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BUILTH AND TALGARTH

# THE SILURIAN



VOL. VII.

MAY, 1956

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# THE SILURIAN

VOL. VII.)

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRECON BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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# EDITORIAL.

"TIME AND TIDE WAIT FOR NO MAN."

Such a maxim can well be applied to the changes taking place in our school life.

The younger element have witnessed the cutting of the first turf on the site of our new school. Doubtless, these boys will see the new building rise in all its glory, and by the time they become seniors will tread its hallowed boards.

The present upper VIth and the Old Boys will feel a pang of regret that they have missed the bliss of the new Elysium, but they will always look back on their days in the "ancient tower" with affection.

This year Rugby was introduced into the sporting activities of the school. At first, this move was regarded with suspicion, but within a short time the fascination of the true Welshman's game prevailed, and despite a few "casualties" it cannot be denied that Rugby is now well established in the school.

We beg to mention, for the benefit of our Soccer fans, that our school team still exists and has done remarkably well this season. We all hope that our Rugby team of the future will do equally well. We shall watch its progress with great interest.

We hope that this seventh edition of our School magazine will prove informative and interesting to all and sundry.

Owen J. Wallis. Alun J. Jones.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

THE new school year brought with it many staff changes. Mr. H. P. Roberts, B.A., our Senior Welsh master left to become Further Education and Youth Officer for Brecknockshire. Mr. W. H. Williams, B.A., succeeded him as Welsh Master, while Mrs. H. Jones, B.A., of Cathedine, was appointed temporarily to assist in the teaching of Welsh.

Mrs. M. Timothy B.SC., left in the summer to reside in Aberdare. Mr. C. E. Roderick, B.SC., was appointed to take charge of Mathematics in her stead. Mr. G. Angell, B.SC., Cyfarthfa Grammar School, was appointed to share the duties of the Mathematics Department.

Mr. D. C. Evans who served at our school during the summer was replaced by Mr. P. G. Wright, B.SC.

The new appointment of P.T. and Games master was filled by Mr. R. Arthur, who came here from Barnsley Grammar School.

Since November the school has temporarily lost the services of Mr. J. H. Williams, B.A., who was taken seriously ill. We hear good reports of him from Bronllys, and we wish him well.

Mrs. Stace kindly gave her services until Miss E. Mitchell, B.A., was appointed to the post in a temporary capacity. Miss Mitchell comes to us from the Girls' Grammar School at Stoke.

It is with regret that we hear that Mr. J. E. Davies, B.A., the Senior English master will be leaving the school at the end of the year. Our heartiest congratulations to him on his appointment to the Headmastership of Builth Grammar School.

Owing to other commitments Mr. H. P. Roberts, B.A., has found it necessary to resign from the secretaryship of the Old Boy's Association. Ever since the setting-up of the Association Mr. Roberts has been a link between it and the school. We are sorry to lose him. He is succeeded in this office by Mr. H. C. Jones, B.A.

On Thursday afternoon, 15th March, 1956, the junior forms of the school made their way up to Penlan to witness an interesting ceremony, namely, the turning over of the first turf on the site of our new school. The honour fell to an old boy of the school, Mr. David Lewis, M.B.E., Chairman of the Breconshire Education Committee. Invited members of the public were later entertained to tea at the Girls' School by the Chairman of Breconshire County Council, Councillor J. V. Like, J.P., and Mrs. Like.

The Discussion Group, under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. H. Williams, B.A. (and in his absence, of Mr. J. E. Davies, B.A.), has held four meetings this year. Despite the bad weather all four were well attended, and healthy arguments arose. The first three were held at the Girls' School, and the fourth at the Boys' School. Miss A. B. Jones, M.A., addressed the group on "The Problem of Cyprus"; Miss A. M. Thomas, B.A., on "Is Church Unity possible or desirable"; Miss P. M. Smith on "A Woman's Place is in the Home"; and Mr. J. D. H. Thomas, B.A., on "What does Home Rule for Wales involve?"

As the editors point our our school has turned its attention to Rugby. After many trials we ventured to play Cyfarthfa Castle Grammar School 2nd XV. The match was played on the Depot ground on Monday, 26th March, 1956. The visitors led half-time 11—0, but the school fought back in the second half and at one time the score stood at 14—11 in favour of Cyfarthfa. Eventually we lost 17—11.

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Of particular interest to us was the publication early this year of Mr. John Green's novel "The First Enemy." Mr. Green is an old Boy, one who served in the Royal Navy during the last war. We congratulate him and hope to see more books coming from his pen.

We are very proud to record that D. T. Lewis has been accepted for a special course in Welsh which is being held under the auspices of W.J.E.C. at Cilgwyn, Newcastle Emlyn, Carmarthenshire. The course will commence on the 29th March and last till 5th April, 1956.

On the 12th July a party from the school visited the Gaer, near Brecon—one of the most important of the Roman hill forts in South Wales. An interesting day was spent examining the remains of some of the gates, guard rooms and and the wall of the fort. The party was conducted by Mr. W. H. Williams and Mr. J. D. H. Thomas.

So far this year the school has only been to see one film. It was Walt Disney's spectacular production of "The Living Desert."

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With the efficiency now expected of them M. R. Burr and D. G. Powell have looked after the school's Fiction Library. During the year they re-organised the arrangement of books and introduced a card index system. They state that there are at the moment 550 volumes in the library.

Every games enthusiast in school is grateful to T. B. Evans, VM., who has looked after the football equipment this season.

This year's prefects are :—R. Lucas (Head Boy), O. J. Wallis (Deputy Head Boy), B. Pritchard, J. F. Stroud, T. L. Powell, D. W. Pulling, W. Griffiths, J. Taylor, D. I. Thomas, C. B. Like.

B. PRITCHARD, VI.

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## WHEN I GROW UP.

When I grow up I'll join the band Of happy farmers on the land, I've watched my father work each day, And mean to follow in his way. I'll keep good Herefords and rear Strong bullocks for the sales each year. At early morn I'll tend my flock And carefully up-grade my stock. I'll keep some pigs and poultry too, Be up to date in all I do. My buildings too I'll modernise And every chance I'll exercise With grants and aids, I'll do my best From early dawn, till time for rest, I view with joy the years ahead, When I'll be working for my bread, A farmer's life, tho' often hard Brings joy, success, and has regard For all that nature means to man, The balance of a perfect plan.

T. A. Moses, IIA.

# THE JACOB MORGAN PRIZE.

MR. JACOB MORGAN, M.A., Headmaster of our School 1929-1954 has very generously endowed us with a gift of money which will provide for what is to be known as the "The Jacob Morgan Prize." Books will be given annually to the boy who renders outstanding service to our school. The first recipient is R. G. Tucker (below).



Ronald G. Tucker entered the school in Spetember, 1949. In 1953 he sat the W.J.E.C. examination at the ordinary level gaining passes in eight subjects. In form VI he studied English, History and Latin, passing in all three subjects at the advanced level in 1955. He was accepted at U.C.W. Bangor where he is now pursuing an Arts course.

Although not a great athlete he was an inspiration when representing his house, Vaughan. He captained the house Soccer 2nd XI.

It was in the social life of School that he made his presence felt. He was Hon. Secretary of almost every society in School; last year's Silurian makes it very clear.

At our Christmas parties he showed yet another side of his versatile character when he delighted everyone with his conjuring.

During his six years at School he made many friends. We are very proud of him.

R. PRITCHARD, VI.

THE Editor of the Silurian has asked me to record a few facts and

events in the early days of the School that may be of some interest to

its past and present scholars. As a rule the only written history of a

At the end of the Summer Term, 1955, Mr. H. Prosser Roberts, B.A., resigned his post as senior Welsh master of our school to take up his appointment as Youth and Further Education Officer for Breconshire.

Mr. Roberts is a native of Borth, Cardiganshire. He received his education at Ardwyn County School, Aberystwyth, from which school he entered the U.C.W. Aberystwyth where he qualified for the teaching profession with an Honours Degree in Welsh. He was appointed to the Boys' County School, Brecon, commencing duties in September, 1931. He taught Welsh, English and Physical Training.

During his stay in Brecon, Mr. Roberts has applied himself with enthusiasm to many of the activities associated with school life. He was in charge of school games from 1933-1942; he inaugurated our School Sports Day and organised all the meetings from 1933 to 1942; he organised the first Breconshire Inter-school Sports in 1939; he was a member of our school magazine editorial board from 1950-55; he was honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Old Boys' Association from the time of its inauguration in 1950. Upon resigning his offices in the Old Boys' Association he was elected Honorary Life Vice-President.

Mr. Roberts played a prominent part in the social life of our town. He was a founder-member of the Brecon Welsh Society, its secretary 1939-42, its chairman 1948-49, its vice-president 1955-56. He was closely associated with the Brecknock Little Theatre, becoming a member of the Production and Executive Committee 1947-54, during which time he acted in or directed several productions. He was a keen "eisteddfodwr," frequently giving his services at local eisteddfodau as literary adjudicator or conductor. He was chairman of the Brecon and Radnor Young Wales Clubs Committee 1947-1951 and chairman of the Breconshire A.A.A. Committee.

During the war Mr. Roberts served in the R.A.F. in an administrative capacity attaining the rank of Flight Lieutenant.

The above account is a bare statement of facts. It is significant that whenever and wherever Mr. Roberts applied his talents, success was always the outcome. The present strength and vigour of the Old Boys' Association is perhaps the best testimony to this and perhaps it represents his proudest achievement to date. The school lost a faithful and conscientious servant when Mr. Roberts left. It is consoling to know that he has not left the town nor the authority which appointed him to Brecon twenty-five years ago.

