was a very exciting game confined mainly to two good and enthusiastic packs. The school considered themselves unlucky to lose as all the "Old Boys" points were scored by members of the Staff "guesting" for our opponents. We lost 6—0 and this saw the end of our ground record for the season.



SCHOOL RUGBY 1st XV., 1957-58.

W. M. Jones, J. Rowberry, B. F. Adams, E. M. Lewis (Vice-Capt.), H. David, R. B. Williams, A. S. Twist, K. Prosser, D. M. Gittins, Mr. G. Angell, G. P. Gittins, D. Powell, Mr. R. Arthur, A. Thomas (Capt.), Headmaster, M. O. Jones, T. Thomas, G. Jones, D. A. Thomas.

With the Junior teams we saw some very open Rugby. All the teams contrived to throw the ball about on all occasions. This policy paid handsome dividends as the results prove. Let it be hoped that this record augurs well for the near future.

The credit for the success of Rugby this season must go to Mr. Arthur. His hard work is emphasised by the fact that he had four teams representing the school. We must also thank the staff for giving up their Saturday mornings, and the stock room boys for looking after the equipment.

Finally I would like to thank all the teams and offer them congratulations. They played the game enthusiastically and their sportsmanship throughout the season has been beyond reproach.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP RUGBY.

| | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Pts. |
|---------|--------|-----|------|-------|------|
| Theo | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 11 |
| Siddons | 8 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 10 |
| Vaughan | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Gam | 8 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 |

G. A. H. Thomas, VI.Sc.

FLOREAT—BON VOYAGE—ADIEU.

The days at the old school are ending,
The event with mixed feelings we meet,
A new habitat is awaiting
Th' eleven-plus new-comers to greet.

We look o'er the past with nostalgia,
Some memories bringing us joy,
But the change does engender the feeling
Of a mother bereft of her boy.

Let's recall some of those who have governed
That school half-way up on the hill,
"Miss Phillip," John Lloyd and "Dave" Powell,
And "Garnet" and "Dai"—governors still.

"Bish." Bevan, "Joe" Jones and "Prof." Evans,
All giving their best in their way,
"Jack" Parry and Leonard recording
The works they all did in their day.

And what of the Masters who've been there,
Who strove to instil into boys,
(Some craniums came forth from an oak tree,
But some to whom studies were joys).

There was Morton and Woosnam and Morgan,
And Jenkins, Doug, Inglis and Musk,
With others, some boys may remember,
In that building o'erlooking the Usk.

And now there are those who have followed
Those fearsome to us in our day,
Whose merit is truest devotion—
They will mould the new boys in their way.

Old Boys who may merit attention ?
Some come to the mind straight away
Whose post-school day feats are outstanding,
Who've shone in the world and at play.

The Church found in W. T. Havard
One fitted a Mitre to wear,
While no less than five of our number
Have given to Brecon her Mayor.

They figure in spheres Magisterial,
"Will Ifor," "Dai" Lewis are some,
The "Pontybat" boys and George Davies,
With doubtless still more yet to come.

And what of all those who are farmers ?
We can claim to have them by the score,
Their stay in the School proved most useful
Their prowess on land to assure.

The Navy, The Army and Air Force,
Our boys have brought honour to each,
The Arts and the Sciences have them,
And myriads went forward to teach.

New boys who trek up in September
To the School set in pastures anew,
Will know nought of the feelings of Old Boys,
Our vista is dimmed by the view—

Of the road along which we have travelled,
Of the faces now hidden from sight,
Do we crave the return of our schooldays ?
With a sigh we reply—that they might.

So I finish my meagre meanderings
With sentiments loyal and true,
"To the School" ! May your future be fruitful !
Bon Voyage ! Floreat ! and Adieu !

