



"PLAY THE GAME."

Whether it be cricket or learning
—put your very best into it. If
the job in hand is buying clothes,
then think well, act wisely by
getting them at

TAILOR
WATTS *The Clothier*
HOSIER **BRECON**
BULTH and TALGARTH.

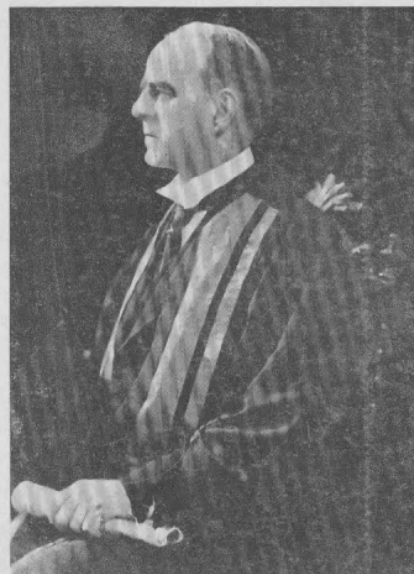
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THE SILURIAN



VOL. II.

MAY, 1951.



THE LATE
REVEREND PRINCIPAL JOSEPH JONES, M.A., B.D., LL.D., J.P.

THE SILURIAN.

(VOL. II)

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
BRECON BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

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EDITORIAL.

It is our pleasure to present you the second edition of the "Silurian," and in so doing we sincerely hope that we have not fallen short of the high standard set by the pioneers.

We are grateful for all the grand support which was forthcoming from seniors to juniors—both in the literary field and financial.

As was the case last year, articles, stories and poems were submitted in good numbers. The sorting was difficult, but we believe we chose well. We apologise to those whose entries have not been printed. Please try again.

The form of our Magazine resembles last year's volume. We have endeavoured to preserve a balance between accounts of School activities, Sports records, Old Boys' notes and purely Literary articles.

We wish you happy reading!

L. V. G. JONES,
H. A. J. BUTTER.

IN MEMORIAM.

REVEREND PRINCIPAL JOSEPH JONES, M.A., B.D., LL.D., J.P.

The sudden death of Principal Joseph Jones on 28th April, 1950, deprived the School of one of its oldest and most faithful Governors and of one of its best friends.

His strong intellectual features and his upright distinguished figure will long be remembered by generations of boys and girls attending our annual joint prize-giving. As recently as December, 1949, wearing his new Doctor's robes, he addressed the two schools and afterwards he and Mrs. Jones distributed the prizes.

Born in Cardiganshire, his family moved to Aberdare when he was five years old, where as a youth of twelve he worked for some years in the coal mine as an engineer and shortly afterwards he began to preach.

In 1896 he proceeded to the University College at Cardiff, and subsequently to the Memorial College, Brecon, where he was the first of his denomination to obtain the Welsh University B.D. Later he became a scholar at Mansfield and Jesus Colleges, Oxford, where he took first-class honours in Theology and won a University Prize in New Testament Greek. In 1907 he returned to his old College at Brecon, where he served as Professor for thirty-six years, and as Principal during the last seven years of his life.

Brilliantly equipped mentally, he was to become a powerful and popular preacher and one of the leading figures of his denomination. He held office as Chairman of the Welsh Congregational Union, as Dean of the University of Wales, and was appointed Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council for 1950-51.

He was perhaps to render even greater service in the sphere of education. From 1913 onwards he was a member of the Breconshire County Council, and was its Chairman from 1940 to 1942. From 1919 to the end of life he was the Chairman of the Breconshire Education Committee. He became one of the outstanding figures in the County and served on many national bodies, including the Hadow, Spens, Norwood and Burnham Committees. A past President of the Welsh Federation Education Committees he was the first Chairman of the We Joint Education Committee set up in 1949.

Recognition for his contribution to religion and education came at the end of a long life of exceptional service when

honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him in 1949 at Bangor by the Duke of Edinburgh in the presence of Princess Elizabeth and the Prime Minister.

I had the privilege and pleasure of enjoying his friendship from the moment of my arrival in Brecon in 1929.

For many years I attended the various County Education Committees and had every opportunity of observing his great skill in promoting and directing educational schemes and policy and also the dignity and fairness with which he invariably conducted his meetings. He had the crystallizing mind that enabled him to see a problem clearly and a natural gift of lucid exposition that made him an ideal Chairman.

Often, too, I felt the impact of his striking personality in the pulpit as I sat and listened to a powerful sermon or a masterly address, invariably delivered without a single note. Many of his friends wondered at this unusual but by no means unique gift of memory. On one occasion I accompanied him to Oswestry, where he was to give an important address in the evening. After lunching at Ludlow, the driver and I occupied the two front seats of the car and forgot the presence of Principal Jones, who went into a huddle on the back seat, where he was not disturbed until he came out of it near Shrewsbury. In the evening we listened to a perfect and polished oration of half-an-hour's duration.

Asking him later how it was done, his reply was:—"Firstly, I think of all I am going to say; secondly, I arrange my facts in the order I am going to give them; thirdly, I go over my speech carefully making sure that everything is in its right place." And I am sure that he could easily repeat the process as often as it was necessary.

He wrote only his most important speeches and, like Poincaré for one, he could repeat them without changing a single word of the script, and in his case either in English or Welsh.

The driving force in Principal Jones' life was service. Work, whether of a religious or a secular nature, was to him always a Christian duty. He never spared himself and he never thought of relaxing on account of advancing years. He was a man of great vision, and he made full and good use of the ideas of others. There are many of us who trust that his ideas will live after him. Two of his sons were pupils at the School—J. Rendel Jones (1924-1929), M.A., Deputy Director of Education, East Sussex, and Dr. A. Gareth Jones (1926-1931), M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.O.G.

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SCHOOL NOTES.

In September, 1950, Mr. D. Morgan, B.Sc., joined the Staff. We welcome him to our midst.

Congratulations to Mr. C. Jones, on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. Jones will live at Crickhowell.

We enjoyed a delightful recital of songs one day last May, when the Rev. H. B. Hughes visited the School.

It is with pride that we read the criticism of the first issue of our Magazine in "Magazine Review." We urge all our school-readers to study it.

This Easter term the whole School has missed the Headmaster's Secretary. To everyone's joy he is well on the road to recovery.

Brian Grant, who left us last July for Cardiff U.C.W., was awarded the Breconshire Scholarship for his good Higher Certificate.

We rejoiced to hear that E. J. Simmonds was "capped" this year as a Youth International. Theo boys point out that Simmonds is quite at home in a red jersey.

For those interested in statistics we report that this year there are 24 Old Boys at our Universities. This figure does not include those at Training Colleges. It is a worthy figure for a school of 200.

The most attractive fixture during the Cricket Season was that *versus* the Staff. Though the records declare it a draw, we feel that having dismissed 7 of the Staff for under 50 the result was a foregone conclusion. Our chances were indeed brightened when Rice split Mr. Moses' finger, thereby disposing of a star bowler.

The highlight of our festivities this year was our visit at Christmas to the Girls' School. We enjoyed the dancing. We compliment the girls on their delicious supper and the arrangements made for our benefit. It appears that the unofficially conducted tours of the Biology Laboratory were a success.

The Prefects this year are:—L. V. G. Jones (Senior Prefect), H. A. J. Butter, A. B. Winstone, C. G. Parry, H. W. Lewis, C. A. Watkins, A. R. Thomas, D. N. B. Rees, J. C. Davies, V. Howells.

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OUR SCHOOL MOTTO.

"*Bid Ben Bid Bont.*"

Since the publication of the first number of the "Silurian" many of our readers have enquired as to the meaning of the School motto, so we give here a brief explanation:—

The earliest use of the words is to be found in the Welsh tale of "Branwen Daughter of Llyr," one of the stories in the Four Branches of the Mabinogion, which date back to the fourteenth century.

The tale relates how Bendigeidfran, King of the Island of the Mighty, who was so enormous that there was never a ship in which he might be contained, had received news that his sister Branwen, married to Matholwch, King of Ireland, was being ill-treated. Having mustered his men, Bendigeidfran set out for Ireland to avenge the wrong done to his sister, but when the men of Ireland saw him approach they withdrew across the River Llinon (Shannon) and broke down the bridge.

Then, "Bendigeidfran came towards the bank of the river, 'Lord,' said his noblemen, 'thou knowest the peculiarity of the river: none can go through it, nor is there a bridge over it. What is thy counsel as to a bridge?' said they. 'There is none,' said he, 'save that *he who is chief, let him be a bridge* (Bid Ben Bid Bont). I will myself be a bridge,' said he. And then was that saying first uttered, and it is still used as a proverb. And then, after he had lain him down across the river, hurdles were placed upon him, and his hosts passed through over him."