We wish you well, Mr. Roberts.

school is contained in its various magazines, and so the editor and his staff who produce these at regular intervals are performing a serivce that may prove invaluable to some future Theophilus Jones.

It was in 1889 that Wales received its Intermediate Act under which she was to enjoy a national system of higher education, the first of its kind in any country.

In 1895 in Breconshire a County Governing Body was formed and serving under it were the Boards of Managers of the new county schools to be set up, among which was the Brecon Boys' County School. It was decided first of all to open in temporary premises at No. 12 Castle Street and Governors' meetings continued to be held for a considerable period in this house, recently vacated by Messrs. Jeffreys & Powell.

On 29th July, 1896, Mr. Nathan John, B A., was appointed by the County Governing Body as the first headmaster, and at the same meeting the managers asked permission to change the temporary premises to Dr. Coke's Memorial Hall in Lion Street. It was resolved to make the change, the permission of the Charity Commissioners was obtained and the new school was opened there on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1896. The only assistant master at the outset was Mr. Thomas Butcher who conducted a school popularly known as "Butcher's School," its correct name was the "Middle Class School." Both Mr. Butcher and his school were in very high repute in Brecon and it is right to say that Mr. Butcher was a mainstay of the school until his death in 1904.

On the opening day the first scholarship examination was held, and four scholarships were to be awarded for the Brecon District. Eleven boys competed and a special scholarship, as well as the four scholarships, was duly awarded. The school opened with 42 scholars. It was to remain at Dr. Coke's for five years when the number of pupils had exactly doubled. Although the numbers were steadily increasing, the length of a boy's school life was very short. The average stay was not more than four terms, and many only stayed a year or less. Among the rules and regulations drafted in 1898 are the following:—

- (1) A promise to attend regularly for twelve months.
- (2) A certificate of good conduct from the headmaster of the elementary school previously attended had to be produced.

Among the first pupils was the present Chairman of Governors. As is the case today the early Governors were busy supplying the current needs of the school and planning for the future. They had to acquire a site for the new school and to raise the necessary public funds. All this was new ground but the foundations were well and truly laid and the school owes a great debt to these early pioneers, the last of whom died at a great age only a few years ago. Here are two instances of their zeal and persistence. At the first Prize Distribution at the Guild Gall on 17th December, 1897, all the Governors acted as stewards, and we may be sure they performed their duties thoroughly. One is tempted to believe that the scholars were arrayed on the platform. Secondly, the Clerk was instructed to write to the executors of a gentleman who had died, asking them if they would kindly pay the £50 promised to the building fund.

On Wednesday, 10th July the Boys' and Girls' Schools were opened on the same day with the Mayor and Corporation attending in state, together with the School Managers and many distinguished visitors. The Boys' School was declared open by Mr. Charles Morley, M.P. for this division. He had subscribed £100 and had given leave to be asked for more if necessary.

The two new schools were built at a cost of £5,681 or a little over £6,000 including the fees of the Architect and Clerk of Works. Of this £1,232 had to be raised by public subscription and this was done. The site was given by the Marquis of Camden. It is interesting to compare this with the estimated cost of £125,000 for one new school on the Penlan site.

During the period 1896 to 1909 the peak years were 1899-1900 and 1901-02, in each of which there were 87 boys in the school. The opening of a new school at Ystradgynlais in 1906 deprived Brecon of a contributory school district and numbers fell to 68.

A feature of the school in these early days was the Cadet Corps. About 25 former members of the Corps went out with the Brecknockshire Battalion to Aden in November, 1914. The Corps came to an end in 1910 when the rifles and uniforms were returned to the military authorities. The cupboards in which the rifles were stored are still in the corridors upstairs and are used to keep school stationery. This brings us to the end of the first reign, during which the boys in these early years explored an uncharted country, while the boys of today are in a sense treading a well-worn path.

At first this account was only intended to cover the early years of the school, but a few of the later events may be of interest.

The second headmaster was Mr. Percy Morton, M.A.(Oxon.), who took up his duties in September, 1909. Before his appointment, Mr. Morton was the Senior Science Master of Christ College, Brecon. He was a very practical scientist and he was keenly interested in agriculture, horticulture and geology. He started and developed a school

garden. Geology found a place on the time-table and was taken as a school certificate subject. The various geological expeditions to such places as Pencerrigcalch and Craig-y-nos were an important feature in the life of the school at this time.

Of the same nature was the annual perambulation of the Beacons made by the whole school every summer term. This must have made an enjoyable and welcome break from the ordinary daily routine.

The third headmaster was Dr. Llewellyn Woosnam, MA. (Wales), D.PHIL. (Cantab.), who was in charge of the school from September, 1923 to April, 1929. It was during his tenure that the four houses of Gam, Siddons, Theophilus and Vaughan were born or created. These distinguished names are famous in the history of Breconshire. Often the house-system has failed to work satisfactorily in many a day-school, but there has never been any question of its vigour and vitality in our school. As we have only just celebrated St. David's Day by holding our annual eisteddfod, it is interesting to note that the School Eisteddfod was established at this period. This institution no doubt has changed from time to time, but it has most certainly flourished at all times. This year the ceremony of the chairing of the winning bard was introduced for the first time. It was an excellent innovation and well worth being made a permanent feature of the School Eisteddfod.

JACOB MORGAN.

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#### MEMORIAL SERVICE.

On November 11th, 1955, a Memorial Service was held in School to commemorate the Old Boys who made the supreme sacrifice in the two World Wars. The Head Master, Mr. A. Rees, M.S., conducted the service.

Mr. L. Lewis, Senior Master, and R. Lucas, Head Boy, read tributes; the Roll of Honour for the First and Second World Wars was read by Dr. G. Price and Mr. J. Ewart Davies, respectively.

Wreaths were laid by Mr. F. M. Thomas (President of the Old Boys' Association), and by R. Lucas and D. Evans on behalf of the School.

Rev. D. G. G. Davies, B.A., read a passage of scripture and pronounced the Blessing.

HOWELL HARRIS.

On Thursday, 14th July, 1955, a party of boys under the guardianship of Mr. I. H. Williams, our French master, left Brecon for Paris.

From London we made for Newhaven crossing the Channel to Dieppe and then by train to Paris where we were met by our guide M. Morrel, a University student. He accompanied us to our headquarters, the Ecole Normale. We were tired and eager for sleep.

On Saturday we took the Metro to the city centre. In the morning we visited Notre-Dame and the Palais de Justice. In the afternoon we toured Paris by coach spending some time at the Arc de Triomphe and at the U.N.O. buildings and the imposing Eiffel Tower.

Sunday was very hot, the temperature in the shade reaching 96°.

We spent a pleasant afternoon in the Parc des Princes.

Monday brought further opportunites of sight-seeing. One of the main attractions that day was Napoleon's tomb at the Invalides. We

satisfied ourselves too by climbing the Eiffel Tower.

The beautiful palace and grounds of Versailles thrilled us on the following day. Particularly beautiful was the flower clock. On Thursday we had an opportunity of doing some shopping. The Bon March store offering such a wide selection of goods as it did catered for all our needs.

On Friday we set out for home tired after our crowded week but satisfied and pleased with all we had seen and done. We feel very grateful to Mr. Williams for all his preparations, for his care of us and for his cheerful companionship.

D. I. THOMAS, VI. C. B. LIKE, VI.

# A RUINED COTTAGE.

Before me stands a wall, a heap of stones, The remnants of life of long ago. A ceaseless breeze around me sadly moans -The winds of time which brought this homestead low. A solitary tree rules over all And looks with bated breath upon the scene, A witness as the crumbling doorways fall, Remembering the glory that has been.. A century has pass'd, nay, even more, Since human footsteps climbed thy weary stair, Since blazing hearth-stones, warmed to the core, Relieved the burden'd heart of every care. The echoes of thy laughter cannot die: They linger on, though ages pass them by. W. E. P. PRICE (London).

It is a common tendency in dealing with such a subject as this to concentrate too intensely on the person's biography to the detriment of the more significant aspects of his life in the form of his ambitions, methods, and achievements, the last named of these of course being the most important. Confessedly, before one can become fully acquainted, as it were, with one of History's great men, before we can vitalise the character one must submit to the necessity of writing a biography, but not one which contains so much detail that monotony would ensue. Therefore, I propose in this instance to break away from the conventional, and instead of concentrating so much on the man's career, I intend to dwell on what, in my opinion, are the most important aspects of his life. A brief biography will therefore, I trust, suffice.

Howell Harris, a personage so famous not only in Breconshire but throughout Wales cannot be passed over. Harris was born at Trefecca and was educated at a school at Llwynllwyd. At the age of twentyone he experienced the religious conversion which was to dominate the whole of his life. In the same year he went to Oxford and matriculated at the University but for some reason he stayed there for less than a week. During 1737 Harris was responsible for a local revival around Talgarth. In 1738 Harris spread his activities to Glamorgan and Monmouth, giving the movement a sharp impetus, and by 1740 there were thirty Welsh Methodist societies scattered over South Wales. Then in 1742 appeared a work of Harris's and Daniel Rowland's, "The Beliefs, Aims and Rules of the Societies lately begun in Wales." This outlines the organisation of the early Methodists as follows:-

# 1 Sassiwn. 2 Cymedrolwr. 3 Arolygwr. 4 Seiat.

In 1745 occurred the memorable quarrel between William Williams and Daniel Rowland on one hand and Harris on the other. It appeared that Harris's views on the divinity of Christ were incompatible with those of the other two, and in 1752 Harris broke away from the movement for which he, more than any other man was responsible. However, the quarrel was healed in 1763, when the three leaders were reconciled.