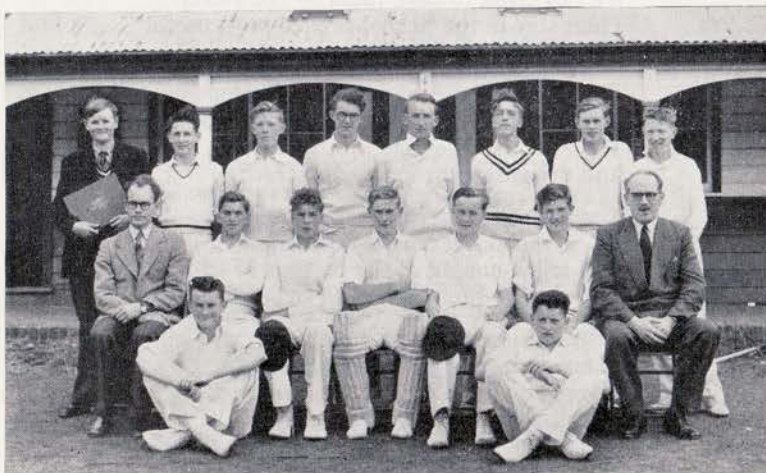
W. B. HARGEST, *President Old Boys' Association*, 1958.

CRICKET REPORT, 1957.

Master : Mr. C. Giles. Captain : T. L. Powell.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|----|--|
| 11th May | ... | v. | Aberdare. Home. Time limit. Lost. |
| | | | Brecon 30 for 7. Aberdare 88 for 8. |
| 18th May | ... | v. | Brynmawr. Home. Won. |
| | | | Brecon 75. Brynmawr 39. |
| 25th May | ... | v. | Ystalyfera. Home. Lost. |
| | | | Brecon 47. Ystalyfera 50 for 5. |
| 29th May | ... | v. | Christ College 2nd XI. Away. Won. |
| | | | Christ College 56. Brecon 57 for 4. |
| 8th June | ... | v. | Aberdare. Away. Time limit. Won. |
| | | | Brecon 76 for 8. Aberdare 70 for 9. |
| 15th June | ... | v. | Llandrindod. Away. Won. |
| | | | Brecon 73. Llandrindod 62. |
| 22nd June | ... | v. | Ystradgynlais. Away. Time limit. Lost. |
| | | | Ystradgynlais 47. Brecon 34. |
| 2nd July | ... | v. | Crickhowell. Away. Won. |
| | | | Brecon 108 for 9 (decl.) Crickhowell 69. |
| 11th July | ... | v. | Builth. Away. Abandoned—rain. Brecon 78 for 3. |
| 13th July | ... | v. | Ystradgynlais. Home. Time limit. Won. |
| | | | Ystradgynlais 61 for 7. Brecon 62 for 3. |
| 15th July | ... | v. | Bridgend. Home. Lost. |
| | | | Brecon 89. Bridgend 94 for 6. |
| 16th July | ... | v. | Old Boys XI. Home. Won. |
| | | | Old Boys 57. School 58 for 6. |

Record :—Played 12. Won 7. Lost 4. Abandoned 1.



SCHOOL CRICKET 1st XI, 1957-58.

H. D. Lewis (Scorer), G. Curtis, G. Jones, W. M. Jones, G. A. H. Thomas, R. M. James, B. J. Mayers, R. Rees, C. Giles, M. R. Burr, B. Hepton, T. L. Powell, D. A. Thomas, S. M. L. Waters, Headmaster, R. G. Brown, W. T. T. Watkins.

This season the School team had one of their most successful seasons for a long time. The general standard of the game has improved considerably, and this augurs well for the future, as the majority of the team is available next season. During the season a number of young players were blooded and this should make the competition for places very keen. Let it be hoped that the successful run will continue in the future.

We must thank Mr. Giles for all the hard work he put into the game last year. All the success of the team is due to his hard work.

Our congratulations are due to B. Hepton on being chosen for a trial for a Welsh Schoolboys XI and on being awarded his county colours, and to D. A. Thomas, T. L. Powell and G. Curtis on playing for the County XI.

