

# THE THORNBURIAN

Editor Miss SMITH

Sub Editor P BRISCOE.

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No. 1.

THORNBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

DEC., 1934

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## Editorial.

Is there, then, indeed, nothing new under the sun? Few of us have a broad enough field of vision really to believe that, and few of us have completely enough lost that sense of wonder that is, they say, the chief beauty of childhood. Here, at least, so far as Thornbury Grammar School is concerned, is a new thing, which will, we hope, have the sympathetic support of past and present pupils alike.

We hope the "Thornburian" will have a long and useful life. We hope, first of all, that it may be a link between successive generations of students, to their mutual benefit. We hope it may be a source of pride and pleasure to all our many friends. And we hope, perhaps beyond all things else, that it may be an instrument for encouraging good writing. Nothing is easier than to write; nothing is harder than to write well.

*"It is an easy thing to write and sing,*

*But to write true, unfeigned verse*

*Is very hard."*

Yet we hope that, as time goes on, we may have the great joy of publishing original contributions of a really high order. For whatever successes and triumphs, scholastic or athletic, we may have to record, it is by the wit of the original contributions that our Magazine will stand or fall.

One thing remains to be said. All our readers know that, next term, Mr. Jackson, our Head Master, is leaving Thornbury for fresh woods and pastures new." We all know what Mr. Jackson has done for the School. We all know, too, how deeply he has its welfare at heart. The whole School joins in an expression of regret at losing Mr. Jackson, and in a sincere hope for his happiness and continued success in his new school.

## A Message from the Head Master.

This must be my last, as it is my first, Head Master's contribution to 'The Thornburian.' I am very happy, nevertheless, to think that the School is producing a Magazine before my going.

For some time now, the issue of a School Magazine

has been in our minds. But first things had to come first. The general re-organization of the School, so soon as the new buildings were taken over, was obviously the matter most calling for attention. Now that this re-organization is in a general way complete, we have been able to give attention increasingly to less critical but yet quite important matters; our House System is flourishing; our Domestic Science Department is well established; our hot meals and milk schemes are adequately patronised; the Omnibus Company works to meet our special requirements; the Old Thornburians' Society is going from strength to strength, and so on. And most recently we have undertaken the publication of this Magazine. Local advertisers have supported us, and the Old Thornburians Society has kindly offered to contribute up to five pounds to meet any deficiency that may arise. We think we have made a good start.

But the School, I am sure, will not rest here. There is still plenty to do, many more worlds to conquer. Scientific, Literary, Debating and other Societies can be established, and a Parents' Association could profitably be formed. These are but a few examples of possible further progress. My knowledge of the School suggests that these and other schemes will soon take real shape.

I shall leave you at the end of this term with mixed feelings of pleasure and regret. It is pleasant to be on the threshold of a much more ambitious position; a matter of regret to have to leave colleagues and pupils with whom my relations are most cordial and a school that is as pleasant as it is convenient. Though 200 miles away in Grimsby, I shall continue to take the keenest interest in the School where I served my very happy and profitable apprenticeship as Head Master. I thank you all for your generous and willing co-operation, without which the recent progress of the School would have been impossible. As for the School, I wish it sustained happiness and prosperity in all its activities.

THE HEAD MASTER.

## **School Prefects.**

*School Captain:* H. Lewis.

*School Vice-Captain:* Dorothy Atwell.

*Prefects:*

H. Chambers	Kathleen Smith	Jessie Mersh
P. Briscoe	E. Eddington	Betty Smart
R. Bennett	R. Organ	Joan Higgins.
Josephine Lansdown		Irene Allen

## Examination Successes, 1934.

### *Executive Class of the Civil Service'*

Donald Davies. He was 38th in the list of 1281 candidates.

### *Bristol Higher School Certificate.*

Dorothy Atwell: Main subjects, History and English. Subsidiary subjects, French and Economics.

H. Chambers: Main subjects, History and English. Subsidiary subjects, French and Economics.

Elaine Nichols: Main subjects, History and English. Subsidiary subjects, French and Botany.

J. Lansdown: Main subjects, History and English. Subsidiary subjects, French and Botany.

### *Bristol School Certificate*

Irene Northover (London Matriculation Qualification), P.

Briscoe (London Matriculation Qualification), Peggy

Williams (Bristol Matriculation Qualification), H.

Lewis (Bristol Matriculation Qualification), Muriel

Boyt, Ivy Carter, Monica Croome, Nancy Eacott, Joan

Higgins, Elsie Hobby, Joyce Leighton, Vera Turner,

A. Daniell, K. Moody, D. Morgan, E. Smith.

### *Commercial Certificates,*

*R.S.A. Typewriting:* Josephine Lansdown (Stage II.), Mary Hopkins (Stage II.), Lilian Turner (Stage II.), R. Pullen (Stage I.), L. Dearing (Stage I.).

*R.S.A. Book-Keeping:* Stage I—Josephine Lansdown, R. Pullen, L. Dearing.

*Pitman's Shorthand:* Mary Hopkins (90 words per minute), Josephine Lansdown (80), Lilian Turner (80), R. Pullen (60), L. Dearing (60).

## Speech Day.

The Annual Speech Day and Prize Distribution went with the usual swing last year on July 26th. The proceedings opened with an amusing speech from the Chairman of the Governors, Captain R. A. Bennett, J.P. This was followed by the Head Master's report, in which the excellent progress of the School was briefly outlined and its promise for the future made clear; after which the School Choir, conducted by Mr. B. S. Morse, sang a song "My Mother bids me bind my Hair."

The eagerly-awaited speech by Mr. A. C. K. Marten, M.A., the Vice-Provost of Eton, followed, and came up to everybody's expectation. It caused several bursts of applause and much profitable cogitation. Following this, another song, "Pack Clouds Away," was rendered by the School Choir. Then, amid plentiful applause, each

prize-winner ascended the platform to receive a well-earned prize from the Vice-Provost himself.

After the usual vote of thanks, proposed this time by Mr. W. H. Weech, M.A., and seconded by the Rev.

F. E. Harker, the singing of the National Anthem closed the proceedings.

The guests then retired to one of the class-rooms, where tea was provided on tastefully decorated tables by the Domestic Science students, or they stayed in the Hall, where tea was also provided.

IA.

K.S.

## **The Conversazione.**

In November of last year the first celebrations of the opening of the New School took the form of a *Conversazione*, held in the spacious hall of Thornbury Grammar School. The event, which proved a great success, was due to the combined effort of the staff and pupils of the School.

It was held on the eve of the half-term holiday so that everyone was in high spirits. In the afternoon, the pupils were given the special privilege of inviting relatives and friends to inspect the building, which is one of the finest of its kind in the country. It is, of necessity, strongly built, for, with some 250 children on the roll, "silence hardly ever reigns." The classrooms are large and airy, and the two laboratories give the pupils every possible chance of studying Science to their heart's delight. Perhaps the most picturesque part of the building is the quadrangle where, in summer, the flowers are in bloom.