It is still used as a "proverb," said the scribe who wrote this tale, and now, six hundred years later we proudly use it as our School motto. We do not seek to emulate the physical prowess of Bendigeidfran, but it behoves us all to use what talents we have to serve our community whole-heartedly and unselfishly. Therein lies the secret of leadership and good citizenship.

"*Bid Ben Bid Bont.*"

(The quoted passages are from "The Mabinogion," Gwyn Jones and Thomas Jones; Everyman's Library.)

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JUNIOR POEM—1951 EISTEDDFOD.

The Woods in Spring.

Come with me to the woodland glade,
Where oak trees spread a patterned shade,
Where leaves are peeping fresh and green,
Where earth smells new and crisp and clean.

Come with me where the primrose dwells,
Where violets grow in mossy dells,
Where woodland pigeons coo and nest,
And leafy haunts where foxes rest.

Come with me where the sparkling brook
Comes tinkling through the grassy nook,
And winds its way down through the reeds,
Where many a grey trout leaps and feeds.

O come with me where Spring, sweet Spring
Has given new life to everything,
O come and breathe the soft new air;
Forget all sorrows, pain and care.

WALLIS, IIIA.

YR EHEDYDD.

Mi glywais ehedydd yn canu
With godi o'i nyth yn y brwyn;
Rhôl groeso i'r wawr-ddydd ddisgleirwch
A'i nodau pêr, annwyl, llawn swyn.

Mor hyfryd yw clywed aderyn,
Caniedydd byd anian i gyd,
Mor ber ei delori hudolus,
Hardd ganwr pereiddiaf y byd.

Y tlysaf, medd rhai, yw yr eos,
Ac eraill a hoffa'r dryw bach.
Ond i mi nid oes un a all byncio'n
Fwy swynol na'r hedydd byw, iach.

ALAN R. THOMAS, VI.

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PARIS AU PRINTEMPS.

During the Easter vacation three members of the Sixth Form, D. F. Candy, D. W. Rice and myself, D. N. B. Rees, went to Paris on a cultural holiday organised by Miss Christine Williams, of Huntingdon Grammar School. The complete party consisted of some 300 boys and girls from all parts of the country. For our part we travelled overnight from London, with an advance group.

On arrival in Paris early in the morning, we were taken to Lycée Lakanal, in the southern suburbs of the great city.

The "Lycée" corresponds to the English Grammar School and was a vast building. It makes us reflect sadly upon our own tiny leaky-boilered affair which during term is transformed by a few hundred schoolboys into a seething cauldron. Everyone was well looked after at the "Lycée" and there was always more than enough food to satisfy our somewhat voracious appetites. I hasten to point out, that I am speaking as a mere male about the appetite question, and do not profess to represent in this statement the ever figure-conscious ladies, who I believe were in the majority.

As befitted a holiday there were no stringent restrictions and indeed few rules of any kind. We were expected to have returned to the grounds by 10.15 p.m. except of course if we had been to the theatre, when we were accompanied by a member of the staff. One regulation which was unnecessary, as far as the vast majority was concerned anyway, was that "32, Rue Richer" was placed out of bounds!!!

The purpose of the visit was to combine instruction with holiday-making. In my opinion and I know in that of my companions who have since left their Alma Mater for Universities, this object was admirably fulfilled, and this is the measure of the undoubted success of the venture. (I understand that this year there is an even greater inundation of applications).

The lectures at the Sorbonne were, as would be expected, excellent indeed. Among these were lectures on various poets and books covering a number of different "higher" courses. The suggestions put forward were most valuable, even when they fell upon comparatively stony ground! In addition to these lectures there were classes in conversation and reading at Lycée Saint Louis, situated near the Sorbonne itself, and where a section of the party was staying. Naturally the whole time spent in Paris was an invaluable opportunity to practice speaking our own brand of the French language.

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It must not be deduced from this account of the academic aspect that our stay was in any way dull or boring, for this was far from the case. There were "bus" tours around the city and places of special interest were examined more closely afterwards. Our guides on these occasions were students of the Sorbonne. A number of visits to "l'Opéra," "l'Opéra Comique" and "la Comédie Française" were arranged, and on some evenings, there were cinema shows at the "Lycée". Together with other parties in Paris at the time, we attended a reception at "l'Hôtel de Ville"; and a member of each school in the party—our representative was D. F. Candy, the Head Prefect—went to the English Embassy. On the Friday before we left, a dance was held at Cité Universitaire.

One of the best features of the trip was that there was quite a lot of free time, during which we were able to seek amusement according to our individual tastes. On Easter morning, the two Davids and myself and many others went to the English Church near the Madeleine. During the daytime we visited "La Tour Eiffel" which was not included in the official programme, wandered idly along the boulevards like true Frenchmen, went shopping or merely rested. We also indulged in what seemed everyone's favourite evening pastime—going to one or other of the innumerable cafes.

D. N. B. REES, VIa.

Y GWANWYN.

Ciliodd draw y gaeaf du,
A gwena'r haul oddeutu'r tŷ,
Daeth y gwanwyn eto'n ôl
A thŷf brallu ar y ddôl.

Prancia'r wyd ar ben y bryn,
Nofia'r adar ar y llyn,
Gwelaf ddeilen ar y pren
A chana'r gwcw uwch fy mhen.

Groesawaf di, O Wanywn mwyn
Gyda chalon llawn o swyn.
Wrth feddwl am y dyddiau braf
Y caf twynhau hyd derfyn haf.

W. J. RODERICK, IVa.

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NOTES FROM CARDIFF U.C.W.

T. K. Jones from Cardiff writes:—

This 1950-51 session sees eight Old Boys from Brecon as students of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire. Six of them are members of the Faculty of Arts, one in the Faculty of Science, and one in the Welsh School of Medicine. Of these eight, four are "freshers," three in their second year and one in his final year.

The senior student among the Brecon Old Boys is Mr. Alan Jones. He is now completing his six year course. Owing to the fact that he is now walking the hospitals, he does not play a very active part in College activities. However, last year he was Captain, Secretary and Treasurer of the Medical Department's First XI Cricket team.

Mr. Ron Hopkins is this year studying Finals History and English, and hopes eventually to take Honours History. A regular attender at the History and English Society Meetings, he also patronizes the Debating Society. His "compatriot" is Mr. Bill Galagher. Like Ron, Bill is also pursuing Finals History and English. He is a regular member of the Coll's 2nd XI Soccer team, of which he is the leading goal-scorer. He is a member of the honourable society known as the "Young Arcadians."

Mr. D. A. Jones is the third Old Boy who is in his second year in Coll. He is studying Subsidiary History, Economics, and Industrial Relations. Although not a member of any of the sporting societies, he is actively concerned with the social life of the College. He is Treasurer of the Fabian Society (and no Brecon boy manages to escape without buying at least one "Tribune"). He is also a member of the I.S.S. Committee in Coll. and is a member of the Rag Committee.

Of the "freshers" Mr. Leighton Hargest has achieved greatest distinction, for he is now the regular goalkeeper of the Coll. First XI Soccer team, a notable achievement enhanced by the fact that the team has lost only one game since he has been playing. His subjects are Subsidiary History and English, Intermediate Archaeology and Economics.

Another of the Freshers who is achieving some note as a footballer is Mr. Desmond Tidley. "Tich" plays outside-right for the 2nd XI. He is studying Subsidiary English, French, and History and Intermediate Economics.

Mr. Brian Grant is the only member of the Faculty of Science. This year he is taking Intermediate Archaeology and Engineering Drawing and Finals I Mathematics. He is a keen member of the Dramatic Society and the Scout and Guide Clubs.

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REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.

Five old boys of the School are at present students of the University College of North Wales, Bangor. Two are completing Honours Courses whilst three more have just set out on "the primrose path that leads to the everlasting bonfire."

C. J. N. Candy (Crickhowell), is now in his fourth year and is completing an Honours Course in Electrical Engineering. He is only visible to those who recognise a red-haired cyclist racing down to the Engineering Department to get on with still more work.

R. G. Jones (Brecon), is studying for an Honours Degree in Chemistry and is in his third and final year. He too is working very hard, and is only to be seen when travelling in state to and from work in the "Prof's." car.

I am very pleased to be able to record that the three "Freshers" are behaving quite normally. The usual phases of beads, moustaches and dark glasses have all been successfully by-passed.

J. J. Kiely (Sennybridge), is hoping to take an Honours Degree in Mathematics and is at present studying Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics all at the Final I stage.

T. G. Powell (Cray), intends taking an Honours Degree in History. He is reading History and Welsh at the Final I stage and English and Philosophy at the Intermediate stage. T.G. has at last found a use for that voice of his. He is a staunch member of the College Male Voice Choir and Choral Society. Needless to say T.G. has become a very popular man among all Welshmen.

