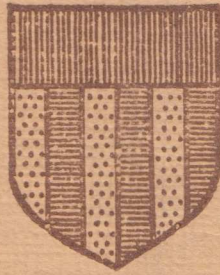


THE FRE STONIAN



THE MAGAZINE OF THE
NORMANTON GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

VOL. XXIV., Part 2.

SPRING TERM, 1928.



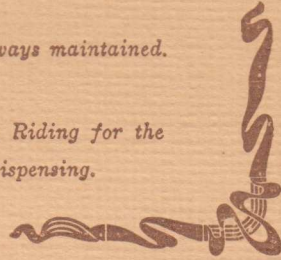
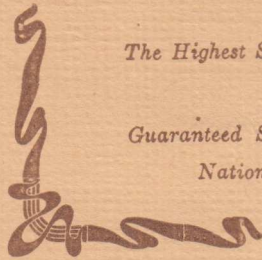
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"The Boast of Heraldry, the Pomp of Power."

Brittlebank, Val.

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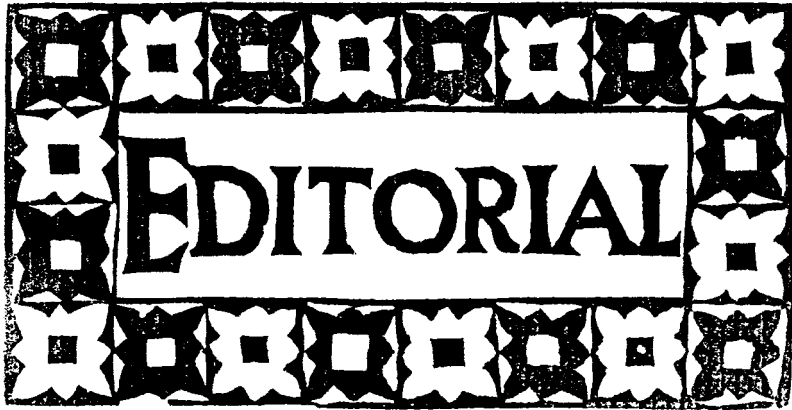
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NORMANTON :

C. J. KINGSTON & SON, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS



EDITORIAL

This Term's issue of the "Frestonian" might very appropriately be called an Old Boys' number. We publish a series of most interesting letters from Old Frestonians at various Colleges and elsewhere, and we heartily commend to all Old Boys the General Meeting which has been called for April 13th, to consider very important matters in connection with the Old Frestonians' Association.

We congratulate C. S Jones on his acceptance at Pembroke College' Cambridge, on the results of the recent Examination for Scholarships held there. He will go to Cambridge in October with our united good wishes.

In spite of the phenomenally wet winter our bill of health has been exceptionally good, and absences have been unusually few, especially this Term. All the Examination Forms are going strong and we look for an excellent effort in July.

On March 23rd there passed away, at Scarbro', an old inhabitant of Normanton and Governor of this School, in the person of Mr. C. J. Foster, J.P. The present generation of boys can hardly be expected to realise how much Mr. Foster did for this School, but they are hereby reminded that he was one of those who took an active and leading part in the revival of this School and its re-opening in its present form, in 1897, after having for some years completely ceased to function. His name is to be found inscribed on the stone, in the Belfry, in the list of the first Governors of the newly-constituted School. A great debt of gratitude is owing to men who have done public work of this kind in the cause of Education.

An Old Boy of the old Normanton Grammar School, in Snydale Road, recently passed away, in the person of Mr. W. Dyson, retired farmer, of Pontefract. Mr. Dyson was a faithful and regular supporter of and subscriber to all School institutions and activities.

SALVETE.

FORM IIb.— Finbow E. T.

VALETE.

AUTUMN TERM, 1927.

FORM VI. Sc. Lower —Dunkley H. R.
FORM Val. —Davis W. C.
Tingle F. W.
FORM IVb. —Smith J. A.
FORM IIIb. —Firth G.
FORM IIb. —Kendall T. N.

SPRING TERM, 1928.

FORM VI. Sc. Upper —Wright D. T.
FORM VI. Arts Lower —Shaw H.
FORM IVa. —Stringer J.
FORM IIb. —Massey H. A.

DEBATING SOCIETY.



HE Society held only one meeting this term, and as a change from the usual debate a Mock Trial was arranged for Friday, 24th February.

The leading counsel, Jackson and Edmonds, prepared an elaborate case in which Gothard was charged with stealing the school bell. Jackson, prosecuting, outlined the case against him in an able and convincing manner, and I think, had he been properly supported by his witnesses, he would have succeeded in persuading the Jury of the prisoner's guilt. Unfortunately these witnesses thought it their business to throw doubt on various points missed by Jackson, and skilful cross examination by the defending counsel did much to weaken the case against the prisoner. Edmonds, defending, made good use of his opportunities when his time came and no one was surprised when he obtained a verdict of "Not Guilty" from the Jury.

It was probably the most entertaining and interesting evening we have had this session, and our thanks are due to both Jackson and Edmonds who worked so hard to make the evening such a success. From the onlooker's point of view it was decidedly comforting to find how difficult it was to fasten guilt upon an innocent person, even when a large number of incriminating actions were allowed by the defence for the purpose of making the case.