On this special occasion each classroom contained something of interest, such as work done by the scholars, drawings needlework, woodwork models, basket and raffia work. Antique articles and weapons of war formed another centre of attraction, while the epidiascope, under the supervision of Miss Barlow, drew many spectators. In the Commercial form the typists were busy at their work. Nor must mention be forgotten of the many interesting experiments performed by the scholars in the Chemistry and Physics laboratories.

At 7 o'clock in the evening everyone assembled in the hall, which was full to overflowing. The Head Master expressed his great pleasure at seeing so many visitors present. He said that the School had progressed greatly during the past year, probably owing to the atmosphere

of the new buildings. He thanked the parents, scholars and staff for their cordial co-operation, and wished the school every success, in the future.

Songs were rendered by the school choir, and the humorous play, "The Wrong Flat," was well performed.

W. Hetherington proved an especially good "hen-pecked husband." The sketch, "Our Toys," under Miss Dicker's supervision, was very effective in character and dainty in action.

Altogether the *Conversazione* proved a great success, and a happy evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

R.R.O. (Form VI.).

## **Howard House Notes.**

Having had the honour of being the first House to win the Shield, it naturally followed that we were obliged to have the doubtful privilege of being the first to give it up; Clare saw to it that the agony was not long delayed. We offer them our heartiest congratulations on their success. but also hope that they are imbued with the spirit of take and give, and therefore will in the near future return the compliment and the Shield.

Last year our girls seemed to suffer from a loss of form, which it is hoped was only temporary. Grace Shipp was missed, and although Elaine Nichols as captain set a good example, a winning sequence was changed to a series of defeats.

The boys did better last year than previously, but this season we are bound to miss such stalwarts as Lansdown, Smith and Dearing.

It will require great enthusiasm and effort by every member of the House to put us in a winning position this year.

W.R.

## **Stafford House Notes.**

In the opinion of its members it is the only House worth belonging to. Its colour, that of the deep blue sea and the deep blue sky, shows the depth to which it can— but won't again !—sink, and the height to which it will rise. Blue is, of course, the colour of the best blood and also, as we know, makes the purest white—which is the colour of its soul. Next year we are going to win the Shield! Dorothy Atwell and Eddington, the two House Captains, will see to that, with the enthusiastic assistance

of the rest.

B.S. M.

## Clare House Notes.

The House had a very good year on the playing field. This was, in a large measure, due to the efforts of the girls, who gained maximum points both at Hockey and Tennis. The boys just held their own at Football and Cricket. This was rather a pleasant surprise so far as the Cricket was concerned—one had expected a very poor performance in the summer game.

On Sports Day there was hardly anything to choose between the three Houses. The House was disappointed that Joyce Leighton was not able to represent them, especially as she had carried off the main honours the year before.

The outstanding event in the boys' programme was the excellent high jump to the credit of Lewis.

All these efforts steadily maintained throughout the year have brought us the prize we sought the Shield.

B.L.

## House Matches.

These matches were all played with keen interest and enthusiasm and as a result Clare established a lead over each of its rivals of 120 points. The Clare girls were mainly responsible for this position, as they created a record which cannot be broken, by winning every match both at Hockey and Tennis. Howard were slightly superior to Stafford at Hockey, but Stafford more than made up for this at Tennis, final points being: Clare 160, Stafford 50, Howard 30.

The results of the boys' section were far more even, Stafford winning the Football, with Clare second, and Howard winning the Cricket, with Clare second. The final points were: Howard 90, Clare 80, Stafford 70.

	RESULTS.			
Football.	Wins.	Draws.	Losses.	Points.
Stafford	2	1	1	50
Clare	2	0	2	40
Howard	1	1	2	30
Cricket.				
Howard	3	0	1	60
Clare	2	0	2	40
Stafford	1	0	3	20
Hockey.				
Clare	4	0	0	80
Howard	1	1	2	30
Stafford	0	1	3	10

Tennis.

Clare	4	0	0	80
Stafford	2	0	2	40
Howard	0	0	4	0

## Football Notes.

The 1933-34 Football season was quite a successful one for our School team. Ten matches were played, of which six were won, two drawn and two lost. Forty-four goals were scored as against twenty-two by the opponents.

Probably the two best performances were given in the two matches that were lost against the heavier and more mature eleven of Kingswood Grammar School, the scores being 4—2 and 3—1 in the latter's favour. The two wins, 7—3 at home and 7—0 away against Cotham II. are also worthy of mention.

The team worked very well together and played clean, sporting football. Outstanding players were

Lansdown (captain), who set a fine example by his untiring efforts—Lewis, a dangerous forward and our chief goal-getter, and Gingell, the schemer of the forward line. Dearing was solid and consistent in the defence and Smith gave useful help to the forward line. Salisbury, when available towards the end of the season, strengthened the halves.

This year, with nine of last year's team gone, we are finding our opponents much too strong for us, and we have suffered a further set-back in being deprived of the services of Lewis, through injury. It is hoped that his injury is not as bad as it seems, and that before the season has gone far he will once more be taking his place in the team.

In the meantime we are aiming to build up a strong team for future seasons and hope everyone that can will turn out at the frequent practices and thereby help to achieve this object.

## Cricket, 1934.

It cannot be said that our Cricket team of last season came up to expectations. The results show that we could only claim two victories out of nine matches, and although four of the defeats were by narrow margins, this was disappointing.

Inconsistency in batting seems to be the chief weakness. most of the players finding considerable difficulty in reaching double figures, while some of them seemed to

show special aptitude in gathering stock for poultry farming. Lewis (Captain), and Eddington were the most consistent run-getters, and Dearing showed signs of developing into a first wicket batsman. Individual scores were small—<sup>27</sup> by Lewis being the highest for the season.

The absence of reliable change bowlers was also felt. Lewis and Smith bowled practically through every match, Lewis taking 32 wickets with an average of 6.5 per wicket and Smith 36 wickets with exactly the same average.

The fielding was consistent without being brilliant.

## Hockey Notes.

The new season in Hockey opened auspiciously with the match against Wotton-under-Edge Grammar School on October 13th, at Thornbury. The home team had an overwhelming victory of 21 goals to 1. This was a day for the forwards to work hard, but on the following Saturday the defence was scarcely less active. The match was against Chipping Sodbury Grammar School at Chipping Sodbury. The equality of the two teams was shown by the fact that at half-time neither side had scored a goal, and very fittingly the game resulted in a draw of three goals each. The third match of this season against Kingswood Grammar School was begun at Kingswood in pouring rain and as these conditions continued the game was abandoned after 10 minutes play. The score was then 1-1, but we hope to defeat Kingswood when the return match is played at home. Rain on the following Saturday also meant that the match against Dursley was cancelled.