D. F. Candy (Crickhowell), is reading French for Preliminary Honours, English at the Final I stage and History and Philosophy at the Intermediate stage. He hastens to remind all those optimistic people that unfortunately a study of ethics does not necessarily mean that he is being provided with a new moral outlook.

We should like to convey our best wishes to the Staff, pupils and all members of the Old Boys' Association. To those who will be sitting the General Schools Examinations at the end of the year we wish the best of luck.

D. CANDY.

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CHRONICLE FROM ABER—1951.

The turn of the half century can be looked upon in many ways as a memorable one in "Aber-Brecon" relations. In the year 1950 the number of O.B.'s at Aber was greatly increased by the advent of two new members which raised the meagre total of three to the more substantial one of five. Three stalwarts—Eddie Morgan, Bill Holmes and Walter Price have been joined by Ivor Price and David Rice, and the weakening ranks of O.B.'s. have been strengthened.

Eddie Morgan is now on his 6th year and is a member of the Agri.-Chem. research staff. He is indeed an old stager and though very little is seen of Eddie (undoubtedly too engrossed in Chem.-research!!) one can occasionally "bump" into him at about 10 p.m. in a Saturday night "hop" at which time his spirits are by no means at a low ebb.

Watt Price is doing honours in Agricultural Economics, and is now on his fourth year, having come to Aber straight from the forces. "Watt" is unique among the present five at Aber in that he is not only burdened by the cares of work, but is additionally subdued by the toils and incertitudes of the "husband". He is indeed the strong, silent witness of the doings of the rest of us.

Bill Holmes is also an ex-service student and is pursuing finals History and finals Economics. Bill is a regular member of the College First XI, half-back line and on many College trips there is a request for silence during which period Bill amazes all and sundry with his rich tenor voice. It should be hastily added that Bill's "solo" usually occurs on the return journey sometime during the small hours.

Ivor Price is pursuing his Higher subjects and inter Geology in which he reveals a fervid interest. Each and every rock formation, in and around Aber, come under his critical and penetrating eye. In his diligent wanderings among the rocks it has, unfortunately, not yet been Ivor's lot to discover a new Welsh species of the tobacco plant which would have served admirably last term as a means of furnishing his constantly empty pipe bowl with materials.

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David Rice is Ivor's co-digger and "partner" in crime. Like "W.I." he is pursuing his three Higher subjects and is also weighed down with Inter Philosophy and Psychology. Indeed the intricacies of Plato and the theories of Freud respectively have so frustrated him that he is now firmly convinced that the latter mentioned gentleman is but a myth as regards psychology and is rather a very realistic figure of the "Much Binding" radio series. David, demoted from the College First XI is now a regular member of the Second XI and plays occasionally for a local team. He and Bill Holmes are endeavouring to carry on the fine tradition of "Old Breconian" soccer.

Such is a brief portrait of those who each day enter the most ancient precincts of Welsh Universities and who each night "kick the bar" a custom with a tradition as great and as hallowed as the College itself. They who now carry the Old Boys' standard are unanimous in their desire for future support at Aber from those who are at present the cream of the Alma Mater.

D. W. RICE.

PLAS HENFFORDD.

Ty mawr gwŷr bonheddig oedd Plas Henffordd. Mr. William Davies oedd ei berchennog ond ni fuasai'n byw yno ers tua phum mlynedd. Gadawsai'r Plas yng ngofal ei ferched tra oeddi ef ar antur beryglus yn yr America. Ofnai Mr. Davies na ddeuai ef yn ôl ac felly gwnaeth ei ewyllys cyn ymadael. Gan na allai rannu ei eiddo yn fwy nag un rhan trefnodd i adael y cyfan i'r ferch a ddangosai fwyaf o serch tuag at ei thad, ac oni ddeuai yn ôl ynhen pum mlynedd rhaid oeddi i'w gyfreithiwr benodi gwŷr dieithr i ddewis rhwng y merched.

Dwy ferch yn unig a oedd gan Mr. Davies, a buont yn gofalu am y stâd a'r tŷ yn dda iawn. Yn wir yr oeddynt yn ferched eithriadol o dda oni bai am un peth, sef eu bod ill dwy yn ariangar. Gobeithiai'r ddwy na ddeuai eu tad yn ôl fel y derbyniant hwy ei holl gyfoeth.

Rhyw wythnos cyn pen y pum mlynedd daeth hen drempyn barfog a'i wallt yn hir heibio i'r Plas gan geisio llety. Ar y cyntaf nid oedd y merched am roi lle iddo, ond cytunasant o'r diwedd pan addawodd y gwŷr i'w gwnai ddiwrnod o waith ar y stâd cyn cysgu y noson honno. Cadwodd ei addewid a gofyn drannoeth am lety eto, a chan mor dda y gweithiai ni allai'r merched lai na'i gadw. Onid oedd yn arbed arian iddynt bob dydd?

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Daliodd y trempyn i aros yn y Plas o ddyd i ddydd nes daeth pen yr wythnos a chyda hi derfyn y pum mlynedd. Y diwrnod hwnnw sylwari'r gwŷr nad oedd gan y merched lawer o hwyl at waith, a bod y naill a'r llall o dro i dro yn dod allan o'r tŷ i edrych tua'r ffordd fawr fel petaent yn disgwyl rhywun. Yr unig eglurhad a gafodd oedd clywed y merched yn ymgonio y noson honno ac un ohonynt yn dweud, "Does berygl y daw ef yn awr. Yfory, ni fydd biau'r Plas a'r stâd a gallwn werthu'r cyfan yn fuan iawn."

Llosgai tân mawr yn y grât ac ar y naill ochr iddo eisteddai'r cyfreithiwr a'r hen drempyn, ac ar yr ochr arall y ddwy ferch. Yr oedd y cyfreithiwr yn egluro'r ewyllys a wnaethpwyd bum mlynedd yn ôl. "Fe wyddech," meddai gan droi at y merched, "fod eich tad wedi trefnu imi drosglwyddo ei eiddo oni ddeuai yn ôl cyn hanner nos neithiwr. Gan na ddychwelodd, fy nyletawydd i yw gwneud hynny." Hawdd oedd gweld llawenydd yn llygaid y ddwy chwaer. "Dywed eich tad yn ei ewyllys rywbeth na wyddech chwi ddim amdano, sef mai dim ond un ohonoch a all etifeddu ei eiddo a'i gyfoeth, a honno yw'r ferch a ddangosodd fwyaf o serch tuag ato. Er mwyn i chwi gael perffaith chwarae teg roedd yn rhaid imi benodi gwŷr dieithr i ddewis rhyngoch. Dyna paham y deuthum a'r trempyn yma i mewn." Yna trodd at y trempyn a gofyn yn sydyn, "Pa un o'r merched hyn sydd i feddiannu cyfoeth eu tad?"

Daeth distawrwydd mawr dros yr ystafelll, ond cododd y trempyn yn araf a mynd at y tân i gynnal ei bib. Nid eisteddodd eilwaith a chan edrych ar y cyfreithiwr dywedodd yn syml "Dim un ohonynt, syr."

"Ond y mae'n rhaid i un ohonynt ei dderbyn," ebe'r cyfreithiwr. "Rhaid i un dderbyn y cyfoeth os nad yw ei thad wedi dychwelyd i'w gartref," atebodd y gwŷr yn dawel.

"A ydyw ef wedi dychwelyd?" gofynnodd y cyfreithiwr. "Nac ydyw, nac ydyw," atebodd y merched gyda'i gilydd. "Ydyw," meddai'r trempyn yn ddirifol. "Ydyw, y mae eich tad yn ôl yn ei gartref."

Tynnodd ymaith ei farf a'i wallt hir, ac o flaen y merched safai eu tad, yn ôr tal, cryf, a'i wyneb yn frown gan wres yr haul. Edrychai'r merched arno'n syn, ond yr oedd arnynt ormod o gywilydd i symud o'r fan. Troes eu tad atynt ac mewn llais dirifol dywedodd yn siomedig. "Deuthum yn ôl i'm cartref gan ddisgwyl gweld fy mhiant yn galaru ar fy ôl, ond fe'u cefais yn chwennych fy nghyfoeth. Heddiw fe'ch siomwyd—ond mwy o lawer yw fy siom a'm colled i."

HAYDN EVANS, IVA.

14

SHORT STORY.

Smith and the Electronic Thief-Taker.

When I met Smith at the Club the other evening he was in a frightful temper.

"Some blighter," he raged, "has been breaking into my workshop and stealing my things! Last week it was the signal generator, last night the test-meter. If only I could get my hands on him."

Now Smith is a forgetful fellow—a very forgetful fellow indeed! Remembering this I said placatingly: "Sure you haven't put them away in some odd corner? It's very easy to mislay things you know."

"Nonsense," snorted Smith. "I never forget anything." They've been stolen I tell you."

"Well," I shrugged, "you should know best. Have you called in the police?"

