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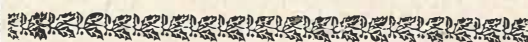
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# The Grammar School Magazine

## Grantown-on-Spey.

No. 24.

December, 1952.

Editor—A. S. Mackenzie.

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## Editorial.

THIS year, as the twenty-fourth edition of the magazine goes to Press, Grantown Grammar School loses someone who has, during his twenty-five years of office, become almost synonymous with it. Mr Hunter is leaving school and, as his heart went out with his pupils when they set out into the world, so do the hearts of those whom he is leaving go out with him. There is more written elsewhere in this slim volume on Mr Hunter, but the pen can scarcely express the feelings of the heart adequately. Nevertheless, an idea of these feelings can be obtained from what has been written by staff and pupils as a memorable chapter in the history of Grantown Grammar School draws to a close.

However, though the retirement of Mr Hunter is by far the most important

event reflected in the following pages there have been other happenings which, though not perhaps of great importance to the world at large, have been important enough to us in school to have recorded in black and white. We dare not say that there is the usual selection of articles, all of which are worthy of the reader's eye, for this would be in part a lie. The magazine never contains the "usual selection" of articles, for youth is ever on the move, new ideas are always making an appearance and fresh pens being put to paper. This magazine, which has provided over the years for those at home and abroad a link with the old school, can never grow stale or die out so long as there are pupils in school who are proud to belong to Grantown Grammar School and willing to let everyone know it.



## SCHOOL NOTES.

It may be of interest to readers to observe that this is the twenty-fourth annual publication of the School Magazine.

\* \* \*

In the 1937 issue, these Notes recorded that the Coronation of King George VI. was celebrated with enthusiasm by the school and community of Grantown.

\* \* \*

While similar festivities will no doubt be enjoyed in 1953 to mark Queen Elizabeth's Coronation, it has to be recorded here that, in February last, we joined in the nationwide mourning of the death of our beloved King George. The Secondary School attended on 15th February a Memorial Service to His Late Majesty in the South Church, conducted by the School Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Ross.

\* \* \*

The School broke with tradition in its manner of observing Empire Day last May. Assembled in the hall, pupils and staff listened to a service broadcast from the Training Ship "Arethusa." The Rector introduced the programme, and Mr. Cameron, School Convener, spoke at the close.

\* \* \*

Last Christmas, Miss Fraser, who had been science mistress for eighteen years in the Grammar School, left to take up an appointment in Inverness Technical High School. Pupils and staff presented her with a tangible mark of their affection and of their thanks for the faithful and able services she had rendered both in her classroom and in the general life of the School.

\* \* \*

Mr Thomas Reid, B.Sc. (Hons.), who came from Albert Senior Secondary School, Coatbridge, took over the post of Principal Science Teacher at the beginning of 1952.

\* \* \*

Miss Geddes, a former pupil and Domestic Subjects teacher for two years, left at the end of last session to take an appointment under Edinburgh Education Committee. Her place was temporarily filled after the Summer vacation by Mrs Sharpley.

\* \* \*

Miss Elspit McIntosh, a former pupil who acted as interim P.T. teacher and clerical assistant for two years before entering Dunfermline Physical Education College, has now joined the County Staff as a fully qualified

teacher of her subject and visits us two days per week in this capacity.

\* \* \*

Miss Wharton Duff, Chairman of Moray and Nairn Education Committee, presented the prizes at the 1951 Prize-Day ceremony, and, in her address, gave much sound advice to pupils. There was the usual large attendance of parents and friends.

\* \* \*

Mr Lindsay, Director of Education, who was accompanied by Mrs Lindsay, also spoke. Rev. Mr. Grant, A.S.C., Chairman, presided and, following the ceremony, the adult section of the audience visited the various classrooms with their exhibits of pupils' work.

\* \* \*

Alexander L. Gordon was the year's Dux Prize winner and Alexander S. Mackenzie proxime accessit.

\* \* \*

During the third term of last session, third year Technical pupils reconditioned a disused basement room adjoining the library, and this now contains the modest beginnings of a School natural history museum.

Towards the beginning of the present session an interesting addition to the museum was made through the gift of a mineral and fossil collection by Mr Cameron S. Porteous, whose father, up to the time of his death earlier this year, had been a member of Cromdale Area Education Sub-Committee.

\* \* \*

The usual summer term preparatory class for infants was suspended this year for economy reasons.

\* \* \*

Alexander S. Mackenzie was the School's representative at last summer's National Youth Camp, Broomlee, West Linton.

\* \* \*

The Osiris Repertory Company paid their second visit to the School on 30th May. On this occasion, they gave an excellent performance of "Twelfth Night."

\* \* \*

In the 1951 Grand Concours, a French competition, open to all schools in Great Britain, three of our pupils distinguished themselves, Alexander L. Gordon and Iain C. Burgess being awarded prizes and George A. Dixon a certificate of merit.



### 1952 SCOTTISH LEAVING CERTIFICATE RESULTS.

The following pupils have been awarded Leaving Certificates this year, with passes in individual subjects as indicated:—

George A. Dixon—Higher English, Hr. Mathematics, Hr. French, Lower History, Lr. Latin, Lr. Science, Arithmetic.

Anne J. M. Fraser—Hr. Eng., Hr. Fr., Lr. Hist., Lr. Maths., Lr. Ger., Arith.

Alexander L. Gordon—Hr. Eng., Hr. Maths., Hr. Fr., Hr. Latin, Hr. Ger., Lr. Hist., Arith.

Shona G. MacDougall—Hr. Eng., Hr. Fr., Lr. Hist., Lr. Maths., Lr. Ger., Arith.

Sheena S. R. McIntosh—Lr. Maths., Lr. Fr., Lr. Ger., Arith.

Alexander S. Mackenzie—Hr. Eng., Hr. Maths., Hr. Fr., Hr. Science, Lr. Hist., Arith.

David Ross—Lr. Hist., Lr. Maths., Lr. Science, Lr. Technical Subjects, Arith.

Mona A. Scott—Hr. Eng., Lr. Maths., Lr. Fr., Lr. Science, Arith.

The following pupils, who were awarded Leaving Certificates last year, have passed this year in these additional subjects:—

Norah F. Brooks—Hr. Fr., Hr. Ger., Lr. Maths.

Iain C. Burgess—Hr. Latin, Additional Mathematical Subject (Elementary Analysis).

Elizabeth M. Lawrence—Hr. Fr., Lr. Hist., Lr. Latin, Lr. Ger., Arith.

Donald J. Macdonald—Lr. Fr.

Isabella E. G. Mackintosh—Hr. Hist., Hr. Ger., Lr. Maths., Arith.

Isabella M. Marshall—Hr. Hist., Hr. Latin, Lr. Maths.

Ian Ritchie—Hr. Eng., Hr. Maths., Hr. Science, Lr. Hist., Lr. Fr.

Donald M. Smith—Hr. Maths., Lr. Fr.

Julia M. Stuart—Hr. Maths., Hr. Ger., Lr. Hist.

### OBITUARY.

#### EX-PROVOST MILNE.

In the passing of one who had set a shining example of citizenship to the Grantown community, the school lost a beloved friend. Throughout the years, his interest in the school's welfare never flagged, although it was characteristic of such a fine spirit that his kindly and generous help was given without publicity of any kind. It was fitting that Mr Milne should be school convener in the course of his civic life and, in this capacity, he exercised well-blended qualities of shrewdness and zeal which gave weight to his pronouncements in matters affecting the well-being of the school. He will be especially remembered, however, for that

fine Christian spirit which shone through his every action and for that kindliness which marked his presence and conversation.

#### EX-PROVOST TEMPLETON.

For many excellent reasons, the Templeton family is a notable one in Grantown, and no member of it has done more for his native place than the late Provost. Striking tribute has already been paid to his many good works in the larger community, but the school has ample reason to remember him too for his able and keen representation of its interests during his provostship and membership of the County Council; thoroughness and sound judgment marked his work. In his passing, we have indeed lost a valued friend and helper.

While we in school mourn the great loss sustained in the demise of those two outstanding friends, we tender our sincere sympathy to Mrs and Mr John Milne and to all members of the Templeton family in their more intimate bereavement.

T. H.

#### FAREWELL TO THE RECTOR.

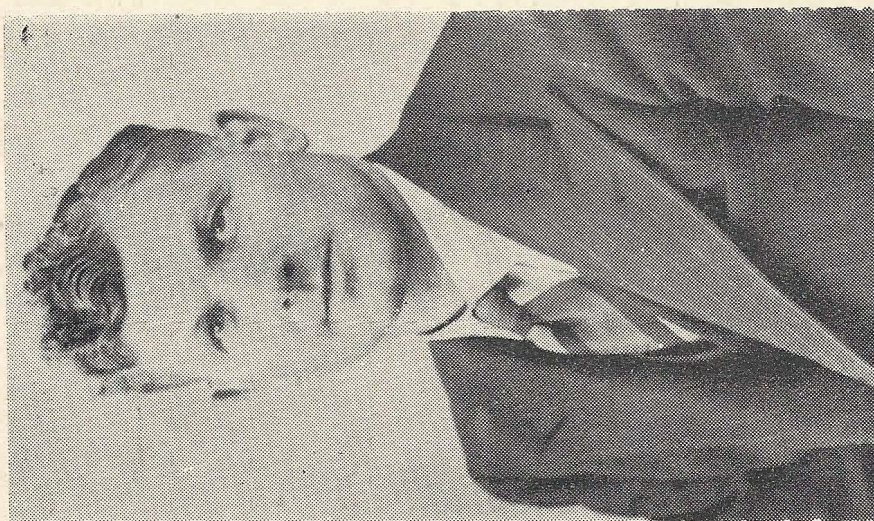
At time of writing, Mr Hunter is still Rector of the school; at the end of October he retires after twenty-five years of office. A quarter-of-a-century is a long period; and it is almost staggering to reflect that practically all Grantonians under the age of forty have felt the impact of Mr Hunter's personality during their most impressionable years.

Mr Hunter came here in 1927 with a distinguished record. After taking a brilliant degree with Honours in Mathematics at Glasgow University, he had served with the K.O.S.B. in the 1914-18 war, rising from the ranks to a commission. After the war he had taught Mathematics in Queen's Park Secondary School; and in 1922 he had come north as headmaster of Duffus H.G. School, Hope-man. In 1927 he was in the prime of life, with ripe experience both of teaching and of public service.

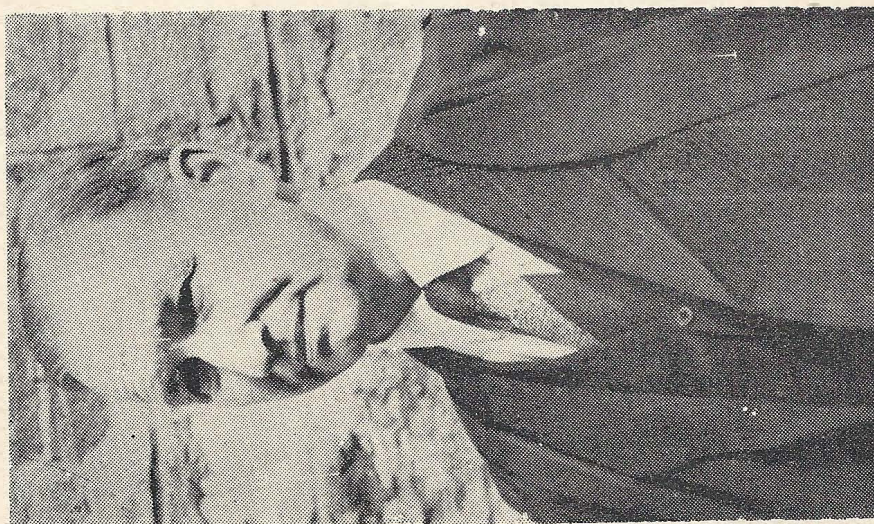
In 1927 there were still many rectors who devoted much time to actual teaching. Mr Hunter's predecessor had been a great Classics teacher; Mr Hunter set himself to place Mathematics on the same level. For over twenty years, in addition to his responsibilities as Rector, he was in charge of the Mathematics department. His old pupils will remember his flair for the essential points of a mathematical problem, and his insistence on thorough understanding of each step. His teaching of his own subject gave a lead to the other principal teachers, and increased the general standard of efficiency.

Another school subject in which he delighted was Music. Even in his student days, he had been a church organist; and Grantown soon knew him as a first rate instrumentalist and music teacher. It was a revelation to listen to one of his choirs under instruction, and note his power to create purity





Dr. Bain.



Mr. Hunter.



of tone and correctness of expression. He was, of course, well served by the school music teachers and by several class teachers with a musical flair; but it is not surprising to find that, soon after his coming to Grantown Grammar School, a successful operetta was produced, and that school choirs, senior and junior, achieved a number of successes in the Morayshire Musical Festivals. With his other tasks, however, Mr Hunter's great problem with regard to Music was to find time to devote to it.

With regard to school work in general Mr Hunter's influence was most vitalising. His teachers realised that, just as he set high standards for himself, he expected a high degree of effort from others. When he came to Grantown, there was a widening realisation everywhere of the value of secondary education; and, as the years rolled on, more and more pupils tended to take advantage of the courses provided at the school.

In his time there have been 44 university graduates from the school, 160 Leaving Certificates have been gained, and 15 diplomas have been won at Technical or Domestic Science colleges. The graduates include the following degrees:—M.A., 23; B.A. (Oxon.), 2; B.Sc., 11; L.L.B., 2; B.Com., 2; M.B., Ch.B., 6; F.R.C.S. (Ed.), 1; Ph.D., D.Sc., 1. In addition to these, there is the great body of Grantonians who have left school to earn their living at leaving age and who are pulling their weight in all walks of life.

But, much as Mr Hunter valued thoroughness in teaching, he laid equal stress on development of character. Very definite standards of conduct were laid down, not merely for the classroom but also for the playground and the approaches to the school. If these standards were not adhered to, the pupils were unfailingly reminded. In this connection too, a number of interesting innovations were made. The House system was introduced to foster healthy competition in sport. Prefects were introduced to co-operate in the work of raising standards of conduct.

The years immediately prior to the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 were very full ones for Grantown Grammar School. School results were on a high level, there was the annual presentation of a standard play by the senior pupils, and sports activities were in full vigour. In addition to football, always popular in Grantown, cricket was played as a summer game, and rugby had a brief but vigorous life before being crowded out by other activities. A new playing pitch had been acquired by the school. There were excursions to Elgin for swimming lessons; and the lure of the hills was drawing annual parties of climbers. A most interesting innovation was the Cairn Gorm Badge, awarded for proficiency in school subjects, athletics and games along with a certain amount of experience in mountaineering.

The ties between the school and its former pupils had been strengthened. In 1929 the F.P. Club was revived with Mr

Hunter as its president, and in 1933 an off-shoot from the F.P. Club, open to boys only, was created and named The Old Guard.

The outbreak of war in 1939 created a new set of conditions in Grantown Grammar School. Some of the wider school activities were, of necessity, curtailed; and problems of evacuees and of staff replacements were created. The main work of the school, however, carried on. During these years a new task devolved on Mr Hunter as C.O. of the local company of the Home Guard. This he shouldered in addition to his actually extended school duties.

Peace came in 1945, and there almost immediately followed the need for new courses and new accommodation to cope with the increased Secondary roll. In 1934 one classroom had been added to the school building. In 1943 a canteen had been organised, the South Church Hall being used to accommodate the diners. In 1950, however, a very substantial addition was made to the school buildings by the erection of a new Technical and Domestic Science Department. At the same time the playground and amenities of the school were improved. It is, however, difficult for building to keep pace with modern needs, and Grantown Grammar School still has a strict minimum of rooms, though in 1951 yet another was added by the conversion of the old woodwork room into a finely-appointed library.