The team, which contains five new members, is as follows

Goal	R. James
Left Back	B. Bruton
Right Back	I. Jones
Left Half	M. Croome
Right Half	B. Thompson
Centre Half	B. Clements (Capt.).
Centre	V. Jenkins
Left Inner	I. Mersh
Right Inner	D. Atwell
Left Wing	N. Nichols.
Right Wing	M. Maggs

Our hopes for the future are to score more goals and to have less wet Saturdays.

A. PLAYER.

## **Tennis Notes, 1934.**

The Tennis team had a very successful season this year, keeping up the three years' old tradition of not losing a match against rival Grammar Schools. But the greatest triumph for the School was the defeat of the Old Girls' team, especially when our first couple defeated, by 7 games to 4, the experienced first couple of the Old Girls' team. It was unfortunate that we could not repeat this triumph in the return match. The team was as follows

1st Couple—E. Nichols and D. Atwell (Capt.);

2nd Couple—J. Mersh and K. Smith (Vice-Capt.).

3rd Couple—I. Northover and B. Clements.

The third couple contained the only new members of the team, who soon settled down as experienced match players. We are sorry to have lost such a valuable member as E. Nichols, although as far as we can see, the rest of the team will be available next year.

The team would like to thank the lady staff, for staying so late at School when practices were arranged, in the place of the Games Mistress who, unfortunately, was ill.

May the future bring us the good fortune we have had in the past and enable us to maintain our record.

DOROTHY M. ATWELL (Form VIa.).

## **Swimming Notes.**

Last Summer, on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, after school, saw enthusiastic bands of boys and girls in the Thornbury Baths. Of course, many could swim before. The arrangements were made to reserve periods at the Baths for the school. This year about a dozen fresh ones of both sexes managed to learn, and several more to dive. Next year should see further successes and possibly swimming sports.

B.S.M.

## **Sports Day, 1934.**

It was obvious long before Sports Day arrived that the Shield, kindly presented to the School by the Old Thornburians, was going to be taken from the holders. During the games encounters Clare had placed themselves in an unassailable position by establishing a lead of 120 points over each of the other Houses. Incidentally this was a similar lead to that held by Howard, the holders, immediately preceding the previous Sports Day.

Despite this, the Sports, as on the previous occasion,

were a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by a large gathering of spectators.

Competition was keen and every event well contested, which reflects great credit on the sporting spirit of the School, especially as there were no individual prizes.

On the previous Sports Day, Clare filled the picture, but on this occasion the tally was so close that it was only after the last event had taken place that Howard managed to head the list with 52 points, Clare and Stafford each obtaining 49 points. This gave Clare a total of 289, Howard 172 and Stafford 169. Clare thereby became worthy holders of the Shield for this year, and Howard managed to gain second place.

Just before the end of the proceedings the Shield was handed to Josephine Lansdown and Lewis, of Clare, by one of our Governors, Mrs. Jenkins, of Marlwood Grange.

For Clare, Lewis and Betty Thompson (Seniors), Garry, Edna Newman and Margaret Child (Juniors) did well. For Howard, Lansdown (Seniors), Eileen Newman and Margaret Maggs (Juniors). For Stafford, Pullin and Freda Williams (Seniors) and Foote (Juniors).

Howard did best in the Relay Races and the Tug of War.

The Old Thornburians also added their weight to the proceedings in the form of two Relay Races, one for the Old Boys and one for the Old Girls. These events were keenly contested and two splendid finishes were witnessed.

## **The School Garden.**

Despite the severe drought of last term the School Garden looked very gay when we returned in September. The antirrhinums on the long border have made a brave show, and despite the recent bad weather the border is still bright. The polyantha roses in the quadrangle continue to bloom and we hope that the daffodil bulbs planted recently will benefit by the sheltered conditions and flower early next year.

While all will admit that the gardens add beauty to the School, there is one drawback—they need continuous attention. Recently the work has fallen to a very few willing helpers—one boy in particular. While being grateful for such help, I would much prefer a fairer division of labour, which is only possible if a greater number of girls and boys are willing to offer assistance. If you know something about gardening, we need your help. If you know nothing, we will teach you.

*For the glory of the garden it abideth not in words.”* S.B.

## **Form Notes.**

### Forms VIa. and VIb.

The School Magaine would certainly be unpardonably incomplete without the report of Forms VIa, and VIb.

Here, eight serious, steady, sensible, studious students were assembled. (Never before had Thornbury Grammar School possessed such an array of great people). To scorn delights and live laborious days" seemed to be the motto, and as a result, four members of the "A" Class passed the Bristol Higher School Certificate Examination

—once more another record in the history of the School had been broken. Moreover, the School Captain, Lansdown, and the School Vice-Captain, Elaine Nichols, have now entered Bristol University, where we wish them every success.

On the Sports field, the Advanced Classes have been well represented in inter-school matches, the football and tennis captains being members of Via.

On Wednesday mornings (under the guidance of our For Mistress, Miss Dicker) the Library is the scene of political discussions. These usually pass without incident except when the feminine members of the Class become rather excited and argue freely. Armaments or Disarmament they battle fiercely. On the other hand, shaking, trembling, tongue-tied members of the Sixth have given votes of thanks to people who have been kind enough to give lectures.

Without revealing any secrets, a little can be said of the form individually. First of all, N.E. can probably be best described as the announcer and director-in-chief; L.J. proved to be a comedian of considerable talent; M.J. voluntarily gave a running commentary on everything; S.K. became the "universal peace-maker" by solving ticklish problems; A.D. provided the latest songs, and then, of course, we had an Organ, just to give the Form a tone, while A.I. was certainly the most attentive listener. Of the writer nothing can be said. On the whole, therefore, we had a first-rate variety entertainment.

H.C. (Form Via.).

### **Commercial VI.**

Owing to the formation of a new Class, we have been permitted to study in the Physics Laboratory. We have thus trespassed into Mr. Pollard's domain and have, therefore, to be very tidy and leave no books about.

Existence in this Form has been uneventful as yet. but the monotony of school life is occasionally enlivened by the unexpected arrival of a little black and white

terrier, which seems to have taken a fancy to certain people in the School, and the other day came right upstairs and walked into our classroom just as we were about to commence prayers.

Commercial work is quite new to most members of our Form, and we therefore find it very interesting, and sometimes rather amusing; as for instance when we began to learn typewriting without looking at our fingers. Some of the first copies ran something like this

Dear Dir,— On ewgard to yjr ;etter anpit which you  
wrote in you ;etter of yje isr omstamt .

Iy os fat easoer to learn go wrote by touch ny soght.