I have. They checked for finger prints and found nothing. The fellow must have used gloves. And they're too busy, they say, to post a guard to catch him when he calls for the third time. What do we pay taxes for, I'd like to know?"

"Why not sit up for him yourself?" "On these cold nights?" sniffed Smith. "Think again brother! But I'll cook his blithering goose — you see! I'm going to instal a burglar alarm of my own design in the workshop. You know the kind of thing; infra-red rays operating a selenium cell coupled to an electric buzzer in my bedroom."

"Smith!" I exclaimed, not concealing my disappointment. "We expect better things of you than that! There is no originality in your suggestion at all! The typical Smith touch is quite lacking if I may say so. Goodness knows how many exciting patents your burglar alarm would violate. What's more the thing would prove quite impracticable in your case."

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"How so?" snapped Smith. "Why shouldn't an ordinary simple burglar alarm serve my purpose quite well?"

"Because," I retorted, "you're such an infernally sound sleeper that Big Ben himself wouldn't wake you; and furthermore, the workshop is situated so far from your house that you could never get there in time even if you were aroused. So what, my dear Smith?" Smith stroked his chin thoughtfully. "Maybe you're right," he conceded. "I'll have to think up a better device. Call round this evening, and perhaps I'll be able to show you something."

"Good man!" I cried, clapping him on the shoulder. "I knew you wouldn't let down your own great traditions!"

Well, when I dropped in on him at about eight o'clock I found him putting the last touches of solder to one of the craziest contraptions I've ever seen.

"What on earth is this?" I gasped, staring at it in amazement.

Smith smirked with satisfaction. "It's the Smith's Thief Taker," he said proudly. "This is how it works. When the burglar drops in, he is seized immediately by this old-fashioned steel man-trap—I borrowed it from the County Museum, the Curator is an old friend of mine. The jaws of the steel trap were pretty sharp, being guaranteed to inflict severe bodily damage, so I've masked them with rubber to mitigate their effect somewhat. After all," he added unctuously, "I don't want to be too vindictive towards the fellow—though it was a really super meter he stole!"

"Go on!" I said weakly. "What next?"

"Ah!" said Smith. "This is where the really clever part comes in! You see, it occurred to me that our light-fingered friend might also be something of a mechanical genius in which case he could, if he had a file handy, cut himself out of the trap or, alternatively, unlock the spring and so make his escape. Well, I've made certain that whilst in the trap his mind will be so fully occupied with other matters that he will have no opportunity to escape."

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He pointed to a piece of electrical mechanism. "Know what that is?" he asked.

"Looks like some kind of timing device to me," I replied.

"It's the Venner Remote Contactor. It gives out 250 volts at 30 mils every fourteen seconds. Neat and simple! I don't think he will have time to do much in between doses. In fact he'll probably be too busy in between doses counting his pulses to know when to expect the next shock."

"You can't do this Smith!" I gasped. "It's devilish! Besides if the chap has the wrong kind of body resistance he may be electrocuted!"

"I don't think so," replied Smith. "He should be just able to stand it. Well, what do you think of the idea?"

"It's certainly brilliant — that is if it doesn't get you hung!" I declared. "Of course you will come down and let the thief out as soon as you know you have caught him, won't you?"

"What?" cried Smith. "Not likely!" I intend him to be punished for his folly. Let him stay there till morning!"

"You may live to regret it," I remarked. "He could be held in that trap for 12 hours or more—long enough to drive him nuts!"

"Look here," I said, "I shall be going to work about four o'clock tomorrow morning and if I should hear someone in the trap . . ."

"Don't you meddle in this!" he roared. "By golly if I find you've switched off the juice or let the thief out I will ~~have~~ let you borrow my gear again!" This was indeed a frightful threat, for I relied absolutely on Smith for all my spare parts.

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"All right," I said hastily. "It shall be just as you wish, old chap. After all, it will be your neck that will be stretched—not mine!"

"See that you don't forget then," growled Smith. "And now I would be obliged if you would buzz off, I've still got to test the thing out and make any necessary adjustments."

The weather was wild and stormy as I passed down Smith's avenue the following morning, but above the roaring of the wind I could hear quite another kind of roaring altogether proceeding from the famous Smith workshop. I stopped outside the door and listened.

"Ooooooh—aaaaah oooooow!" came a horrible yell from within. Clearly the trap was in action! I pulled back my cuff and began timing the things by my watch. Yes, every fourteen seconds the yells were repeated. No doubt about it the device was working well!

I couldn't help grinning at first, because I am always glad that a wrong-doer has been paid out for his crimes. But then I wondered how long the poor devil had been there, and how long he would have to stay there.

"Poor beggar," I muttered, "It's too bad of Smith! Surely the thief has suffered long enough."

My hand went to the door handle. I had fully made up my mind to release him from his misery, when I suddenly recalled Smith's dreadful threat.

Yes — to my shame, let it be confessed — self-interest caused my kind humanitarian feelings to vanish as suddenly as a W station at fade-out time; and, closing my ears to the frantic yells from within, I hastily turned on my heels and fled.

I almost relented at the bottom of the avenue. A telephone kiosk stands there and I was strongly tempted to slip inside and summon the police. But then I thought again of the plenteous supply of valves, condensers and resistances that would inevitably dry up if I followed such a course! so I hardened my heart and continued on my way.

18

It was not until that evening that I learned what had really happened. It seems that Smith had his Thief-Taker completely wired up and tested by 9.30 p.m. He then went back to the house to get a cup of coffee, and a glance at the evening paper. About ten o'clock he discovered that he had left his cigarette case in the workshop and went down to retrieve it.

You remember I said Smith was a frightfully forgetful fellow. Yes! I knew you would guess the rest!

He rushed into the workshop, completely forgetting the Thief-Taker which he had rigged up just inside the doorway—and got caught in his own electrified trap!

It was almost noon of the following day before he was released. You can just picture the state of mind he was in by that time!

But the worst part of his sufferings that night was caused neither by the cruel jawed trap nor the regular doses of H.T. mils, but by the taunting sight of his "stolen" generator and test meter, brilliantly spotlighted by the full moon, upon the top shelf where he had put them for greater safety!

Yes, I will say it once more—Smith has a simply shocking memory.

V. HOWELLS, VI.

THE END

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EXAMINATION BOARD OF WALES—RESULTS 1950.

Higher Certificate.

Candy, D. F.	... English, French, History.
Grant, B. E.	... Pure Maths., Chemistry, Physics (subsidiary), Drawing and Painting (subsidiary).
Hargest, L.	... English, Geography, History.
Jones, L. V. G.	... English, History, Latin.
Jones, T. K.	... History, Geography, English (subsidiary).
Kiely, J. J.	... Chemistry (v.g.), Pure Maths., Physics (subsidiary).
Powell, T. G.	... English, History, Welsh.
Price, W. I.	... English, Geography, History.
Rice, D. W.	... English, French, History.

School Certificate.

Bevan, J. J. A.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (c), History (c), Geography (c), Welsh (c*), French (c*), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Davies, J. C.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (c), Geography (c), Maths. (c), Welsh (c*), French (c*), Chemistry (c).
Howells, V.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (p), Geography (p), Welsh (c*), Maths. (c), Chemistry (v.g.).
Hughes, G. M. H.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (p), History (c), Geography (c), Latin (c), Welsh (c*), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Jones, E.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (p), History (p), Latin (c), Welsh (c*), Maths. (c), Chemistry (p).
Llewellyn, J.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (c), History (v.g.), Geography (c), Latin (c), Welsh (c), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Maisey, L. J.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (c), History (c), Geography (c), Latin (v.g.), Welsh (c*), Maths. (v.g.), Chemistry (v.g.).

Morris, D. J.	... English Lang. (p), English Lit. (c), History (c), Geography (p), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Morris, P. J.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (p), History (p), Geography (p), French (c*), Maths. (c).
Palfrey, B. R. M.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (v.g.), History (c), Geography (p), French (c*), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Powell, B. H.	... English Lang. (v.g.), English Lit. (c), History (p), Geography (c), Latin (c), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).
Simmonds, E. J.	... English Lang. (p), English Lit. (p), History (p), Geography (c), Welsh (p), Maths. (c), Chemistry (p).
Tovey, N. H.	... English Lang. (c), English Lit. (p), Geography (p), Maths. (v.g.), Chemistry (c).
Went, A. C.	... English Lang. (p), English Lit. (c), History (c), Geography (c), French (p), Maths. (c), Chemistry (c).

Supplementary Certificate.

Bevan, L.	... Physics.
Davies, M. G.	... Physics, Biology.
Fantham, F.	... Maths (v.g.).
Jones, K. E.	... Maths.
Jones, D. R.	... Shorthand.
Jones, P. R.	... Physics, Biology.
Lewis, H. W.	... Physics (v.g.).
Parry, G. G.	... Physics (v.g.).
Pritchard, D. T.	... Shorthand, German (p).
Roderick, S.	... Shorthand (v.g.).
Watkins, C. A.	... Physics (v.g.).
Winstone, A. B.	... Physics (v.g.).
Rice, D. W.	... Maths. *With oral proficiency.