Before we can really comprehend and appreciate Harris's career, we must analyse the religious condition of Wales in the early period of the eighteenth century, for it was these very conditions which stimulated Harris's movement.

The Church itself, smarting under the spoilation of the Reformation, and riddled with personal and political intrigue, was in a deplorable state. "Everywhere there were parishes without churches, churches without pastors, pastors without congregations, and congregations without prayer books."

The general condition of religion in Wales was in a low state. The Welsh, instead of endeavouring to save their souls, were far more absorbed in gratifying their desires, and indulging in their simple pastimes, factors which were largely a result of their monoglot nature.

The Methodist leaders saw the need for, and aimed at giving a new approach to religion in Wales—an approach which the Anglican Church, because of its defects, and the older Nonconformists, by their very nature, could not give. The Methodist leaders, however, were shrewd enough to perceive that, owing to the nescience of the Welsh, and the inefficiency of their intellectual equipment, an assault must needs be made upon the souls of the Welsh.

These then are the main factors which caused Harris to set about his task.

The prolific consequence of his work are aptly summed up by R. T. Jenkins, in the following words:—"But it is fair to say that it would not be possible, as far as we can see, for the best things in Wales to be, and to be as good as they are, had it not been for the Methodist Revival."

A new vigorous Nonconformist sect was formed, which consummated the work of Harris and his colleagues, by instilling into the minds of the Welsh people a respect for and an intense interest in religion.

The Church too, was roused from its state of torpidity, as were the older Nonconformist sects.

It has been said that the Methodist Revival was the movement which prepared the way for further development in Wales. As in England it palliated social discontent, and by guiding that discontent into spiritual channels, saved the country from a revolutionary upheaval. Madame la Guillotine never scowled upon the smiling greens of Wales, as it did in France in 1789.

The Revival performed a great service to Wales in giving a new life and a new form to the Welsh language. The sermons of Harris and his colleagues, the hymns of William Williams, Pantycelyn, and the frequent editions of the Bible produced by the Methodists raised the standards of the Welsh language which by the opening years of the eighteenth century had been very little better than a peasant "patois."

We of Wales are indeed indebted to this great man who in his Revival shaped the destinies of Wales.

A. J. JONES, VIB.

The mellow boom of a gong rang out in the hall of St. Augustine's Monastery in the suburbs of Famagusta. The evening meal was ready, and the monks made their way, in silence, through the cloisters to the dining-hall. The table was laid, and the brothers took their places each side of the long narrow table.

There were twenty brothers in all, dressed in dark brown cassocks with heavy girdles. Some were old, some were middle-aged, and there were two young brothers, their hair black and shining, and as yet unshaven. When the Abbot entered, they all rose and waited until he had pronounced the blessing in his deep sonorous voice.

It had been a day of toil for all of them, for each had his allotted work to do in the Chapel, garden, field and kitchen. But the usual peace of the monastery had been broken several times that day as heavy armoured trucks rumbled past the gates and shots rang out.

When the soup had been served, the Abbot looked up and saw a chair vacant at the end of the table.

"Where is Brother Rhanos?" he asked.

The older monks looked blankly at him.

"He was delayed by one of the cows which broke loose, Father," said Ethnos, the young monk who was serving the meal.

The Abbot frowned, "Go and fetch Brother Rhanos, tell him that his soup will be cold."

As he said this, young Rhanos entered, breathless and panting. "I am so sorry, I am late. Pray forgive me, Father. One of the pigs escaped from the sty and I had to catch it."

All the monks stopped eating and looked up; the Abbot's frown

grew darker.

"Indeed, Brother Ethnos declared it was a cow which had broken loose!" One of you has misinformed me!"

The two monks glanced at each other.

"My mistake, Father," said Ethnos calmly "I just saw Rhanos running, so I thought he must have been chasing a cow, they have been breaking loose quite often lately."

The monks looked at each other in quiet amusement and then began their meal of soup, fish and potatoes. They were all hungry after a

hard day's work.

Towards the end of the meal, when one of the monks was telling the others about the wonderful fish which had got away, there was a thunderous knock on the front gate.

"Who can it be at this hour?" said the Abbot.

Two of the older monks got up from their chairs and opened the heavy oak door. There in the porch stood a British Officer and four young soldiers.

"Where is the Abbot?" asked the officer.

"Here I am," said the Abbot, stepping forward.

The officer looked anxiously into the Abbot's face.

"I am sorry to disturb you, but there has been a serious crime committed in Famagusta today. A young man threw a bomb into the house of the British Consul, it exploded, killing the Consul and his wife and two children also."

The monks stood around in groups and looked quietly on.

"I am sorry to hear of this," said the Abbot gravely, "but what has this sad case to do with us here? We are but quiet monks doing our work together. We do not meddle in political affairs."

All the monks nodded in agreement.

"We have reason to believe that the criminal came this way and may be in hiding here."

"Nonsense," said the Abbot, "we have high walls! No one could enter but by the main gate, and we have had no visitors today—have we?"

He looked around at the brothers.

They all murmured, "No, no-one here today."

The officer put his hand into his pocket and drew out a letter.

"This, good Father, is a search warrant. The man who threw the bomb was shot at as he ran away—he bled badly and we have been able to follow his trail to the gate of your monastery."

Consternation showed plainly on the face of every monk. They looked at each other and at the soldiers in alarm.

"You may search the place from end to end" said the Abbot, "you will find nothing."

The officer gave the order, and the search began.

The Abbot did not notice the pale faces of Brothers Rhanos and Ethnos. Silently they slipped away through the cloisters and into the Chapel where they knelt and watched.

After a while the soldiers, accompanied by the Abbot, entered the Chapel, and looked behind all the curtains and in the vestry. Then they approached the altar. Suddenly one of them pointed. From beneath the altar blood was trickling. Rhanos and Ethnos suddenly dashed forward, lifted the altar frontal, looked inside, then lowered their heads.

"You know this young man?" asked the officer.

"He is our brother Patroukis," they replied, "he is dead."

Silently and with great dignity, the old Abbot motioned them all to kneel down. For once the monks and soldiers were united—in prayer.

O. J. WALLIS, VIA.

## ABERYSTWYTH.

OF the four Old Boys at Aber. three are Honours Students. Norman Rees is reading French—after an extremely enjoyable year in France. Peter Holt and Alan Thomas are studying the native languages respectively, in order of commercial importance. The fourth old boy namely Peter Jones, has, since he left school, spent some years in the R.A.F. and then a further 18 months on a farm. His motorbike is somewhat reminiscent in style of some of the cruder agricultural implements, and since he is studying for the National Diploma of Dairying, it may be well that this is so.

During the present academic year, Alan Thomas has taken an interest in the activities of the College Arts Society. He was the Welsh editor and the assistant general editor of the Rag Magazine, "Keezle-Wacka." He has continued his practice of writing poetry. Last term, Norman Rees contributed an interesting article to the "Courier" on his year in France.

Our total sporting activities are limited to Harrier work by Peter Jones who frequently represents the College.

Needless to say, we are all working hard.

A. R. THOMAS.

# BANGOR.

W. T. Jones. A well-seasoned student in his fourth year, Trevor sits for a Pass Degree in Chemistry in June. Although he is the veritable father of Old Boys at Bangor he still has a keen interest in table tennis and this year is captain of the University team. Whether from excessive study or too great an indulgence in his favourite sport, his bright countenance is now adorned by the latest spectacles.

R. M. Howell. Roy is pursuing a course in Chemistry and Physics at the F.I stage together with intermediate Mathematics. He is as quiet and amiable as ever. Much of his time is taken up with "practicals" and a keen interest in the Chemistry Society. Having attended several "Anti-wallflower" classes Roy wishes it to be known

that he can now tell a waltz from a tango

D. O. P. Jones. Dop, if he will permit the misuse of his name, is working hard this year at English, or more accurately Anglo-Saxon, for he wishes to enter an Honours Class next year. His other subjects are History and Economics. At the beginning of the year he played in the Badminton team, and is a member of both the Choral Society and Male Voice Choir. Unlike other Old Boys at Bangor he resides in a hostel where his "Wily" antics are given the fullest scope, exuberating in Rag activities.

R. G. Tucker. I personally have quitted the dust of the arena for the solace of an ivory tower in the ancient world. My subjects this year are Latin, Greek and English, and I hope to specialise in Latin next year. When I descend from my tower I take an interest in Debating and Badminton.

All the Old Boys at Bangor send their best wishes to Mr. J. H. Williams for a rapid return to health, and to Mr. J. E. Davies every

success in his new post.

R. G. TUCKER.

# BIRMINGHAM.

At present only two old boys, one a fresher, are in residence here in the heart of Industry. However, we trust that more pupils will look to Birmingham for their further education and hence maintain a tradition that we hope we have now founded.

J. M. WILLIAMS is now in his second year as an embryo chemist. His now clean-shaven face is a familiar sight at Union Hops. Apart from this, he seems to find his work preferable to other activities, as his blue motor cycle is usually to be seen near the laboratories or the library.