*(By special permission).*

Our shorthand, too, was quite amusing at first; for instance, one bright one persisted in writing cider instead of side.

We have recently lost two members of the Form, who have obtained positions as shorthand typists, so that we now number eight (seven of whom are girls), and despite the mistakes we made at the beginning of the term, we hope to be eight very efficient pupils by the ilme the next Magazine is published.

I.C.

### **Upper V. Form Notes.**

This year the Form has its nose to the grindstone and everybody is working hard. Everyone tries to impress upon us the responsibility of our position, and we believe now that they have succeeded.

Three worthy members of our form—two boys and one girl—have been appointed Prefects. We congratulate them.

The Form has three boys in the School Football team, and two girls in the Hockey team. These members are also to be congratulated on their skill on the playing field. It may be noted that Hockey and Mathematics do not go hand in hand, and two girls in the team are at the bottom of the Form in the Maths, department. This peculiarity is also characteristic of the whole Hockey team with about one exception.

The Form are sorry if they have caused Iib., who are underneath Upper V. Form-room, any heart attacks the other day when a bomb, in the shape of a flower-pot, fell on the floor above the innocent heads of Iib. We think the squibs on November 5th must have inspired it! The arm chair has also had the Kruschen feeling lately, and has been jumping off the platform!

We thank the powers who designed the School for

giving our Form-room double its share of hot-water pipes. They have been greatly appreciated during the recent cold spell. Some members of the Form have been going to bring hot-water bottles to keep their feet warm!

Some of the Form have been having bad dreams lately—it is said that volumetric analysis results and trigonometry are responsible. The Life of Jeremiah has also been turning some people's hair grey.

R. JAMES.

S.

### **Form Lower Va.**

Lower Va. calling! Here are the Lower Va. Form Notes, copyrighted by Reuter, Press Association, Exchange Telegraph and Central News, and all the rest of it.

We are sorry to report that certain members of the above-named Form will, we are afraid, be called back into the uncivilized world at the end of the year, unless the aforesaid members pull up their socks" and endeavour to retrieve themselves from the "black books" of certain members of the staff, as has been shown in the marks lists.

During this term, one of the most popular of our esteemed members has been obliged to answer a call to the wilds of sunny Devon, and departed from our midst, causing much sorrow on both sides—I wonder ~

With our heads in a whirl, wild triangles, circles and logarithms floating in front of our eyes, we are obliged to close, hoping to recuperate during half-term.

G.H.

### **Form Lower Vb.**

If at any time you would like to obtain advice, just slide along to Room 10, where you will find Lower Vb. willing and perhaps able to help you.

For the small fee of ten guineas you can obtain help on any subject. For instance, Donald Pearce will be pleased to help anyone who is bad at spelling, and Isobel Jones anyone who finds Maths difficult. There are numerous other professors too.

The Master of this small Academy is Mr. Morse, who is also the noteworthy House Master of Stafford House.

The Captain and Vice-Captain of No. 10 are Hawkins and E. Weekes.

Garry sometimes looks bored, but usually he is pursuing heated discussions with his companions. He shows fine form on the field, between the sticks, as does Clifford.

The Form is very keen on Games and has quite a number in the School Football Team.

The publishing of the

A's and C's caused much ex

citement; there was only one outstanding number, and that is seven C's for one member of the Form.

D.H.  
G.E.

#### **Form IVa.**

Form IVa. speaking. Just rung up to tell you where we live and how we work. We live in Room 5 on the bottom corridor. We were in the same room last year when in Ila., but owing to change of Form-rooms we are still here.

This does not mean to say we do not work harder, and when it comes to home work, well, we do three subjects a night, each one taking half an hour.

Although some of our teachers do not think we work harder than when in IIIa., we do.

Having games on Friday afternoons, instead of swotting away at Scripture has encouraged us to work hard also.

[The Editor takes no responsibility for this statement.]

T. A. DANIELL (Form IVa.).

#### **Form IVb.**

The School was built in 1932,

The walls were made quite strong;

They needed it in Form IVb.

For the Form to lean upon.

The pupils that are in IVb.

Consist of girls and boys;

But instead of learning lessons

They'd rather make a noise.

We have a boy in Form IVb.,

His name is little Chink;

He has not had many cards this term, But he's due for another, I think.

There are twenty-two brainy people

Who spend their time in IVb.;

And although the Form is not much good, We can still make up poems, you see.

V.K.

#### **Form IIIa.**

After twelve months at the Thornbury Grammar School we have got into the ways of the School and find life in IIIa. very pleasant. We were all sorry that Mollie Hayward, our Form Captain, has had to have a serious operation, and hope she will soon be fit and strong when once more we see

her cheery smile.

Joyce Skuse and Florence Reeves work well in looking after the flowers of the Form, but Mr. Rabley wishes they would show the same artistic taste every third lesson on Tuesday mornings.

That reminds me. We have a few celebrities in this Form. Mr. Laycock's pets, Hall and Knight, seem to have got out of hand lately. Artistic Edward and Feeble Fowler from Filton almost render Mr. Rabley speechless with their efforts in Art.

Another sad story

Poor old Henry King  
Did a foolish thing;  
Geography he wrote  
With a History note;  
Result—a Bull-y-ing!

*Literary efforts are also promising.*

Table Wizardry.—By Dinner.  
Always in Stock.—By Nib and Let Nib.

*Mottoes of IIIA.*

Laugh and grow fat.—B. Hall.  
Jellies and Jams.—Hartley.  
Never on a rolling stone.—Moss.  
With thanks.—P. A. I. Durnell.  
Best home - cured.—Bacon.  
Always fresh.—Newman.  
Never changes.—Price.

A.L.

### **Form IIIb.**

There are fifteen children in IIIb.

IIIb.'s Form-room is last year's IIa. room. There are three new children—two boys and one girl—so that we have had to start practically from the beginning in some subjects.

At the beginning of the term we collected contributions for bulbs. Miss Storey brought the bulbs and bowls to plant them in, and Knight brought the fibre.

I think that a small Form is better than a large one, because we can each receive more personal attention.

On the walls of our Classroom are pinned interesting cuttings from newspapers and weekly magazines.

We are one of the unfortunate Forms that miss games period on Friday afternoon.

A. HILLS (Form 11th.). Form ha.

Our Form is IIá. and it is in the bottom corridor, in Room 2. We are a form of bright (and practically new)

# **GROWING FEET**

**need careful attention by a skilled person**

**with regard to fitting with suitable**

# **FOOTWEAR**

**A. G. EXCELL gives his personal attention to this  
matter, and, being qualified, will advise what is most  
adapted for**

# **SCHOOL WEAR**

# **A. G. EXCELL**

*(CERTIFIED)*

**Footwear Specialist. THORNBURY.**

students. There are 11 pretty girls and 23 smiling boys. The majority of us are new to the Secondary School methods and we find it very interesting to have different masters and mistresses' for each subject. We have a new Form master who takes us for Geography and Maths, and he is very nice. All the subjects we have to do are attractive. All the subjects we have to do are generally very interesting too, but some of the children are always grumbling about one subject—and that is Maths!