H.W.

NATIONAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

Early in the present term an effort was made to increase the membership and to induce members to become more regular in bringing their contributions. In some measure both objects were achieved.

There are now 43 members as against 36 of last term, and there has been an even greater increase in the savings effected. £23-5-0 has been saved and 25 certificates have been bought, thus bringing the corresponding totals to £60-11-6, and 59 respectively since the Association was formed in January 1927.

Early next term a letter will be circulated pointing out the advantages to be obtained by joining the association, and it is hoped that this will receive the careful consideration of all non-members.

A.S.

SCHOOL LIBRARY.

Gifts of books have been received this term from Mr. Parker, Mr. Hewson, Mr G. Keightley, S. Flint, J. R Baugh, C. Manning, C. Howden and F. Hartley. The Library continues to be freely used, especially by the lower school.

F.S.

ON VISITING A COAL MINE.

One dismal morn in cold December,
(It was a Thursday, I remember)
Upper VI. Arts walked down a lane,
In the wind and pouring rain.
They made their way towards a pit,
Clad in old and tattered kit,
They felt most queer down by the tummy,
Although they did not shout for mummy.
They waited—it seemed quite an age
Before they got inside the cage.
A slow descent allayed their fears,
Although the wind rushed in their ears.
Till Scrooge his overalls obtains,
The others watch the various lanes
Which run, a network, through the mine :
To walk along them would be fine.
At last they're ready to explore
The Form and their conductor—four.
They walk along the lighted roads
And watch the ponies haul their loads.
At last they come unto a place,
Where, with a smile upon his face,
Their leader tells them they must creep ;
The seam is here not three feet deep.
They crawl along—for hours it seems,
Passing the men working in teams,
The trousers of the heaviest tear.
Of bruises too they have their share—
Except the small one, he can laugh
While the two big ones get his chaff.
'Tis true he may not have their height,
But he's the advantage here all right.
At last the ascent they're undertaking,
Happy although their limbs are aching.
The people watch them from the door,
Like specimens ne'er seen before.
It took two baths to get them clean,
Two months the relics of where they had been
To get from off their hands.—But a mine,
Of all experiences is most fine.

J.H.S.

STAMP SOCIETY.

The Society still consists mainly of boys in the lower school, but they are mostly keen collectors who are finding one of the benefits of the hobby in increasing their knowledge of the world. This term a prize is given for the best collection of British Stamps.



OLD BOYS' LETTERS.

University College,
Oxford.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

A lot of water, as the journalists say, has flowed beneath the bridges since last you offered me a page in 'The Frestonian.' But Oxford is still the same, and her peaceful slumber has only been broken by two unwelcome noises. The number of women in the University has been increasing rapidly for years. The dons have risen in revolt and decreed for ever that the proportion of men to women shall be four to one. The women dons, like Burke's grasshoppers, have made an 'importunate chink' that has duly died away.—*Requiescat in Pace.*

Three hundred years ago, by the payment of fifty pounds to the Stationers' Company, the Bodleian Library acquired a right to one copy of every book published in England. The result is now being felt. The ambitious undergraduate who wishes, like Bacon, to make all knowledge his province, will have to make a start on the two and a half million volumes in the Bodleian, and if he insists upon keeping *absolutely* in touch with most recent investigation, he will have to read another fifty thousand that pour into Bodley annually. Oxford has no room for more books. All available space is occupied. The dons are shaking their venerable heads, and voices of lamentation are heard crying 'Where shall we store our books?' This complaint, in view of the fact that Edgar Wallace is still as prolific as ever, cannot be regarded as an importunate chink.

But otherwise, Oxford is unchanged. The budding orators of the 'Union,' Conservative, Liberal and Socialist, have within the last year made reverent or indignant allusions to Lord Birkenhead's cigar, Ramsay Macdonald's Scotch accent, and Winston Churchill's dimples, all three having visited Oxford. The women still enforce an imaginary monopoly of all the front seats in the lecture rooms, and still sigh wistfully as they waste their time conscientiously in the libraries. The Chicago newspaper which make a point of exposing our drunken City informs me that for the year ending January, 1928, the amount of beer consumed in Oxford was close upon two million gallons *O Tempora ! O mores !*

The only change, Mr Editor, is in my own circumstances. I am one of the thousand in this town who in twelve weeks' time will be fighting their individual Waterloo with the examiners, and therefore extend a brotherly sympathy to similar warriors at N.G.S. Along with others who have enjoyed their allotted two years in College, I have been exiled into digs, and thus compelled to suffer daily a landlady's tale of woe. Worst of all, the only other Old Frestonian in Oxford has shaken

its dust from his feet, and is probably canoeing on the River Niger. The perusal of this 'Frestonian' may suffice to remind him that I received his last letter six months ago.

I remain, Mr. Editor,

Yours sincerely,

J. Fisher.

Education Dept.,
S. Nigeria,

Written at Agulu Rest House.

DEAR MR. BRITAIN,

Please excuse this writing paper, but I am in the bush and it is all I have. I am in Agulu Rest House for a few days on inspection duty.