At the beginning of 1949 Mr Hunter's place as head of the Mathematics department was taken by Miss Pyper; and the Rector thus obtained some remission in his heavy burdens, and was able to devote more time to increasing problems of organisation. Now, after a further three years, he has laid down his load. Probably these later years have, for him, been harder ones; but he demits office while still capable of much useful public service. We hope that, in his retirement in Aberdeen, he will find opportunity for this.

The above brief sketch is intended to cover the main features of Mr Hunter's stewardship. Now for a brief word on the more human side of his contacts with pupils and staff. As we have suggested, he always stood for efficiency and firm endeavour. On the other hand, Grantown pupils have always been ready to revisit their old school. There has always been an implicit recognition of the fact that their Rector had their interests at heart. It is noteworthy too that many of the Grantown school staff put in long periods of service with Mr Hunter. Miss Gray and Miss M. Grant, both gifted teachers, have been in Grantown all these years. Miss Legge has guided the toddlers during the first months of their school life for nearly twenty years. Mr A. Mackenzie, French master, took up duty here nearly eighteen years ago; and the school missed him much during the war years. Other names that spring to mind, though these have left Grantown, are those of Mr Morrison (English master), Mr Wilson (Classics master), Miss Fraser (Science mistress), Miss Lawson, Miss Alanach (now Mrs Milne) and Miss Butter. Of the present staff, Mr Thornton and Mrs Mac-



laren have also been long with us. All these would be ready to admit Mr Hunter's love of efficiency, and also his genuine kindness and sympathy in a case of real distress.

To Mr Hunter's F.P. presentation find came a contribution from the other side of the world. The donor added: "I wish it had been £100!" Those who knew Mr Hunter well know well also that he loved Grantown Grammar School with his whole heart and that the welfare of its pupils was his dearest object.

### THE NEW RECTOR.

Dr James Bain succeeds Mr Hunter as Rector and comes to the school with high credentials. A B.Sc. of Edinburgh University with Honours in Chemistry, he was, from 1929 to 1931, demonstrator to final honours students at the university, then, for a short time, Science master at North Canon-gate School, Edinburgh, and, since 1932, Science master at Elgin Academy, where, in 1949, he became First Assistant. In 1930 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy for research work in organic chemistry.

A keen sportsman, Dr Bain was a football blue of Edinburgh University and also played for Elgin City. On the organising side he has done much for school football and school athletics in the North of Scotland. He has himself done many expeditions in the Cairngorms: and pupils and staff of Elgin Academy have him to thank for the pleasant summer and week-end camps spent at Glenmore Hut. He was responsible for taking over the Hut and furnishing it on behalf of Elgin Academy in 1945.

Community drama has long been a keen interest with him, he has done much useful administrative work in this sphere, and many Youth Dramatic Clubs in Morayshire owe their foundation to Dr Bain's untiring work in this sphere.

Dr Bain comes to Grantown with a fine record in teaching and organisation; and he is well equipped to take over the helm and cope with those problems which the future will inevitably provide.

### FAREWELL AND WELCOME.

Since the main body of this magazine went to Press, the change-over at the Grammar School has taken place: the school has regretfully taken leave of Mr Hunter, and it has welcomed a young and virile successor in the person of Dr Bain.

Before leaving, Mr Hunter received an extraordinary wealth of appreciative tribute. The keynote to this tribute was struck when the two Former Pupils' Clubs made their presentations to Mr and Mrs Hunter at a function at the Palace Hotel on October 17th. Speaking of the retiring rector's influence, Provost Cumming said, "I think, on the whole, the standard of behaviour, as well as

education in this community, is high." The tributes of Mr P. Macpherson and Mr W. Templeton, of the Old Guard Club, reflected those feelings of respect and affection with which his old pupils regard Mr Hunter.

Next came expressions of appreciation from official bodies. At the County Council meeting on October 20th, Miss Wharton Duff, Chairman of the Education Committee, referred to Mr Hunter as "a most efficient, acceptable and faithful rector." At the meeting of the Education Sub-Committee on October 28th, the members, with whom Mr Hunter had been closely associated, accompanied their expressions of regret with a tangible gift.

Finally, on October 30th, came the school and staff presentations. On this occasion, Mr Mackenzie, French master, emphasised the improvements of many kinds which the school had owed to Mr Hunter, and said they would not forget him. The school captains—and later the Director of Education and members of staff—added their tributes.

On the Monday of November 3rd, there seemed an air of unreality when, instead of the accustomed figure of the retired rector, the school was confronted by a delegation of the Education Committee, including Miss Wharton Duff, Rev. Joseph Grant and Mr Lindsay, Director of Education, which had come to introduce the new rector and wish him success. The introductions were made, and the new rector, in his first address to the school, declared it his aim to support any scheme that would turn out good citizens.

So long had Mr Hunter presided over the destinies of the school that to many his departure must have seemed like a revolution: but the school is accustoming itself gradually to a new personality, and its work goes on.

### THOSE WHO SIT IN HIGH PLACES.

David Ross (Boys' Captain) is, for a modest lad, a bit of a record-breaker. Recently, by clocking 13½ minutes in the cross-country, he has given future runners something to beat.

Mona Scott (Girls' Captain) is due an apology for past references to her lack of inches. Her position commands respect.

Sandy Mackenzie (Boy's Vice-Captain and Magazine Editor) is a lad of varied interests. His auto-cycle has given place to a car, the L-sign on which will, we hope, be soon discarded.

Shona McDougall (Games Captain) continues to shine in hockey and athletics, and in other departments as well.

Sandy Gordon (House Captain) achieved an L.C. performance last year that should please all his teachers. But he is back, athirst for further knowledge.

Joan Fraser (Girls' Vice-Captain) can be relied on to give Mona moral and physical support. She, also, is agog for further learning.

George Dixon (Prefect) conveys an indefinable air of erudition. He is the first and



fit holder of the office of Librarian and Museum Curator.

Sheena McIntosh (Girls' Secretary) is a many-sided individual with a merry heart. She rounds off a flourish of hockey play with a pean of triumph on the piano.

Robert Mackenzie (Cricket Captain) looks more thoughtful than ever, with L.C. exams. in March and O.G. batsmen in June.

James Macdonald (Prefect), by use of chisel and plane, has achieved a muscular development that is the awe and admiration of his fellows. He will succeed Donald Macdonald as tug-of-war anchor.

David Fraser (Prefect) used to be a wee chap. His recent growth makes him more worthy to be a scion of the constabulary.

Sheena Ogilvy (Prefect) has a sweet expression which is not appreciated by those who meet her on the hockey field.

Morna Mackenzie (Prefect) emerged from the Grantown Mod as our most promising young vocalist.

Isabel McAndrew (House Captain) is, like Mona, a pocket Atalanta on the hockey field.

Wilma Watt (Prefect), when she mounts her cycle, is "over the hills and far away."

Sylvia Warn (Prefect) is seldom seen unaccompanied. She is either a dog-lover or very nervous.

Letty Gordon (House Captain) has a yearning for the English classics and high romance.

Betty Macdonald (Prefect) cultivates a dreamy aspect; but her dreams are now of L.C. passes.

Several members of exuberant Class IV. have shot up into official status. John Coutts is a House Captain; Stephen Anderson, Ian Campbell, Patricia Grant, Elizabeth Mackenzie and Elizabeth M'Gillivray are now prefects. Walter Dempster is Cricket Vice-Captain, and Angus Mackintosh Football Vice-Captain. Keith Donaldson and Margt. Smith figure on the editorial committee. Anon more will be heard of these.

### SCHOOL.

What is the use of school to me,  
For at sums I'm bad as bad can be?  
I get into an awful flurry;  
But problems are my biggest worry.  
When through my books I browse,  
My mind's on pigs and sheep and cows,  
My teacher getting quite irate,  
When I make another big mistake.  
In five more years it will be grand,  
For I'll be working on the land.

GORDON FRASER, Pr. 7.

### DREAMS.

I sit and ponder by a stream,  
Whose crystal waters sparkle and gleam;  
The little children paddle and play,  
Through all the glorious summer day;  
And as the day draws to an end,  
The birds their evening messages send.  
ELIZABETH MACDONALD, Pr. 7.

### ON FIRST YOKING A MARE.

To those of you who live on a farm the task of "yoking a mare" will no doubt be simple enough. To others, like myself, it is an adventure which requires much courage. While working in a hayfield this summer, I was asked if I would "yoke the mare for the rake." Assuring the farmer that I would manage, I set off, full of confidence, to catch the mare. This may sound a simple operation, but like so many other things it seems easier in theory than in practice.

Luckily the mare was standing looking over a gate in that way peculiar to horses, as I approached. She raised her head and looked at me as if to say, "I know what you are after," and started for the other side of the field. I climbed over the gate and tried to head her off. She then stopped, and I advanced cautiously, pretending to have a tit-bit in my hand. She was not fooled and swung to the right, but when I also changed direction she veered to the left. Our graceful "pas de deux" was only brought to an end when I managed to catch her mane, at which point she coquettishly tossed her head, thus raising me from the ground and unceremoniously dumping me down again.

Still, she was now caught. Next came the job of opening the gate without letting her go. In some mysterious way I managed to do this, and I then tried to shut it again. Have you ever tried to shut a ten-foot gate with one hand and hold a Clydesdale firmly with the other? Well, by dint of evolutions far surpassing my previous "pas de deux," I succeeded also in this operation.

I next led her towards the stable. There was a brief delay when old Daisy decided to deviate from her path in order to patronise the old drinking trough. I persuaded her to leave it and enter the stable; and then, half in and half out of the door, she decided on a prolonged rest. Let me ask another question. Have you ever tried a tug-of-war with a horse? If you have, you may understand how sore my arm was before she moved into her stall.

What harness to adorn her with was my next problem. A bridle and a collar were definitely necessary, but the saddle would not be required. Yes, I had better take the reins too. Which went on first, the bridle or the collar? The collar got my vote, and I set about putting it on. We all know what a nuisance starched collars are, but I have yet to find a collar as troublesome as that horse collar. Those of you who have studied horse collars will have noticed that they have a broad and a narrow end, and when they sit on the horse's neck the narrow end is uppermost. My biggest mistake was to try to place the collar round her neck in this position. Being a well-trained animal, she lowered her head into the collar, which promptly stuck about her eyebrows. She pushed and I pushed, and after a time the unequal struggle ended with her neck sliding into the collar.

After wiping the sweat from my brow, I picked up the bridle and was about to put the



bit in her mouth, when I began to wonder if the bit went above or below the tongue. Deciding to let her solve that problem herself, I placed the bit in the mouth which she so obligingly opened, and set about sorting her ears, which had become entangled in some straps.

On stepping back to rejoice at my success, I noticed her tongue hanging out, and, thinking I might choke her, pulled off the bridle and started anew. This time her tongue stayed put, and I set out proudly for the rake.

If you know about farming, you know what a drop I got on arriving. It is impossible to yoke a mare to a rake without saddle and breeching. But space is limited, and I draw a veil over the remainder of my adventures.

DAVID ROSS, VIc.

#### BY THE RIVER SPEY.

Down at the River Spey  
Where the water rushes by,  
The boys and girls play  
While the mothers watch up high.  
The little ones make sand pies,  
And the others have their swim.  
The one in the pram he howls and cries,  
The rain comes down and the sky is dim.

JOHN H. STUART, Pr. 6.

#### AMBITIONS.

Many of us, whilst in our early teens, have great ambitions about what we shall do when our schooldays are behind us.

To a few pupils their main ambition is to leave school and earn their own living, though often, on the last day, they have a few regrets about leaving school.

Other pupils intend to stay on at school and take their Higher Leaving Certificate, so as to benefit themselves with a more thorough education for their chosen work.

Often first ambitions die away or are buried, and other work is tried. I think it would be interesting to know how many do the work of their ambitions, and how many are either discouraged from achieving them or do not, for some reason, succeed. Out of those who do achieve their ambitions, I wonder how many are pleased and how many are disillusioned.

SYLVIA G. WARN, Vb.

#### OUR RECTOR.

Just now our school is very sad,  
Our Rector is retiring;  
The things he taught us through the years  
Were always most inspiring.  
He taught us all to play the game,  
And never cowards be,  
To work and play with all our might,  
And face life cheerfully.  
We'll miss our Rector very much,  
When he has gone away;  
And may he have a well-earned rest,  
With all our hearts we say.

MARY HOGG, IIb.

#### HOLIDAY FLASHES.

Below we append extracts from holiday experiences of Grantown pupils.

\* \* \*

The second part of an experiment started in 1951 by the Scottish National Camps Association, Ltd., proved to be an outstanding success. I refer to the 1952 Youth Camp held at Broomlee Camp School, West Linton. The object of the camps is to send each pupil back to his or her home school a better citizen and with a wider knowledge of how the other fellow lives. Great emphasis is laid on the ability to be "a good mixer," as the president of the E.I.S. put it. Every opportunity was given to the campers to make friends with one another, and there were numerous social functions held during the camp. Last year it was a wholly Scottish affair; but this year there were contingents from England, Wales and Ireland. I am happy to say that all mixed very well.

A. S. MACKENZIE, VIa.

\* \* \*

Motor traffic in Holland travels at an alarming rate, there being no speed limit. The trams and trains, which are mostly electric, also move much faster than their British counterparts. What is perhaps the strangest feature of the Dutch roads is to see waiting at a level crossing or at traffic lights, the literally hundreds of pedal cycles and cycles equipped with motors, which are in much commoner use than in Britain. In Rotterdam it is not uncommon to see a nun fly past on one at about thirty miles an hour, holding on for dear life.

ANGUS MACKINTOSH, IVa.

\* \* \*

The first place I wanted to see in London was Madame Tussauds. This is a place where wax-work figures of famous people are on view. One of the nicest sets was that of the Royal Family. The Queen and Queen Mother looked lovely in their dresses and sparkling jewellery.

CHERRY MATHIESON, Ia.

\* \* \*

The first place I went to see in London was Buckingham Palace. A garden party was being held that day; but I did not see any of the guests arriving. I saw Prince Charles going out for his afternoon drive, and as the car went through a side gate the blinds were drawn.

JEAN DONALD, IIb.

\* \* \*

Of all the villages I have seen, there is one, Ullapool, situated on the weather-beaten coast of Scotland facing the Atlantic, that fascinates me most. It is built on a ledge between the mountains and the waters of Loch Broom. Sometimes, when a cold wind hisses over the grey surface of the loch and a cold mist obscures the hills, the houses look grey and forbidding; but at other times the sun shines down on white-walled houses and blue water, while the gulls ride the restless waves.

NEIL M'TAGGART, IIIa.



**A VISIT TO BURNS' COTTAGE.**

One day last month we decided to visit Ayr. We saw many interesting places, but the one I was most interested in was Burns' Cottage.

The cottage is situated right on the main road, and you come upon it all of a sudden. The roof is very neatly thatched, and the doors and windows are painted green. It looks very picturesque in the sunlight.

We passed through the turnstile and read the notice on the wall which said that he was born there on January 25, 1759. Then we entered the cottage itself.

First we saw the stables where the horse, the cows and the cart would have been kept. The floor was cobbled, and the rafters were very low.

The next room would probably have been the living-room. In it we saw portraits of Robert Burns and his family. There was an old chair, a dresser with dishes, tables, old guns and a spinning wheel. There was also a bit of "the old brig o' Doon."

Our next move was to sign our names in the visitors' book, and having done that, we went into the last room, which was the bedroom. We saw a box-bed, the cradle in which Burns was rocked, and many other old pieces of furniture connected with himself and his family.

Another interesting place we visited was the museum, where many relics were exhibited. There were portraits of Burns and his wife Jean Armour. There were also portraits of his friends, Highland Mary and Clarinda.