One week, for Botany, we were told to get different kinds of fruits, and indeed, we had a fine collection—it looked as though we were having a harvest festival.

I do not think that I have anything more to say, for as yet we have only been in here for half a term, so I will end here.

R. LEWIS.

### **Form I Ib.**

The Form I Ib.,  
As you will agree,  
Are at times very good.  
Is that quite understood?  
There are only ten children,  
And the Form is still young,  
And if you'd like to know,  
It has plenty of tongue.  
The Form at times is troublesome  
But as that cannot be  
helped, people often let them off,  
They are quite young, you see.

P. MUMFORD.

### **A Warning.**

Charles Archibald, I'll call the lad  
Who this distressing habit had;  
(Of course, I don't suggest that his  
Fond parents always called him this !).  
Charles, who had parents wise and good,  
Was always given lots of food,  
Rich cakes, and sandwiches galore  
And sugared biscuits by the score.  
Now, sometimes, when the day was hot,  
Try as he- would, the lad could not  
Eat all his mother forced within  
The compass of his sandwich tin.  
So the bright youngster in a trice,  
Found an ingenious device,  
And when at last he was replete,

Would stuff the food he could not eat  
—Remains of cakes, and crusts, and eggs, Away below the cloakroom  
pegs.

One night in June, Charles chose to go  
And see a film (Miss Clara Bow);  
And after that he went to bed  
Because he had an aching head.

He wakened in an ink-black night  
And he remembered with affright  
That on the morrow there would be  
A searching test in Chemistry,  
For which (no wonder he was scared)  
The boy was very ill prepared.

He rose, and in his stockinged feet  
Crept from the house and down the street;

He paused awhile on Thornbury Plain  
And thought of turning home again.

But on he dragged his aching feet:  
Better immediate death, than meet

The wrath of that Olympian One  
With all his Chemistry undone!

Charles thought that he had left his book  
Down in the cloakroom, in the nook  
Where he was wont (disgusting lad!)  
To stuff the surplus food he had  
Left over from his mid-day meal.

He drew his hand along, to feel  
If still his book was lying there.

What screams of torment rent the air

As he withdrew a find a finger that  
Dragged after it—a MONSTROUS RAT.

He shrieked and screamed without restraint  
And fell back in a deadly faint.

‘Twas there they found him the next day.

THE RATS HAD GNAWED HIM HALF AWAY.

I will not make your cheeks turn pale  
By dwelling on this horrid tale.

Rather than give you needless pain,  
I take it that the moral’s plain.

E.S.

### **An Adventure by Night.**

Dick and Jack set out together from a little port called Ningpo, in a skiff. It was about 6 p.m. They intended to do some fishing when it got comparatively dark.

“What shall we do to pass the time away?” asked Jack.

I vote we visit the hulk,” said Dick.

“Huh, that’s a nice place,” said Jack.

“Frightened?” teased Dick.

“No, lead on,” retorted Jack.

“The Hulk” was the remains of a ship which had run on to a sand bank some years before, and had been raided by pirates.

“Well, here we are,” said Jack; moor the boat to this rope ladder.

“OK Get aboard,” replied Dick.

They climbed on to the hulk and went down into the cabins.

“Jack! Did you hear that?” cried Dick.

“Yes—a hiss and a thud. What was it?” answered Jack.

“It sounded like a Chink’s knife to me,” faltered Dick.

“Yes, it was.”

“Let’s investigate,” said Dick.

“Lead on,” said Jack.

In the next cabin they found a pool of blood and a bloodstained knife. They followed a faint trail of blood to the boiler-house door.

“Now quiet,” cautioned Dick, “Have you got a gun?”

“Yes,” replied Jack.

“So have I,” whispered Dick  
need them.”

and I think we shall

He opened the door very quietly and looked inside. There they saw a sight which froze their blood. A wicked looking Chinaman was raising a long knife above a bound man’s head. Dick raised his gun and fired at the knife. The bullet shattered it into a thousand pieces. With angry oaths the Chinaman and his three friends swung round.

“Scoot!” cried Jack. “Those Chinks aren’t safe now!”

They ran along the corridor and dodged into a recess, but it was too late. They had been seen. They drew out their guns and told the Chinamen to stand back and put up their hands. Two of them drew little guns out of their wide sleeves and shot away the pals’ guns, but unknown to the Chinamen, Jack still had the blood-stained knife.

While they were being led along the corridor they heard a scuffle and two quick shots.

“That Chung Noo,” murmured one of the Chinamen placidly.

Down the hatch came a small Chinaman. When he saw the pals, his eyes glittered strangely. He walked along the corridor and caught up with his friends, who asked

him what the scuffle had been.

“Man try to come aboard and so me shoot him and throw him back,”  
replied the newcomer. just then he tripped and fell against Dick,

They reached the boiler-house and they were tied by the newcomer to two  
roof supports, and all the Chinamen left them.

“We’re in a fine pickle, I must say,” grumbled Jack.

After a couple of minutes of struggling Dick gave a cry.

“Jack, I’ve broken a rope

Soon they were both free. They went out of the boiler house to try to find  
their guns. They found them, but Dick’s gun had been spoilt by the Chinaman’s  
bullet. He put his hand in his pocket and found a little repeater.

“Where on earth did I get this from ?” cried Dick.

Dunno, but come on,” snapped Jack.

They crept along the corridor and looked in at the door of a cabin. They  
raised their guns, and pointed them at the unsuspecting Chinamen who were in  
the cabin.

“Hands up !” snapped Jack, “and no funny business either.”

While Jack kept them covered, Dick tied them up.

Suddenly Chung Noo turned round and said “All right, boys. I am a British  
water policeman. My badge is in my sleeve.”

The boys let him go; suddenly Dick asked him if he knew anything about  
the repeater. He nodded and smiled. “And the weak rope,” he said mysteriously.

The boys and the policeman arrived at home at about 4 a.m.

E. STYLES (Form IIIa.).

## Prize-winning Entry for Senior Competition.

### Hockey.

Oh! Cricket and Tennis are all very fine,  
And it’s topping to swim in the sunny blue brine.  
But these Sports are for Summer, and what should we do  
At School without Hockey the long winter through?  
The wind may be bitter, the sky dreary grey,  
But the cold’ and the gloom we can soon chase away.  
Though it’s muddy beneath and a drizzle above  
It makes all the more fun in the game that we love.  
But oh! when the morning is bright, crisp and keen,  
And the frosty old sun comes to shine on the scene,  
What else could we do that wouldn’t seem tame  
To the thrill and the skill of a hard-tackled game?