I came last Tuesday and shall be here for a fortnight or three weeks. I suppose you will be interested to hear of what the day's work is like out here. Well, to-day started at 6-30, when it was moderately cool, at a rest house, about 1,000 feet above sea level. It over-looks a most glorious valley of tropical forest which rises to bare red sand stone hill-sides where the mist hangs in the morning. By eight I had the motor bike ready and haversack and water-bottle stowed and away I went, to a school, about eight miles along a road that is incredibly bad. However, I did arrive alive at Aelima and inspected my school, and then had to leave the bike and take to walking to a place called Umnokpulukpu. I walked 6 miles through all sorts of country, and scrambled up crags, crossed a couple of rivers, which fortunately were almost dry, and incidentally wrung out my shirt which was soaked with sweat. Just think of that in your English February—when we have had no rain since early in January, only a blistering dry wind, full of sand, from the Sahara.

Well, I found a school and got back after a 12 mile trek and fourteen miles by road. I got bogged at one point and hauled the bike out with the aid of a score of men and women in the garb of nature, or rather less since they were extensively flea-bitten. I got back to lunch after 3 p.m. and the day finished with writing my reports and recommendations.

You would have been amused at my last rest house, at Isnofia. It had four mud walls and a roof of palm matting. The furniture I brought with me, or rather it was carried 37 miles on men's heads.

Have you ever heard of the West African chicken ? I don't suppose you have. It is about the toughest and most tasteless thing that ever grew feathers. An Englishman once came to West Africa and told his cook that he liked chicken. Since then I have no doubt he has repented but the evil is done—we get attenuated chicken at almost every meal.

The only thing to do, is to use plenty of Worcester Sauce—it kills the taste at least. Whenever you arrive in a village you soon have all the chiefs bringing a chicken as a “present.” You thank him solemnly and give him a gift in return, which is one shilling, the exact value of his gift, had it been bought in the native market. You have to do that sort of thing or the natives would be very offended. It is worth it too, as they send wood and what masquerades under the name of water. That has to be boiled and filtered to make it anywhere near safe. I have not had a drop of spring water for five months now. It has all been boiled. You can guess that I am pretty sick of it. Even putting it through a Sparklet does not liven it up very much.

I spent my Christmas in blazing heat at Awka—a C. M. S. Training College where I stayed with some missionaries. I visited a Ju-Ju grove not far away, where there has been human sacrifice in the last 12 months. I took an iron nail out of the tree as a souvenir. It represents one sacrifice of a man. The “priests” there found it a paying proposition. People used to consult the oracle at the Ju Ju and the man who paid the highest won the case. The other man was supposed to be sacrificed but usually he was let off, if he could afford a ransom of £10. If not he was unlucky. But one day the troops came along at an unfortunate moment and four of the priests who were caught ended their days on the Ju Ju tree branches. Don’t think I am telling you an Edgar Wallace yarn, I am not—this is only too true. There’s another spot too that I visited last week called Ezira. They have a big drum there—it is eight feet across. An Abazana man made it and it was the biggest drum in the Ibo country. Some ten or fifteen years ago when it was made, the people of Ezira felt that the maker might make another even bigger one for another village, so they invited the maker to the consecration. He was the guest of honour, but he was placed on the top of the drum and his blood was used as an essential part of the ceremony. Ezira now is a fairly civilised place and boasts an R C M. School. I wonder if the children in it know that their fathers were cannibals.

I have been game shooting with an old chief who had been a cannibal at one time. He was a funny old man and most respectable. He wore a pair of strawberry coloured Oxford bags and the remains of an evening dress shirt, and scratched himself most abominally. He imagined himself “The glass of fashion and the mould of form.”

I had better finish now, or I shall write about this all night. I have bored you for too long over the matutinal eggs and bacon (I wish I had some here).

I wish you every success for the school this year, of which by the way, I shall very glad to hear.

Yours sincerely,

George Hinckley.

Bede College,
Durham.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Last year four N.G.S. students set out to discover countries yet unknown, and for the first time there were old Frestonians at Bede It may interest those at school and especially those who are bound for Durham next year to know something of our new quarters, and one feels able to attempt to enlighten them after two terms of residence. Obviously the best way to start anything is from the beginning and so we will start by saying that Bede College was founded in October, 1841. Possibly the founders of St. Mark's. Chelsea, were encouraged by the cheerfulness of spring, to found their College in April, and so the honour of being the oldest Training College in England goes to it ; Bede however, just a few months behind, still occupies the proud position of second oldest. The College was then a private house in the city and accommodated 11 students The building on the present site, which was given by the Dean and Chapter of Durham, was started in 1845 and finished in 1847, with room for twenty students Various enlargements and additions have been made in 1857, 1858, 1875, 1886 when Bishop Lightfoot gave it the name of Bede, and 1896. During the years 1926-7 total reconstruction has taken place at a cost of £17,000. Private rooms have replaced the old cubicles and the building has been brought thoroughly up-to date. A new Chapel, Library and Assembly Hall have been added, and the college is now the largest one, for men, in Durham with accommodation for 124 students. Since 1892 there has been University connection but the college was primarily a two-year one. The Governors decided in 1926 that only students prepared to take University degrees should be allowed to enter.