ATHLETICS, 1950.

A Report of the School Sports.

The School Sports were held on Wednesday, July 5th, in excellent weather, resulting in some splendid performances. The standard in the field sports again showed a marked improvement, while the track events attained a higher standard than usual. In fact, competition in all the various events was keener and will soon lead to better records.

At the culmination of the sports, Mrs. Ivor Morgan, Mayoress of Brecon, presented the Staff Sports Cup to D. W. Rice, the Captain of Vaughan, the winning House. This was rather a picturesque ceremony. The School wishes to record its gratitude to Mrs. Ivor Morgan, who was so kind as to honour the Sports with her presence. Sincere thanks are also extended to Major C. P. G. de Winton for the use of the ground, and to Mr. A. J. Phippen and his fellow organisers, whose efforts came to fruition in the success of the Sports.

The Sports soon developed into a struggle between Gam and Vaughan, competitors from both Houses breaking three records. Six field records and one track record were improved upon. Special praise is due to T. K. Jones, of Vaughan, and L. Hargest, of Gam, who not only established a new record apiece but also gained the highest number of points in the Senior School. B. P. Richards, of Theophilus, and M. T. H. Styles, of Gam, gained more points than any other competitor in the Middle School, while D. C. Hicks, of Theophilus, was the most successful competitor in the Junior School. The splendid field performances of E. Jones, of Vaughan, and the breaking of the javelin record in the Middle School by J. Rowlands, of Gam, demand admiration. The struggle between Gam and Vaughan was intense throughout the Sports, resulting in a victory for Vaughan by a narrow margin. Theophilus were third and Siddons fourth. The final totals of points by which the positions of the teams were ascertained were:—

Vaughan	204
Gam	194
Theophilus	164
Siddons	90

PRIZE DAY.

The School's Prize Day was held as usual at the Market Hall on December 20th. It was a great disappointment to us all that at the last minute our guest of honour, Mr. Garnet Morris, was reported indisposed. Mr. Garnet Morris was one of the first boys to enter our Grammar School in 1896, and since that year he has been closely associated with the school in various capacities. Fortunately another old friend of our School, Sir John Lloyd, M.C., filled the breach, combining the rôle of guest of honour with that of Chairman. A pleasing feature of the proceedings was the vote of thanks proposed to the Chairman by Mr. Ivor Morgan, Mayor of Brecon. We feel as proud of him as he appears to be proud of us.

The School Choir, conducted by Mr. A. J. Phippen, sang the "Jolly Roger."

Lady Lloyd presented the prizes to the boys as follows:—

Form IIa.	—M. J. N. Collins; E. P. Pritchard.
Form IIa.	—D. L. Howley, J. F. Suter, R. J. Tucker.
Form IIIa.	—R. M. Howells, D. J. Probert.
Form IIIa.	—H. K. Isaac, W. P. Roderick, H. Evans.
Form IVa.	—P. O. Evans, G. D. Thomas.
Form IVa.	—B. P. Richards, M. T. H. Styles, E. G. Powell.
Form Vj.	—W. A. Tovell, J. P. Davies.
Form Vc.	—L. J. Maisey, J. C. Davies, J. J. A. Bevan, F. Fantham, G. M. H. Hughes, B. R. M. Palfrey, J. Llewellyn.
Form VI.	—L. Hargest, W. I. Price, L. V. G. Jones, T. K. Jones, T. G. Powell, D. W. Rice, J. J. Kiely, B. E. Grant, D. F. Candy.

REPORT ON ST. DAVID'S DAY EISTEDDFOD, 1951.

The standard set in all competitions at this year's St. David's Day Eisteddfod was indeed very high, and it was gratifying to observe that Siddons, after five post-war years of bad luck, had recovered their prestige in a magnificent victory of 23 points over Gam and Vaughan, who tied for second place; Theophilus being fourth.

Excitement reached its climax when, soon after the interval, Siddons drew level with Gam and Vaughan, and thereafter proceeded to gain points with amazing consistency to win the Eisteddfod outright.

We are grateful to the two adjudicators for giving their time that our Eisteddfod might be a success. Mr. T. Evans, of the Brecon Inland Revenue Department, judged the musical items, and Professor D. J. Davies, of the Memorial College, dealt with literary items.

The following comprises a list of individual winners, together with the Houses they represented, and the test pieces set in each competition:—

Junior Competitions.

- Welsh Recitation*, "Yr Eira," gan J. M. Edwards.
1. B. C. B. Jones (G); 2. A. J. Jones (V); 3. H. J. Phillips (S).
- English Recitation*, "The Vagabond," by J. Drinkwater.
1. G. L. Williams (T); 2. D. Howley (F); 3. P. C. Davies (T).
- Welsh Solo*, "Tra Bo Dau."
1. M. Collins (S); 2. D. O. P. Jones (V); 3. I. Griffiths (S).
- English Solo*, "Rose Among the Heather."
1. J. M. Collins (S); 2. D. O. P. Jones (V); 3. I. Griffiths (S).
- Playing on Piano or Violin*, "Gavotte" (Gossec).
1. A. J. Jones (V).
- Poem (English or Welsh)*, "Woods in Spring."
1. J. Wallis (T); 2. E. Pritchard (V); 3. G. Morgan (S).
- One-Act Play* (15-20 minutes).
1. I. Griffiths (S) and W. G. Jones (G); 3. J. F. Stroud (T).

Senior Competitions.

- Welsh Recitation*, "Canu," gan D. Lloyd Jenkins.
1. B. T. P. Richards (T); 2. A. W. Lloyd (G); 3. P. Harris (S).
- English Recitation*, "The Splendour Falls on Castle Walls,"
by Tennyson.
1. A. B. Ottwell (S); 2. I. G. Williams (G); 3. M. E. Evans (T).
- Solo, English or Welsh*.
1. D. L. Jones (S); 2. B. Richards (T); 3. D. A. Lewis (T).
- Playing on Piano or Violin*, "Andante" (Beethoven).
1. H. K. Isaac (S); 2. E. W. P. Price (V).

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Poem, English or Welsh, "The Beacons," "Y Bannau."
1. E. Jones (V); 2. L. J. Maisey (T); 3. P. Holt (V).

Short Story.

1. D. N. B. Rees (G); 2. V. Howells (V); 3. T. Tovell (S).

One-Act Play (about 30 minutes).

1. T. Tovell (S) and A. R. Thomas (G); 3. E. W. P. Price (V).

Open Competitions.

Welsh Recitation (Welsh boys).

"Yng Nghegin yr Amgueddfa Genedlaethol."

gan Iorwerth C. Peate.

1. A. R. Thomas (G); 2. I. G. Williams (G); 3. D. Lewis (T).

Any Handicraft.

1. G. Phillips (G); 2. I. G. Williams (G); 3. A. Morgan (S).

Cartoon on School Life.

1. J. Wallis (T); 2. M. Balding (V); 3. G. M. H. Hughes (G).

Essay (English or Welsh), "The Story of My Neighbourhood."

1. G. L. Davies (S); 2. W. B. Tyler (V).

Humorous Poem (English or Welsh), "The Chatterbox."

1. H. Moses (T); 2. P. O. Evans (G); 3. T. Tovell (S).

A. R. THOMAS, VI.

"THE SONG OF THE KEYS—A PARODY.

(with apologies to Thomas Hood—"The Song of the Shirt")

Dedicated to the "Silurian" typist.

With fingers weary and worn,

With eyelids heavy and red,

A typist sat in schoolboy clothes

Plying the keyboard with fingers of lead,

Click, click, click,

With fingers and elbows and knees,

And still with a voice that makes us all sick

He sang the "Song of the Keys":

Click, click, click,

Till the brain begins to swim!

Click, click, click,

Till the eyes are heavy and dim!

Dash, comma, stop,

Stop, comma, dash,

Till over the buttons he falls asleep

And taps them on in a dream.

B. R. C. WILLIAMS (Headmaster's Secretary).

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RECORD OF THE SCHOOL SPORTS.

Junior School.