With our trusty old sticks and our eyes really in,  
So fit we could race our own shadow and win!  
With a team that will fight till the last minute's done,  
Oh I isn't it great when the battle's begun?

R. JAMES (Form Upper V.).

## **The Adventures of Ebenezer Jubb.**

Ebenezer Jubb was a fat, jovial lazy boy, who was always getting into trouble and' doing things he ought not to do. One day he got in the way more than usual and so he decided to make himself scarce for a few hours. An idea occurred to him. Suppose he took his brother's aeroplane and went for a ride by himself. What an experience it would be.

He said, "I have often been up with big brother Ben and seen him fiddling about with the works, so why shouldn't I?"

He went to find Fido, his pet dog, and Tibi, his pet cat, to go for the ride with him. On finding them he went to get the aeroplane out of the shed. He put Fido and Tibi in the back seat and himself took the wheel. The aeroplane started all right, and it went soaring into the sky with its three occupants.

Ebenezer soon got tired of going on and on. He wanted to make the aeroplane do acrobatics. Poor Ebenezer didn't know which button to press to make the aeroplane loop the loop, so he pressed each one in turn.

Nothing happened when he pressed the first button, so he tried the next, and the aeroplane turned upside down, nearly shooting poor Ebenezer and his pets out. Hold tight," he shouted; "Don't get alarmed, this is only the beginning of the adventure." Ebenezer pressed the next button and the plane became normal again.

He decided not to press that button again as it did not agree with his stomach, or with those of his pets. Next Ebenezer pulled a lever and the plane swooped down, missing a tree by inches. It kept on going up, then down, and reminded Ebenezer of the "Lindy Loo."

Ebenezer decided that that did not agree with his complexion so he did not touch the lever again. Then he pressed a knob and the 'plane started 2oing round and round, until it made him feel quite giddy, and in an effort to save Fido from falling out, his foot touched a spring which sent the 'plane nearly crashing to the ground, but he managed only just in time to prevent this. This was too much for Ebenezer, so he made up his mind to go home.

But how was he to do this? He didn't know what

to do. There were two buttons left which he had not yet pressed, and he did not know which one would bring the 'plane to land. He pressed the first and the 'plane ascended higher and higher until he could hardly breathe. He then touched the next button and the aeroplane glided gently down to earth.

Ebenezer jumped out and took the cat, which had changed colour with fright, and Fido, who had a black eye. He ran into the house and related the adventure to his mother, who ordered the doctor at once, because Ebenezer looked rather pale.

He promised he would never go in an aeroplane again alone. And he didn't.

DORIS BROWN (Form IVa.).

### **At School.**

Where is it, when first we go from home, We feel so small, and sad, and lone,  
And wish all day for night to some?

At School!

Where is it, as we older grow, We confidently think we know More than  
our teachers can bestow?

At School!

Where, when the exam, lists are read, We stand upright, or with bent head,  
With credits gained, or hopes now dead?

At School!

Why is it, as the world we roam In search of riches or renown, We bless the  
day we went from home

To School?

A. BEAKE (Form IVa.).

Prize-winning Entry for Junior Competition.

### **The Amazing Adventures of Anthony Kerr.**

Tony Kerr started home for his holidays in a cheerful mood. His elder brother, George, was coming home for Christmas, and George at home meant a lot of presents.

As he got into the train, he remembered he had left his school magazine at school. "The pater did want to see that, too," he said ruefully.

Still., it was no good crying over spilt milk, and by

the time he reached Rockwood, the station where he had to alight, he had completely forgotten the affair.

Now the station was four miles from Tony's home, and usually there was a cab waiting for him when he went home, so that he was surprised to find that such was not the case that day. "Something must have delayed the thing," he muttered to himself. "I'll wait a few minutes."

He strolled into the cosy waiting-room and took an illustrated book out of his case. "Pity I haven't got the school mag. here now," he reflected. "Still, the cab will be here soon."

An hour passed, however, and no cab, until at last, the disgruntled Tony decided to hoof it home. "Wish the pater would attend to these matters," he said angrily.

Now the four miles to Tony's house was over a dreary moorland, but about a mile from the station it ran through a small wood. Tony was in the middle of this wood when it happened.

"Stick 'em up!" grated a harsh voice from behind him; "Lively, now, or you'll get it worse."

Tony stuck them up; he valued his skin. "Open that bag and give me your school magazine," commanded a second, well-spoken figure.

Tony started. He suddenly remembered where the school magazine was. "I'm awful sorry," he began, "but

"Cut it out," snapped the well-spoken man. "Give him the works, Bill."

"O.K., boss," answered Bill, and, grabbing hold of Tony's arm, gave it a painful wrench.

Tony gasped with pain. "But I haven't got the mag," he explained, "it is at school."

"What I?" thundered the boss, "Then our work is in vain, Bill."

Turning to Tony, he said "Not a word to anyone, mind. You can go now."

Tony went, and began to think hard. He wondered greatly at the importance the men had attached to his magazine. He had covered about half the distance when a figure, draped from head to foot in black, sprang out from behind the hedge, and covered Tony with a gun. To say Tony was amazed is putting it mildly. The man did not speak, but, snatching Tony's bag from his hand, proceeded to ransack it. When he had turned out all the things he turned to Tony and said "Where's that school magazine?"

Before Tony could reply, another voice broke in, "Got you this time, Snake! Drop that gun now, and' no funny tricks." The man in black dropped his gun and

said with a sneer, “ Guess you win this time, Inspector Johnson.”

Tony saw that the man who had come to his rescue was tall and handsome. Turning to Tony he said “Let’s have the whole story, young man.

Tony told him all he knew, and when he had finished, the detective said “Things fit in nicely, Last night your headmaster had a very valuable stamp stolen. There have been only six issued, and it is worth hundreds of pounds. The thieves, no doubt, were the men who held you up just now. They hid the stamp in your magazine, intending to take it from you to-day. Snake got wind of this and held you up also, but even if you had brought your mag. he would have been too late for it—and the stamp. Anyhow, I’ll just snap the handcuffs on Snake’s hands, and go back to Rockwood.”

Tony finished his journey without event, and when he got home, he had to explain his adventure many times.

The two men who held Tony up first were never captured, but Snake was sent down for fifteen years. Tony’s magazine was sent to him by post, and all, including George, were delighted with it. The Head was delighted to get his stamp back, too.

Needless to say, Tony had heaps of presents that Christmas.