D. J. CHATFIELD has taken up an active interest in student affairs during his first year, and has been elected to the Guild Council. He is also seen coming out of the "Guild News" office where he has learnt the art of two-finger typing. The study of Electrical Engineering has been known to enthral him from time to time when his other duties allow.

From "Brum" we send our best wishes for the magazine and to all those who have exams in June.

D. J. CHATFIELD.

# BRISTOL.

THERE are still only two old boys from Brecon at Bristol. Harold Lewis has left after successfully obtaining his B.Sc., and a newcomer, David George, came up last October.

David is studying dentistry, and with some effect, to judge from his Christmas examination results. A keen soccer player, and a devoted follower of Bristol Rovers, David has on occasion turned out for the University IVth team. Let me hasten to say that there are seven University soccer teams. His other activities range from swimming to snooker, and roller-skating.

Colin Watkins is in the final year of his physics course, but still finds time for all various activities of the Spelaeological Society. He now lives in a flat, and has learnt that the intricacies of cooking can be quite as mystifying as those of the cyclotron.

C. A. WATKINS.

# CARDIFF.

It gives me pleasure to report on the activities of Old Boys at U.C.W. Cardiff. There are six of us here:—

B. E. Grant. Brian is now in his last year at College and will be sitting his Engineering degree in June. He is a keen yachtsman.

H. A. J. BUTTER. Jim is doing his teachers' training this year. He plays soccer at centre half for his department which is doing well in the inter-mural championships.

J. DAVIES. John ("smiler") is reading Archaeology at the Honours

level.

L. BEVAN. A scientist, Les hopes to qualify in electrical engineering. He runs regularly with the College Harriers.

J. LLEWELLYN. We were all glad to see John back once more amongst us. He is preparing for the Honours examinations in History. A keen golfer, he plays regularly for the College team.

D. Davies. He is the only "fresher." He is reading Pt. I Economics, and Accountancy. He has taken to playing squash.

D. DAVIES.

# CARMARTHEN.

THE three Breconians remaining this year Ron Capper, John Pearce and myself have been joined by five lively and engergetic newcomers in the persons of Tony Tovell, David Dacey, Raymond Davies, Brian Powell and Peter Coombe. Tony, David and Roy are already prominent members of the Harriers, while Brian has proved his worth on the dance floor by winning a competition in the town (and he's still smoking the prize!). Peter, the quietest member of our contingent spends many hours in meditations—is it yoga, or is it anticipation of the next meal?

One can say, on the whole, that the new boys have made quite a good name for themselves in and around the College despite their

short stay.

We in our final year have temporarily retired from the limelight of the social life in preparation for finals in June, nevertheless we are still to be seen in the sporting circles. Ron is a regular member of the table tennis 1st team and a prominent figure in the athletic team. John has turned out for the 2nd VX and on one occasion created havoc in the second row. Apart from my duties as instructor of the judo club, I have managed to gain my place as regular "keeper" in the 2nd XI.

V. HOWELLS.

## LAMPETER.

At the present moment there are two Old Boys resident at the College, both are in their final year, and hope to graduate this June.

D. L. Jones has become one of the leading lights of the College. He is captain of the Harriers, the present holder of the Dawson Handicap Cup. He is a member of the Ball Committee—the premier social committee in the College. David is also a very fine speaker and his voice is often to be heard at meetings of the student body and at debates. David is at the moment doing a general degree course, but he is undecided about his prospects after leaving Lampeter.

W. B. Tyler is reading for the B.A. degree in History. Last October he won the Treharne Scholarship whereupon he became Deputy Senior Scholar. He does not, however, confine his activities to academic matters, for he is Vice-President of the Union Debating Society, secretary of the Harriers, a member of the Editorial board of the college magazine, a member of the General Finance Committee of the student body and the secretary of the '55 Society which has been recently formed.

W. B. TYLER.

# NOTTINGHAM.

HAVING survived the first year, I have now embarked on a course which is much more interesting than that of the previous year, one which deals mainly with the more applied outlook upon Agriculture.

In the summer term I played in the Faculty 1st XI with reasonable success as an opening bowler, I also represented the Faculty in a

triangular Athletics meeting.

Evening lectures and debates occur every week, as well as two weekly "hops." Finally I must mention the big part played by the Student Christian movement, which brings members of all faculties together.

A. HEPTON.

# LONDON.

AT present I am the only boy studying at King's College, London, and I think that I can claim to be the first former Brecon pupil to have taken this course at the University of London.

The course is of three years duration, and in the first year, four branches of law are studied. The study of Law is run on an intercollegiate basis, which entails the attending of lectures at three of the University of London constituent colleges. In addition to lectures

there are tutorial classes.

On the social side, each student has the choice of devoting his spare time to University of London Union or the counterpart of that at the College itself. The Drama Society is one society affiliated to the King's College Union which I have joined, and I was given a small role in the production of T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" last December. Thus every student, whatever his interests, is fully catered for.

W. E. P. PRICE.

## PRIZE DAY.

THE School Prize Distribution was held in the Market Hall, Brecon. on Wednesday, 14th December, 1955, when the guest of honour was Emeritus Professor John Evans, B.A., who, from 1921-1931, had held the office of Chairman of the School Governors. A great book-lover, Professor Evans delivered a very fine address on "The Art of Reading and the benefits to be derived from books." Alderman Garnet Morris was in the chair.

The following boys were presented with prizes:-

... A. S. J. Dacey, J. A. O. Davies, R. L. Gant, Form IA J. G. Tuthill.

> Iw ... D. T. Boxhall.

IIIA ... R. M. James, D. J. Parry, P. B. Phillips,

A. S. Twist, G. C. Williams.

IIIw ... M. O. Jones.

... E. T. Morgan, R. W. Parry, D. Powell,

D. G. Powell.

IVw ... D. W. Jenkins.

... I. G. Prosser. VI

VE ... T. A. Carvell, G. J. Evans, T. A. Gwynne,

A. J. Jones, G. Jones, W. Perkins.

VI ... R. Lucas.

Old Boys.-D. J. Chatfield, T. D. B. George, R. M. Howell, David Davies, D. O. P. Jones, W. E. P. Price, W. P. Roderick, R. G. Tucker.

The School Choir sang "The Skye Boat Song" (traditional). .**....** 

# GENERAL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS, 1955.

#### ADVANCED LEVEL.

Chatfield, D. J. ... Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry Davies, D. Latin, History.

Physics, Chemistry, Biology. George, T. D. B.

Howell, R. M. Physics, Chemistry. Jones, D. O. P. English, History, Gr. and R. History.

Lucas, R. Price, W. E. P. Physics, Chemistry. English, Latin, History.

Pritchard, B. History.

Roderick, W. P. English, History, Geography. Tucker, R. G. English, Latin, History.

OP	DIN	ARY	TI	EVEL	ì

		ORDINARY BETTER
Aldus, J. G.		English Literature, *Welsh, Mathematics.
Bell, B. S.		English Language, § English Literature, *French,
		Geography, Art.
Bevan, J. E.	•••	English Literature, \$History, Geography, Chemistry.
Bevan, W. M.		Geography.
Boxhall D.		§English Language, English Literature, *Welsh
		§Mathematics, Chemistry.
Brown, J. D.		Mathematics, Chemistry, §Physics, Welsh.
Carvell, T. A. P.		English Language, English Literature, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry §Welsh.
Davies P D		Geography, §English Language, §History.
Davies, B. D.		English Literature, Geography, Chemistry,
Davies, J. G.	***	History §.
Davies, T. H.		Geography, Chemistry.
Dew, P. W. G.	***	History, Geography, Mathematics, Chemistry,
Dew, P. W. G.		Welsh §.
Evene G I		English Language, *Welsh, *French, Geography.
Evans, G. J.	100	Mathematics, Chemistry, *Physics.
Common T A		English Language, English Literature, *Welsh,
Gwynne, T. A.	***	Latin History Geography Mathematics
		Latin, History, Geography, Mathematics,
Hicks D C		Chemistry.
Hicks, P. G.	****	*French, Geography. & Mathematics
Hope, 'D. T.	•••	§English Language, §Geography, §Mathematics, Welsh.
Jobbins, A. S.		Geography.
Jones, A. J.		English Language, English Literature, *Welsh,
Jones, 11. J.		Latin, History, Geography, Chemistry.
Jones, G.		English Language, English Literature, *Welsh 02,
Jones, C.	1,000	Latin, Geography, Mathematics, Physics,
		Chemistry.
Jones, W. O.		Mathematics, Chemistry.
King, D. E.	***	English Literature, History.
Lambert, W. G. E.		History, Geography, Chemistry, §French.
Leonard, J. G. J.		English Language, History, Geography,
Leonard, J. G. J.		Mathematics, *Welsh.
Leonard, R. H.		English Language, *Welsh, Geography.
Lewis, D. T.	tirous.	English Language, English Literature, *Welsh 02,
LCW15, D. 1.		History, Geography.
Lewis, W. A.	0.2.	History, Geography, Special Arithmetic.
Like, C. B.		Mechanics.
Lucae R	1 344.0	§Latin.
Lucas, R.	100000	English Language §, English Literature, *Welsh,
Parry, A. R.	•••	§*French.
Perkins, W.		English Language, English Literature, Welsh* 02,
i cikilis, w.	•••	Geography, Mathematics, Physics.
Peters W M		English Language, English Literature, Geography,
Peters, W. M.	•••	Chemistry.
Dhilling LI I		English Language, *Welsh, Mathematics, §History,
Phillips, H. J.	•••	Geography.
Dhilling T D		Geography, Chemistry.
Phillips, T. B.	***	Mechanics.
Powell, T. L.	1000	§English Language, English Literature, *Welsh,
Price, J. J.		Mathematics, Physics, §Chemistry.
Deitahard D		
Pritchard, R.	•••	English Language, Mathematics, Chemistry.
Pritchard, S. J.	•••	Mechanics. English Language, English Literature, Welsh,
Prosser, I. G.	•••	History Geography Chemistry
		History, Geography, Chemistry.