In glass cases are preserved specimens of all his works, in his own handwriting. We saw the copy of "Auld Lang Syne" that was bought for hundreds of pounds, also manuscripts of "Afton Water," "Ye Banks and Braes," "There was a Lad," and "Scots Wha Hae." We also saw the family Bible, with the entries of the marriages, births and deaths in the family. This Bible was bought for the museum at over a thousand pounds.

Before leaving we bought some postcards and a miniature china copy of Burns' Cottage, to remind us of our most enjoyable visit to Ayr.

PATRICIA A. LAWRENCE, IIIa.

**A FLOOD.**

Down in England, in the south,  
Upou the hills above Lynmouth.  
A dreadful storm which suddenly broke  
Brought death or ruin to the folk.  
The fields were flooded, the houses struck  
down;  
Indeed it was a tragic town;  
The streams poured down from many a  
height;  
It surely was an awful sight.  
The army with bull-dozers tried  
To turn the raging stream aside;  
Let's hope their work will not be vain.  
And Lynmouth will be safe again.

P. McWILLIAM, IIb.

**THE STONE OF THE SPEY.**

Between the villages of Boat of Garten and Abernethy the River Spey is flowing round the base of Cairngorm. On the Abernethy bank there is a low, bare moorland which stretches to the pine forest on the lower slopes of the hills, while on the Boat of Garten or Duthil side there are very high banks, one of which has been cut off and surrounded by the river and now lies in mid-stream. The spreading of the river round this island created, what was for long, the only ford between the two parishes. On the left bank of the river not far below the ford, there lies what is known as "The Stone of the Spey."

This stone was first set up by William Grant, and the following inscription can be seen on it, "Erected at the request of the late William Grant, Slock, for a memorial of a signal manifestation of the Divine Power in dividing this water and causing a passage whereby the remains of a certain woman were carried over on dry ground."

As to the origin of the legend, which gave rise to this inscription, nothing is known with any degree of certainty. The story goes that a certain woman, known as Mary of Lurg, a native of the Duthil side of the river, married a farmer in Abernethy, and on her death-bed expressed the desire to be buried in her native parish. The Spey was running in high flood at the time, and when her friends mentioned this insuperable obstacle, she assured them there would be no difficulty, for immediately her coffin was allowed to touch the water a passage would be made for them. They carried out these instructions and so Mary of Lurg was laid to rest in the ancient burying ground of Duthil.

For a long time William Grant had wanted to erect a stone to commemorate the miraculous passage of the Spey, and on his death-bed he made a last urgent request to his friends. This request was carried out in March, 1865, when the stone was set up on the indicated bank. But after that, there were violent disagreements about it and even references from the local pulpits. In February, 1867, the Stone of the Spey was broken down and thrown into the bed of the river, where it lay for many years before it was brought once more to the edge of the stream where it now lies.

SHONA G. MacDOUGALL, VIIb.

**THE OLD MAN'S BROKEN LEG.**

An old man aged about sixty-five was knocked down in one of the busy streets of Glasgow by a motor car which ran over his right leg and broke it. A crowd soon gathered round him, but a policeman, who saw the accident and knew the man, came up with a stout stick, and, using this as a splint, tied it round the broken leg. To the amazement of the crowd, the old man got up and walked off. "How strange," said the crowd, "to think that an old man with a broken leg could walk like that."

"Not at all," said the policeman. "The broken leg was a wooden one."

JEAN LATING, IIa.



**OUR "PLAYROOM."**

The "playroom" would be the best name by which to describe it. This room seems to be the dumping place for odd bits of furniture. In it are a dozen chairs, a bench, an old trunk of books, and toys of all descriptions. There always seem to be toys about, whether they are tidied away or not.

On rainy days my little sister and I go to the playroom to play. Quite often we play at being mother and father, with dolls for our family. The furniture is arranged as a kitchen, a sitting-room, and a bedroom containing two beds. Then my little sister's playmate probably arrives, and the chairs are changed about to represent a hospital with two chairs put together for a bed. I am doctor and nurse in one, and my little sister and her friend are the patients. To fill the other beds we use dolls. By noon we have grown tired of hospitals, and change to ships in the afternoon.

Next day we transform the hospital to a theatre by putting two chairs together and shoving in front a big wooden chest which is the same height as the seats of the chairs. We usually quarrel when we have a theatre, as we cannot have equal parts for each of us. Anyway it does not matter, as it is only to an imaginary audience.

When we have a house we have toy dishes which always seem to land on the floor. I have often walked on a dish and, being no light weight, have squashed it, and then I have to straighten it out again. We have some plasticine which is shaped into eggs, buns, cakes, pies and anything we wish to have. The teapot lid has lost its handle, and an old pan that we have has got a leak.

Our latest venture is a caravan in which we have toured the country far and wide. Our travels have extended, so far, over two days. To-morrow, travels forgotten, we shall probably be alarming the household and the neighbourhood with a hilarious production of a Punch and Judy show.

LOUISE DIXON, IIIb.

**A COUNTRY WALK.**

One Sunday morning I took my walk;  
It always gave me great pleasure.  
As slowly over the old cart road  
I kept on at my leisure.

As I passed by burn and bridge,  
My thoughts they gently wandered.  
To scenes and friends of long ago,  
As quietly on I daundered.

EDITH ROSS, Ib.

**DAYDREAMS.**

Autumn leaves are falling down,  
Some are gold and some are brown;  
My favourite haunt is by the stream,  
When I used to sit and dream  
That I would be a sailor bold  
And sail the seven seas of old.

DAVID HOGG, Ia.

**A VISIT TO PRESTWICK AIRPORT.**

One fine sunny afternoon during my holidays I decided to pay a visit to Prestwick Airport, Scotland's international centre for air traffic. After paying my admission fee I entered the spectators' enclosure and settled down to watch the 'planes.

The first one to arrive was a B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser from Brazil, with 56 passengers on board, who left the 'plane and entered the hotel for a meal before continuing their journey to Germany. Then two members of the ground crew climbed on to the gigantic wings of the aircraft and began a routine check-up on the four 1400 horsepower engines.

The time soon arrived for the 'plane to leave, and the passengers were requested to return to their seats. One by one the engines started, and the 'plane wheeled slowly round and taxied up to the top of the runway, where it awaited the signal to take off. This came soon, and the aircraft started to move. Faster and faster it moved until I expected to see the wheels lift off the ground. Suddenly there was a blinding flash, and a red flame appeared out of the port engine.

Then, with wailing of sirens, two fire engines roared after the burning 'plane, which had now stopped at the end of the runway. The fire was soon extinguished, and a 'bus came to collect the pale-faced passengers, while the 'plane was hauled away by six tractors. But I could not stay all day at the airport; and I left after experiencing a much more thrilling time than I had expected.

COLIN KEITH, Ia.

**DOWN BY THE SPEY.**

You should walk down by the Spey,  
On a lovely summer's day,  
Under the shade of the trees.  
And, as sweet as church bells ringing,  
You can hear the blackbirds singing  
Mid the humming of the busy bees.  
You should walk down by the Spey  
On a frosty, snowy day.  
'Tis a scene you will remember,  
When you see the ice flow past,  
Through the stormy winter blast,  
In the cold month of December.

ALISON STUART, Ia.

**THE "CAPTURE."**

The moonlight streamed in at the small window. A shadowy form was seen to emerge from the shade and scuttle across the moonlit patch. A close observer would have noticed that it was nearing the crucial time—the time of certain death for the victim—but better to be safe than sorry, for only once too often had it escaped. Ah! Yes! Suddenly the stillness of the night was rent, no, not by a scream, but by a tiny metallic click. At last that fugitive the mouse was captured in the trap.

LOUISE MEARNS, IVb.



### WEATHER PREDICTIONS BY ANIMALS.

In our grandparents' time the ordinary person was far more expert in foretelling the weather than he is to-day. They had no meteorologists who pored over maps and charts and kept in constant touch by telegraph with the weather all over the country. Consequently they learned to use their mother wit, and they were much more dependent on the weather than we are at the present time. One way they adopted to foretell the weather was to study the habits of animals and birds.

Many of their beliefs were sheer nonsense; some of them were true only for the time and place when the rules were made; but a few of them are still true for us to-day. Let us then, next time we are in doubt as to what the weather is going to be, watch the behaviour of the animals and birds around us instead of relying altogether on the meteorological forecast.

Cats, it is said, wash right over their ears when rain is approaching and when a thunderstorm is brewing become restless, walking aimlessly about the house. In winter when cats sit with their backs to the fire, snow can be expected. We can easily tell from the activities of the farmyard animals when rain is likely. For example, the braying of a donkey or the flying of domestic geese for no palpable reason is a sign of rain. If ducks are noticed going out on to the grass fields in the daytime in search of snails, a shower may usually be looked for, and sheep in mountainous districts will change their feeding ground to the lee side of the hills before severe gales and rain.

Bees are very sensitive to atmospheric changes. When they return to the hive and do not come out again for some time, rain is indicated. Working bees, when collecting honey, are said to be so afraid of bad weather that if a cloud obscures the sun they will hurry home. Spiders too are sensitive to rain, for when it is likely to be wet they spin only short threads.

Birds are fine weather prophets. When the shrill voice of the peacock is heard, a change of weather is probable. If the swallow flies high, it is a sign of fine weather, but when it keeps near to the ground, coats and umbrellas are likely to be called for. The movements of rooks were important weather symptoms to our grandparents. When they settle noisily upon trees and fly hither and thither instead of going straight away, a wet day is probable. If they are flying low in winter, going and returning silently, before sunrise and after sunset, a hard frost may be expected.

These then are some of the ways in which animals and birds, by their seemingly uncanny instincts, reveal to us the fickle, mischievous plots of the Weather Clerk. Of course, we must not rely too implicitly on these signs but on the whole, I think, they are a fairly dependable guide to the coming weather.

JOHN COUTTS, IVb.

### APPOINTMENT WITH FEAR.

On the white glossy card in front of me were the words: "Your appointment is at noon." I glanced furtively at the clock—it was eleven forty-five. Could I go on with the task? With my heart pounding I picked up my coat and went out into the bleak autumn morning. The wind was whistling, and the leaves were flying, and everything seemed grim and desolate.

Soon in front of me was a huge, bare house. The granite of the walls was blackened with the driving rain, and the tinted autumn leaves swirled around the doorway. With my heart in my mouth, I summoned up all my courage and pulled the gleaming brass bell.

The door was opened slowly by a pleasant-faced young lady who showed me into a small room. I was alone in the room, which was silent save for the ticking of the clock. "Tick-tock-tick-tock." I began to imagine all sorts of things, and, at last, picked up a book which was lying near me. I turned over the title page and saw that it was a book of Barrie's Essays. As I glanced further down the page, I read a footnote which said: "The essay on courage is omitted in this volume and is published separately." What irony!

"Ding-dong-ding-dong." I nearly jumped off my seat. It was the clock striking noon—the appointed hour! The pleasant-faced girl opened the door and requested me to follow her. I arose, my knees quaking, and an icy hand seemed to clutch my heart. There was a tightness in my throat, and my lungs seemed to be held in a vice of iron, and I could scarcely breathe! I knew this terror must be faced, and, hoping I did not show the fear I felt, I walked into the room.

This room was shining white with gleaming chromium, and there, standing beside a big chair was a tall portly man whose black hair was flecked with grey. He was dressed in a white coat, and as he invited me to be seated, I saw with horror a small spot of blood, staining the snow-white garment. He walked behind me, and I could hear the sound of rushing water. I was too afraid to look, but, when he once more came into my field of vision, I saw in his hand a syringe with a long-pointed needle. This he pressed into my gum, which soon felt stiff and swollen. Next he took a pair of pincers, and, with a sharp twist, he extracted a small piece of ivory from my mouth.

There in front of me was that tooth which had caused me so many restless and disturbed nights. It would not trouble me again. I had kept my appointment with fear.

ELIZABETH M. R. MACKENZIE, IVb.

### SUDDENLY.

Suddenly the sun  
Came sliding into sight,  
And half the house was shadowy,  
And half the house was bright;  
Down in the garden all the trees  
Stretched out their branches and shook their  
leaves.

GRANT MILNE, Ia.



### POSTAGE STAMPS.

The first adhesive postage stamps ever issued were the famous penny black and two-penny blue which were the fruit of many years' work by Sir Rowland Hill and other pioneers. They were issued in Great Britain on the sixth of May, 1840. As they were imperforate, they had to be cut from the sheet with scissors. The first perforated stamps were issued in 1854.

Brazil and Switzerland followed Great Britain's example in 1843. Belgium, Bavaria, France, Mauritius and the United States of America began to issue stamps between 1847 and 1849. Other countries followed, and to-day almost every country in the world has its own stamps.

There are square, diamond-shaped, oblong, circular, oval, triangular and even eight-sided stamps. The largest stamps are the newspaper stamps of 1865 which were issued in the United States of America. The smallest stamps are the ten cent. and one peso values of Bolivar, which appeared in 1863. The highest value on a stamp available for postage is one hundred pounds. Stamps bearing such a value were issued by Victoria and by Kenya and Uganda. The oddest currency used on a stamp is probably the "cowrie" currency of Uganda. Cowries are shells and one thousand of them were worth three shillings before the second World War. The cowrie stamps were issued in 1895 and 1896.

Errors are not uncommon on stamps. Sirmoor issued a stamp on which was a picture of an elephant. The elephant had its hind legs turned the wrong way. Greece once issued a stamp to commemorate an English admiral. The designer omitted the christian name, thus the stamp bore a portrait of Sir Codrington. In 1947, in Australia, a stamp appeared with a portrait and the name Lieutenant John Shortland. The portrait was not of him, but of his father.

When one knows a little about stamps, they cease to be mere coloured labels, and collecting them can become a fascinating and instructive hobby.

GEORGE A. DIXON, VIa.

### THE BEGINNING OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Baptist movement was begun in Grantown about 1808 by a man of the name of Lachlan Macintosh, who came from Rothiemurchus. Macintosh, who was baptised in Bristo Place Baptist Church, Edinburgh, was regarded at first as a heretic by the villagers, and was practically ordered out of the village.

However, a Mr Alex. Grant of Anagach, and later of Achnafairn, who had heard Macintosh preach at Rothiemurchus, gave him a room in his house to carry on his meetings. There the Baptist Church was formed, and the membership consisted of seven people, all of whom had been baptised in the river Spey by Macintosh. The Laird of Grant, on hearing of these goings on, forbade Macintosh to

preach in any building on the estate. The church grew, however, in spite of persecution, and at last Macintosh procured a house in the High Street, and continued his meetings there. As there was no baptistry in this chapel, the converts were baptised in the numerous streams near Grantown.

The next place of worship was a gravel pit, where the present church now stands, and it was here that Peter Grant was converted and later baptised. From then on he started preaching, and as well as being a preacher he was also a poet, and to this day his hymns are sung by Highlanders at home and abroad. In 1826 he was unanimously chosen pastor, and remained so for forty-one years. For many years he received no salary, but supported himself by selling produce of his farm at Ballentua.

The first proper church was situated where the Royal Bank stands to-day. Soon, however, this church was too small to hold the crowds who flocked to Grantown to hear this great poet-minister, and it was resolved to build a larger place of worship.

The site which was granted by the Earl of Seafield was the old gravel pit, and the church was opened on 19th September, 1851, with a membership of almost three hundred.

SHEENA R. M'INTOSH, VIIb.

### GHOSTS AND FAIRIES IN ROTHIEMURCHUS.

Rothiemurchus is the home of inexplicable stories concerning ghosts and spirits. Here I am going to tell of some of these spirits.

One of them is known by the Gaelic word signifying a mole which is famh (pronounced "fav"). This creature is somewhat larger than a mole, of a brownish colour, with a large head disproportionate to its body. It appears to be an occasional visitor to this world, and its intentions are evil and dangerous. It is only seen about the dawn, and if any living creature crosses the track over which it has passed, before the sun shines on it, certain death is the consequence. It is possible that this curious legend arose from the survival into early historic times of some small Arctic beast (such as the lemming) that has since become extinct in Scotland.