A. BEAKE (Form IVa.).

## Side Lights on the School.

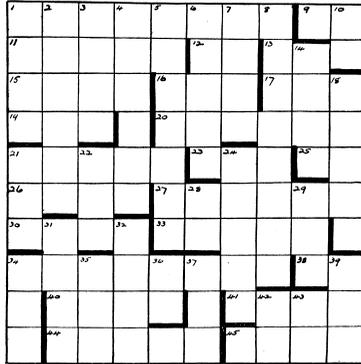
### Limericks.

An Upper V. lad, so ‘tis said,  
Now does all his learning in bed:  
It wouldn’t be fair  
To sit in a chair,  
For the knowledge might go to his head.  
At Latin one day in IVa.  
The ‘opus’ was ‘difficile’; And whereas for some  
It was ‘pax vobiscum!  
‘Twas for others ‘Discede! disce!’

Inquit puer Thornburiensis,  
“In corde mea est haec ensis:  
Malo in malo  
Puero in ludo,  
Sed, magister, non tam patiens sis.”

[A prize is offered for the best English translation in limerick form of the above.]

## A Crossword Puzzle. (By one of the Staff).



### ACROSS.

1. A school founder.
9. See 39 across.
11. Read after tea?
12. Initials of 32 across  
1 down.
13. See 35 down.
15. An old sailor in a fit,
16. Found in the workshop.
17. Part of a circle.
19. With 30 down, what every-  
one should be.
20. "—as a waggon load of  
monkeys."
21. A flower.
23. Wireless, electric or silk.
25. See 45 across,
26. Deciduous trees (10 this to  
their leaves.
27. Grief,
30. Found in a Venetian blind,
33. An American shop.
34. Rev, an important place  
near Thornbury.
38. Initials of 23 and 44 across,
40. He goes out,
41. Rev, after 9, some think this  
is the best of them,
44. Another founder.
45. Rev, after 25 across, indis-  
cussible preliminary for  
everyone.

### CLUES.

### DOWN.

1. See 32 down.
2. What the corn feels like  
when this is done to it.
3. What some people's heads  
are made of.
4. How an advertisement often  
begins.
5. Another founder.
6. What some do in school.
7. The — of the Mohicans.
9. Some think this is the best  
of them.
10. The vowels of 42 across.
14. Rev, not plain.
18. Some think this is the best  
of them.
24. Not silently.
28. With the last letter in  
front, add,
29. Rev, let in Scotland.
31. What the jelly should do.
32. Laminae are.
34. With 1 down "a menagerie  
lion running round the  
earth."
35. -Beef in brief."
36. A little title.
37. With 13 across, the home of  
9 and 39 across.
39. Rev, important initials.
42. Not a little Swiss fleet.
43. Initials of 1 and 32 down.

Solutions should be given to the Editor.

## A Visit to a Giant Liner.

When the new Cunard White Star Liner, the "Queen Mary," was launched, she was nothing more than an empty hull, a mere shell as it were, and but a shadow of the finished ship.

To give an idea of the interior of the ship as she will be when completed, I am describing a personal visit to the largest liner in the world at present in actual service. This is the Cunard White Star Liner, R.M.S. "Majestic," a vessel of 56,621 tons, 954.5 feet in length, and 100.15 feet in breadth.

The Majestic was in dock at Southampton, prior to her fortnightly trip to America, when I visited her. She was visible from a great distance, towering above the quayside, dwarfing all buildings in the vicinity, and there was no mistaking her huge form, with her three large buff-coloured funnels.

As the ship was open for inspection by excursionists, a large crowd were queued up waiting their turn to board her. Indeed, a Southern Railway train, with excursionists from the North of England arrived while I was waiting.

The vessel was boarded by means of a covered gangway, placed about amidships into her side.

When I reached the top of the gangway I found myself on a large landing, extending for the whole breadth of the ship, from which ran the main staircase.

Here the party was split up into tens, and a guide took the party I was in to show us over the ship.

The swimming pool (first-class only) was the first place to be visited. This is very large, with terraces all round the sides, from which other passengers could watch the bathers. The bath itself was of green marble, and was reached by a wide stair-case of similar material. From the swimming bath, the guide led us along corridors to the third-class cabins. Although this was the cheapest class on board, the rooms were excellent and most comfortable. Continuing on to the bows of the ship, we passed through third-class dining-rooms and lounges, finally coming out on deck by the forward stair-case.

From there the guide led us to the first-class lounge, a magnificent room, large enough to hold about 300 people and with a stage on which an orchestra plays. The lounge is furnished throughout with furniture upholstered in red, which looks very attractive. This lounge is fitted up for "talkies," and the films that are shown are the same as are showing at Southampton the day the boat leaves.

We next passed along more corridors, past second-class and first-class cabins, to the regal suite.

This is the suite which is used by members of the

Royal Family, or distinguished persons such as the Prime Minister. The suite is decorated in light green, and on the floor are thick carpets, into which your feet sink. The cost of this suite, for a single journey across the Atlantic, is 110 guineas—the normal fare is about £40.

We next came out to the deck again, this time on the boat deck, the top deck of the vessel. A fine view can be obtained from here, as it is just 60L feet above the sea level, or 101 feet from the keel.

We came down from the boat deck to the stern deck. In this deck is a cargo hatch, and we were allowed to look carefully over the edge. This cargo hatch is a long metal-lined shaft, going right to the bottom of the ship, about 70 feet deep. The men working at the bottom look like midgets.

From here we entered the interior of the ship again, and after going along more corridors, past more cabins, we reached the most magnificent room in the ship, the first-class dining saloon. This is a huge room, capable of taking 200 people at one sitting. It has a large domed roof, with pillared sides, and large windows, looking out to the promenade deck. This dining-room extends right across the ship, and is almost exactly in the centre, of the vessel. The room is decorated in light blue, with upholstery to match.

This brought us to the main stair-case again, and so back to where we started.

One fact that would disappoint most boys is that no one is allowed in the engine room, and so to my mind the most interesting part of the ship is inaccessible to the general public.

I left the ship, knowing a great deal more about the interior of a giant liner than I knew when I first entered it.

G. HARDING (Lower Va.).

## **The Interrupted News Bulletin.**

Thin, is how the 6 o'clock news was heard by a person (a quiet gentleman?) while in the company of several other talkative persons (ladies?).

“This is London calling the British Isles. Here is one S.O.S. message. Missing from her home and believed to e suffering from loss of memory is approach

ing England.

Late last night some storms were experi-

enced

since Hitler began his reign in Ger

many. Moreover, there is still friction between the Germans and Austrians on the frontier—but it is believed that Mr. Hore Belisha's beacons will solve this problem. The question of air travel was also brought up

in Parliament to-day where tomatoes were thrown at Mr. Elliott, the Minister of Agriculture but to-day they showed a firmer tendency on the London Stock Exchange.”