Bede, though technically a Hall of Residence of Durham University, is for all practical purposes a University College, and its students are in every respect full members of the 'Varsity.

Yet even when Bede does become a full University College, she must still retain her individuality. We indeed soon found her to be tied by indefinable yet unbreakable bonds of tradition. She will ever be

“Schola
Pro Plano Cantu
Et Arte Scribendi.”

and the shades of the past will still continue to influence. Those who “come up” next year will find that although the first year are now “Freshmen” and not Juniors there is a spirit in Bede foreign to most colleges of a University, and that all, whether Senior, Junior or Freshmen, are “Bedeites” and determined to make their college supreme in scholarship, in field and on the river. Indeed the college itself like a proud monarch overlooks the Castle, Cathedral and ancient town itself while at its feet flow the fickle waters of the Wear.

As befits old students of Normanton, we have tried to prove that Old Frestonians can hold their own in all branches of college life and perhaps it will interest at least one member of the staff to know that one of us has had the bitter experience of falling to Armstrong College in the final and semi-final of two boat races.

We shall certainly welcome those who next year, are to carry on the connection between Normanton and Durham, a connection which it is hoped, having once been started, will never be allowed to lapse.

May I say in conclusion that the proposed Old Frestonians Association has our whole-hearted support, and that we wish the old school prosperity and success in the future.

Yours with kind regards,

F. H. Thompson.

St John's College,
York.

DEAR FELLOW FRESTONIANS,

Having been kindly invited by the editor of the Frestonian to write to you per via that honourable magazine it is with great pleasure that I take up the pen to renew old acquaintances and give some idea of college life.

It would be very bad form to begin taking about college, without first having made mention of the city itself, especially when the city is York. The historical importance of York is so universally known that it would be superfluous for me to attempt to explain its significance. A walk along the old Roman walls is an education in itself ; and nothing could be more delightful than to spend several hours in lounging along the walls, picturing the scenes that have been enacted there in the far off days of our sturdy ancestors. Indeed the spirit and atmosphere of the walls so act on one that by leaning over a battlement and shutting the eyes one can almost hear the ringing cries of the victorious invader, and the despairing dying wails of the defeated.

Seventeenth century York too is very interesting. Visitors to York always make a point of walking through the "Shambles" with its quaint picturesque houses, the upper storeys overhanging the street and successfully refusing to allow any stray sunbeam to find its way into the noisome street below.

York Minster is the most beautiful piece of architecture that I have ever seen ; there is a massive grandeur about it that betokens great strength, and yet it is carved in places with such detailed fineness and accuracy, that its grace and lightness cannot be denied by the most severe critic. But the outside beauty cannot compare with the heavenly calm and peaceful atmosphere which reigns within ; whilst the almost ethereal singing of the choir, chanting in perfect harmony, to quote Shakespeare "Beggars all description."

First day at college is always something of an ordeal, seeing in dismay so many new faces who appear to be so much superior to oneself. I shall never forget the excitement of the following day when the lordly seniors returned and began to show us 'freshers' how great they were, and we soon had a taste of their authority.

The first few weeks-consists of a series of physical, mental, moral and intellectual tortures—tortures that could only have been devised by the Grand Inquisitor at the time when the Spanish Inquisition was in its most flourishing state. We were made to write short stories, which were read out to the great delectation of company, seniors and juniors alike. We were made to stand on a table and sing (or endure a far worse physical torture); if the song pleased the exacting seniors, we were given a hand-clap, and horror of horrors an encore; if, as was more often the case, the song did not meet with the required needs, then the hapless perpetrator was seized on by many hands, almost torn limb from limb and forcibly ejected from the 'smoke-hole.' Cold baths were the order of the day, Oh ! my nerves quiver when I recall these numerous machinations of the devil.

Anyone who is desirous of taking part in Sport has plenty of opportunity for doing so; during the autumn and spring terms there is football, rugby, fives and boating ; while in the term which is the most enjoyable of the three terms there is tennis, swimming and boating. Certain indoor games too are also played, and a chess team has matches nearly every Saturday night.

The following is a typical college day : rising bell is rung at 7-12 a.m. by a junior (juniors have 3 days bell duty in turn) but only few of the more hardy spirits jump out briskly at this outrageous hour, the rest peacefully wait until 7-42 when the downstairs bell is rung, then making a very hurried toilet in the remaining three minutes in order to answer roll call at 7-45. Breakfast comes at eight o'clock, then there are lectures from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m., then lunch. We are free on afternoons, this being a most satisfactory arrangement for thus we can play games or shop, etc.

The tea bell is rung at 4 p.m., then come lectures from 4-30 to 6-30, and after that chapel and supper. Perhaps you would think that after that we would be allowed to go out until about 10 p.m. but no! we must

do P.S. (private study) from 7-30 to 9-30, and then comes bed. In fact we hardly ever get the chance of seeing York by night, except on those rare occasions when we get a late pass on Saturday night ; we are allowed out on Sunday as a special favour until 9-20, thus you can quite see that we are prevented from falling into evil ways.