Another story concerns "Ferlas Mor," or the "Big Grey Man," who haunts the summit of Ben Macdhui. He is said to be of great size, and his paces are as long as three of an ordinary man. A woman told me just this year that a famous lecturer had been speaking of "Ferlas Mor," and it seems that "Ferlas Mor" is also the "Abominable Snowman" of Mount Everest.

Fairies dance on a peculiarly-shaped hill above Lochan Uaine. Once a shepherd named Robin Og stole their tiny fairy bagpipes, but when dawn came he found that he had only a puff-ball with a few blades of grass attached to it.

These are just a few of the strange legends of Rothiemurchus.

WALTER DEMPSTER, IVa.



## WARFARE.

"Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them."

The above passage, taken from the book of Esther, shows us that man's main occupation even in biblical times was that of fighting. During the centuries from the Stone Age to the present day, customs have changed, dress and food have altered, but nations are still striving one against the other. The desire to be powerful, the inability to agree has been present with man from the beginnings of time. As far back as records go there has been war.

The following passages, the first from a history book and the second from a daily newspaper, illustrate the ever-present menace of war:—

"The battle began just before mid-day, and by three of the afternoon ten of the allied ships had been destroyed, eighteen more had been captured, and Nelson was lying dead in the cockpit of the Victory."

"U.N. planes flew out over North Korea despite low clouds to attack front line positions and troop and supply lines."

In the olden days armies assembled facing each other. At the sound of a war cry they would rush on each other, killing with whatever weapons they had, and as often as not slaying their own side. They were fierce bloodthirsty warriors and they were not particular what cruelty they inflicted.

We are apt to smile at these almost ridiculous scenes as shown on the films. We civilised people in the twentieth century are thankful that we are not living in such a brutal age. But is our time so civilised? Is fighting with bombs and artillery more civilised than fighting with spears and lances? The results are just the same. War is so unnecessary, yet we do not seem to be able to live without it.

I am sure that if our so-called barbaric ancestors revisited the earth at the present time, they would shiver in their armour, clutch their swords, and wish with all their might for 1066 and the Battle of Hastings.

JAMES N. MACDONALD, Vc.

## THE LOCH NESS MONSTER.

What is the fabulous creature which is said to inhabit Loch Ness? Is it a real visible object, a fantasy or an optical illusion?

As to its reality, many plausible explanations have been made, describing the object as a rotting trunk, a dead whale, otters, a seal and so on. Yet none of these have been made good.

Tradition strangely supports belief in the existence of a monster. It is said that when St Columba visited the district in 565, he was crossing the loch when he saw on the shore a crowd of people, among whom was a man who had been bitten by a monster which was there, basking in the loch. The saint

promptly ordered the creature away, and it obeyed, fleeing into the depths of the loch. Other appearances of a monster in Loch Ness are said to have taken place in later times.

In 1934, Sir E. M. Mountain was staying at Beaufort Castle, some miles north of Loch Ness. He financed and organised a very intensive search for the monster over a period of four or five weeks. Several photographs were obtained, and also a film. The reports of the search and photographs seemed to afford proof that there was an unexplained animal of some kind in the loch but did not clear up the problem further.

In 1947 the monster was seen by an Inverness bank manager and his wife along with some friends. A camp of boys from Inverness saw it for about 30 minutes. Altogether there are many witnesses to this strange creature.

There are even details of its appearance. It has a head and neck like a huge swan, or like a serpent's head. The neck is usually vertical when the monster is moving, but when it is at rest the head and neck sometimes move up and down to the water through an arc of a circle.

And so it goes on. Some refuse to believe in the creature's reality, while some take it seriously enough to study it and its habits. But "Nessie's" great value, after all, is in the boost she gives to the tourist trade of Inverness.

MORNA MACKENZIE, Vb.

## COBWEBS.

Early on a winter morning,  
The most wondrous things to see  
Are the frost-clad cobwebs  
Hanging from hedge or tree.  
Their diamonds of matchless beauty,  
Strung on threads of silken gauze,  
Woven in a wheel-like pattern,  
Make clumsy humans pause.

RACHAEL COWIE, IIIb.

## THE GOOGLE.

The Google is a stupid bird,  
The kind of which is seldom heard;  
His face is green, his body blue  
And covered o'er with lumps of glue.  
He feeds on plums and processed cheese,  
Bullseyes, jam, and even peas;  
But if you dare to mention Hay,  
He'll eat you up, mind what I say.  
He lives on top of a Humbug tree,  
In company with a honey bee,  
Who gives him honey, so that he  
Can mix it with his plums, you see.  
As I have said, he is not wise,  
But he has a way of making eyes  
At lady penguins, passing by,  
Who glare at him with hostile eye.  
The Google is a stupid bird,  
The kind of which is seldom heard;  
His face is green, his body blue  
And covered o'er with lumps of glue.

ANDREW HOWLETT, IIa.



### THE THREAT OF MATERIALISM.

It is not often that this busy twentieth century gives us "time to stand and stare," but when it does our thoughts almost invariably revolve round hydrogen bombs, space-ships, television, water speed records or some such other down-to-earth scientific subject. Our whole lives are run on a basis of reasoned scientific thought. It is obvious then to even the most superficial observer that we are living in a materialistic age.

Materialism is no new menace. From very early times it seems to have threatened man's power of imagination. The Greeks, a very scientific people, found an outlet for their imagination in the works of Homer. Through the medium of his verse they found that they could escape from the narrow confines of their world of reasoning to the fairy-tale world of Odysseus.

The Romans made their "escape" in much the same way. In their case it was Virgil who whisked them away to a land where the imagination had no confining limits. In this land they could follow the goodly Æneas through the realms of the Underworld, could be with the Trojans at the time of the siege of Troy, or go wherever they wished with the certain knowledge that they would come back to earth with their stale minds refreshed.

Down through the years man has always found some way of letting his imagination run riot. The Scandinavian peoples had their sagas, mediæval France its troubadours and the other European countries their wandering minstrels.

With the Renaissance man turned again to the classical authors for his mental refreshment. Later, drama and poetry provided stimulants for minds weary of a materialistic world, and thus the endless cycle of escape and capture went on until our own century, the most materialistic of all.

By what medium are we to make our escape? We scorn the classical authors because we find them difficult. Moreover, we consider the mythological figures as rather childish, and few of us would admit that we enjoy the story of some classical personality such as Æneas, for fear of incurring the ridicule of our fellow-men. There are no minstrels in this twentieth century.

Although classical literature is out of the question, there are some who can escape from materialism by means of our own English literature. Those few must generally be intellectuals. Shakespeare's plays and imaginative poetry are usually written in rather difficult language with the inevitable result that only those who have gone fairly deeply into the subject of English literature can appreciate its gems.

Man's power of imagination is, in some cases, saved from total extinction by the study of history. The few people who find an outlet for their imagination in this subject must become fewer and fewer, if history continues to be taught in schools as it is taught to-day. Materialism has so far stifled our power of imagination that few of us can contemplate a historical object and see in it

more than just a piece of stone, cloth or whatever else the object in question may be. If one were to show someone a piece perhaps of a dress of Mary Queen of Scots, that person would probably see only a tattered bit of cloth. His imagination would be so subdued that he would fail to see the whole dress and fail to feel the presence of the personality that wore it.

Man's desire to escape, even for a short time from the world of reasoning and realism has shown itself in modern art. Through this medium man can create a world of his own; he does not create a picture which is true to life in every detail. What he wants is to escape from the material world. He casts reason to the winds; he finds an outlet for his imagination.

It is evident, then, that man must have the opportunity to use his power of imagination. Bearing this in mind, I do not suggest that we should remove all thought of realism from our minds, nor do I suggest that materialism is a great wrong, but I do put forward a plea for a little less of it and I venture to say that in the very near future an anti-materialism reaction will occur and we shall witness a return to a mode of life in which man shall have a greater opportunity to air his inborn powers of imagination.

ALEX L. GORDON, VIa.

### SCHOOL OFFICIALS.

#### Boys.

School Captain—David Ross.  
Vice-Captain—Sandy Mackenzie.  
Football Captain—David Ross.  
Vice-Captain—Angus Mackintosh.  
Cricket Captain—Robert M'Kenzie.  
Vice-Captain—Walter Dempster.  
Secretary to Prefects' Court — Robert M'Kenzie.  
Librarian and Museum Curator — George Dixon.  
House Captains—  
Revoan—Sandy Mackenzie.  
Revack—John Coutts.  
Roy—Sandy Gordon.  
Prefects—Sandy Gordon, Sandy Mackenzie, David Ross, George Dixon, David Fraser, Robert M'Kenzie, James Macdonald, Stephen Anderson, John Coutts, Ian Campbell.

#### Girls.

Captain—Mona Scott.  
Vice-Captain—Joan Fraser.  
Hockey Captain—Shona MacDougall.  
Vice-Captain—Sheena Ogilvie.  
Secretary—Sheena M'Intosh.  
House Captains—  
Revack—Shona MacDougall.  
Roy—Isobel M'Andrew.  
Revoan—Violet Gordon.  
Prefects—Mona Scott, Joan Fraser, Shona MacDougall, Sheena M'Intosh, Sheena Ogilvie, Morna Mackenzie, Wilma Watt, Betty Macdonald, Isobel M'Andrew, Violet Gordon, Sylvia Warn, Patricia Grant, Eliz. Mackenzie, Eliz. MacGillivray.



## SPORTS SECTION.

### FOOTBALL.

Uncertain weather, both in winter and in summer, adversely affected all sports fixtures last session. The house competitions in football were not so good, owing to the preponderance of good footballers in Revoan, who were easy winners. Matches with outside teams were limited.

The exchanges with Kingussie were again even. At Kingussie the home team won, 3-2, the Grantown goals being scored by Ritchie and Mackintosh. At Grantown the score was 5-3 for the home team, Ritchie having four goals and Mackintosh one. Another home game with Aberlour Orphanage proved uneven. The Aberlour boys were too light, and lost 0-6. Some other less representative games were played.

The composition of the team did not vary much from the preceding season. Sime again did well as goalie. David Ross, as centre-half, was the bulwark of the defence. John Coutts, again promising, played as full back; Iain Burgess played in the half-line; and Robert Mackenzie and Stephen Anderson made their debut as defenders. In the forward line, Ian Ritchie, as centre-forward, and Angus Mackintosh, as outside-right, were forceful players, the other forward players usually being Johnnie MacGregor, Hendry and M'Cook. Maxwell Smith and Keith Donaldson also played for the team. Of these players, Sime, Burgess, Ritchie, Hendry, M'Cook and Smith have left school; of the new players Shaw, Gordon, Dempster and Maclean look like making the grade.

### HOCKEY.

Hockey was hard hit by the weather, the usual fixtures with Kingussie and Dufftown being cancelled. Some practice was given by three Staff v. Pupils games; and there seems to be the prospect of a good team this year, with a good mixture of seasoned players and promising youngsters.

\* \* \* \* \*

### CRICKET.

A particularly dull June curtailed cricket very much; and the usual house games were not played. The usual two fixtures with the Old Guard were played. In these the school put up a reasonably good show, though they failed to defeat the veterans.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SCHOOL SPORTS.

In the House Championships the Revoan boys more or less swept the boards with 95 points. Revack girls were best in the girls' events with 50 points. David Ross was a worthy boys' champion with 25 points, the runner-up, Ian Ritchie, having 15. In the girls' championship, the issue was much closer, Shona MacDougall retaining her title with 13 points and Wilma Watt following with 10. Champion in the junior boys' events was Angus Mackintosh, for the second time, while Donald Grant had 8 points, 7 points behind. Tina Bruce, with 7 points, ran Wilma Irving, with 8 points, very closely for the championship of the junior girls. The school sports were favoured by one of the few good days which June provided.

## THE OLD GUARD.

### OLD GUARD ACTIVITIES.

Our past season has been one of the quietest in recent years. The reason for this was, of course, the exceptionally cold and wet summer. Cricket was practically washed out and climbing was restricted to a few rather "misty" outings.

The year began with the Annual Reunion. Many members of the Old Guard attended this happy function and many old friendships were renewed. The remaining months of winter were mainly taken up with badminton; and although the Old Guard did not have a club of its own last year, many played in other clubs. Our outstanding players were Lewis Rattray—who, partnering Mr Ferguson of Carrbridge, won the men's doubles in the Grantown Badminton Tournament—A. Martin Grant, Albert Anderson and James M'Leod. Among the younger players who showed great promise were John Cumming and James M'Millan.

After winter we looked forward with high

hopes to cricket, golf and climbing; but, alas, the weather kept us off the cricket pitch and forced us to cancel many Cairngorm outings. We did, however, manage to play two cricket matches early in the season. The first, against the School, was won comfortably. The second, against R.E.M.E. proved that we had a reasonably good team; our first six batsmen made 102 runs in 75 minutes and our bowlers dismissed R.E.M.E. for 56. D. M'Taggart, Jock Winchester, Edwin Munro and Ian M'Pherson all did well.

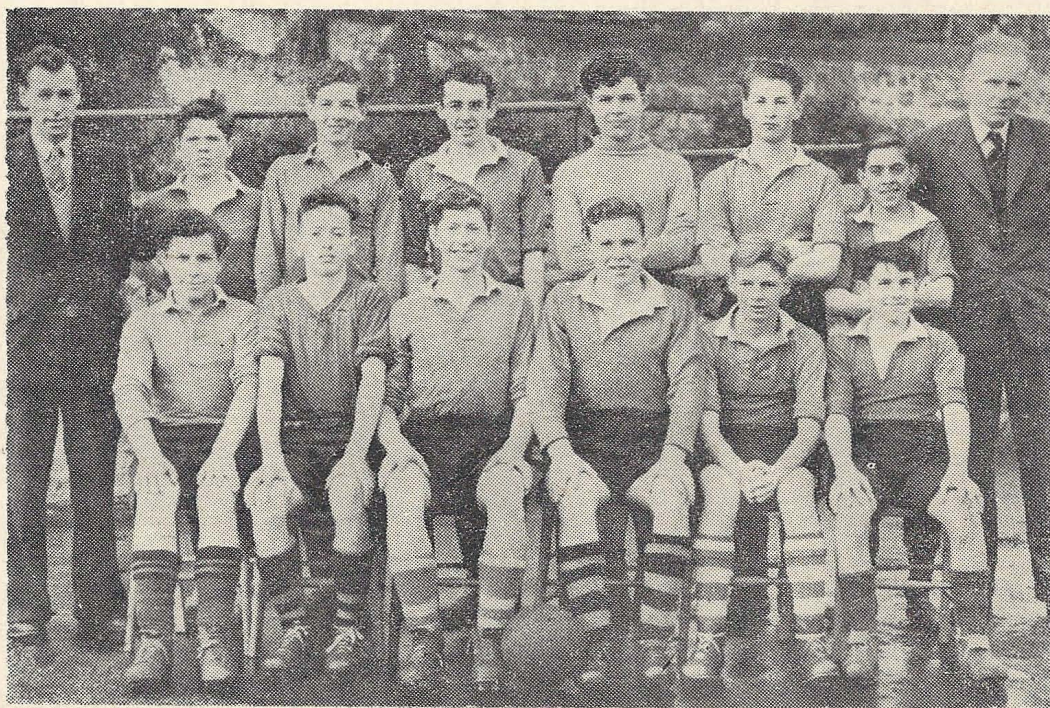
A member of the club who excelled on the golf course was Tommy Rattray, who won the Grantown Golf Club Championship for the fourth year in succession, the Law Cup, Muckerack Cup and Miller Trophy (the Annual Open Amateur Tournament). James Bruce won the Club Medal and Charles J. Lawson was third in the Club Championship.