Alas! man is but human and we can only suppose that he left the room rather hurriedly, for it is reported that a door slammed so vigorously that the baby upstairs suddenly screamed and the ladies with one accord rushed to the rescue. Then the announcer uttered in the silence which then reigned, “This is the end of the first news bulletin !”

H. CHAMBERS (Form VIa.).

## **Flotsam and Jetsam.**

The School heartily congratulates an old boy, Mr. R. W. Dennis, on taking his Ph.D. degree at Glasgow University.

It also congratulates Donald Pitcher and Mollie Atwell on the high position they have taken in the annual examinations at Bristol University.

Recently the School sang Hymn 222 to a tune written by an old boy, Donald Pitcher, entitled “Victory.

The School is grateful to two old girls who each year now send flowers for the War Memorial on Armistice Day.

We are pleased to hear that Harold Batt and other former Almondsbury pupils are there running a vigorous Junior Branch of the League of Nations Union.

Early in the year the School was honoured with a visit from the Chairman of the Governors, who gave the Senior School a lecture on the duties and experiences of a J.P. Other lectures have been given by Mr. Arthur Potter, I.C.S., Mr. Phillips, of Cotham School, Mr. Edgar Pitcher, Mr. Stoddard (Ministry of Labour) and Mr. Hamilton Whyte, Head of the Department of Economics at Bristol University.

We are looking forward to a visit shortly from a former Lord Mayor of Bristol and from a special Coach in Football.

The sixty of us who were fortunate enough to see the travel picture dealing with the attempt to conquer Mount Everest and to hear the lecture on that subject greatly enjoyed this outing.

Later in the year a profitable and enjoyable visit was paid to the soap works of Christopher Thomas Brothers.

The Upper Forms paid a visit early this year to the Avonmouth Docks. This visit proved of great interest and instruction.

This term a visit has been arranged for the same forms to the Filton Aeroplane Works.

Since 1932 the numbers on the School Registers have risen from 200 to 250.

Which Form-room is always most tastefully brightened with flowers? The Editor is prepared to consider your views.

“Therein is nothing but beastly furie and external violence, whereof proceedeth hurt, and consequently rancour and malice do remain with them that be wounded.” This is not, as might be imagined, a description of a certain recent international Soccer match, but a description of football written by Elyot in Henry VII.’s reign, more than 400 years ago.

## **‘Varsity View.**

### **A Few Jottings from Bristol.**

Bristol University has a motto and three Institutions. The motto—” Vim promovet insitam” (whose meaning we ye forgotten). The Institutions

First and most important is “COFFEE AT ELEVEN.” This vice is indulged in by everybody, from the Deans and Profs., hoary-headed and erudite, down to the Freshers, guileless and lamblike. “LECTURES” make a very poor second on the list, as is shown by the fact that when a lecture clashes with the coffee-hour, the former goes to the wall; it being preferable, and far more instructive to imbibe the refreshing beverage, discussing meanwhile the social and religious aspects of the First Assyrian Empire, than to listen to some misguided person droning on and on about nothing in particular. (All lecturers do this).

Thirdly—” THE UNION CLUB,” around which all University life moves; here, at the Victoria Rooms, are held all our important functions and festivities, and from the Club branch out innumerable Societies, from the Equestrian or Table Tennis Clubs to the Spelaeological Society, whose members delight in grubbing in the earth for prehistoric remains.

Finally, there are four old Thornburians now at the ‘Varsity. May there soon be more!

M.E.A.  
D.E.P.

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## **The Nature of University Life.**

“Put your academic work before society life.”

“Do your work when there is nothing else to do.”

These contradicting pieces of advice were both given

me during my first week at Bristol University, and clearly show that the student's life is absolutely unshackled and can be moulded entirely to suit the individual.

Common-sense and the anticipation of "all too near examinations alone keep one at study, and even these are often overpowered by the call of the Sports Clubs and Societies.

Rugby Football attracts the strong but leaves many for Ping Pong to draw from work.

A. J. W. LANSDOWN,  
Bristol University.

## **Life at Edinburgh University.**

I came to Edinburgh to study Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, three years ago, and am convinced that I came to one of the finest University Cities in the British Isles.

Student life here is good, one of the outstanding events of the year being Charities Week, during which about £5,000 is collected in aid of the Infirmary and Hospitals.

The Veterinary Course is one of five years duration, but it is as interesting as it is long, and I have never regretted coming to Edinburgh to take it.

B. WATSON.

## **The Civil Service.**

The office of the Special Commissioner of Income Tax, in which I am employed, is a branch of the Inland Revenue dealing with the collection of Surtax.

From its one office in London it covers the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The work is highly specialised, separate sections dealing with each of the many activities of the office, from the opening and sorting of correspondence to the collection of the Tax.

My particular occupation is the examination of Surtax Returns, a job which is interesting, has considerable variety and is continually raising new problems.

On the social side, the Civil Service has Clubs and Societies covering every sporting and social activity possible.

Lastly, though the general idea of the Civil Service seems to be that it is a "soft job," actually work is always plentiful.

D. DAVIES,  
Inland Revenue Department.

We have recently had a letter from R. W. G. Dennis, who has now taken his Ph.D. degree at Glasgow University. He is Assistant Research and Advisory Officer in the Department of Plant Husbandry of the West of Scotland Agricultural College. The work of this department involves investigation of the fungoid diseases and nutritional disorders affecting crops in the College area.

## **The Old Thornburians' Society.**

*President:* Mr. R. W. JACKSON, M.A., B.Sc.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. E. Cullimore, j.P.

Mr. C. H. Ross, M.A.

Mr. F. H. Burchell

Mr. C. Weatherhead

Mr. P. Luce

Mr. L. T. Thurston

Mr. E. J. May

Mr. R. Hignell

*Chairman:* Mr. G. B. Symes, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. S. H. Gayner.

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. D. J. Cullimore.

*Lion. Secretary:* Miss E. Ball.

*Committee:*

Miss F. Hawkins

Miss V. Willows

Mr. I. Bruton

Mr. W. G. Rabley

Mr. G. Rugman

Mr. A. H. Wilkins

Since the O.T.S. was revived two years ago, five social functions have been held and each has been excellently attended and altogether an unqualified success.

The Governors have kindly given permission for the School Hall to be used for these functions once a term, and it has proved an excellent room for these occasions. Almost every year of the School's life for a period of about twenty years has been represented at these functions. The O.T.S. has now a membership of 143.

Before the next issue of the Magazine it is hoped that considerable information about the activities of Old Boys and Old Girls will have been collected, ready for insertion in the School Magazine.

**THE MECCA**  
**OF**  
**THE THRIFTY.**  
**DEARING'S**  
**OF**  
**THORNBURY**

**THE QUALITY**  
**FOOTWEAR**  
**SPECIALISTS**

**PHONE 75.**