- 100 Yards.** Record: 12.25 secs. A. J. Short (T), 1940.
1. H. Evans (T); 2. E. W. P. Price (V); 3. D. C. Hicks (T).
Winning time: 12.60 secs.
- 200 Yards.** Record: 28.16 secs. M. T. H. Styles (G), 1949.
1. H. Evans (T); 2. E. W. P. Price (V); 3. G. Davies (T).
Winning time: 30.50 secs.
- Relay** (110, 110, 220, 220 yards). Record: 1 min. 26.40 secs.
Gam, 1938.
1. Vaughan; 2. Siddons.
Winning time: 1 min. 27.26 secs.
- Cricket Ball.** Record: 216 ft. 5 in. L. D. Davies (V), 1949.
1. D. C. Hicks (T); 2. B. A. Morris (G); 3. P. Simmonds (T).
Winning distance: 190 ft. 6 in.
- Long Jump.** Record: 15 ft. 7½ in. M. T. H. Styles (G), 1948.
1. D. C. Hicks (T); 2. G. Davies (T); 3. E. W. P. Price (V).
Winning distance: 14 ft. 3½ in.
- High Jump.** Record: 4 ft. 5 in. T. C. Stevens (T), 1935.
1. B. A. Morris (G); 2. A. J. Cook (G); 3. P. Simmonds (T).
Winning height: 4 ft. 1½ in.

Middle School.

- 100 Yards.** Record: 11.26 secs. K. T. Smith (V), 1944.
1. M. T. H. Styles (G); 2. B. P. Richards (T); 3. J. Rowlands (G).
*Winning time: 11.22 secs.
- 220 Yards.** Record: 26 secs. K. T. Smith (V), 1944.
1. M. R. Shellard (V); 2. M. T. H. Styles (G); 3. G. Hawker (G).
Winning time: 27.35 secs.
- 440 Yards.** Record: 57.71 secs. J. G. Griffiths (V), 1949.
1. M. R. Shellard (V); 2. W. B. Tyler (V); 3. W. M. A. Davies (V).
Winning time: 63.93 secs.

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Cricket Ball. Record: 255 ft. D. S. Jones (G), 1934.

1. B. P. Richards (T); 2. C. Hawker (G); 3. C. G. Morgan (G).

Winning distance: 223 ft. 6 in.

Discus. Record 89 ft. 3 in. E. Jones (V), 1949.

1. B. P. Richards (T); 2. C. G. Morgan (G); 3. J. E. Bamfield (G).

*Winning distance: 102 ft.

Javelin. Record: 105 ft. 7½ in. B. P. Richards (T), 1949.

1. J. Rowlands (G); 2. B. P. Richards (T); 3. J. E. Bamfield (G).

*Winning distance: 114 ft. 4 in.

Weight. Record: 38 ft. 6 in. P. J. Randall (G), 1948.

1. L. J. Maisey (T); 2. C. G. Morgan (G); 3. M. T. H. Styles (G).

Winning distance: 32 ft. 6½ in.

Long Jump. Record: 17 ft. 9¾ in. K. T. Smith (V), 1944.

1. B. P. Richards (T); 2. D. N. B. Rees (G); 3. W. B. Tyler (V).

Winning distance: 16 ft. 6 in.

High Jump. Record: 4 ft. 10½ in. L. S. Davies (S), 1939.

1. J. E. Bamfield (G); 2. J. Rowlands (G); 3. D. N. B. Rees (G).

Winning height: 4 ft. 8½ in.

Hop, Step and Jump. Record: 35 ft. 6 in. J. C. Davies (S), 1949.

M. T. H. Styles (G); 2. J. Rowlands (G); 3. A. R. Thomas (G).

Winning distance: 33 ft. 11 in.

Senior School.

100 Yards. Record: 10.4 secs. W. D. J. Priday (V), 1935.

1. L. Hargest (G); 2. D. W. Rice (V); 3. A. B. Winstone (T).
Winning time: 10.9 secs.

220 Yards. Record: 24.8 secs. W. D. J. Priday (V), 1934.

1. L. Hargest (G); 2. D. W. Rice (V); 3. A. B. Winstone (T).
Winning time: 25.17 secs.

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440 Yards. Record: 55.94 secs. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.
1, T. K. Jones (V); 2, A. B. Winstone (T); 3, H. A. J. Butter (G).
Winning time: 59.59 secs.

Relay (110, 110, 220, 220 yards). Record: 1 min. 18.02 secs.
Cam, 1949.
1, Cam; 2, Vaughan.
Winning time: 1 min. 18.22 secs.

Cricket Ball. Record: 286 ft. T. C. E. Griffiths (G), 1934.
1, T. K. Jones (V); 2, L. V. G. Jones (V); 3, D. W. Rice (V).
Winning distance: 239 ft.

Weight. Record: 29 ft. 11 ins. G. B. Jones (T), 1948.
1, L. Hargest (G); 2, E. Jones (V); 3, H. A. Morris (T).
*Winning distance: 31 ft. 9½ ins.

Discus. Record: 76 ft. 4 ins. D. I. S. Pritchard (V), 1949.
1, E. Jones (V); 2, L. Hargest (G); 3, W. I. Price (S).
*Winning distance: 90 ft. 6 ins.

Javelin. Record: 114 ft. ½ in. K. M. Lloyd (V), 1949.
1, E. Jones (V); 2, L. V. G. Jones (V); 3, W. I. Price (S).
*Winning distance: 129 ft. 2 ins.

Long Jump. Record: 19 ft. 8½ ins. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.
1, T. K. Jones (V); 2, D. W. Rice (V); 3, L. Hargest (G).
Winning distance: 19 ft. 3 ins.

High Jump. Record: 5 ft. T. C. E. Griffiths (G), 1935.
D. I. S. Pritchard (V), 1949.
1, B. H. Powell (T); 2, D. W. Rice (V); 3, T. K. Jones (V).
Winning height: 4 ft. 10 ins.

Hop, Step and Jump. Record: 37 ft. 2 ins. T. K. Jones (V), 1949.
1, T. K. Jones (V); 2, D. W. Rice (V); 3, N. H. Tovey (S).
*Winning distance: 40 ft. 2 ins.

*Denotes New Record.

H. A. J. BUTTER, VI.

THE COUNTY SPORTS, 1950.

The Annual Championship meeting of the Brecon and Radnor Counties' Secondary Schools Amateur Athletic Association was held at the New Maesydderwen Field, Ystradgynlais, on Saturday, July 8th, 1950.

Eleven schools took part in the meeting. The Sports commenced at 11 a.m., and the large programme of 46 events was completed before 5 p.m.

The Championship shields and trophies were presented to the winning captains by Mr. Tudor Watkins, M.P. for Brecon and Radnor, and Mr. I. G. Richards, H.M.I. These two gentlemen kindly deputised at very short notice for Mr. Idris Davies, who was unfortunately indisposed.

The following places were gained by members of the School Team:—

Senior.

220 Yards	...	1st	L. Hargest.
440 Yards	...	2nd	A. B. Winstone.
One Mile	...	3rd	T. G. Powell.
Cricket Ball	...	2nd	T. K. Jones.
Javelin	...	2nd	L. V. G. Jones.
Discus	...	1st	E. Jones.
Long Jump	...	2nd	D. W. Rice.
High Jump	...	3rd	T. K. Jones.
Hop, Step and Jump	...	2nd	T. K. Jones.
Relay Team	...	3rd	

Middle.

100 Yards	...	1st	M. T. H. Styles.
Discus	...	2nd	B. P. Richards.
Long Jump	...	2nd	M. T. H. Styles.
Relay Team	...	1st	

Junior.

100 Yards	...	1st	W. E. P. Price.
220 Yards	...	2nd	H. Evans.
Cricket Ball	...	4th	B. A. Morris.

The following boys gained their County Colours:—

L. Hargest. M. T. H. Styles (3rd award).
E. Jones (2nd award). W. E. P. Price.

These four and A. B. Winstone competed in the Welsh National Championship Meeting at Bangor on July 15th, 1950.

The County Meeting for 1951 is to be held in Brecon on Saturday, July 7th. The Welsh National Meeting is to be held in Cardiff on Saturday, July 14th.

CRICKET REPORT, 1950.

Captain: L. Hargest. Vice-Captain: D. W. Rice.
Sports Master: Mr. D. Jones. Secretary: Mr. D. Inglis.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
9	5	—	4

During the 1950 season the School XI proved that School Cricket is once again on the up-grade after a temporary relapse during past seasons. Of the nine matches played, five were won and four lost—a vast improvement over last season's performance.

The incoming of the summer game was greeted with much enthusiasm from the Masters no less than the boys. At the well-attended net practices held on the remote Sports Club ground, Mr. Duncan Jones, Mr. Clifford Giles and Mr. Gerald James (an Old Boy) took an active interest in the betterment of our cricketing abilities, and thanks must be extended to them.

All our home games were played as usual on the Sports Club ground. All matches with the exception of some mid-week games were played on Saturdays. Our equipment was kept in good order thanks to the care of Glyn Powell and A. R. Thomas.

The season commenced with three successive games being cancelled through rain, but in our first match we avenged last year's defeat at the hands of Builth, beating them convincingly by 9 wickets. Builth were dismissed for 37; D. W. Rice taking 4 for 10. Our batsmen passed this total with only one wicket down. Continuing the innings, E. J. Simmonds made a forceful 52, full of powerful off drives and pulls.