Our climbing section earned some publicity. Unfortunately, bad weather cut down the number of expeditions; but in August we





Hockey XI., 1952-53.



Football XI., 1952-53.



had four outings: and many visitors were amongst those who climbed Ben Macdhui, Braeriach, Cairngorm, Cairn Lochan, and Bynack Mhor. The outstanding personality was Laurence Jack. His knowledge of the routes, unending patience with older and slower members of the parties and his keen sense of humour were admired by all. Laurence was assisted by Willie Cruickshank, Hamish Marshall, Bill Templeton and Albert Anderson.

In football the Old Guard entered a team for the Amenities five-a-side tournament. We were beaten, unfortunately, in the first round by R.E.M.E., the ultimate winners. For Grantown F.C. this summer, John Cumming, Ian Mortimer and Sandy Clark played throughout the season, while Bill Templeton, Frank Calder and John Duncan played in several games. Jock Winchester had really "hung up his boots," but being persuaded to turn out one evening for Grantown, had the misfortune to fall and break his wrist. Ian Macpherson and Bertie Grant played for Nethybridge F.C.

James and Jock Winchester and Angus Shand were members of the Grantown Rifle Club which won the Moray and Nairn "B" Division Championship and "B" League Cup, the Moray, Nairn and Banffshire "B" Division Championship and the Strathspey and Badenoch League Championship. Chad and Bob Ross shot excellently for Dulnain-Bridge, who did well in the Moray and Nairn "A" Division and were runners-up in the Strathspey and Badenoch League.

From these achievements it will be seen that, individually, we are an active club; and the Committee hope that before long we shall be able to reform the football, shooting and golf sections which were features of pre-war days. Our cricket section has acquired two new bats, and we hope that we shall have the weather next summer to use them.

Finally, a word about the most memorable event of the year. At the end of October we said farewell to Mr Hunter as Rector of the School. Mr Hunter has always been a good friend to the Club, being its Hon. Vice-President since its inception in 1933, and has always helped us in every way, especially in granting us the use of School sports' equipment and the School field. It has been a great pleasure for members to show their esteem and appreciation of his kindness in making him a suitable presentation on the eve of his departure. We, of the Old Guard, wish both Mr and Mrs Hunter a long and happy retirement.

WILLIAM G. TEMPLETON.

#### OLD GUARD MEMBERS—1951-52.

##### Office-Bearers.

Honorary President—Frank C. Hendry, M.C., O.B.E., Shalimar, Woodside Ave.; late captain, Indian Army and Merchant Navy; author.

Honorary Vice-President—Thomas Hunter, M.A., B.Sc. (Glasgow), Rosemount, Woodside Avenue; rector (retired) (1927-52), Grantown Grammar School.

President—William J. Cruickshank (1933-35), Hazel Bank, Grant Road; agent, Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd.

Vice-Presidents—A. Martin Grant (1931-35), High Lea Cottage, Woodside Ave.; cycle agent, High Street. Peter S. Macpherson (1926-29), Struan, Grant Road; manager, D. Strachan & Co., grocers, wine and spirit merchants, 15 High Street.

Secretary and Treasurer — William G. Templeton (1942-48), The Lodge, Castle Grant; clerk, National Bank of Scotland, The Square.

\*Editor—Robert Wilson, M.A. (Aberdeen), 37 Braeside Terrace, Aberdeen; classics master, Aberdeen Grammar School.

#### WITH THE FORCES.

\*R. J. Douglas Gibson (1940-45), M.B., Ch.B. (St Andrews), The Knoll, Wade's Road; surgeon-lieutenant, H.M.S. Charity, c/o G.P.O., London.

William M. Kerr (1943-44), 22 The Square; signaller, H.M.S. Rifleman, Malta.

Robert J. Lawson (1944-45), 18 Castle Road; A.C.I., R.A.F., Padgate.

D. J. McDonald (1950-52), 19 Lynstock Crescent, Nethybridge; awaiting call-up.

William McIntosh (1942-46), Cambræ, Cromdale; A.B., Q.M. Rating, H.M.S. Indomitable.

\*Peter McNicol (1933-35), 85 High Street; petty officer, H.M.S. Indomitable.

\*George J. Paton (1945-46), 19 South Street; A.C., R.A.F., Bridgnorth, Salop.

Lewis Rattray (1946-49), 12 Woodburn Place; private, Seaforth Highlanders, Fort-George.

Alexander D. Smith (1931-32), 103 High Street; 27 Valiant Avenue, West Park, Higher St Budeaux, Plymouth; sick berth petty officer, Royal Navy.

D. Maxwell Smith (1947-52), 19A Castle Road; Leader Training Wing, "A" Coy., Fort-George.

\*Thomas B. Stuart (1944-50), 8 Grampian Crescent, Boat of Garten; craftsman, R.E.M.E. Station Workshops, Fayid, M.E.L.F. 15.

Andrew J. Wright (1946-49), 37 Kylintra Crescent; private, 1st Bn. Seaforth Highlanders, B.A.O.R. 3.

#### At Universities and Colleges.

Iain C. Burgess (1946-52), The Larches; 1st year arts, Glasgow University.

G. W. Gordon McGregor (1945-51), Ivy Bank, High Street; 2nd year science, Aberdeen University.

Michael H. McTaggart (1943-49), Easter Gallovie, Dulnain-Bridge; 2nd year physics, Edinburgh University.

W. Donald McTaggart (1945-51), Easter Gallovie, Dulnain-Bridge; 2nd year arts, St Andrews University.

\*J. Raymond M. Philip (1943-44), M.A. (St Andrews), Strathspey Hotel; student, Union College, Schenectady, U.S.A.



John Ross (1926-32), Ivy Cottage, Dulnain-Bridge; 14 Greyhound Road, Philiplane, Tottenham, London; engineer, Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., Battersea, London, W.2.

\*Leslie G. Ross (1927-29), (Bailieward); 2 Westfield Avenue, Edinburgh, 11; salesman, Deestox Luggage Co.

Victor J. Ross (1930-37), H.W.C., A.M.I.E.E., Ivy Cottage, Dulnain-Bridge; 41 Munro Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow, W.3; Scottish Area Sales Engineer, Scottish Cables, Ltd., Renfrew.

W. Gordon Smith (1937-43), 103 High Street; police constable, Banffshire Constabulary, Banff.

\*Angus M. Stuart (1929-36), Dunedin, High Street; 9 Beacondale Road, Upper Norwood, London, S.E. 19; structural engineer, London Transport Executive.

Donald Stuart (1928-32), Vulcan Cottage, Market Road; 4 Nayland Road, Mile End, Colchester, Essex; male nurse, Serveralls Hospital, Colchester.

Lachlan A. Stuart (1934-37), 104 High Street; 24 West End, Whitehills, Banffshire; police constable, Banffshire Constabulary.

\*Alistair G. Surtees (1935-42), 107 High Street; 40 Horniman Drive, London, S.E. 23; clerk, Civil Service.

\*Richard Surtees (1928-33), 107 High Street; 12 Cheeseman Court, Sydenham, London; sergeant, Metropolitan Police.

\*W. Robert Surtees (1931-33), 107 High Street; 10 Broomfield Avenue, Eastwood, Southend-on-Sea; constable (traffic patrols), Southend Police.

Lewis Sutherland (1939-40), Morven, Castle Road East; 6 West Avenue, Renfrew; engineer, Messrs Babcock and Wilcox, Ltd., Renfrew.

Gordon D. Templeton (1929-33), The Lodge, Castle Grant; 32 Ashgrove Road West, Aberdeen; commercial traveller, Messrs James Watson, Aberdeen.

\*Roderick J. D. Thomson (1934-36), 84 High Street; 2nd cook and baker, Ben Line Steamers, Ltd., Edinburgh.

William Thomson (1930-34), 84 High Street; 47 Forresterhill Road, Aberdeen; grocery manager, N.A.A.F.I., Aberdeen.

\*Herbert John Wright (1935-41), B.Sc. (Engineering) (Aberdeen), 34 High Street, Barnsthorpe, Cobham, Surrey; assistant contracts engineer, Messrs Babcock and Wilcox, London.

#### Local Members.

Albert Anderson (1932-34), 93 High Street; storeman, No. 24 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E.

\*James G. Bruce (1924-30), Sunnyside, Woodside Avenue; partner, Messrs James Bruce and Sons, Coal Merchants.

Donald Calder (1941-43), 20 Castle Road; carpenter and joiner, No. 24 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E.

Frank Calder (1941-43), Ballieward; forester, Seafield Estates.

George Cameron (1930-32), 38 The Square; District Clerk and Burgh Treasurer.

Alexander Clark (1939-41), Dulnain-Bridge; mechanic, S.C.W.S., Ltd.

Andrew Clark (1940-42), Castle Road; electrician, North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board.

William Cruickshank (1926-30), (Rosebank, Cromdale); 112 High Street; manager, Ironmongery Department, S.C.W.S., The Square.

John A. Cumming (1940-41), 18 Castle Road; vanman, Messrs Coopers, The Square.

William Dunbar (1937-39), Castle Road; salesman, Messrs Mackenzie and Cruickshank, ironmongers.

John Duncan (1942-47), Castle Road East, baker's assistant, Mr John Duncan, High Street.

Herbert Grant (1942-45), Topperfettle; farmer.

George Hamilton (1944-48), Tullochgribban Farm, Dulnain-Bridge; farmer.

\*Albert Hastings (1942-46), 42 High Street; butcher, J. K. Hastings, High Street.

Hugh J. B. Hogg (1944-49), 11 South Street; lorry driver, Messrs James Bruce and Sons, Coal Merchants, Woodside Avenue.

Ian Hogg (1946-48), Inverallan; assistant pumpman, Scottish Oils and Shell Mex. Ltd.

Arthur Innes (1946-47), 17 Kyntra Crescent; mechanic, Balfour's Garage.

Johnstone Innes (1945-46), Heathbank; driver, North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board.

Gordon W. Jack (1935-37), Silverdale, South Street; postal and telegraph officer, G.P.O., Grantown; town councillor.

Laurence S. Jack (1938-39), Victoria Institute, High Street; mechanic, Messrs R. Grant, Cycle Agents, High Street.

James Johnson (1943-48), 16 The Square; demobilised July, 1952.

John A. Kennedy (1945-48), The Dell Farm, Nethybridge; farmer.

Charles J. Lawson (1936-38), Grange Cottage, Castle Road; joiner, Mr Charles Lawson, 18 Castle Road.

Findlay M'Andrew (1949-50), Achnafearn Farm Cottage; apprentice, S.C.W.S., Ltd.

Stuart M'Cook (1948-52), Larch Cottage, Spey Bridge; clerk, Bank of Scotland.

Ian Macdonald (1947-49), Ballintomb; apprentice plumber, Mr M'Robert, Plumber, High Street.

Basil M'Intosh (1946-49), 87 High Street; upholsterer, Messrs Beale and Pyper, The Square.

Ian C. M'Intosh (1936-42), National Diploma (mechanical engineering), Waverley, High Street.

Lewis A. M'Intosh (1934-39), Waverley, High Street; proprietor, Gordon Hall Hotel.



Alexander Mackenzie, M.A. (Aberdeen), Kynlra Crescent; principal modern languages master, Grantown Grammar School; town councillor and burgh treasurer.

James M'Leod (1927-28), 11 Kynlra Crescent; master builder.

James M'Millan (1946-49), 129 High Street; apprentice bricklayer, Messrs James M'Leod and Son, Builders, Grant Road.

Ian D. Macpherson (1930-35), (Thornhill, Castle Road), Ivy Cottage, Nethybridge; district agent, Prudential Assurance Co.

James Macpherson (1946-48), The Neuk, Nethybridge; cinema operator, Mr H. C. Stewart, Nethybridge.

William J. M'William (1934-36), Silverdale, South Street; manager, The Dundee Equitable, High Street.

James B. Marshall (1941-47), Elmgrove; forester, Seafield Estates.

William Mitchell (1947-48), 20 Castle Road East; cinema operator, Caledonian Cinemas.

Ian R. Mortimer (1932-35), Ravelrig, Woodside Avenue; plumber, Mr George Mortimer.

\*Edwin M. Munro (1928-33), B.E.M., B.Com. (Edinburgh); proprietor, Coppice Hotel, Grant Road.

John L. Paterson (1927-29), Springfield, High Street; partner, Messrs L. Paterson and Son, Plasterers.

James Rattray (1927), 13 South Street; Grantown Water Manager.

\*Charles E. Ross (1924-26), Ivy Cottage, Dulnain-Bridge; partner, Messrs J. Ross and Co., Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Dulnain-Bridge.

David Ross (1936-37), Ben Mhor Bungalow, Grant Road; chef, Ben Mhor Hotel.

Grant Ross (1947-48), Broom Park Cottage, Craggan; apprentice mechanic, Messrs John Ross and Co., Dulnain-Bridge.

John C. Ross (1944-46), Broom Park Cottage, Craggan; telegraph messenger.

Robert Ross (1928-32), Cairngorm View, Dulnain-Bridge; partner, Messrs John Ross and Co., Dulnain-Bridge.

Angus Shand (1940-42), 22 The Square; storeman, No. 24 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E.

Fraser Sime (1950-52), Police Station House; upholsterer, Messrs Beale & Pyper, High Street.

\*Ian Grant Smith (1943-46), Auchernack; farmer.

John A. Stephen (1938-41), Connielea, High Street; sales and service representative, Morayshire Motors.

John R. Stuart (1932-38), 1 Spey Avenue; bookseller, Messrs Angus Stuart, High Street; town councillor.

Alan Taylor (1942-43), 8 Castle Road; driver, North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board.

\*David Winchester (1930-34), Northholme, Castle Road; assistant postmaster.

\*James Winchester (1924-26), Northholme, Castle Road; branch manager, Employment Exchange.

### BIRTHS.

JACK.—On 25th November, 1951, to Mr and Mrs Gordon W. C. Jack (Mary M'William), Silverdale, South Street, a son (Alistair William).

MUNRO.—On 18th September, 1952, to Mr and Mrs Edwin Munro, Coppice Hotel, a son (Michael Alexander).

PATERSON.—On 19th March, 1952, to Mr and Mrs John L. Paterson, Springfield, High Street, a son (Ian Lachlan).

ROSS.—On 31st December, 1951, to Mr and Mrs Leslie G. Ross, 2 Westfield Avenue, Edinburgh 11, a son.

WILSON.—On 9th March, 1952, to Mr and Mrs Robert Wilson, 37 Braeside Terrace, Aberdeen, a daughter (Ailie Serena Rosemary).

### WEDDINGS.

ILLINGWORTH—PETRIE.—At St Giles' Church, Elgin, on 13th August, 1952, George G. Illingworth, Scorrybreck, Grantown, to Elaine Petrie, Cathedral Lodge, Elgin.

PHIMISTER—ANTIPAS.—At St Paul's Church, Amritsar, on 27th October, 1951, Andrew A. H. Phimister, Woodburn Cottage, to Eftihoula Effie Antipas, Rallis India House, Majitha Road, Amritsar.

### THE EMERALD POOL.

If you are a former pupil of the Grammar School, the chances are that you know the Green Loch of the Cairngorms quite well. Long before the Old Guard Guides had instituted their Cook's Tour of the Peaks—and thereby shorn the hills of their mystery—pupils and teachers had made an annual pilgrimage to the vicinity of Lochan Uaine. It was traditional, as inevitable as exams, and holidays, and always a joyful experience. Teachers valued it as an opportunity to see facets of their pupils' make up which were obscured by school atmosphere; agile pupils anticipated that one glorious day when the panting autocrat of the classroom could be made to look just a little silly; and the Editor of the School Mag.—where would he be without the one sure source of material, the inevitable, devastatingly witty account of the day's intrigues and mishaps?