Pulling, D. W.		Mechanics.
Ralph, T. J.		Mathematics, Chemistry, §History.
Samuel, R. S.		English Language, English Literature, §History, §Geography.
Stroud, J.		Welsh.
Taylor, J.		Mechanics.
Thomas, D. A.		
Thomas, D. I.		Mechanics.
Thomas, G. A. H.		English Language, * \$Welsh 02, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
Trimm, A. E. N.		English Language, English Literature, *Welsh, *French, Mathematics, \$History, Geography.
Vincent, W. D.		English Language, Geography.
Williams, D. G.		Geography.
Williams, G. L.		English Literature, §History.
Williams, R. B.		English Language, §French, Geography.
Winston, J. C. W.	72.5	Geography, Mathematics, Art.
winston, I. C. W.	7.5	Welsh 02*.

# THE FISH THAT GOT AWAY.

Into the shallows of form one he came, Eager and quick for knowledge and for fame. Agape to gulp each morsel on his way His store of learning grew from day to day.

Form four, form five and onward still he swam, Into form six, and nearer to the dam. "I think I'll be a teacher, that's my way." Three years at Aber then he had to stay.

Their nets of money science men held wide, Just waiting for our fish to swim inside. "Come, dodge the army, and earn double pay." But he from straight and narrow would not stray.

Master of Arts this purblind fish became. From that day on he never was the same. In time a gnarled old pike on scanty pay, Yet at his teaching task he had to stay.

But yearning to be free brought secret vice; He tried the pools of football once or twice,. One week a fortune came—no more I'll say, No hook could hold the fish that got away.

O. J. WALLIS, VIA.

# THE COUNTY SPORTS, 1955.

THE Annual Championship Meeting of the Brecon and Radnor Secondary Schools Amateur Athletic Association was held on the School Field, Builth Wells on Saturday, 2nd July, 1955. We came away envying Builth their fine new playing field.

It was found that the age groups adopted by the Welsh Schools A.A.A. were unsuited for our meeting, resulting as they did in a poor senior competition. Consequently we reverted to our own age grouping. This of course, made matters difficult when we entered for competitions on the national level.

Winners at Builth were as follows :-

#### SENIOR.

	3rd W. E. P. Price
	2nd W. P. Roderick
000	2nd W. Griffiths
	ard R. Lucas
	and I. L. James
	3rd J. F. Stroud
	and R. Lucas
ump	2nd T. D. B. George
	4th W. D. Vincent
	4th I. L. James
	2nd
	 (ump

#### MIDDLE.

100 vds.	 4th R. S. Samuel
High Jump	 2nd T. A Gwynne
Weight	 4th E. M. Lewis

## JUNIOR.

ret B E Adame

100 yatus	***	1st D. I. Audilla
220 yards		3rd B. F. Adams.
Long Jump		3rd A. P. Richards
High Jump		1st B. F. Adams
Hop, Step and	ump	4th A. P. Richards
Discus		and W. M. Jones
Relay		3rd.
Allin = 10		Marke control to Indicator

B. F. Admas set up a new record for the Junior High Jump, clearing 4ft. 7½ ins. He gained his County Colours.

Four from our School represented the County at the National Meeting held at Colwyn Bay, viz., T. D. B. George, R. Lucas, W. P. Roderick, and B. F. Adams.

The County Meeting for 1956 will again be held at Builth Wells in July.

# PARODY.

# The Charge of the Light Brigade.

(with apologies to Lord Tennyson.)

Half a yard, half a yard, Half a yard onwards, All in the field of play Rushed the eight forwards. "Forward the village side Charge for the line," they cried. Into the other half Rushed the eight forwards.

"Forward the village side"
Was there a man offside?
Not that the players cared
As they charged onwards.
Theirs not to stop the game
Theirs but to fight for fame.
Into the other half
Rushed the eight forwards.

Forwards to the right of them. Forwards to the left of them. 'Quarters in front of them Parried, crash'd earthwards—Storm'd at with shout and yell. Valiantly they played, and well Into the other half, Dummies galore they sell Noble eight forwards!

When can their energy fade? Oh, the wild charges they made? Victorious they strode homewards. Honour the efforts done, Honour the game they won. Noble eight forwards.

J. ARWEL EDWARDS, VIB.

# MY NATIVE LAND

(Chaired Bard's Poem)

I gazed upon those sheltered little vales
That snuggled down as fledglings in a nest,
Set in the rugged splendour of old Wales
Once country of the harp, of bliss and rest,
Until man's greed oppressed the smiling land
And left a scar which Time could never heal;
Her fertile plains replaced by ugly bands
Of murky pits seen as a great black weal.
Has man's injustice and his lust for gold
Killed all the beauty of a country's soil,
And left the ravaged land, the blackened mould,
To tell the story of a Welshman's toil?
Not so: within the Cymric heart today
Fresh hope beats loud, dispelling all dismay

D. T. LEWIS, VIB (Mab y Moelydd).





# PREFECTS, 1955

Mr. L. Lewis

D. W. Pulling

J. Stroud

S. J. Pritchard

D. I. Thomas

W. Griffiths

J. Taylor

T. L. Powell

Mr. J. E. Davies

B. Pritchard

O. J. Wallis

Headmaster

R. Lucas

C. B. Like

R. Pritchard.

# CRICKET, 1955.

Captain: D. Davies. Vice-Captain: T. J. Ralph. Masters: Mr. C. Giles, Mr. J. H. Williams.

## 1st XI RESULTS.

May 14th	v.	Aberdare. Home. Time Limit. Won by 13 runs. Aberdare 46 for 6. Brecon 59 for 5.
May 25th	v.	
June 11th	v.	
June 18th	V.	
June 25th	v.	
June 27th.	v.	
July 2nd	v.	
July 5th	v.	
July 6th	v.	
July 7th	v.	
July 11th	v.	
July 12th	v.	
July 14th	v,	

This year the 1st XI had a fair season. The enthusiasm of the players left much to be desired. This resulted in fielding, bowling and batting being below standard. Consequently several matches which could have been won, were lost. It is to be hoped that during the 1956 season, players will approach each game with enthusiasm and determination to win.

We must extend our congratulations to T. J. Ralph on gaining his county colours.

# SCHOOL COLOURS.

Re-awards.—D. Davies, T. J. Ralph, B. T. Williams.
Awards.—W. A. Lewis, W. D. Vincent, B. S. Bell.
Batting.—W. A. Lewis,14.23; D. Davies, 10.30.
Bowling.—B. S. Bell, 8.22.; D. W. Pulling, 9.80; B. T. Williams, 10.41.

## HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Ι.	Gam		67%
2.	Theophilus	***	59%
3.	Vaughan		39%
1	Siddons	1000	30%

G. JONES, VI, Science.



SCHOOL CRICKET XI, 1955.

H. Thomas, W. D. Vincent, O. J. Wallis, D. W. Pulling, W. M. Peters, J. G. Aldus, D. J. Charfield C. Giles, B. S. Bell, W. A. Lewis, D. Davies (Capt.), T. J. Ralph, B. T. Williams, Headmaster, B. Hepton, G. Jones.

# ATHLETICS.

THE Annual School Sports were held on Wednesday, 13th July, 1955, at the I.T.C. Sports Ground.

We thank Major R. O. Crewe-Read, M.C., for the use of the ground and also for having it prepared for the various events. We thank Mrs. Rees, the wife of our Headmaster, for presenting the Staff Cup to the winning House.

We appreciate all the work done by Mr. C. E. Roderick, who organised the meeting, and the members of the staff who acted as judges.

For the second year in succession Theophilus won the champion-ship.

In all, nine new records were set up and one record equalled. In the Junior events B. F. Adams broke the high jump record by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ins. W. P. Roderick broke the Senior 220 yds. record, one which had stood for 21 years. Apart from the "stars" the general standard of performance was only average so there is much room for improvement.

The final result was :-

I.	Theophilus	 244
2.	Vaughan	 1861
3.	Gam	 1382
4.	Siddons	 117

## JUNIOR SCHOOL.

- Yards. Record, 12 secs. R. S. Samuel (V), 1954.
   B. F. Adams (T); 2, K. E. Prosser (V); 3, A. P. Richards (S).
   Time: 12.2 secs.
- 220 Yards. Record, 28.2 secs. M, T. H. Styles (G), 1948. 1, B. F. Adams (T); 2, A. P. Richards (S); 3, K. E. Prosser (V). Time: 27.2 secs.\*
- Long Jump. Record, 16ft. 1½ins. W. E. P. Price (V), 1951.

  1, B. F. Adams; (T) 2, G. P. Gittins (T); 3, A. P. Richards (S).
  Distance: 15ft. 1in.
- High Jump. Record, 4ft. 5½ ins. T. A. Gwynne (T), 1954.