There are three days which stand out as red letter days in the dull dreary existence we lead, these I will mention in chronological order. Archbishop's Night occurs the evening before breaking up for the Christmas Vac, and is included in my list of three great days because of the great feed we get—roast pork, potatoes, greens with apple sauce, followed by plum pudding and mince pies, followed by dessert, nuts, apples, and oranges. By the time we have finished eating, very few feel inclined for any exertion whatever, and so to keep them amused a concert has been arranged. The concert ends at about 10-30 when everyone assembles on the lawn, to sing Christmas carols and college songs. After about half an hour of this everyone rushes upstairs, the seniors collect their host and invade the juniors quarters. Lights are switched off at 1 a.m. but for at least an hour after that, people are wandering up and down the corridors, looking for lost bedclothes and pyjamas. In the morning every room presents an aspect of unutterable confusion for at least four people will be sleeping in those bedrooms, which were least 'mucked,' while other happy individuals make up beds in the bath on this memorial night. Well might the college authorities be glad that "Christmas comes but once a year."

The second of the three great days occurs in Summer term when the N.U.T. provide us with a dinner at Terry's cafe. This is similar to Archbishop's Night excepting that since the feed and concert come off in a cafe there are none of those consequent revelries which would result did it take place in the Coll.

Then lastly there is Regatta Day, when boat crews assemble from all parts of England to compete for various trophies. On this occasion everyone appears resplendent in white flannels. It is the only occasion on which one may speak to members of the opposite sex, without fear "of the wrath to come," and moreover we have a late pass.

It is difficult to say whether or not I shall be sorry to leave York ; there are so many things to be considered apart from the actual pleasure of living amongst a body of students. I shall however be very sorry to say goodbye to all the friends I have made here, many of whom very probably I shall never see again, being gathered from all the four corners of England ; but still there will be compensations.

There are many more things which one would like to say about college life, but the Frestonian is of limited bulk and therefore wishing you all every success in your school careers, I leave you with the exhortation to raise on high the standard of "Floruit, floreat, floreat."

Yours very sincerely,

C. Wall.

Fairfax Hall,
Beckett Park,
Leeds.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FRESTONIAN,

Dear Sir,

I have decided to do a thing now which I never dared to do when I was at school, namely to write to the Frestonian, and I think my subject, that of life at Leeds Training College will prove of interest to those students who intend to apply to training colleges.

The life is very pleasant here ; we have ideal surroundings and although we are near to Leeds, anyone taking a look around the college would say we were out in the country. We are able to appreciate the surroundings for we are free in the afternoon to do as we please as we work in mornings and evenings. I can assure you that although we are free in the afternoons time does not in any way hang upon our hands as there are excellent facilities for sports and recreations. An account of the life at Leeds Training College would not be complete without mention of the social functions. During the first week of the college year we had a Welcome Dance, and at various times since we have had other dances and socials. These take place on Saturday nights so that they interfere in no way with our work.

The facilities for work are excellent at the college ; we have a magnificent library, but there are many distractions in such pleasant surroundings, which are overcome however when one thinks of the examination at the end of two years and that most of the subjects in the examination have to be learned here.

I think that is all I will say this time, but I really could write a book on life at Leeds T.C. I will close by wishing all examination students heartily success and hope that in the future many of them will come to Leeds T. C. and show that N.G.S turns out as good students as any other school in the country.

Yours sincerely,
W. Beedle.

Devonshire Hall,
Leeds.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Since the subject of Leeds University is now quite a hackneyed feature of these columns, I propose to concentrate these few impressions, which you have invited me to contribute, more on the aspect of hostel life than on that of the University.

In hostel you meet with the real social side of the University life and get anew picture of your fellow-students from a non-academic perspective. You see them at their best and you see them at their worst. You see them eating, often hear them eating, and sometimes feel them eating.

You see them crawl out of bed at cock-crow (8-30 a.m. in the hostel), pull a pair of 'bags' over their weary limbs, fling a scarf round their unwashed necks, manoeuvre their equally unwashed hands into the sleeves of a blazer, and disappear into the dining hall to snatch a hearty breakfast. Some, less fortunate than others, will next be seen sitting on super-hardened wooden forms, staring vacantly at a be-spectacled patriarch who discourses, without zest, on 'The Multiplet Splitting of the Anomalous Zeeman Effect' or 'The Theory of the Fourth Quantum Number.' At 5 o'clock you see them hurl their books into space, and inhale deep gulps of fresh air, after the stifling existence in the Chemy Lab. or the after-dinner torpor of the Physics Lab.

You hear them gathered in the 'lounge,' arguing heatedly as to who should be selected for the 'soccer' team, who should be dropped from the 'rugger' team, what rotten referees there are in circulation, or what vile bacon they had for breakfast this morning. Such arguments always end the same old way, and so much valuable furniture has been broken in consequence, that the warden has found it necessary to make a rule to the effect that when the proceedings have reached the riotous stage the contestants must withdraw to the 'common room.'