And now that "hiking" is in vogue the Pass of Ryvoan is literally "cluttered up" with the big-booted, tiny-trousered fraternity. Almost any day in summer you may see them streaming through the pass, representative of a dozen nations, all shapes and sizes, a singularly motley crew but united in raw-heeled misery. To them all, our beloved Green Loch is a godsend, for here they may shed the cumbersome pack and prise off the unaccustomed footwear.

But how many of those who sit enchanted



by the emerald pool really know what makes it so green? There is no scarcity of theories, of course, and most folk attribute the phenomenon to the reflection of the grassy slopes which rise steeply from the lochan's edge. But they are wrong, as I discovered some ten years ago; and thereby hangs a tale.

It was evening. I had been tramping the hills since daybreak and was utterly weary. Firelight shone warmly from the empty window-frame of Ryvoan Bothy where I was to spend the night, not indeed, for comfort's sake, but because here, of an evening, one usually found good company, and nothing is more relaxing after a hard day on the hill than a drowsy chat with fellow-climbers while shadows dance on the bothy walls and the ghosts of the "silent, vanished races" glide in from the darkness.

A light breeze came southing through the heather, setting the surface of the loch in motion, so that miniature waves rolled over the pebbly shore, and I lay half-asleep, entranced by the sound of water lapping gently in the twilight—surely the most beautiful music with which heaven has blessed mankind. The bleached trunks of fallen pines gleamed in the dark water like the bones of giants long-since slain in battle.

"Peaceful, isn't it?"

Startled, for I had heard no one approach, I peered into the gathering gloom, but no human being was in sight, and after a few moment's scrutiny, I prepared to move over to the bothy. Suddenly a peal of laughter broke the stillness. A joyous, lilting sound it was, charged with a subtle undertone of sheer mischievousness. This time I leapt to my feet, half-fearful of what I might see, but I saw nothing save the blurred outline of heather and rocks, and the looming silhouette of the Kincardine Hills.

I had taken only a step towards the bothy when a voice at my very feet said, "Don't go just yet, hill-man." Seated upon a hummock of moss was a neat little fellow quaintly clad in green jacket and breeches, and obviously enjoying my bewilderment. He would have stood about six inches high. I was not, however, so bewildered as some folk might have been, for, although this was my first actual meeting with one of the Wee Folk, I had never doubted their existence. Everyone who loves the hills knows that there among the heather at our feet, if we could but see them, are the gay little immortals. I pity those clever cynics who "don't believe in fairies," the hills and glens would be empty indeed, without them.

I squatted beside the wee fellow; we introduced ourselves and very soon were chatting like old friends. The hours sped by as we exchanged stories of our respective worlds; but I left most of the talking to my new-found friend; for whereas I could go back a mere twenty years, he talked glibly of mortals he had encountered centuries before! A particularly lively sense of humour made him one of the most entertaining raconteurs I had ever had the good fortune to meet. I could have listened forever to his tales of those

halcyon days when the glens were peopled by a hardy race who found prosperity and happiness among their native hills. But I was a mere mortal and as such could enjoy the company of my new friend for a few short hours only.

When the first glimmer of dawn appeared in the east, he rose to his feet, pursed his lips, and sent the long-drawn-out haunting call of the curlew rolling down the Pass. There was a rustling in the heather, and from all directions came the Wee Folk, chattering gaily, completely unafraid of the strange mortal towering over them.

Courteously they bade me "good morning" and trooped off in the direction of the Green Loch. I was about to enter the bothy when I noticed that they had ranged themselves along the shore, and curiosity made me stroll over to see what was happening. Each little fellow had divested himself of his jacket which he was rinsing in the dark water; and from each jacket radiated a rich green dye.

The mystery was solved.

IAN D. MACPHERSON.

#### GIBRALTAR.

To the south of our anchorage lies the celebrated rock, its towering bastions and gaping caverns frowning over the town beneath. Verdant slopes, clothed with sub-tropical shrubs, sweep abruptly down to the flat, sandy plain which connects the rock with the mainland. Through the middle of this plain runs the airstrip and also the stout, barbed-wire frontier fence. The latter is heavily guarded on either side by smart, efficient-looking British soldiers and slovenly Spanish troopers.

Nestling in the undulating, vine-covered foothills of the Spanish coast can be seen the quaint, old-fashioned villages of La Linea, Santa Roque and Algeciras, their white-washed walls gleaming attractively in the bright sunlight. The La Linean peasants are very proud of their large terraced bull-ring; and this is invariably the first place to be shown to visitors who have crossed the border.

The town of Gibraltar has a certain exotic fascination of its own. The streets are narrow and tortuous, while the variegated colours of wares and materials fluttering in the well-stocked bazaars lend them a subtle Oriental air. It is delightful to sit in the shaded open-air cafés, sipping exquisite coffee, watching the leisurely Spanish mode of life passing before one.

In the evenings, the dreamy strains of some romantic Spanish melody or perhaps a lively dance tune, punctuated by the staccato clicking of the dancing girls' castanets, issue from some nearby cabaret, sending eerie echoes chasing down the dark, cobbled lanes.

J. L. BEATON.



**WADI HADRAMAUT.**

Well, I doubt if I could have chosen a more outlandish spot than this, but I must say that life here is interesting and colourful. I am 400 miles from Aden to the north-east in a wadi whose topography suggests the Grand Cañon on a small scale. This is the Arabs' last outpost in agriculture before one runs into the real desert in the north.

In previous times the Hadranii, a much-travelled and successful business man, who still has considerable interests in the Far East, came home to the Wadi only after he had made his fortune abroad. During his absence, he sent regular allowances to his dependents at home who spent the money on imported goods; and this agriculture in those days was restricted to gardening and a few date palms. However, after two world wars and two famines, the situation has changed considerably.

We are now growing 35,000 acres of grain per year, the land being irrigated by floods (when they come) or by wells. The permanently irrigated area extends over 120 square miles of alluvial soil. This I tour every month, so I am always on the move.

I am studying Arabic which is more difficult than a European language. There are about six other Europeans in the Wadi and we meet occasionally; but one has, of necessity, to make friends with the Arab, which is a good thing.

The Arab, by upbringing and necessity, is a rascal, but usually an engaging one; and when one does not apply one's own moral standards, he can appear in quite a good light. He is fond of laughing and joking and has a reassuringly vulgar sense of humour. Some of his stories are screamingly funny, however, this is hardly the time and place for that!

Only five years ago, there was still considerable unrest in this area; but it is now

really very quiet and civilised. In fact, all respectable citizens now wear at least two fountain-pens to show they have moved with the times; which goes to prove that the pen is mightier than the sword!

K. McKERRON.

The Residency,

Sai'un,

Wadi Hadramant,

East Aden Protectorate.

**THE RECTOR.**

Both for School and Former Pupils the most memorable event of the year has been the retirement of Mr Hunter, terminating twenty-five years of close and intimate association with school and community.

Allied to his great qualities as a teacher and administrator were a sympathetic understanding of his pupils and a foresight which has kept the Grammar School in the van of educational progress and a light in Strathspey. An accomplished musician and a master of choral technique, he was enthusiastic in every activity, social, dramatic or athletic which sought to promote the well-being and develop the personality of his pupils. To him, generations of F.P.'s are indebted for happy and profitable schooling which has enabled them to achieve success in so many fields both at home and overseas.

With his farewell the School has lost a vital and imaginative headmaster and our feeling of loss will, we know, be matched by his own. To Mr Hunter and to Mrs Hunter, who too always had the welfare of the School very much in her thoughts we wish many happy years of retirement in their new home in Aberdeen.

R. W.

**FORMER PUPILS' CLUB MEMBERS, 1952-53.****MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FORMER PUPILS' CLUB.**

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Grammar School on Wednesday, 19th November, 1952, at 8 p.m.

Apologies for absence were received from ex-Lord Provost Fraser, Messrs T. Hunter, J. Templeton, J. A. Templeton and Miss J. Ronaldson.

Mr H. Dixon, who presided during the first part of the meeting referred to the great loss the Club had sustained in the deaths of two members, ex-Provost W. Templeton and Miss M. Scott Macgregor, both of whom had continued to take a great interest in the Grammar School for many years. The chairman extended a cordial welcome to Dr Bain, who had now taken up duty as rector of the Grammar School.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and were approved by Mr A. M. Grant, seconded by Mr G. Jack.

The adoption of the financial report was moved by Miss J. Paterson and seconded by Mr W. Templeton.

Office-bearers were elected as follows:—

Honorary President—Ex-Lord Provost Duncan Fraser, C.B.E., D.L., LL.D., J.P.

Honorary Vice-Presidents—Mr T. Hunter, M.A., B.Sc.; Ex-Provost W. A. Glass; Ex-Provost W. Macgregor; Miss J. Paterson.

President—Dr J. Bain, B.Sc.

Vice-Presidents—Mr W. R. Stuart; Mr W. Cruikshank; Mr J. Templeton; Mrs J. Schleppey.

Secretary and Treasurer—Miss J. I. Munro.



Committee—Mrs P. Spalding, Misses E. M. Pyper, M.A., B.Sc., and ~~L. Ronaldson~~; ~~Messrs H. Dixon~~, W. J. Cruickshank, W. Templeton, A. M. Grant and ~~R. Wilson, M.A.~~

Dr Bain, who now presided over the meeting, thanked the Club for electing him as its President. He knew the tremendous value of Former Pupils to any school and would endeavour to keep the link as strong as ever. He proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Dixon for presiding at the outset of the meeting.

The meeting now considered the question of the School Magazine, the cost of which had greatly increased. It was decided that the practice of sending a copy of the Magazine free of charge to all life members living away from Grantown would have to be discontinued. The 1952 Magazine would be sent as usual and a letter and order form would be enclosed so that those wishing to have a magazine sent to them the following year could notify the Secretary of this and also of their willingness to pay the cost of it.

It was also agreed that the Life Membership fee be increased to 21/- and the ordinary membership fee to 3/- as from the 1st November, 1952. This increase would also apply to Old Guard membership.

It was proposed by Mr H. Dixon and seconded by Mr A. M. Grant that the five prizes to the value of £1 each awarded annually to the Grammar School be continued as usual.

Mr A. M. Grant reported that the 1952 Reunion would be held in the Palace Hotel on Friday, 26th December, and a band had been engaged.

Several members were of the opinion that the form of the Reunion should be changed for various reasons. It was agreed that it was now too late to make much alteration in respect of the 1952 Reunion, but that the Reunion Committee should meet the General Committee about a month previous to the next Annual General Meeting so that the whole question might be thoroughly discussed.

The Reunion committee were elected as follows:—

Convener—Mr W. Templeton.

Committee—Mrs P. Spalding, Mrs H. Dixon, Miss B. Templeton, Messrs W. J. Cruickshank, H. Dixon and G. Jack.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Dr Bain for presiding, proposed by Mr H. Dixon.

#### At Universities and Colleges.

\*Sheila M. Donaldson, 33A The Square; Hilton Hostel, Aberdeen; 2nd year, Aberdeen University.

\*May D. Mackenzie, 46 High Street; Clifton Hostel, Aberdeen; 2nd year, Aberdeen Training College.

\*Sheila M. E. Mann, 9 Castle Road East; Pre-Nursing Centre, The Haugh, Elgin; pre-nursing course.

\*Helen A. K. Scott, Balmenach, Cromdale; Clifton Hostel, Hilton Place, Aberdeen; 3rd year, Aberdeen Training College.

\*Sheila M. G. Smith, Auchernack; c/o Robson, 35 Warrender Park Terrace, Edinburgh. 9.

\*Margaret C. Telfer, East Lodge, Castle Grant; Clifton Hostel, Hilton Place, Aberdeen; 3rd year, Aberdeen Training College.

#### Exiles.

\*Jessamine I. Anderson, Wester Laggan, Dulnain-Bridge; St Helen's Nursery, 7 West Coates, Edinburgh, 12; 1st year nursery nurse's training.

\*Margaret R. Anderson, Institutional Management Association Certificate, Wester Laggan, Dulnain-Bridge; Hamilton Hall, University Residence, St Andrews; assistant catering supervisor.

\*Mrs Fred E. Anfield (Winifred M. D. Shaw), Diploma of Domestic Science, Aldersyde, Nethybridge; c/o H.Q. 223 B.O.D., c/o G.P.O., Singapore, F.A.R.E.L.F.

\*Mrs George Angus (Ella A. Wood), (Balmenach, Cromdale); Gippisland, Brae-rossie Place, Elgin.

\*Mrs Howard Aston (Kathleen Mutch), R.G.N. (Edinburgh), D.N. (London), 28 High Street; 50 Hayes Road, Bromley, Kent.

\*Mrs Robert W. Bass (Christine A. Tulloch), (Dallas Brae, Grant Road); 3 Turnberry Road, Glasgow, W.2.

\*Mrs Guthrie Booth (Netta R. Hunter), Rosemount, Woodside Avenue; Nether Bogside, Elgin.

\*Mrs James Braid (L. D. Pamela Gibson), The Knoll; P.O. Box 53, 3 Clive Row, Calcutta.

\*Mrs Edward Brooks (May Smith), (18 Castle Road); Caberfeidh, The Crescent, West Hartlepool.

\*Norman W. E. Buchan (Grant Arms Hotel); Windyridge, Willow Lane, London Road, Amersham, Bucks; nurseryman, Joseph Rochford & Sons, Ltd., Uxbridge Road, Slough, Bucks.

\*Stanley J. W. Buchan (Grant Arms Hotel); Windyridge, Willow Lane, London Road, Amersham, Bucks; nurseryman, Kelvin Lawrence, Beaconsfield Nurseries.

\*Mary A. S. Butter (The Knoll); 9 Sandringham Terrace, The Esplanade, Greenock.

\*Isobel Calder (Stonefield, The Square); 138 Macquarrie Street, Paramatta, New South Wales, Australia.

\*Alexandra Cameron, N.F.F., Ardach, Nethybridge; Bon Accord, Marmion Road, North Berwick; teacher, High School, North Berwick.

\*Eva M. Cameron, M.A. (Hons.) (Aberdeen), (Willowbank); 4 Victoria Road, Elgin; teacher of English, Duffus J.S. School, Hopeman; joint organising secretary, Elgin District Branch, Workers' Educational Association (Adult Education).



\*Mrs Harry Chart (Margaret Mackintosh), The Larches, Dulnain-Bridge; Karian-dusi Farm, Gilgil, Kenya, East Africa.

\*Mrs William Christie (Isobel C. Bain), M.A. (Aberdeen), (Holmfield); 89 Forest Ave., Aberdeen.

Mrs Edwin J. Colclough (Isabel Cumming), 18 Castle Road; 19 Eversley Road, Normacot Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mrs David S. Davidson (Margaret M'Beath), (1 Station Cottages); 11 Young Avenue, Lincluden, Dumfries.

Mrs Joseph R. Dawson (Phyllis G. MacNicol), (85 High Street); 160 Windsor Drive, Chelsfield, Kent.

\*Ann F. Donaldson, Diploma of Domestic Science, The Garth Hotel; Pitstruan House, 295 Gt. Western Road, Aberdeen; deputy superintendent, St Clair's Home for Girls.

\*Mrs James F. Duguid (Rhea Pyper), M.A., B.Sc. (Edinburgh), Riversdale, Grant Road; Kent Road, Avondale, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia.

Mrs George Dunbar (Margaret M'Lean), Kylintra Cottage; c/o 48 Hayfield, Bainsford, Falkirk.

\*James Duncan, 28 High Street; 95 Cromwell Road, Aberdeen; accountant, National Bank of Scotland, 140 Union Street, Aberdeen.

\*Sine H. Ferguson (Swiss Cottage, Ballindalloch); Craigmount School, Scone Palace, Perth; assistant cook, Craigmount School.