  1, B. F. Adams (T); 2, G. P. Gittins (T); 3, R. Rees (G). Height: 4ft. 9ins.\*
- Javelin. Record, 101ft. 7½ins. B. D. Davies (S), 1953.
   1, W. M. Jones (V); 2, T. Thomas (G); 3, R. D. Lewis (V). Distance, 103ft. 6½ins.\*

- 660 Yards Walk. Record 3mins. 5.5 secs. W. A. Evans (S), 1954.

   W. A. Evans (S);
   E. T. Morgan (T);
   W. M. Jones (V).
   Time,
   mins. 13 secs.
- Relay (4 x 110 yards). Record: 55.4 secs. Siddons 1954.

  1, Vaughan; 2, Theophilus; Time, 55.4 secs.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL.

- 110 Yards. Record: 11.3 secs. M. T. H. Styles (G), 1950 and K. T. Smith (V), 1944.
  1, R. S. Samuel (V); 2, D. J. A. Parry (S); 3, D. H. J. Davies (T). Time, 11.8 secs.
- Yards. Record: 25.5 secs. A. B. Ottewell (S), 1952.
   R. S. Samuel (V); 2, D. W. Pulling (V); 3, D. J. A. Parry (S). Time, 26.8 secs.
- 440 Yards. Record: 57.8 secs. J. G. Griffiths (V), 1949.

   R. S. Samuel (V); 2, D. W. Pulling (V); 3, A Thomas (S).
   Time, 63.6 secs.
- 880 Yards. Record: 2 mins. 29.3 secs. R. Lucas (T), 1952.

  1, D. W. Pulling; (V) 2, A. Thomas (S); 3, A. C. Hirons (G).
  Time, 2 mins. 33.6 secs.
- 880 Yards Walk. Record: 4 mins. 10.6 secs. B. T. Williams (S), 1954.

  1, D. H. Price (G); 2, G. R. Gallagher (S); 3, W. T. Williams (T).

  Time: 4 mins. 14 secs.
- Long Jump. Record: 19ft. 2ins. A. B. Ottewell (S), 1951.
   1, D. W. Pulling (V): 2, T. A. Gwynne (T); 3, D. H. J. Davies (T). Distance, 15ft. 4ins.
- High Jump. Record: 4ft. 10½ ins. L. S. Davies (S), 1939.

  1, T. A. Gwynne (T); 2, G. R. Gallagher (S); 3, D. T. Lewis (T). Height, 4ft. 5ins.
- Javelin: Record, 127ft. 7ins. B. P. Richards (T), 1951.
   1, D. Evans (T); 2, D. T. Lewis (T); 3, T. D. J. Davies (V). Distance, 121ft. 1½ins.
- Weight. Record: 41ft. 8\forall ins. T. B. Millichip (S), 1953.

  1, G. J. Evans (G); 2, D. Evans (T); 3, T. L. Powell (G).
  Distance, 35 ft.
- Discus. Record: 102ft. o ins. B. P. Richards (T), 1950.

  1, G. J. Evans (G); 2, K. B. Isaac (V); 3, E. M. Lewis (G). Distance, 88ft 8 ins.
- Hop, Step and Jump. Record: 37ft. 11ins. L. D. Davies (V), 1951.

  1, E. M. Lewis (G); 2, D. T. Lewis (T); 3, R. M. Speake (V).
  Distance 31ft. 1ins.

### SENIOR SCHOOL.

- Ioo Yards. Record: 10.4 secs. W. D. J. Priday (V), 1935.
  I, W. E. P. Price (V); 2, W. Griffiths (V); 3, T. D. B. George (T). Time, 11.3 secs.
- 220 Yards. Record: 24.8 secs. W. D. J. Priday (V), 1934.

   W. P. Roderick (V); 2, W. E. P. Price (V); 3, J. Taylor (T).
   Time, 24.5 secs.\*
- 440 Yards. Record: 56.0 secs. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.

  1, W. P. Roderick (V); 2, W. Griffiths (V); 3, J. Stroud (T). Time, 58.4 secs.
- 880 Yards. Record: 2 mins. 17.7 secs. I. R. Davies (V), 1953.

  1, A, R. Lucas (T); 2, W. P. Roderick (V); 3, J. Stroud (T).

  Time, 2 mins. 16.7 secs.\*
- Mile. Record: 5 mins. 7 secs. I. R. Davies (V), 1953.
   1, D. Boxhall (T); 2, W. Griffiths (V); 3, R. Lucas (T). Time, 5 mins. 28 secs.
- Mile Walk. Record: 8 mins. 40 secs. A. Hepton (S), 1954.
   1, R. Lucas (T); 2, J. Taylor (T); 3, O. J. Wallis (T).
   Time, 9 mins. 57.5 secs.
- Long Jump. Record: 19ft. 8½ ins. K. T. Smith (V), 1946.

  1, J. F. Stroud (T); 2, T. D. B. George (T); 3, W. Griffiths (V) and B. S. Bell (G). Distance, 18ft. 3ins.
- High Jump. Record: 5ft. olins. R. Lucas (T), 1954.

  1, R. Lucas (T); 2, W. Griffiths (v); 3, J. G. J. Leonard (G). Height, 5ft. 2 ins.\*
- Javelin. Record: 138ft. 9ins. L. V. G. Jones (V), 1951.
  1, W. D. Vincent (G); 2, R. Lucas (T); 3, T. D. B. George (T).
  Distance, 140ft. 5\(\frac{2}{3}\)ins.\*
- Weight. Record: 36ft. 6½ins. T. B. Millichip (S), 1954.

  1, R. Lucas (T); 2, J. Stroud (T); 3, B. T. Williams (S).
  Distance, 33ft. 11ins.
- Discus. Record: 93ft. 7ins. B. P. Richards (T), 1952.

  1, B. T. Williams (S); 2, W. D. Vincent (G); 3, I. L. James (S).
  Distance, 98ft. 2 ins.\*
- Hop, Step and Jump. Record: 4oft. 2ins. T. K. Jones (V), 1950.

  1, T. B. D. George (T); 2, J. G. Davies (T); 3, J. G. J. Leonard (G). Distance, 35ft. 11ins.
- Relay. (4 x 110yds.) Record: 50.7 secs. Siddons, 1953. 1, Vaughan; 2, Theophilus. Time, 50.5 secs.\*

\*Denotes new record.

D. G. POWELL. M. R. BURR.

## ST. DAVID'S DAY EISTEDDFOD.

THE St. David's Day Eisteddfod this year was again held in the Guild Hall. Most of the seats were occupied by the staff and pupils, but visitors too were welcomed and were seated in the few remaining places.

The adjudicators were Professor D. J. Davies, B.A., and Mr. Trevor Evans, for Literature and Music respectively, both of whom acquitted themselves splendidly in their difficult tasks. Thanks are also due to the accompanist, Mrs. Aneurin Williams, B.A., L.R.A.M., who performed her task with credit.

The Headmaster conducted the Eisteddfod throughout whilst the President was the Mayor of Brecon, Colonel D. L. Jones.

Special praise must be reserved for Mr. Harvey Williams, whose remarkable efficiency and indefatigable energy greatly contributed towards the success of the Eisteddfod.

Theo gained an easy victory. Gam followed behind at not too great a distance and approximately the same space separated Vaughan from the latter; as might have been expected, Siddons valiantly brought up the rear.

The final result was :-

 373
 336
 306
 207

A novel feature of the Eisteddfod this year was the impressive ceremony of the Chairing of the Bard. Professor D. J. Davies, acting as "Archdruid," most successfully manipulated the situation, with the result that the suspense reached its acme, when, in grave tones, he named the winner, under the pseudonym of "Mab y Moelydd," at which D. T. Lewis, VIB (Theo), arose amidst a crowd of bobbing faces eagerly endeavouring to catch a glimpse of the poet. Then, to the stirring notes of "Rhyfelgyrch Capten Morgan," played by Mrs. Aneurin Williams, the two poets who had received second and third places (O. J. Wallis and G. S. Porte), walked with reverential air towards the bard, who, after he had been accoutred in the bardic robes, was escorted to the platform.

The resounding acclamations which the young poet received in answer to the famous question "A oes heddwch?" confirmed the appropriateness of the adjudicator's decision. After this, verses were recited before the bard by "Llew o'r Llwchwr" (Headmaster), "Wil o'r Giedd" (Mr. H. Williams), "ap tychan" (Mr. J. E. Davies), and "Trefor o'r Gorwydd" (Mr. T. Evans).

In these verses the bard was praised in most eulogistic terms, all hoping that the path to eminence lay open before him. The bardic song, "Captain Lloyd's March," was given a sweet rendering by Emyr Owen of Form IX.

#### SENIOR COMPETITIONS.

Welsh Recitation: "Tylluanod."

1, R. W. Parry (G); 2, D. G. Powell (G); 3, M. R. Burr (T).

Essay: "A Famous Man (or Woman) of Breconshire" or "Un o enwogion Sir Frycheiniog."

1, A. J. Jones (V); 2, D. P. Jones (S); 3, S. J. Pritchard (T) and P. B. Phillips (S).

Pianoforte Solo: "Air" (Haydn).

I, A. J. Jones (V); 2, G. Clayton (S).

Landscape :

I, B. S. Bell (G); 2, T. B. Evans (G); 3, T. H. Owen (V) and C. D. Lee (V).

Contour Map of Brecon District :

1, J. Stroud (T); 2, J. A. Edwards (T); 3, G. S. Porte (V).

Short Story :

I, O. J. Wallis (T); 2, D. W. Pulling (V); 3, A. J. Jones (V).