This rule, together with one other, and also a small matter of a locked door, are the only regulations with which we are harassed. Originally there were none, the warden explaining that as an experiment in the management of a hostel 'there would be no rules or regulations.'

The first rule was not long in coming. Certain students, steeped in the lore of the wild and woolly west, introduced weapons into the hostel whose destructive powers depended on the small lead 'slugs' which they ejected. From that time forward the number of electric 'bulbs' in the corridors was rapidly reduced to within limiting distance of zero, and the illumination of the hostel became of the same order ; in fact it was rumoured that the warden had been seen walking down the corridor with a candle in his hand. The result was :—'All breakages in future must be paid for'—Rule 1.

In relating the incident of the locked door, it is necessary to explain that an imposing tower, complete with clock and belfry, forms part of the hostel building, and access to this tower can be had through one particular door. One sunny day in June, on the eve of the yearly exams., certain students, bored to distraction by hours of concentrated 'swott,' repaired to the belfry in an effort 'to drive the blues away.' Two of them carried saxophones, one carried a trombone, another a swanee whistle, and so on, whilst in the rear came the man with the 'effects.' The volume of sound was prodigious, reflecting credit on the lungs of these amateur performers, but all were outdone by the man with the 'effects,' who used his most potent weapon, the tower bell. Ere long, however, there was a sudden lull in the music and the artistes were seen to discard their instruments and chase wildly around the belfry, some even

contemplating a sixty feet jump on to the lawn below. Then an authoritative voice emanated from the tower, the master retrieved his flock in the traditional manner, herded them through the door, and locked it safely behind him.

Such is the effect of exams.,

Yours sincerely,

E. F. Lodge.

S. Luke's College,
Exeter.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Early on the morning of September 20th, 1927, a porter proclaimed to passengers of a certain train that the station they had just arrived at was Exeter. One of those passengers shuffled sleepily out of a compartment and blinked about him with an air of one who was unfamiliar with his surroundings and yet was not desirous of appearing so. It was as yet early morning ; an auroral mist still clung to the city ; the noisy "clang" of the tram and the merry twittering of the birds were the only sounds that broke the unnatural quiet of a sleeping city. In the distance loomed the hazy forms of the early workers as, they crept stealthily along the quiet, deserted streets. Such were my first impressions of this ancient cathedral city, which I had chosen to be my 'home' for several years.

Apparently, here we believe in the old adage that "early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy wealthy and wise." At 6-15 a.m. when the first searching beams of day stream through the window we are awakened by a contemptible monitor, Orpheus, who parades the corridors ringing a noisy bell to the accompaniment of his awful shouts of "Wakee ! Wakee.....ee ...ee !! " Complementary remarks as to the charm of his music are voiced and with a sigh of contentment the wakened turn over for a further forty winks. At the last moment the student painfully rises out of his tempting bed, hurriedly takes up his collar and tie and presents himself at roll-call, half-clad. Dressing is craftily completed during the first lecture. On Saturday nights we are graciously permitted to remain out of bed until 11-15 p.m., and to remain there until 8-15 a.m. the following morning.

The first meal in College is quite a novel experience for the new-comer. The bell rings, the hungry student leaves his all and follows the sound to the dining hall. Grace is said, a boisterous "Amen" yelled. We ourselves fulfill the duty of 'waiting' and, as you may guess exhibitions of juggling amongst the crockery occur quite frequently. It is amusing

to see the unhappy waiter who is bravely struggling with a tower of plates almost his own height, suddenly lose his balance, make an effort to regain it, wobble on for a few yards, and finally sit down amongst the broken remains with a surprised look upon his face. Needless to say amidst the confusion that follows he is cordially applauded for his feat. At the end of the meal grace is again said and a feeble "Amen" wheezed.

The games played during the winter months are Rugby, Soccer, and Hockey. The Royal Albert Memorial College of the same city provides a rivalry which polite persons deign to call a healthy one. It was so healthy a few years ago that raids were made by each college on the other in order to capture certain trophies. The students of this institution are 'dubbed' by us, the Rams (R.A.M.C.) and we by them, the Chickens. The inter-college matches are the occasions of the greatest revelry and are played, the Rugby on the Devon Country ground and the Soccer on the Exeter City ground. Each college occupies a wing of the grand stand and fills the intervening air with horrible shouts of "Maa"—"Cock-a-doodle-do," and their respective war-cries (mixture of every language spoken). The defeated side and its supporters leave, passively, under the taunts of the victors. The college which shows supremacy for the year is awarded a shield.

When outside conditions make out-door sports impossible, one is able to spend a quiet time reading the magazines and newspapers in the common room, or passing away the time pleasantly by playing billiards and other indoor games in the recreation room. Concerts and plays are also given occasionally to enthusiastic audiences. Here the student is able to demonstrate whatever dramatic or musical ability may possess. Musicians can officiate in both the college orchestra and jazz-band if they wish.

If the reader is acquainted with "Loma Doone" he will be well acquainted with the climate and type of scenery met with in "Glorious Devon." I may just add to Blackmore's account by saying that during the Autumn months the orchard trees are so weighted down with tempting fruit that one no longer wonders why Eve fell to the temptation of eating the apple.