Averages—Batting : T. L. Powell, runs 174, average 15.6.

D. A. Thomas, runs 114, average 12.7.

Bowling : B. Hepton, wickets 34, average 5.6.

M. Waters, wickets 24, average 5.7.

Colours—Re-Awards : B. Hepton.

First Awards : T. L. Powell, D. A. Thomas, G. Jones G. Curtis and G. A. H. Thomas.

G. A. H. THOMAS, V.I.Sc.

* * *

FOOTBALL REPORT, 1957-58.

Captain : G. Jones

Master : Mr. R. Arthur.

THIS year the school soccer eleven had an average season, winning four games, and losing four games. The team, after starting badly, improved throughout the season and at its close produced a very fine display against a strong Old Boys' team on the Rich Field, finally being narrowly beaten 6—5. One possible reason for this improvement is that the team was comparatively small in size and hence could not adapt itself to the muddy conditions encountered in the earlier part of the term. During the last week of term the school team played a friendly game against a Staff side on the School field and won narrowly by 2 goals to 1. This game was of note because it was the last to be played on that field.

FIRST ELEVEN RESULTS.

| | Opponents | Venue | Result | Score |
|---------|-------------|-------|--------|-------|
| 1958 | | | | |
| Jan. 18 | Presteigne | Home | Lost | 6—3 |
| Feb. 22 | Llandrindod | Home | Lost | 3—1 |
| Mar. 1 | Llandrindod | Away | Won | 2—1 |
| Mar. 8 | Kington | Away | Won | 3—1 |
| Mar. 15 | Builth | Home | Won | 2—0 |
| Mar. 22 | Presteigne | Away | Lost | 7—4 |
| Mar. 26 | The Staff | Home | Won | 2—1 |
| Mar. 27 | Old Boys | Home | Lost | 6—5 |

Highest scorers :—M. Gallagher, 7 ; G. Jones, 7 ; D. A. Thomas, 4 ;

Colour Awards—

2nd Re-award : G. Jones, S. Gallagher, E. M. Lewis.

Re-award : G. A. H. Thomas.

Awards : G. P. Gittins, D. A. Gittins, G. Curtis, D. A. Thomas, M. Gallagher, T. Thomas.

JUNIOR ELEVEN RESULTS.

| | | | | |
|---------|-------------|------|------|-----|
| Jan. 18 | Presteigne | Home | Draw | 1—1 |
| Feb. 22 | Llandrindod | Home | Lost | 1—0 |
| Mar. 1 | Llandrindod | Away | Won | 4—1 |
| Mar. 8 | Kington | Away | Lost | 5—1 |
| Mar. 15 | Builth | Home | Won | 4—0 |
| Mar. 22 | Presteigne | Away | Lost | 2—1 |

Highest scorer : J. Jones, 4.

HOUSE COMPETITION.

| | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Vaughan | ... | 61% |
| 2. Theophilus | ... | 55% |
| 3. Siddons | ... | 33% |
| 4. Gam | ... | 22% |

G. JONES, VI.Sc.



SCHOOL SOCCER 1st XI, 1957-58.

E. M. Lewis, G. C. Curtis, G. Thomas, A. C. Hirons, G. P. Gittins, R. Young, T. Thomas, R. Samuel, D. A. Thomas, D. A. Gittins, Mr. R. Arthur, G. Jones (Capt.), Headmaster, S. Gallagher, M. Gallagher.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1958.—President, Mr. W. B. Hargest ; Honorary Life Vice-Presidents : Mr. Jacob Morgan, M.A., Mr. Prosser Roberts, B.A. ; Vice Presidents : Mr. A. R. Williams, M.A., LL.B., Mr. Aneurin Rees, M.Sc., A.Inst.P. (Headmaster) ; Honorary Secretary-Treasurer : Mr. H. C. Jones, B.A. ; Honorary Assistant-Secretary, Mr. D. G. A. Smith.