Humorous Poem: "The Fish that got away."
1, O. J. Wallis (T); 2, D. P. Jones (S); 3, A. J. Jones (V).

English Recitation: "Milton on His Blindness."

1, D. T. Lewis (T); 2, R. W. Parry (G); 3, J. A. Edwards and M. R. Burr (T).

Handicraft: Model.

1. D. Evans (T); 2 B. Jones (V); 3 A. C. Hirons (G).

Handicraft: Useful Article.

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

English or Welsh Solo . "Edrych vn ol" or "A la Claire Fontaine." I, J. A. Edwards (T); 2, S. T. Evans (G); 3, B. Pritchard (V).

Senior Poem: "My Native Land."

1, D. T. Lewis (T); 2, O. J. Wallis (T); 3, G. S. Porte (V).

### SIXTH FORM ONLY.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35. Welsh or English.

I, D. T. Lewis (T); 2, O. J. Wallis (T); 3, J. A. Edwards (T).

#### OPEN COMPETITIONS.

Parody: "The Charge of the Light Brigade" (Tennyson).

I, J. A. Edwards (T); 2, O. J. Wallis (T); 3, R. Pritchard (V)

Welsh Recitation: "Cymru 1937."

1, A. J. Jones (V); 2, D. T. Lewis (T); 3, J. A. Edwards (T).

#### **JUNIOR COMPETITIONS.**

Poem: "When I grow up."

I, T. Moses (T); 2, M. Williams (V); 3 G Williams (V).

Pianoforte: "Helston Floral Dance" (Gowlland).

I, E. M. Williams (T); 2, D. A. Wilding (S); 3, D. I. M. Jones (V).

Essay: "Brecon District in Spring."

1, A Griffin (G); 2, D. O. Keddle (G); 3, H. Jones (G).

English Solo: "Cuckoo Dear."

I, R. G Brown, (G); 2, D. T. Boxhall (T); 3, D. K. P. Strangward (S)

Humorous Poem: "Fifty Large or Smack" or "Long Trousers" or "Some Day I'll be a Prefect."

1, T. Moses (T); 2, G. Williams (V); 3, R. James (V).

Welsh Recitation: "Sion a Sian a'r Siew."

I, D. T. Boxhall (T); 2, R. C. Humphreys (V); 3, W. J. Griffiths (G). Landscape:

I, R. Bastable (G); 2, T. D. Boxhall (T); 3, P. Malham (V) and N. T. Parry (G).

Contour Map of the Brecon District :

1, R. H. Griffiths (G); 2, L. Billington (G); 3, D. B. Morris (T). English Recitation: "Silver."

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

Welsh Solo: "Gweled v Prins."

1, T. D. Boxhall; (T) 2, E. W. Owen (V); 3, D. K. P. Strangward (S). Handicraft: Model.

1, L. Billington (G); 2, G. D. Phillips (V); 3, E. J. Bromwell (G).

Handicraft: Useful Article.

I, R. P. Day (T); 2, T. Lewis (G); 3, H. G. Williams (T).

Pictorial Craft:

1, R. Bastable (G); 2, J. G. Pearson (V); 3, J. Lewis (G).

A. J. JONES, VIB.

# FOOTBALL REPORT, 1955-56.

Captain: R. Pritchard. Masters: Mr. H. C. Jones and Mr. R. Arthur.

### FIRST ELEVEN.

Oct. 15th Oct. 22nd Nov. 12th Nov. 19th Dec. 3rd Dec. 10th	Builth C. G.S. Talgarth Juniors Presteigne C.G.S. Kington G.S. Builth C.G.S. St. John's Club	Away Home Away Home Home	Lost Won Lost Won Won Lost	1 — 4 6 — 3 2 — 6 3 — 0 5 — 0 0 — 3
Jan. 21st	Builth C.G.S.	Home	Won	4 - 2 $2 - 2$ $4 - 2$ $4 - 0$ $2 - 4$
Jan. 28th	Llandrindod C.G.S.	Home	Drawn	
March 3rd	Presteigne C.G.S.	Home	Won	
March 18th	Kington G.S.	Away	Won	
March 27th	Old Boys	Home	Lost	

Highest Scorers: G. Jones, 12; W. Griffiths, 8.

#### Colour Awards:

TOPP

Re-awards: R. Lucas, B. Pritchard, W. Griffiths, B. S. Bell, J. Taylor, R. Pritchard.

Awards: T. L. Powell, G. Jones, S. J. Gallagher.

# Junior Eleven.

Captain: A. Richards.

1955				
Oct. 15th	Builth C.G.S.	Away	Drawn	2 - 2
Nov. 12th	Presteigne C.G.S.	Away	Lost	1 - 2
Nov. 19th	Kington G.S.	Home	Won	5 — I
Nov. 26th	Crickhowell Mod. Sec.	Home	Won	5 - 0
Dec. 3rd	Builth C.G.S.	Home	Won	6 — 1
1956				
Jan. 21st	Builth C.G.S.	Home	Won	3 — 2
Jan. 28th	Llandrindod C.G.S.	Home	Lost	0 — 2
March 3rd	Presteigne C.G.S.	Home	Lost	0 - 2
March 10th	Crickhowell Mod. Sec.	Home	Won	3 — 1
March 17th	Kington G.S.	Away	Drawn	3 - 3

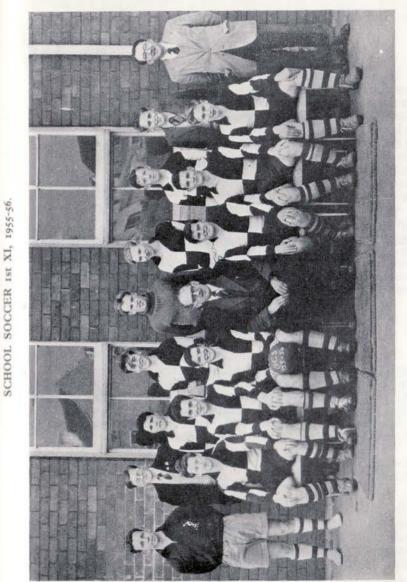
Highest Scorer: G. Eckley, 9.

# HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Senior	IST	XI.

			Semoi .	ist Al.				
		P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Points
Vaughan		6	4	0	2	15	8	8
Theophilus		6	3	2	I	10	II	8
Siddons		6	2	0	4	12	13	4
Gam		6	1	2	3	7	12	4
			Senior	2nd X	I.			
Theophilus		6	4	I	1	27	6	9
Vaughan		6	2	2	2	9	13	6
Gam		6	2	1	3	11	II	5
Siddons	- 3444	6	2	0	4	4	21	4
			Junio	or XI.				
Gam		6	3	2	1	17	11	8
Vaughan		6	2	3	1	13	10	7
Siddons		6	3	I	2	10	10	7
Theophilus	• • • •	6	0	2	4	9	18	2
			ghan		points.			

R. PRITCHARD, VI.



Mr. R. Arthur, S. J. Pritchard, S. Gallagher, E. M. Lewis, B. S. Bell, D. W. Pulling, G. Jones, D. H. Price, Mr. H. C. Jones W. Griffiths, R. Lucas, R. Pritchard (Capt.), Headmaster, B. Pritchard, J. Taylor, T. L. Powell.

... 17 points.

15 points.

Gam

Siddons

# CLUBS AND SOCIETIES.

## BADMINTON CLUB.

CAPTAIN: B. S. BELL. SECRETARY: G. A. H. THOMAS.

During the latter part of the Spring Term a Badminton Club was formed under the guidance of Mr. R. Arthur. At the moment membership of this club is limited to members of the VIth only. Games are played during the lunch hour and after school hours. It is hoped to arrange fixtures in the near future.

## CHESS CLUB.

CHAIRMAN: O. J. WALLIS. SECRETARY: R. B. WILLIAMS.

The club has continued its activities this year. A tournament is in progress at the moment but the final round will not be decided until the Summer term. It is felt that support from senior members of the school is not what it should be.

## FILM CLUB.

CHAIRMEN: MR. C. E. RODERICK AND MR. J. MORGAN.
SECRETARY: R. B. WILLIAMS. TREASURER: D. J. HALES.

The Film Club has continued to enjoy popularity. Seven shows have been given at different evenings since September last. This year instead of paying a fee members have contributed at each performance. We were delighted with our new projection unit which has improved the standard of our entertainment. During the last week of the Spring term "Boys will be Boys"—starring Will Hay was shown to the whole school in relays of five groups.

We are very grateful to the two members of the staff, Mr. C. E. Roderick and Mr. J. Morgan for giving their time so freely to our club.

# SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

CHAIRMAN: J. TAYLOR. SECRETARY: G. JONES.

The Society has held two highly successful meetings. On 21st October, 1955, Mr. C. Giles, the retiring president addressed the Society on "The Ideas of Scientists in the Middle Ages concerning the Structure of Matter."

# WELSH SOCIETY.

CHAIRMAN: D. T. LEWIS. SECRETARY: G. JONES.

On 1st July, 1955, a party of over sixty boys and four members of the staff went on a visit to St. Fagan's Museum. We arrived at our destination for lunch, after which we proceeded on a conducted tour of the Folk Museum. We examined old Welsh farm houses, a barn and a typical Mid-Wales woollen factory. Before leaving we all visited the Wishing Well in the grounds.

The Society held a successful Christmas party on 16th December. The success of the party was largely due to the meticulous preparation of our senior Welsh master, Mr. H. Williams, who was assisted by Mr. R. Arthur, who acted as M.C. for the games, and lady members of the staff. After tea a Noson Lawen was held in which two guest artistes Mr. Gwilym Jones and Mr. Dennis Jones rendered items.