Playing next against Christ's College 2nd XI, the School secured a thrilling victory by the narrow margin of 4 runs. This gave B. P. Richards—a young member of the team—the remarkable analysis of:—

Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
10	7	5	5	1

A win against Brynmawr followed, and the next Saturday we met Builth again. Victory again went to us. Balding, another young member, bowled well taking 5 for 16.

Our first defeat of the season was suffered at the hands of Brecon "Drones"—J. F. Morgan's XI. But a fortnight later this defeat was avenged by a win over the same team. 100 for six declared was the total which faced the School, but this was passed for the loss of only four wickets; E. J. Simmonds scoring 32 and Leighton Hargest 29 not out.

The Old Boys game was looked forward to with enthusiasm. The Old Boys, fielding a powerful team, amassed 187 before the last of them was safely back in the pavilion. Of the 187, G. Smith scored 68, Gerald James 50 and Ralph Jarrett 37. The School replied with 66, thanks mainly to a magnificent knock of 36 by B. P. Richards.

The following day the School was defeated by Christ College. This game produced a hard hit 35 by W. I. Price and a more leisurely though none the less valuable 29 by H. W. Lewis. With the ball D. W. Rice obtained the analysis of:—

Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
10.2	4	20	8	2.5

The final game was the long awaited clash with the Masters. Rice bowled as if it were a continuation of the College game, taking five for 7, while for the Masters, Mr. Clifford Giles scored 18, but the game had to be abandoned because of rain.

Colours were awarded as follows:—*Re-awards*: H. W. Lewis, E. J. Simmonds, D. W. Rice, L. J. Maisey, L. Hargest, W. I. Price. *First awards*: B. P. Richards, P. W. Holt, A. R. Thomas, T. G. Powell, M. Balding.

L. J. MAISEY, VI.

Senior House Championship.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	
Theo	...	3	2	1	0
Vaughan	...	3	1	2	0
Cam	...	3	1	1	1
Siddons	...	3	0	0	3

Junior House Championship.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
Theo ...	3	2	1	0
Vaughan ...	3	1	1	1
Siddons ...	3	1	1	1
Gam ...	3	0	1	2

SOCCER REPORT, 1950-51.

Sports Master: Mr. J. E. Davies. *Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D. Inglis.
Captain: L. V. G. Jones. *Vice-Captain:* J. C. Davies.

The School First XI completed the season 1950-51 with the following record:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
15	8	4	3	45	26

The Junior XI finished the season with the following record:—

P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
4	2	1	1	8	7

On the whole the School First XI have enjoyed a successful season, playing 15 games, out of which 8 have been won, 4 have been drawn, and 3 lost. This year's record thus compares very favourably with that of previous years. Throughout the season the School XI has been a well-knit and co-ordinated team, with occasional flashes of individual brilliance.

In our encounters with Builth this season we have emerged with honours even. Out of four matches we have won 1, drawn 2, and lost 1. On October 10th, at Builth, we defeated them by 2-1. The return match on the School Field on November 25th resulted in a draw 3-3. We drew once again at Builth on February 3rd with a score of 1-1. In our last match with Builth on the School Field on March 10th we were defeated by 5-3.

This season against Llandrindod Grammar School we have played two games, winning 1 and drawing 1. In the first match, which was played on January 27th on the School Field, we deservingly won by 3-0. The return match at Llandrindod on March 17th resulted in a hard-fought draw of 1-1.

Kington Grammar School this season were decisively beaten on both occasions. In the first match, on October 28th at Kington, the home side were defeated by 3-1. The return match on the School Field on February 10th resulted in a yet more heavy defeat, when we won by 7-2.

Presteigne Grammar School were defeated on the one occasion we met, which was on November 18th at Presteigne. We won by 4-2.

Outside Inter-School matches we did very well against local Youth Clubs. We enjoyed our usual encounters with the Brecon Boys' Club. Our biggest win of the season was against Llangynidr Juniors, whom we routed 8-1. We also won our two matches against Hay.

As the Christmas fixture with the Old Boys was cancelled, we looked forward the more eagerly to the Spring fixture. We met the Old Boys on March 22nd, when the School lost 3-2.

This year's performance all round augurs well for the next season since the team will be practically the same. The following have been awarded Colours for 75% appearances:—

Re-awards: L. V. G. Jones, B. P. Richards, J. C. Davies, C. Hawker.

First Awards: R. D. Gould, P. Holt, W. M. A. Davies, A. R. Thomas, M. T. H. Styles.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL, 1950-51.

Senior House Championship. Senior.

	Played.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		Points.
					F.	A.	
Theophilus ...	18	11	3	4	42	25	25
Gam ...	18	8	4	6	43	24	20
Vaughan ...	18	7	5	6	30	36	19
Siddons ...	18	3	2	13	15	45	8

Senior 2nds.

	Played.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		Points.
					F.	A.	
Gam ...	9	5	3	1	25	9	13
Theophilus ...	9	5	3	1	27	14	13
Vaughan ...	9	3	2	4	21	31	8
Siddons ...	9	0	2	7	8	27	2

Junior.

	Played.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		Points.
					F.	A.	
Siddons ...	15	12	3	0	43	6	27
Gam ...	15	10	2	3	47	16	22
Theophilus ...	15	4	0	11	21	44	8
Vaughan ...	15	1	1	13	8	53	3

TIT-BITS.

1. A.J.C. (Form IVa) asks: "What's in a name anyhow?"
2. R.N.R. and G.I. (Form Ve) assure us that they are not Class Z Reservists.
3. A Brecon correspondent asks: "Does the W.J.E.C. grant a letter of success for out of school evening activities?"
4. An "A.B." complains that modern VI forms do not know their Wordsworth. He quotes:
"One impulse from a vernal wood
May teach you more of man(?)
Than all the sages can."
5. "Harassed mother" implores: "Can any of your readers help me? My boy in Form II is ambitious—he wants to be an Old Boy! What course should he pursue at school?"
6. Exide battery carrier wants a job! He tells us that since electricity has been nationalised British Transport have taken over his duties.
7. "Chinwag," Talybont, asks: "Is a wagtail so called because it wags its tail?"

J. C. DAVIES, VI.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

When we introduced ourselves in the first number of "The Silurian," just a year ago, we outlined our programme which was to include a Dinner, a Combined Old Boys' and Old Girls' Dance and the usual football and cricket matches. We mentioned, too, the need of a Memorial to those Old Boys who fell in the last War. Now, as we look back, it is gratifying to find that each of those promises has been fulfilled. The social functions (with an additional Dance for luck) all took place, and plans are well in hand for launching a Memorial Appeal Fund. Our membership, too, is almost double that of March, 1950.

The Inaugural Dinner was held at the Café Royal on 26th May, when some seventy members spent a most enjoyable evening. The President, Mr. Garnet Morris, presided, and the guests were Colonel Sir John Lloyd, M.C., M.A. (Chairman of the Governors), Mr. W. Emrys Evans, B.A., B.Sc. (who, until his recent retirement, was Director of Education for Breconshire), Mr. John Morgan (Sub-Editor of the *Brecon and Radnor Express*) and Mr. D. F. Candy (Senior Prefect of the School). After the toasts and speeches, Messrs. Gerald James and Jack Walters gave original items of entertainment, and Mr. Donald Ashcroft played the accompaniments to the National Anthems.

In October a dance, open to members and others, was held in the Guild Hall, Brecon, and a large number of Old Boys took advantage of this opportunity for an evening's brief re-union.

With the willing co-operation of the Old Girls' Association we were able to organise a Combined Re-union Dance on 2nd January 1951, when about 150 Old Boys and Old Girls danced in the gaily decorated hall of the Girls' School. Our thanks are due to the Governors and to the Headmistress for their ready permission to use the School for this most enjoyable re-union.

Last Easter Term the Old Boys' Soccer team lost to the School by one goal, but this year they avenged a long line of defeats by winning three goals to two. The cricket team, too,

The Association's General Meeting was held at the School on 12th January, 1951, when the following Officers and Committee were elected:—President, The Headmaster, Mr. Jacob Morgan; Vice-President, Mr. Stanley E. Jenkins; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. Prosser Roberts; Committee, Messrs. F. B. Jones, A. G. Colwell, F. M. Thomas, G. W. Davies, C. N. Fluck, H. V. Goodwin, H. J. Leonard, C. B. Palmer, A. J. Thorogood, D. E. J. Ashcroft, E. B. Powell, J. I. Golesworthy, D. J. Jones and the Reverend O. T. Wallis. At the first meeting of the Committee, Mr. F. M. Thomas was elected Chairman, and Mr. F. B. Jones Vice-Chairman.

The General Meeting discussed at some length the question of providing a War Memorial to the Old Boys who fell in the Second World War. Finally, it was decided that a War Memorial Appeal Fund be formed to provide a double panelled mural tablet containing the names of Old Boys who fell in both World Wars. The Committee will launch an appeal for contributions in the near future.