\*Iain E. Forbes (Connage); 127 Maxwell Avenue, Westerton, Bearsden, Glasgow; teller, Bank of Scotland, Cathcart.

\*Duncan Fraser, C.B.E., D.L., LL.D., J.P. (Kylindra Cottage); Braemoray, Woodburn Avenue, Aberdeen; draper, Duncan Fraser (Draper), Aberdeen, Ltd.

\*Evelyn Geddes, Diploma of Domestic Science, 65 High Street; teacher of domestic science.

\*Anna B. Gilbert (Strathallan, Grant Road); 55 Morningside Park, Edinburgh, 10, teacher (retired).

Elizabeth A. Gordon, M.A., Delliefure

Sudan Ministry of Education, Khartoum.

\*Grace T. Gordon, M.A., Delliefure; Sudan Ministry of Education, Khartoum.

\*Catriona M. B. Grant, M.A. (Edinburgh),

Balnagown, Nethybridge; 6 Ardross Terrace, Inverness; teacher, Tomnacross J.S. School, Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire.

\*Mrs John Grant (Beatrice Mackintosh), Achesnich, 14 Victoria Drive, Inverness.

\*John A. Grant (Reidhaven); 1 Carlton Close, Edgeware, Middlesex; civil engineer (retired).

\*Mrs Lewis M. Grant (M. Sarah Macdonald), Sunnylea, Aviemore.

\*Margaret C. Grant, Higher Tullochgrriban, Dulnain-Bridge; Meft Villa, Urquhart; teacher, Urquhart Public School.

\*Mrs Peter Grant (Isabella C. Mackintosh), M.A. (Edinburgh), (Congash Cottage); Ravenscraig Guest House, Aviemore.

Mrs. Helen J. Grant.

\*Violet Grant, S.R.N., R.M.N., 107 High Street; sister, Springfield Hospital, Upper Tooting, London.

\*Mrs George Gray (Barbara Hepburn), (22 The Square); 5 Backyett, Thornhill, Stirlingshire.

\*Mrs J. Gordon Hall (Georgie Gordon), Brooklyn, Grant Road; Glen Grant House, Rothes.

\*William Hepburn, Braemoray; Victoria Hotel, Torquay; manager, Honeywood Hotels.

\*Mrs William Hepburn (Rita Mackay), Braemoray, Victoria Hotel, Torquay.

\*Mrs John D. Hogg (Jean Cruickshank), 3 Woodburn Place; 20 Montpelier Park, Edinburgh, 10, 11.

\*Thomas Hunter, M.A., B.Sc. (Glasgow), (Rosemount, Woodside Avenue); 54 Devonshire Road, Aberdeen; Rector (retired), Grantown Grammar School.

\*Mrs Thomas Hunter, (Rosemount, Woodside Avenue); 54 Devonshire Road, Aberdeen.

\*Mrs Basil B. Jakeman (Diana F. Mackintosh), Ladysturn, Dulnain-Bridge; Manor House, Willenhall, Staffs.

Elise M. H. Kirk, M.A. (Edinburgh), Rockmount, High Street; 58 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh; teacher of English, Edinburgh.

\*Grace M. Kirk, R.G.N. (Edinburgh), S.C.M. (Irvine), (Rockmount, High Street); 58 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh; theatre sister, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

\*Harold G. Laing, (Craig Revack, Woodside Avenue); 79 Eastbourne Road, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs.

\*Edith M. Lawson, Certificate of Speech Fellowship (London), (Willowbank); Uplands, 254 Leigham Court Road, London, S.W.16; warden of Uplands House; senior lecturer in Spoken English and Dramatic Work, Furzedown Training College for Teachers, Wellham Road, London, S.W.17.

\*Mabel G. Lawson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B. (Aberdeen), S.R.N., D.N. (London), Willowbank; 83 Biddulph Mansions, Elgin Avenue, London, W.9; deputy chief nursing officer, Ministry of Health, Savile Row, London, W.1.

\*Mrs A. Peter Lewin (Edith M. Kyd), (Craggan House); Desswood, 130 Green Lane, Coventry.

\*Mrs Kenneth J. Lugg (Jean Burgess), 10 Castle Road; Ingenio Monte Slana, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic.

\*Mrs Duncan M'Arthur (Margaret I. Grant), (Grant Cottage, High Street); 8 Maurann Court, Hunter Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg, South Africa.

\*Elizabeth M. M'Beath, S.R.N. (Aberdeen), (Station Cottages); Argyll Mansions, Oban; two years' course for Mental Nursing Certificate, Royal Mental Hospital, Aberdeen.

\*Mrs John N. M'Callum (Isobel O. M'Beath), (Station Cottages); Argyll Mansions, Oban.

Wm Grant, Wm Grant.

Summit, Craig Rosefine

24, PLYMOUTH CROSS.

Wm. MacG.



- The Editor  
Reminds  
No. 70, 1914*
- \*Mrs William T. M'Curdy (Alice K. M. King), (3 Woodburn Place); 21 Witherspoon Street, Nutley, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- \*Sydney G. Macgregor, M.A. (Edinburgh), 46 High Street; principal teacher of classics, High School, Fort William.
- \*Mrs Matthew Mackenzie (Jessie M. Campbell), (Parkburn); Diploma of Domestic Science (Aberdeen); 18 Kingsford Road, Alford; teacher of Domestic Science.
- \*Alexander A. Mackintosh, M.P.S. (Congash Cottage); 19 Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon, Surrey; pharmacist, 3 Broadway, Selsdon.
- \*Evan Mackintosh (Craigard Hotel, Boat of Garten); Manor Lea, Insh, Aberdeenshire; hotel proprietor.
- \*Mrs Alexander D. MacLaren (Sheila MacDougall), The Mill House, Craggan; Depto de Comisariatos, Shell Caribbean Petroleum Co., Apartado 19, Maracaibo, Venezuela, South America.
- \*Helen S. MacLaren (Mullochard, Carrbridge); Dalchosnie, Kinloch Rannoch, Perthshire.
- \*Mona M. McLean, N.D.D., N.D.P. (Aberdeen), Croftallan, Nethybridge; 10 Craighouse Terrace, Edinburgh; senior instructress, East of Scotland College of Agriculture, Edinburgh.
- Nancy McLean, Kylintra Cottage; Sick Children's Hospital, Edinburgh; 2nd year student nurse.
- \*Mrs Frank Mason (Mary H. Tulloch), M.A. (Glasgow), (Dallas Brae, Grant Road); 3 Turnberry Road, Glasgow, W.2.
- \*Heather Mathieson (Aultcham Farm); Nurses' Home, Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa; 3rd year student nurse.
- \*Ruth A. Mathieson, M.Ch.S. (Aultcham Farm); 8 Mimosa House, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia; chiropodist.
- Mrs H. J. Mills (Catherine M. Campbell), 4 Station Cottages; Room 314, Star Hotel, Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
- Mrs Alexander Milne (Jessie Alanach), M.A. (Edinburgh), (Faebuie, Cromdale); Stronsa, Petrie Crescent, Elgin; teacher, Lossiemouth J.S. School.
- \*Mrs Thomas G. Milner (E. Margaret Templeton), The Lodge, Castle Grant; c/o P.W.D., Lilongwe, Nyasaland, East Africa.
- Mrs Douglas A. Mitchell (Jan Templeton), The Lodge, Castle Grant; The Cottage, Old Port Road, Inverurie.
- \*Elspeth M. Mitchell, Benaigen, 20 Castle Road East; 1 Francis Place, Elgin; clerical officer, Ministry of Labour and National Service, 13 North Street, Elgin.
- \*Peter Moir (Royal Bank of Scotland House), Balaam, Marine Road, Nairn; bank agent (retired).
- \*Mrs George Morrison (Rachel B. Campbell), M.A. (Edinburgh), (Parkburn); 23 Albert Place, Dufftown.
- \*Mrs Fred Munro (Gertrude A. G. Lawson), S.R.N., S.C.N. (Willowbank); 5 Hillhead Street, Glasgow, W.2.
- \*Elizabeth D. Mutch, R.G.N., Diploma of Dietetics (Edinburgh), 28 High Street; sister-dietitian, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.
- \*Mrs Ollason (Margaret A. S. Grant, R.G.N., S.C.M. (Edin.)), Delbuiack, Nethybridge; 95 King Harald Street, Lerwick, Shetland.
- \*Mrs Sigvard Olssen (Mary Cruickshank), Diploma of Physical Education (Silkeborg), Seafield Lodge Hotel, Woodside Avenue; Kungsgaaten, 21 Lindesborg, Sweden.
- \*Ann M. Paton, 19 South Street; c/o 58 Maisondieu Road, Elgin; telephonist, Telephone Exchange, Elgin.
- \*Mrs Myles J. Ritson (Williamina Keith), (C. Birchview Terrace; 1 Argyle Terrace, Inverness.
- \*William A. Robertson, M.A., Ph.D. (Lower Delliefure, Cromdale); Ramornie, Ellon, Aberdeenshire; H.M. Senior Chief Inspector of Schools (retired).
- \*Harry Ross (South Street); 88 East Street, Narrandera, N.S.W., Australia; tailor.
- \*Margaret A. Ross (Station House, Broomhill); 1061 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.3; teacher, Overnewton School, Glasgow, C.3.
- Mrs Victor Ross (Dorothea M. Geddes), 67 High Street; Mo Dhachaidh, 37 Dumgoyne Avenue, Bearsden, Glasgow.
- \*Mrs William Scott (Mary M'Gillivray), Isla Cottage, High Street; 8 Park Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire.
- \*Marie Shaw, M.A. (Aberdeen), Oakbank, Nethybridge; c/o Donaldson, No. 2 Rhullallan, Nairn; teacher, Cawdor J.S. School.
- \*Catherine M. Smith, B.Sc. (Glasgow), Diploma in Dietetics (Glasgow), Benalder, High Street; c/o Craig, 43 Cartha Street, Glasgow, S.1; therapeutic dietitian, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow.
- \*Mrs Frank Squires (Isa Moyes), (Lilac Cottage, High Street); 5736 Decarie Boulevard, Snowdon, Montreal, Canada.
- \*Mrs Morton Stevens (Meta K. King), (3 Woodburn Place); 9 Slater Crescent, Portknockie, Banffshire.
- \*James A. Templeton, M.A. (Edinburgh), The Lodge, Castle Grant; Schoolhouse, Spey Bay; headmaster, Bogmoor School, Spey Bay.
- Mrs Alfred G. Threadgold (Elizabeth H. Campbell), 4 Station Cottages; 9 Oakfield Road, Copthorne, Shrewsbury, Salop.
- \*Georgina M. Turnbull, 3 Grampian Crescent, Boat of Garten; Scalpay, Isle of Scalpay, Harris; teacher, Inverness-shire Education Authority.
- \*Mrs Eric Walling (Isabel Jack), Isla Cottage, High Street; 124 High Street, Colchester, Essex.
- \*Mrs Robert Walmsley (Ella Slater), Diploma of Domestic Science (Aberdeen), (Viewhill, Spey Bridge); 11 Alveston Avenue, Renton, Harrow, Middlesex.



\*Mrs George Watt (Pearl M'Millan), M.A. (Aberdeen), (100 High Street); 64 Devonshire Gardens, Aberdeen. *Rono*

\*Mrs R. Whyte (Margaret Macpherson), Briar Cottage, Grant Road; 7 Mary Street, Johnstone, Renfrewshire.

\*Percy Williams, C.A. (Edinburgh), (The Cott, Spey Bridge); 3 Clive Row, Calcutta; managing director, Messrs Thomas Duff and Co (India), Ltd.

\*Mrs David L. Wilson (Ada R. Imray), M.A. (Glasgow), Diploma in Social Service, Associate Member of the Institute of Almoners, Somerville, High Street; Church of Scotland Mission, Lubwa, Chinsali, N. Rhodesia.

\*Mrs Herbert J. Wright (Shona Calder), Stonefield, The Square; ~~Bears Thorne, Cobham, Surrey.~~

\*Mrs Ivor C. N. Young (Mary M. Y. MacDonald), D.A. (Glasgow), Laurel Bank, Aviemore; West Bonhard, Carnock, Fife.

\*Elizabeth L. Young, Fairview, Boat of Garten.

#### Local Members.

\*Mrs James D. Archibald (Sheila S. Macpherson), 22 The Square.

\*Mrs Robert Balfour (Dorothea M. Smith), 30 Kynlira Crescent.

\*Mrs Ian C. Barclay (Margaret Louise Hastelow), Achnagonlan.

\*Janet G. Barclay, 17 South Street; nurse, Ian Charles Hospital.

\*John B. Burgess, The Larches, Grant Road; tailor, High Street.

\*Mrs John B. Burgess (Winifred F. O. Pyper), The Larches, Grant Road.

\*Dorothy M. Cameron, Dunira, South Street; cashier-clerkess, Caledonian Associated Cinemas.

\*Margaret Cameron, Greenwood, Nethybridge; retired civil servant.

\*Emily C. Campbell, 4 Station Cottages; assistant, Mr Craigen, grocer, 122 High Street.

\*Vera M. Campbell, M.A. (Edinburgh), Norwood, High Street; teacher, Abernethy J.S. School.

\*Margaret Cruikshank, 3 Woodburn Place; assistant, S.C.W.S., Boat of Garten.

\*Margaret K. E. Cruikshank, Hazel Bank, Grant Road.

\*Walter F. Cruikshank, Craigdlu, Woodside Avenue; farmer.

\*Herbert G. Cumming, M.M., M.A., B.Sc. (Edinburgh), Moniack; maths. master (retired), Paisley Grammar School; Provost of Grantown-on-Spey.

\*Mrs Herbert G. Cumming (Mary Findlay), M.A. (Aberdeen), Moniack.

\*Mrs William Davidson (Hannah Surtees), 7 Kynlira Crescent; teacher (retired), Dalnaspidal School.

\*Hamish W. Dixon, Mhorile, Woodlands Crescent; painter and decorator, Messrs Dixon and Bain, Mhorile.

\*Mrs Hamish W. Dixon (Beatrice R. Reid), M.A. (Aberdeen), Mhorile, Woodlands Crescent.

\*Catherine I. J. Donaldson, S.R.N. (Wind-sor), Garth Hotel, Castle Road.

\*Mrs Harry Douglas (Constance A. Winchester), Northolme, Castle Road.

\*Jennie S. Duncan, Dundonnachie, Castle Road East; teacher (retired), Grantown Grammar School.

\*William Duncan, 28 High Street; civil servant, No. 24 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E.

\*Jessie E. Fraser, M.A. (Aberdeen), The Croft, Mondhuie, Nethybridge; teacher, Grantown Grammar School.

\*Margaret H. Fraser, M.A. (Aberdeen), The Croft, Mondhuie, Nethybridge; teacher, Abernethy J.S. School.

\*Netta M. Gillies, Craigmore, High Street; teacher (retired), High School, Pitlochry.

\*William A. Glass, Revoan, Seafeld Avenue; draper (retired).

\*Mrs A. Martin Grant (Christina Calder), Highlea Cottage, Woodside Avenue.

\*Evelyn C. Grant, Ballinluig.

\*James J. Grant, Dunedin, High Street; section superintendent, Prudential Assurance Co., London.

\*Mrs James J. Grant (Netta Duffner), Dunedin, High Street.

\*Mrs John Grant (Mary Cumming), (Mains of Curr, Dulnain-Bridge); Lackie, Boat of Garten.

\*Mariel Grant, M.A., B.Sc. (Aberdeen), Woodberry; teacher, Grantown Grammar School.

\*Mrs Peter J. Grant (Ann Telfer), East Lodge, Castle Grant; Harbour Inn, Burghead.

\*Margaret G. Grassick, Braehead, High Street; clerkess, Messrs D. Strachan, Jnr., and Co., Grocers, High Street.