Committee : Mr. T. G. Winstone (Chairman), Mr. G. W. Davies, J.P., Mr. L. S. Davies, Mr. Penry Davies, Mr. W. I. Jones, J.P., Mr. O. V. Owen, Alderman Garnet Morris, Mr. W. J. J. Morris, Mr. C. B. Palmer, Mr. E. I. Rowlands (Vice-Chairman), Mr. W. M. Peters, Mr. E. B. Powell, M.B.E., Mr. F. M. Thomas, Mr. B. R. C. Williams, Mr. L. R. Williams ; Ex-officio, Mr. F. B. Jones, Mr. G. Poole.

The Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Cafe Royal, Brecon, on Friday, 7th February, 1958, which was probably the worst day, as far as weather is concerned, of the whole winter. At this meeting the officers and committee members named above were duly elected.

As members are aware of one of the items on the agenda for the General Meeting concerned a possible presentation to the School, to mark the new phase which would begin when the new buildings at Penlan were occupied. It was decided that, as attendance at the Annual Dinner was usually so good, the Committee recommendation should be placed before those members present at the Dinner, the first part of which should be considered as an Extraordinary General Meeting. This course was duly followed and it was unanimously decided at the Dinner that the sum of one hundred guineas should be earmarked for the purpose of this presentation.

This gift was not the only one promised to the school, for, at the General Meeting on 7th February, Mr. Aneurin Williams, this year's Vice-President, most generously offered to the School a lectern Bible which he hoped would fittingly supplement the lectern which Alderman Garnet Morris had already promised to give to the School. This offer was gratefully accepted by the Headmaster.

The second Committee recommendation at the Annual Meeting, concerning the design of a new tie, was also approved. It is hoped therefore that members will soon be able to obtain a tie of the new pattern; the tie, though more expensive, will be made of a far better material.

The dance arranged at the Wellington Hotel on the 14th February duly took place and proved so financially successful that both the funds of this Association and those of the Girls' Association benefitted handsomely. Your Committee expects soon to arrange an invitation dance, which, it is hoped, will prove equally successful.

The Annual Dinner, held at the Cafe Royal, Brecon, on 29th March, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. B. Hargest, was up to the high standard which members have now come to expect. The speakers and other guests this year were all intimately connected with the School and the Association, so that the function had this year a truly "domestic" air. The chief guest was Mr. Donald Davies, now of Llandrindod Wells, whose speech, in proposing "The Association," was a model in presentation and in content. It was most unusual, too, that another guest speaker should be a member of the Association, Mr. Ivor Morgan, who, as Mayor of Brecon, proposed the toast of "The School." The "extra" guests this year were Alderman Tudor Watkins, M.P., and Mr. A. Leonard, M.B.E., Secretary of the Breconshire Education Committee. Mr. Leonard was able to give some interesting reminiscences of the very early days of the School.

The Soccer match against the school was played on the Rich Field on Thursday, 27th March, 1958. This was probably the most exciting match for years as the enthusiasm of the school showed clearly. The Association team won by 6 goals to 5.

The annual cricket match has been provisionally arranged for Tuesday, 15th July. It would be of great assistance to Mr. W. P. Thomas, Ashfield Villa, Llanddew, who arranges the team, if those members who would like to play would note the date and communicate with him.

The Annual Prize Giving was held on 30th April. Mr. W. B. Hargest was invited to be present to represent the Association.

To conclude, there is one item of news which we record with great pleasure. When the new school is opened, the official act will be performed by Mr. Garnet Morris, who is, as most members know, the oldest ex-pupil of the School, Chairman of the School Governors and first President of this Association. Such a close connection with a school can hardly have been equalled elsewhere and we feel that no more fitting choice could have been made than Mr. Morris.

* * *

NEWS OF OLD BOYS.