In concluding this survey of our activities we would urge members to do all they can to expand the membership of their Association. Some members have already done splendid work in this direction. A word from a contemporary is worth a dozen letters from a secretary.

News of Old Boys.

The following items of news have been brought to our notice. We invite District Correspondents and Old Boys themselves to keep us informed of suitable material for the next number of the Magazine.

During last Summer we were pleased to welcome back to Brecon the following Old Boys on short visits from overseas:—

R. G. Evans (1911-13), who is Head Postmaster of Jersey, Channel Islands.

L. B. Powell (1915-21), who is Secretary of the Sugar Manufacturers' Association (of Jamaica), Ltd., Kingston, Jamaica.

W. C. Walters, M.B.E. (1925-29), who is a Chemist in India.

We send our greetings to the numerous Old Boys who are now serving in H.M. Forces.

Association Notes.

List of Members who have joined since 31st March, 1950.

Ashton, W. (1911-16).	Lewis, S. J. (1920-23).
Bryan, C. J. (1925-28).	Lloyd, K. M. (1943-49).
Bevan, G. F. A. (1926-28).	Mazzocchi, P. O. (1943-46).
Blank, C. L. (1918-22).	Mazzocchi, S. D. (1942-46).
Boddy, D. J. (1940-46).	Morgan, D. E. (1913-16).
Brazier, A. A. (1939).	Morgan, H. S. (1923-26).
Candy, D. F. (1943-50).	Morgan, I. E. R. (1909-11).
Capper, R. (1935-50).	Morgan, P. M. (1942-48).
Cheyne, A. (1901-06).	Moses, L. C. (Staff)
Curtis, T. J. (1944-47).	Moss, G. A. (1915-20).
Davies, H. V. (1901-05).	Nichols, J. E. G. (1921-23).
Davies, J. E. J. (1937-42).	Norman, A. H. (1925-30).
Davies, L. S. (1937-41).	Owen, O. V. (1917-20).
Davies, P. (1930-33).	Owens, E. F. (1932-39).
Davies, R. R. (1933-49).	Fabrey, B. R. M. (1945-50).
Davies, W. J. (1941-48).	Palmer, C. B. (1933-37).
Eckley, G. (1943-47).	Parfit, K. J. D. (1940-45).
Edwards, W. M. (1924-27).	Parry, J. V. (1939-43).
Evans, D. G. (1944-47).	Parry, O. V. (1941-46).
Evans, D. M. (1942-46).	Peters, W. L. (1925-28).
Evans, G. (—).	Phillips, T. (1930-36).
Evans, R. G. (1911-13).	Phillips, V. D. (1942-44).
Evans, W. (1910-16).	Powell, E. B. (1917-21).
Gallagher, W. E. J. (1942-49).	Powell, G. M. (1927-31).
Grant, B. E. (1943-50).	Powell, L. B. (1915-21).
Griffiths, B. (1925-31).	Powell, T. G. (1943-50).
Hargest, E. C. (1934-37).	Powell, W. (c1912).
Hargest, L. (1948-50).	Preece, A. A. (1900-03).
Havard, C. C. (1921-26).	Price, C. P. (1936-41).
Havard, G. S. (1933-38).	Price, O. T. W. (1937-42).
Havard, L. T. (1919-22).	Price, R. P. (1930-37).
Holmes, H. E. G. (1941-46).	Price, W. I. (1943-50).
Hopkins, A. J. (1933-39).	Friday, R. J. (1937-42).

Hopkins, D. P. (1925-29).	Pritchard, A. G. T. (1940-46).
Hopkins, R. W. (1942-49).	Pritchard, D. T. (1944-50).
Howells, R. L. (1941-46).	Rees, R. D. B. (1943-46).
James, G. (1929-33).	Rice, D. W. (1944-50).
Jarrett, G. R. (1941-46).	Robinson, R. E. (1926-27).
Jenkins, C. H. (1899-1901).	Roderick, S. (1944-50).
Jenkins, F. (1930-35).	Slater, G. (1937-41).
Jones, C. E. (1914-19).	Smith, R. G. (1937-39).
Jones, C. E. G. (1938-42).	Thomas, D. (1902-05).
Jones, C. R. (1936-40).	Thomas, D. J. (1910-15).
Jones, G. T. O. (1919-24).	Thomas, J. (c1912).
Jones, Herbert (1941-44).	Tovey, N. H. (1944-50).
Jones, H. V. (1903-06).	Vaughan, H. (1921-24).
Jones, J. R. (1924-29).	Wallis, O. T. (1906-10).
Jones, K. E. (1944-50).	Walters, J. W. R. (1929-34).
Jones, L. M. (1921-25).	Walters, L. (c1913).
Jones, R. A. W. (1934-38).	Walters, W. C. (1925-29).
Jones, T. (1919-26).	Wheeler, K. J. (1937-39).
Jones, T. J. (1943-47).	Whittington, R. R. (c1919).
Jones, T. K. (1943-50).	Williams, A. G. (1913-16).
Jones, V. A. W. G. (1934-38).	Williams, D. A. (1937-41).
Jones, W. V. (1900-02).	Williams, D. R. (1920-26).
Kiely, J. J. (1944-50).	Williams, D. W. (1913-17).
Lawrence, J. D. (1936-40).	Williams, L. R. (1931-36).
Lewis, D. T. (1933-38).	Williams, T. B. (1912-17).
Lewis, R. V. (1928-34).	



Change of Address.

Members are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary when they change their address, and to notify him of successes or appointments gained, or any other news of interest.

Personal.

Births.

To D. E. J. and Mrs. Ashcroft, on 29th November, 1950, a daughter, Judith Alison.

To G. S. and Mrs. Havard, on 2nd March, 1951, a daughter, Jane.

To G. A. and Mrs. Hawkes, on 22nd November, 1950, a daughter, Catherine Anne.

To C. E. G. and Mrs. Jones, on 31st October, 1950, a son, Russell Games.

To R. W. and Mrs. Morgan, on 28th November, 1950, a son, Mark.

Engagements.

R. G. Smith to Miss Lucy Elizabeth Williams, of Ystradgynlais.

H. J. Leonard to Miss Eileen M. Hadley, of Gilwern.

Marriages.

D. G. G. Davies to Miss Mair Eluned Roberts, on 29th March, 1951, at St. James's Church, Bangor.

L. S. Davies to Miss Delcie May Jones, on 4th November, 1950, at St. David's Parish Church, Abercrave.

S. G. Hobby to Miss Dilys Reed Davies, on 10th April, 1950, at St. Barnabas Church, Rhandirmwyn.

D. A. Jones to Miss Dawn Hazel Beard, on 27th January, 1951, at Marylebone Register Office.

A. H. Norman to Miss Margarete Haese, on 26th September, 1950, at Güterslon, Germany.

K. J. Wheeler to Miss Elizabeth Mary Powell, on 26th July, 1950, at Llanantffraed Church.

Death.

D. Hyatt Jenkins (1898-1902), on 12th December, 1950. He was a member of a well-known Brecon family and a brother of Stanley E. Jenkins, the Association's Vice-President. After leaving school Mr. Jenkins qualified as a chemist and was, at the time of his death, in business at Treherbert.

General.

We wish to congratulate:—

Gerald James (1929-33) on being appointed Assistant Youth Employment Officer for Breconshire.

Stanley E. Jenkins (1930-04) on becoming a Governor of the Brecon Grammar Schools.

F. H. Jones (c1912) on becoming a Governor of the Brecon Grammar Schools.

S. I. Jones (1934-41) on his appointment as Assistant Master at Lewis School, Pengam.

D. E. Morgan (1913-16), Deputy Chief Constable of Swansea, on being appointed M.B.E.

Ivor E. R. Morgan (1909-11) on being elected Mayor of Brecon for 1950-51.

Garnet Morris (1896-99) on being elected an Alderman of Breconshire County Council.

L. R. Williams (1931-36) on being awarded a Nuffield Foundation Scholarship to study agriculture in Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

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CRICKET XI, 1950.

T. Tovell, B. P. Richards, H. W. Lewis, J. Maisey, T. G. Powell, E. J. Simmonds, I. G. Williams, M. Balding, Mr. J. Morgan, Headmaster, D. W. Rice, L. Hargest (capt.), W. I. Price, Mr. J. D. E. Jones, A. R. Thomas, P. W. Holt.



SOCCER XI, 1950-51.

Mr. J. Morgan, Headmaster, W. M. A. Davies, M. T. H. Styles, D. Gould, L. D. Davies, M. Shellard, Mr. J. E. Davies, P. W. Holt, J. C. Davies, L. V. G. Jones (capt.), C. Hawker, B. P. Richards, D. W. Hamer, A. R. Thomas.