\*Betty Gray, Shalamonaidh, Boat of Garten; teacher, Grantown Grammar School.

\*Isobel M. Gunn, Swinlees, 6 Castle Road East; hairdresser, Messrs Mackintosh and Cumming, High Street.

\*Mrs Ralph M. Harra (Christina A. Cameron), Rhuarden Cottage.

\*Margaret I. Hogg, 11 South Street; clerkess, Messrs Angus Stuart, Booksellers, High Street.

\*Christine M. Innes, Carndearg, 17 Kynlira Crescent; telephone operator, No. 24 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E.

\*Kenina J. Innes, Carndearg, 17 Kynlira Crescent; junior clerkess, S.C.W.S. Garage, High Street.

\*Elsie Keith, 6 Birchview Terrace; assistant, Messrs Alexander Mackenzie and Son, drapers, High Street.

\*Doris E. Laing, Benmore, High Street.

\*Jessie M. Laing, 113 High Street; telephonist, G.P.O.

\*Margaret M. Legge, Woodberry; infant mistress, Grantown Grammar School.

\*Mrs John G. MacDougall (Jessie MacLennan), The Mill House, Craggan.

\*E. Donald M'Gillivray, Isla Cottage, High Street; postman, G.P.O.

\*Elizabeth R. Macgregor, 2 Cambrae, Cromdale; shorthand-typist, Mr R. W. H. Crossan, solicitor, 33 The Square.

15, Dunblane Rd, *Sttham, S.E. 19.*

*12*

*J.S. Cumming*

*Mr. R. Macgregor*







## NEWS FROM THE OUTPOSTS.

Mr Hunter will take prayers for the last time on October 31st. To those who were there when he arrived in August of 1927, it is an event hard to realise, the passing of an era not only of work and effort, but of much joy and laughter. We F.P.'s, however, welcome Dr Bain, who has given distinguished service in another part of the county and we look forward to his sharing our interests and our joys.

Perhaps Dr Bain will recall one of his earliest contacts with Grantown Grammar School. It was sometime in mid-summer about 1933 or 34; a large party of boys, girls and teachers from the Grammar School had walked from Coylum Bridge through the Larigh as far as Pools of Dee. They climbed up the steep face following the March Burn, and reached the summit of Ben Macdhui to find a party of other climbers advancing towards them from the direction of the Shelter Stone. These turned out to be boys from Elgin Academy. Among them, hardly distinguishable in years, was Dr Bain. We are sure that our future association will be as happy and spontaneous.

We are much indebted to Martin Grant, Willie Cruickshank and Peter Macpherson, office-bearers of the Club, for their keen interest in the Club's welfare and activities. Billy Templeton, as secretary, has shown himself especially keen and able, and maintains the traditions of a family with a great record of public service.

In that medley of bicycles, gadgets and billiard cues, Martin, a shade more ample than before, resplendent in a white coat, dispenses "juice" to motorists and "gassy" liquors to small boys. In the background Laurence Jack, encased in an oily film, repairs your bicycle while you wait. An expert guide on the Cairngorms, Laurence is not above doing escort duty of a more tender nature.

Willie Cruickshank has forsaken Messrs Mackintosh & Cumming, redolent of underwear and feminine gew-gaws, for the blustering gales of the open road. In the pursuit of lagging premiums he is responsible to Jimmie Grant, who also joined the Prudential Insurance Company from Messrs Mackintosh & Cumming. But surely, Willie, Kinveachy is Macpherson country!

One's memory associates Billy Templeton with the Black Park and a home-made shinty stick, and it is odd to find him nowadays esconced behind bars even the highly decorative ones of the National Bank.

Angus M'Intosh is said to be developing quite a presence in keeping with his new role of paterfamilias. After a pleasant tour of duty in Rhodesia he is now stationed at Uxbridge. With so many Americans in this vicinity the housing problem is even more acute, and his home is temporarily in Edinburgh.

Sandy Smith has remained faithful to the Navy and is now at a home station in the R.N. Hospital at Plymouth. His rank is

Petty Officer (X-rays). Lately he had a call from Peter M'Nicol of H.M.S. Indomitable. Also on H.M.S. Indomitable is able-seaman Billy M'Intosh of Cromdale.

A fine score against R.E.M.E. last July proves that Donald M'Taggart (Easter Gallovie) has not lost his batting skill. He is studying arts at St Andrews and last year obtained passes in Latin and Greek.

Always an enthusiast in his hobbies, George Catto has become an associate member of the International Federation of Physical Culture (1st Class).

Two sons of Nethybridge and members of a distinguished Class V., Willie Fotheringham and Pat M'Lean, are now luminaries in the profession of Law. Willie is in private practice, and Pat is in the County Offices, both at Cupar.

Donald Collie, who after school vanished into the wilds of Tullochgrue, has reappeared as assistant-inspector in the Department of Agriculture. He graduated with Honours in Agricultural science at Aberdeen University. A shinty "blue" accounts for the light blazer he wears on sporting occasions.

Edward Illingworth and Charles Grant ("Diddie") have decided to woo fortune in the Gold Coast. They are employed there by Messrs Thomson, Muir & Galloway, Ltd., building and civil engineering contractors. Edward, to whose post with the Prudential Insurance Co. Willie Cruickshank succeeded, is assistant accountant at Accra. Charlie, formerly a sawyer with Messrs J. & P. Coates', Kylintra Sawmill, is similarly employed at Dinkwa, where his wife and daughter will later join him. Charlie was a member of the Rifle Club, and Edward joint secretary and treasurer of the Golf Club and a member of many local committees. To these young men, and to Marr Illingworth, that fine little shinty captain of pre-war days, now in America, we send our very best wishes.

From Ceylon Colin M'Intosh writes enthusiastically of the work and social life of a tea-planter. There his tennis gains fresh laurels; and it is not impossible that the twins may celebrate a reunion as Donald has been considering an engineering post in Colombo.

Geology and hill-climbing shared Donald M'Intyre's immense enthusiasm. A Doctor of Science and lecturer in petrology at Edinburgh University, he has been further honoured by an invitation from Prof. F. G. Turner of Department of Zoology, University of California, to collaborate in research.

Broad acres of waving grain and tall date palms must give Keith M'Kerron a sense of great achievement. The mouth waters at the thought of the many varieties of succulent dates which never reach our Christmas tables. In the Wadi Hadramatt he has started a school of agriculture and inflicts torturing examinations quite reminiscent of G. G. S.

We wish success and happiness to Stanley and David Livingstone, who have now taken up a new life in Canada. Prior to emigrating,



Stanley was a vanman with Messrs E. C. Mathieson, butchers, Grantown, and David a police constable in Forres. The young men were recipients of many tokens of esteem and good wishes from their friends, including those of the Baptist Church with which the Livingstone family have been closely identified for many years.

Sandy Calder is now in Australia with his parents and sister Isobel. Employment was immediately forthcoming, and all are now well and happy residing in Paramatta, New South Wales.

Herbert Grant ("Topper") varies farming with an occasional game of cricket for the Old Guard. His smart play behind the stumps makes batsmen very uncomfortable when they gingerly poke at expresses from David Winchester or Ian Macpherson. At other times, "Pher's" rod and strong-smelling cherry-wood induce him much to rumination.

Edwin ("Sam") Munro is still as wily with the ball, but when summer comes again we shall be more likely to find him trundling a "pram" than a cricket ball.

Under the sign of Mr John King, two bland apothecaries, James Calder and William James Hair, dispense cure-alls and beauty aids with seductive courtesy and confidence.

All our restaurateurs appear to be in good point and in good heart. For the male the kitchen, when it is large enough and the victuals are not stinted, exercises a powerful attraction: Lewis M'Intosh's flights of culinary fancy have commended themselves to a numerous clientele.

Dulnain-Bridge is now without its popular dispenser of petrol and promising mechanic, Louis Rattray. When he has completed his term of military service, we hope that he will return to join the old firm.

Messrs John Ross & Co. will soon be housed in circumstances of unusual splendour. A new floor has been laid and a new roof has replaced the one that threatened to buckle beneath every winter's snow. In spite of shortage of staff, Chad and Bob have created a business to which every car's bonnet instinctively turns at its first uncertain cough.

For some time Angus Stuart has been in indifferent health; and we are happy that he has now returned to the employment of the London Transport Board. Generous leave of absence and a new house have greatly conduced to this welcome recovery. His brother John and Gordon Jack are to be congratulated on their recent election to the Town Council. John accompanies Provost Cumming to Elgin every month to attend meetings of the County Council, where a friendly welcome and participation in the work of sub-committees have opened up for him new fields of interest.

Herbert G. Cumming deserves our warmest congratulations on his accession to the Provostship and on his past two years' work as burgh treasurer. To have reached this high office in his native town must be to him a deep source of satisfaction. His place as treasurer is taken by Councillor Alex. M'Kenzie, modern languages master in the Grammar

School, who has now much experience of Town Council work. Councillor Elizabeth Schleppe has been appointed Dean of Guild and is the first woman to hold this office in Grantown.

It is very pleasant to see ex-Provost William Macgregor at his shop front still hale and hearty despite his years. As probably the oldest authority on local lore and tradition he is frequently consulted by F.P.'s and visitors.

Many tributes have been paid to the late Margaret Scott Macgregor, who taught in the Grammar School for over thirty years. She was widely esteemed and loved, and F.P.'s corresponded with her for many years, indeed until her death. A native of Grantown, she first taught in North Uist, but returned to Strathspey. After retiral in 1926 Miss Macgregor maintained her ties with school and had for many years been an Hon. Vice-President of the F.P. Club.

For her services to the Ministry of Health, Dr Mabel G. Lawson was awarded the O.B.E. in the last Birthday Honours List. Dr Lawson has had a distinguished career. F.P.'s will recall that last year, at the invitation of the British Council, she completed a lecture tour of Italy and Sicily and that she was awarded a Rockefeller Scholarship to enable her to study nursing services in the United States, and F.P.'s will rejoice at this public recognition of merit.

Fresh honours have fallen to Duncan Fraser, former Lord Provost of Aberdeen and chairman of the Scottish Committee on Industrial Development in North-East Scotland. He has been appointed a member of the Royal Commission presided over by the Earl of Balfour "to review the arrangements for exercising the functions of Her Majesty's Government in Scotland and to report." In recognition too, of his services to Franco-British understanding, he has been created Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by the President of the French Republic.

A very happy photograph appeared in the Press recently of the wedding of Christine Tulloch to Mr Robert W. Bass, a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. The bridegroom's father is Professor of English Literature at an American University.

F.P.'s on leave from abroad include Mrs Alex. D. MacLaren (Sheila MacDougall) from Venezuela; Mrs Kenneth J. Lugg (Jean Burgess) from Dominican Republic, West Indies, and Mrs James Duguid (Rhea Pyper) from Rhodesia.

In Northern Rhodesia, Mrs David Wilson (Ada Imray) has been finding life on a mission station full of interest, if not without its trials. The raising of hens presented unusual difficulties. Ada's first brood disappeared into the maw of a raiding leopard, and a horde of red ants left no trace of the second. Even the sanctity of a mission station is not proof against the predatory instincts of the native in search of petty plunder.

Mrs Frank Squires (Isabella Moyes) has been appointed delegate from Snowdon Baptist Church (Montreal) to Notre Dame de Grâce Community Council.



After completing her course at Dunfermline College of Physical Education, Elspit McIntosh has been appointed visiting teacher to schools in Grantown, Aberlour and Dufftown. Last summer she had two weeks special training at Glenmore Lodge.

Margaret R. Anderson, who is assistant catering supervisor at Hamilton Hall, St Andrews, has gained the Certificate of the Association of Institutional Management.

Grace Gordon and Elizabeth Gordon of Lower Delliefure have left Scotland for Khartoum, where they are to take up appointments with the Ministry of Education for the Sudan.

Ally Rose has sailed for Sydney in New South Wales to join his brother John who emigrated earlier in the year. They will both be employed by the New South Wales Railways. Ally served his apprenticeship as a painter with Messrs Dixon & Bain.

In August, Douglas Gibson joined the Far East Station of the Royal Navy as surgeon-lieutenant. We hope that Douglas will find the Peak of Hong Kong no less exhilarating than the heather-clad slopes of the Shepherd's Hill.

Since these earlier notes were written, Keith McKerron has arrived home on leave to raise the dust and dazzle the eyes of adventurous youth with his A.70. It would appear that there are compensations for the "Barren Rocks of Aden."

James Hair has been appointed a Preventive Officer in the Water Guard Service, Customs and Excise Department of the Civil Service. This is the result of open competition in which James took fifth place among four hundred aspirants.

In addition to being a town councillor, Gordon Jack is a very active citizen. He is C.S.M. to the Cadets, secretary and treasurer of the football club and secretary of the Strathspey Welfare League.

William Templeton belonged to a family which has many associations with the School and has been distinguished for great services to the community. His activities were manifold, and to all he brought the same devotion and helpfulness, which made him an example in public life. Provost of the Burgh, he represented the town on the County Council, in local government bodies and charitable foundations. He held office in the Y.M.C.A. Club, the Territorial Association, Curling Club, Golf Club, Bowling Club and Angling Association. Q.M.S. of the 6th Seaforth Highlanders in the first world war, he inaugurated the cadet movement in Grantown. There was indeed no local activity in which he did not take an energetic and responsible part. Our pride in a F.P. with such a distinguished record is the measure of our sorrow. To his sister and brothers, we extend our deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

The Grantown Troop of Scouts is to be congratulated on another successful camp. This year's site was at Drumoak on the Dee, and everyone enjoyed bathing as well as

sports and scout exercises. The organisation was in the capable hands of James Mackenzie, Scoutmaster, and now District Commissioner. He was admirably assisted by Mr G. E. Donaldson and Mr C. S. Macdonald of the Grammar School Staff.

One of the most notable enterprises of the Old Guard in recent years has been the provision of guides for visitors and others keen on walking and climbing in the Cairngorms. The scheme was initiated by Willie Cruickshank, and he has been ably supported by other experienced guides, Laurence Jack, Hamish Marshall and Billy Templeton. This admirable example of public spirit has met a long-felt need in the summer months.

F.P.'s are very fortunate in having so efficient and so devoted a secretary as Jeannette Munro. We hope that she will continue to find pleasure in keeping track of our activities and not be discouraged by forgetful but still very appreciative F.P.'s.

To all who have married and to all the children who have come into our midst in the past year, we wish every happiness and good fortune.

To men of the Old Guard and to all F.P.'s at home and beyond the seas, we send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

R. W.

#### NOTES.

The Editors suggests that, for the next edition of the Magazine, articles and completed circulars should be sent to one or other of the secretaries by the end of June, 1953.

He would like to thank Miss Jeannette Munro and Mr William Templeton for their work in completing lists and supplying news of members. His thanks are also due to Miss Mariel Grant of the Grammar School Staff for checking notes of members.

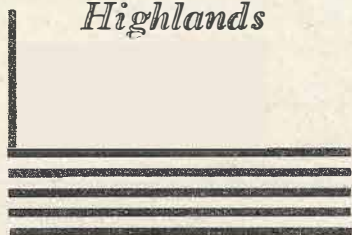
Subscriptions (2/-) are now due for 1952-53 and should be sent as soon as possible to the secretary concerned. Subscription for life membership still remains at 12/6. Attention of Old Guard Members is drawn to the decision of the Annual General Meeting to delete names of members who have failed to pay subscriptions for more than one year. The A.G.M. also decided that Regular members of H.M. Forces will not receive free copies of the magazine after 1952, unless they are life-members.

Former Pupils who are not yet members are urged to join one or other of the Clubs and to take an active interest in the Grammar School and F.P. activities.

The Editor wishes to thank all members who returned circulars with information and hopes the response will be better next year. He will be grateful if attention is drawn to any inaccuracy in the published list of members or in "News from the Outposts."



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