J. J. A. Bevan (1945-53) has taken a teaching post near Halifax, Nova Scotia.

A Hepton (1947-54) is now in the United States, where he holds a research scholarship at Cornell University. He has been good enough to send us an account of his first impressions of the United States. The Magazine Committee has kindly printed this article elsewhere in the magazine.

C. Carr (1937-42) has been appointed Stationmaster at Eardisley after serving at Nantybwh, near Tredegar, for some years.

We congratulate Mr. J. D. H. Thomas, a member of the Staff since 1954, on his appointment as headmaster of the Brecon Secondary Modern School.

PERSONAL.

MARRIAGES.

T. J. Curtis (1944-47) to Miss Marion Margaret Thomas, on 18th January, 1958, at Glasbury.

E. J. T. Pearce (1942-47) to Miss Margaret Glenys Stenbridge, at Bromsgrove.

W. H. Lewis (1945-52) to Miss Viola Marion Smith, on 14th August, 1958, at St. James's Church, Clapton, E.5.

BIRTHS.

To John and Mrs. Davies, on 28th July, 1957, a daughter, Jill Patricia.

To Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Jones, on 1st February, 1958, a son, Peter Harris.

To Mr. and Mrs. J. D. H. Thomas, on 25th January, 1958, a son, Richard Jonathan.

To Mr. and Mrs. W. Lynton Howell, a daughter, Alexandra Josephine, 1st October, 1957.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Mr. J. H. Thomas (Staff) to Miss Mary Elizabeth Thomas, of Brecon.

DEATHS.

It is with regret that we record the deaths of two members: Mr. Harold Elston and Mr. Mr. Gwilym Thomas.

LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE MARCH, 1957.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| B. Bell | T. A. Gwynne | W. G. E. Lambert | T. L. Powell |
| M. Burr | E. L. Hamer | D. H. R. Lane | B. Pritchard |
| J. Chatfield | I. L. James | D. T. Lewis | S. J. Pritchard |
| T. A. P. Carvell | D. James | M. Lewis | T. Thompson |
| G. R. Davies | A. J. Jones | C. B. Like | G. Williams |
| W. Griffiths | D. J. Jones | D. J. Parry | I. T. Williams |
| | | K. Jones | |

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. R. Arthur Mr. D. Davies Mr. J. Morgan Mr. J. H. Thomas

ADCOCK'S

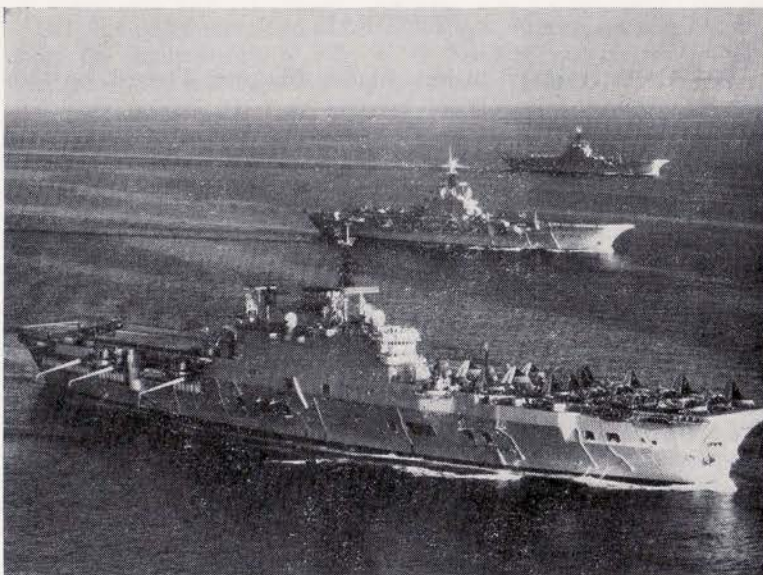
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Age 17—19 years 6 months

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Age 17—26 years (23 for Pilots)

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