In conclusion I would like to say that I am confident that I have come to the best college in England, as I was also confident I went to the best school in England. I think any Old Boy will admit this, for

"When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
He summons up remembrance of things past."

he will realise that

"This is the truth the poet sings
That a sorrow's crown of sorrow is remembering happier things."

Yours faithfully,

C. Brown.

FOOTBALL.

N.G.S. v. OLD FRESTONIANS (home), Dec. 17th, 1927.

During the first half the Old Frestonians could not get going and the School taking advantage scored three goals before half time. On resuming our opponents became dangerous, their combination having greatly improved. The chief features of this half were the alternating character of the game, and the number of goals scored. School added four more, but the Old Frestonians did better—getting nine.

Gover is to be thanked for so often getting together an Old Frestonians team, and Allen V. also for his help.

Result :—N.G.S. 7 ; Old Frestonians 9.

N.G.S. v. HECKMONDWIKE S. S. (away), Jan. 14th, 1928.

Although played under wretched conditions, this game was contested with great energy on both sides. Soon our forwards became aggressive and following an individual effort Banks netted. After the Heckmondwike goalkeeper had saved smartly from Beddows, our goal was besieged. Our defence was, however, sure and Heckmondwike failed to score. Before half time Edmonds added two more goals for School.

On resuming our opponents showed themselves resolute, for within two minutes they scored. Then play was transferred to the other end, and one of our opposing backs put through his own goal. This incident was followed by even play and Heckmondwike, ever fighting, scored in the last minute. Allen played well, while Beddows and Edmonds were also prominent.

Result :—N.G.S. 4 ; H.S. 2.

N.G.S. v. THORNES HOUSE S. (home), 28th Jan., 1928.

School did not find much difficulty in winning this game. At the beginning our boys took the offensive and soon scored two goals. Then Thornes pulled themselves together and the game became keener. After about ten minutes our opponents scored, but School retaliated and added two more goals. The second half was less interesting as our boys were masters of the situation. Thornes attempted to settle down to a defensive game, but our forwards were too clever for their backs. During this half four more goals were added, bringing the final score to :—

N.G.S. 8 ; Thornes House 1.

N.G.S. v. BATLEY G. S. (home) Feb. 4th, 1928.

Having been defeated at Batley last term, School was determined to take its revenge on Feb. 4th. The conditions were bad, however, and since Batley was more at home in the mud than were our boys, our opponents maintained their reputation.

In the first minute, before School had settled down, Batley scored. After this a hard fought game was witnessed and on several occasions we missed scoring only by inches. Batley were more fortunate with their shots and by half time they were three goals ahead. On the restart School attacked and Beddows scored twice, while on another occasion he hit the crossbar. The Batley backs however, held out and despite the efforts of Cook, Allen, Beddows and Edmonds, School could not equalise. The score then, was

N.G.S. 2 ; BGS. 3.

N.G.S. 1st. XI v. ACKWORTH S. (away) Feb. 18th, 1928.

Owing to the bad condition of our ground, this match, which should have been at home, was played at Ackworth.

Immediately after the kick-off, School attacked and following some good combination on the part of our forwards, Beddows scored. Ackworth now took up the attack and on several occasions were unlucky not to score. After about twenty minutes School again scored as a result of a scrimmage in front of Ackworth's goal. Early in the second half Beddows retired injured, but School's defence prevented Ackworth from scoring. After Ackworth had failed at a penalty kick, Beddows returned and from this point to the end we were superior. Our opponents scored, but Beddows and Edmonds added a goal each. The result therefore, was :

N.G.S. 4 ; A.S. 2.

N.G.S. 2nd. XI, v. ACKWORTH S. 2nd XI. (away), Feb. 18th, 1928.

At the beginning Ackworth attacked and missed innumerable chances. Then School took up the offensive and Brittleback O. scored from a centre by Holt. Bland was our most forceful forward and after taking the ball from the centre, he put School further ahead. This lead was however, soon reduced following a scrimmage in our goal mouth. During the second half Ackworth did almost all the attacking. Within two minutes they had added two more goals and despite the efforts of Gothard, Stringer (G.) and Baugh, Ackworth netted on four other occasions. School failed to obtain any more goals, so the result was : —

N.G.S. 2nd. XI. 2 ; A.S. 2nd. XI. 7.

N.G.S. 1st. XI. v. PONTEFRACT KING'S SCHOOL 1st. XI. (home)
March 3rd, 1928

This game was played in fine weather, but parts of the field were ankle deep in mud. School kicked off, and though we had much of the play, did not score for some time. Then Edmonds scored from a centre by Beddows, who before half time added two more goals. In the second half School maintained its superiority and scored three goals, one by Edmonds and two by Beddows. Pontefract towards the end concentrated on defence by packing their goal.

Result :—N.G.S. 6 ; P.K.S. 0.

N.G.S. 2nd XI v. PONTEFRACT K.S. 2nd XI (away),
March 3rd, 1928

Within a minute of the kick off Brittlebank scored from Teasdale's centre. For the next twenty minutes a keen tussle was witnessed, our boys being the more prominent. To-wards half time Pontefract slacked off and Brittlebank, Banks and Stringer G. added goals. The second half was strenuous throughout. The Pontefract forwards often came near our goal but our backs kept them in check. Our forwards were more aggressive and Teasdale and Stringer J. scored.