## P.T. CLUB.

During this year a P.T. Club was formed in school. Some twenty enthusiastic members meet in the gymnasium every Monday after school. It is hoped that a school gymnastic team will be formed once a reasonable standard of performance is attained. The teacher is Mr. Arthur.

T. BOXHALL, IIA.

# CRAFT CLUB.

Handicrafts, other than woodwork, have been introduced this year into the lower school. At the request of enthusiasts Mr. Arthur volunteered to form a Crafts Club which meets every Wednesday after school. Some of the crafts already introduced are stencil work, lino cuts and leather work.

D. O. KEDDLE, IIA.

# SOME DAY PLL BE A PREFECT.

When I become a prefect I'll be a man of law, I'll pounce upon offenders And beat them to the draw.

I'll terrify the youngsters, I'll make them keep the law, I'll stop them throwing snowballs And slush when there's a thaw.

I'll keep a list of hard words, Such as "reconnaisance." I'll make them write up fifty, And lead them quite a dance.

If they should disobey me, They'll get no second chance, I'll book them to headquarters And be there in advance.

I'll stop all sorts of antics And romping on the grass; I'll confiscate all briar pipes And Woodbines found in class.

I'll keep an eye on youngsters, When in the school canteen, Sad recollections have I Of hotly peppered beans.

If I should find a culprit, I'd nail him on the spot, I'd use an ounce of pepper And make him eat the lot.

T. Moses, IIA.

## OLD BOY'S ASSOCIATION.

THE activities of the Association during the past year have followed the pattern of past years. Membership continues to be good, there being 366 members at the end of last year.



This Year's President: MR. G. W. DAVIES, J.P.

The Sixth Annual General Meeting was held at the Cafe Royal on Friday, 27th January, 1956, under the presidency of Mr. F. M. Thomas, the retiring president. At this meeting the following officers and committee members were elected:—President, Mr. G. W. Davies, J.P.; Vice-President, Mr. F. Beverley Jones; Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. H. C. Jones; Assistant Secretary, Mr. D. G. A. Smith. Committee members:—Alderman G. Morris, Messrs. O. V. Owen, E. I. Rowlands, G. Winstone, B. R. C. Williams, W. M. Peters,

W. I. Jones, J.P., C. B. Palmer, G. Poole, A. R. Williams, W. J. J. Morris, L. R. Williams, W. B. Hargest, E. B. Powell, M. B.E., P. Davies. At the first meeting of the Committee, Mr. L. R. Williams was elected chairman and Mr. G. Poole vice-chairman.

At the General Meeting, Mr. H. Prosser Roberts, the first Honorary Secretary-Treasurer, relinquished this office. The thanks of the Association were expressed to Mr. Roberts by Mr. F. M. Thomas. In order that Mr. Roberts' services might not be altogether lost to the Association, and as a sign of appreciation of the work he had done, it was unanimously decided to elect Mr. Roberts an Honorary Life Vice-President.

At the same meeting a very generous offer was made to the Headmaster by an Old Boy who has been connected with the School since its very earliest days, Alderman Garnet Morris. He offered to give to the School when it entered the new building, a lectern for use in School Assemblies. This offer was gratefully accepted by Mr. Rees.

The Seventh Annual Dinner was held at the Cafe Royal on Saturday, 24th March, 1956, with the President in the chair. This year the guests were His Worship the Mayor of Brecon (Col. D. L. Jones, T.D.), Dr. D. Dilwyn John, T.D., (Director of the National Museum of Wales), Mr. Robin Lucas (Head Boy), and Mr. J. Morgan (Editor of the "Brecon and Radnor Express"). 61 Members of the Association were present, many of whom travelled considerable distances to be there.

The usual cricket match against the School, in July, resulted in a win for the Association by seven wickets.

Only one football match was played, in March 1956, when a very good Old Boys' side beat the school by four goals to two.

The Association was represented at several School functions during the year. At the Armistice Day Service a wreath of poppies was laid on the Memorial Tablet by Mr. F. M. Thomas. Members will be glad to know that space in a fitting position in the new school will be reserved for this Memorial.

In December, 1955, the President attended the School Carol Service which was held in Kensington Chapel. This service is to be a regular event and the Headmaster extends a welcome to be present to as many members of the Association as can attend in future years, as well as to the St. David's Day Eisteddfod at the Guild Hall.

Provided that all goes well, it would appear that the present building in Cradoc Road will soon be left behind, as was the first schoolroom in Lion Street more than fifty years ago, for in March this year work was officially begun on the long-planned school at Penlan. The President and other officers of the Association were present when Mr. David Lewis, M.B.E., an Old Boy, cut the first turf on the site.

Several social functions are planned for the coming year and it is hoped that many members will be able to attend.

# NEWS OF OLD BOYS.

WE wish to congratulate

- C. L. Blank (1918-22) on being elected President of the Brecon Chamber of Trade.
- J. E. Davies, who has been on the School Staff since 1946, on his appointment as Headmaster of Builth Bi-lateral School.
- G. James (1929-33) on being awarded a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.
- A. H. Norman (1925-30) on being awarded the M.B.E. (Military).
- A. B. Ottewell (1950-54) who has gained a place in the Sandhurst Royal Military College Association Football team.
- A. A. Pugh (1931-37) who has been seconded by the Treasury to the Gold Coast Government, with the rank of Assistant Secretary.
- H. Prosser Roberts, who has been on the School staff since 1931, on his appointment as Youth and Further Education Officer for Breconshire.
- F. M. Thomas (1910-14) on being appointed Stationmaster at Brecon.
- T. C. Thomas (1920-15) on the success of his wireless and television programmes.
- J. W. R. Walters (1929-34) on his successful television performance.

### PERSONAL.

#### MARRIAGES:

- J. D. Coombe to Miss Bessie Walters-Richards, on 31st December, 1955, at Bethlehem Chapel, Abercrave.
- R. L. Howells to Miss Edith Barbara Davies, on 13th August, 1955, at Bethesda Congregational Chapel, Llangattock, Crickhowell.
- G. B. Jones to Miss Ruby Edna Daft, on 10th August, 1955, at St. Cadmarch's Church, Llangammarch Wells.
- G. Tagg to Miss Thelma Jones, on 25th February, 1956, at Llanishen Parish Church, Cardiff.

A. P. Thomas, to Miss Margaret Myrna-Williams, on 29th October, 1955, at Kensington Chapel, Brecon.

I. G. Williams to Miss Ethel Olwen Rees, on 4th June, 1955, at

the Cathedral Church, Brecon.

## BIRTHS:

To T. G. and Mrs. Winstone, on 21st May, 1955, a daughter, Jill Margaret.

To T. I. and Mrs. Jones, on 5th November, 1955, a daughter,

Penelope Sian.

To W. J. J. and Mrs. Morris, on 24th December, 1955, a son, Alwyn de Lonra.

# **ENGAGEMENTS:**

J. Davies to Miss Gloria Dacey, of Brecon.

B. P. Richards to Miss Margery Breeze, of Welshpool, Mont.

A. B. Winstone to Miss Dilys Pryse-Jones, of Brecon.

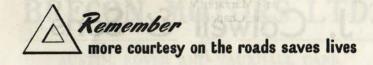
## DEATH.

We regret to record that Mr. T. S. Cross (1908-13) died suddenly on 7th November, 1955. For the past eight years Mr. Cross was Headmaster of Pandy School. He was very active in local affairs up to the day of his death.

THESE notes have been brought to our attention but there are probably many items of interest of which we are unaware. We should like to ask Old Boys to keep us informed of any information of this sort for future issues of the magazine.

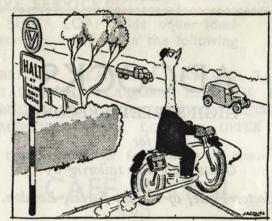
# Members who have joined since 31st March, 1955.

	, ,,,,,
D. J. Chatfield (1949-55)	W. M. Peters 1950-55)
B. D. Davies (1951-55)	T. B. Phillips (1950-55)
D. Davies (1948-55)	W. E. P. Price (1947-55)
J. G. Davies (1951-55)	G. Prytherch (1951-55)
T. H. D. Davies (1950-55)	T. J. Ralph (1949-55)
H. E. Evans (1948-55)	P. J. Randall (1944-48)
A. W. Games (1911-17)	W. P. Roderick (1948-55)
T. D. B. George (1952-55)	R. G. Tucker (1949-55)
O. V. T. Hawker	W. D. Vincent (1950-55)
R. M. Howell (1948-55)	B. T. Williams (1950-55)
D. O. P. Jones (1949-55)	D. G. Williams (1950-55)
W. A. Lewis (1950-55)	D. J. Williams (1950-54)
A. B. Ottewell (1950-54)	D. J. Williams (1950-55)
W. Perkins (1950-55)	G. L. Williams (1949-55)
	20 To 120 No. 20



# Do I always

# OBSERVE AND HEED THE ROAD SIGNS?



Or am I a Highway Ostrich, thinking they don't mean me?

Never ignore the signs "Halt at Major Road Ahead"; "School"; "Cross Road"; and many others including "Slow, Major Road Ahead" which is so often ignored. They are all signposts to safe driving and they mean what they say. Only the road-hog ignores road signs.

Memo: I really must look at the Highway Code again!

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# R. J. Williams,

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