Result :— N.G.S. 2nd XI 6 ; P.K.S. 2nd XI 0

N.G.S. v. CASTLEFORD S.S. (away) March 10th, 1928

Castleford, with a team that had not been defeated since its first match, opened strongly and within a minute of our goal had a narrow escape. Then our team took possession of the game and Beddows scored twice. After this school slacked off and Castleford scored three goals.

In the second half neither team played well. Both added a goal to their half-time score, making the result

N.G.S. 3 ; C.S.S. 4.

N.G.S. v. RASTRICK G.S. (home) 17th March, 1928.

This game was played on a muddy field, in fine weather. Throughout the game School was superior. Beddows and Edmonds got plenty of shooting practice, scoring seven and five goals respectively. Banks also scored.

Result :—N.G.S. 13 ; Rastrick 1.

House Matches.

WHITES v. BLUES.

From start to finish the game was well fought and evenly contested although the conditions were rather unfavourable for football. The Blues were fortunate to make a draw. Both sides did their utmost and each managed to secure three goals.

Result :—Whites 3. Blues 3.

BUFFS v. REDS.

The Buffs were easily superior in the first half, and managed to secure three goals whilst many chances were missed on the part of the Buffs who ought to have made victory certain in the first half. In the second half the Reds rallied and though their superiority was by no means so marked as that of the Buffs in the first half they managed to equalise.

Result :—Buffs 3, Reds 3.

WHITE v BUFFS

The Whites proved themselves the superior team at the outset and netted the ball twice. A rally by the Buffs produced a goal but the Whites scored another. The score at half-time stood at 3 goals to 1. In the second half the Buffs added two goals but the Whites were not to be denied and brought their total up to five. Edmonds and Jackson played well for their respective sides.

Result :—Whites 5, Buffs 3.

BUFFS v. BLUES.

This was a well contested game. Buckle and Hawkins were successful in scoring for the Buffs in the first half. In the second half the game was more evenly contested, but the Blues succeeded in scoring. This finished the scoring despite repeated efforts by Beddows. Several chances were missed by the Blues' forwards, and thus, at the final whistle the Buffs were victorious.

Result :—Buffs 2, Blues 1.

WHITES v. REDS.

The Whites produced a sadly weakened team to meet the Reds, and thus, during much of the game, the Reds had the upper hand. Bland opened the scoring for the Reds about ten minutes after the start, but there were no further goals during this half. Allen scored twice in the second half, the last goal being produced from a corner after a tussle on the goal-line. The Reds missed several chances and ought to have compiled a higher score against so depleted a team.

Result :—Reds 3, Whites 0.

R.R.S.
E.S.M.

House Matches.

	BLUES	BUFFS.	REDS.	WHITES	Total Points.
BLUES	_____	DRAW 1—1 LOST 1—2	WON 2—0 WON 5—0	WON 6—1 DRAW 3—3	8
BUFFS	DRAW 1—1 WON 2—1	_____	WON 3—1 DRAW 3—3	LOST 3—5 LOST 0—1	6
REDS	LOST 0—2 LOST 0—5	LOST 1—3 DRAW 3—3	_____	WON 4—2 WON 3—0	5
WHITES	LOST 1—6 DRAW 3—3	WON 5—3 WON 1—0	LOST 2—4 LOST 0—3	_____	5

Junior House Football.

Each house played the others three times and, as anticipated, the Blues were the winners of the competition by a large margin. They won eight matches and drew one. Besides the two Stringers, Brook, and Holt of whose ability we knew, Brittlebank, Crowhurst, and Harrison showed they can play football. The last named should be right wing for the School in a year or two.

The Buffs, after their weak performances last term, lost only one match of the six they played since Christmas. Buckle and Arundel have been the mainstays of the side.

The Reds and Whites have played pluckily and much credit is due to Dean, Kirkham, Batley, Kappes, and one or two others who have struggled in a weak team all the season. It is much easier to do well in a strong team.

The field has been in bad condition, and small boys cannot overcome the handicap of mud. That is one reason why this year the standard of play has not been so good as usual. I fear however that a lean time is coming for school football, as there seems to be a dearth of good players in the Forms II and III. May my fears be falsified!

BLUES	17	Points
BUFFS	10	Points
REDS	5	Points
WHITES	4	Points

T.H.H.

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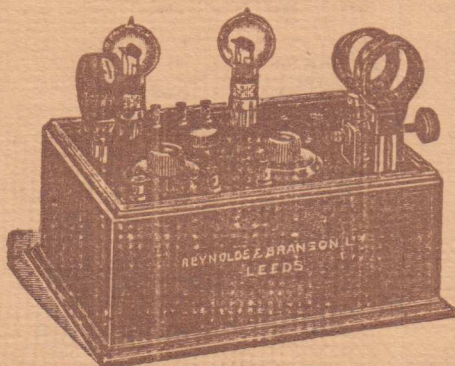
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