

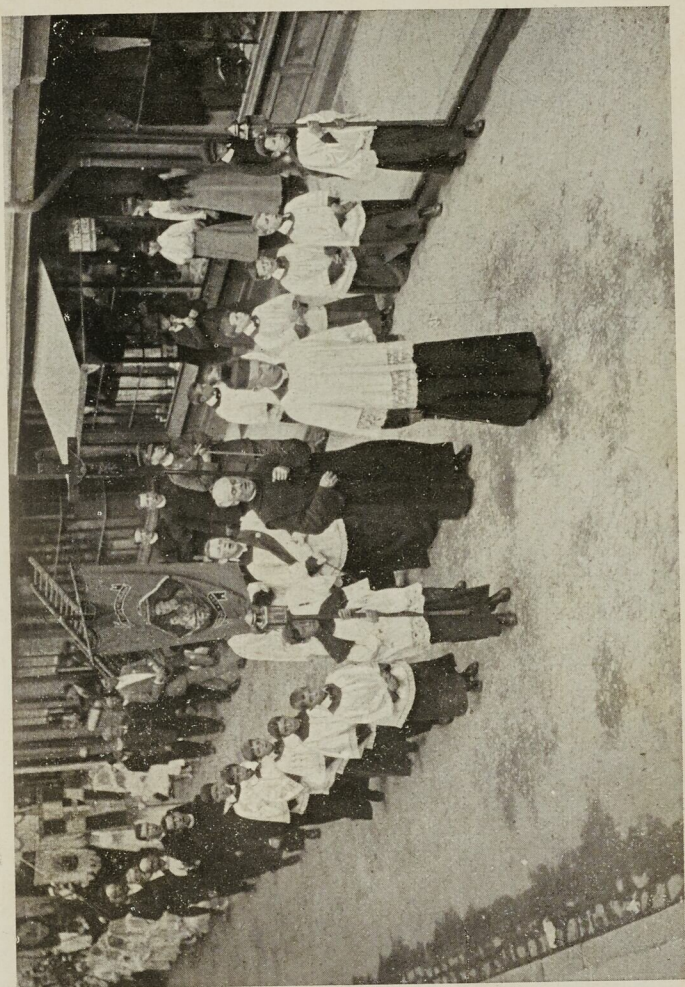
ST. AUGUSTINE'S ABBEY SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

Vol. II (New Series). WINTER TERM, 1927.

No. 4.

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School Notes.

THE notice which is sent out to parents during the holidays giving the date of the reopening of the School and the hour of the train from Victoria ends always with the self-same formula:—
Parents are earnestly requested to see that their boys return on the appointed day. We do not know who was the first Headmaster to coin this mystic phrase. At a guess we should say that it originated in the closing decades of the last century. But what has always impressed us is the amount of feeling which its author has managed to compress into so simple a request. It is a veritable *cri de cœur*, hinting as it does at much untold suffering stoically endured by past Headmasters at the hands of inconsiderate parents and recalcitrant schoolboys. It conjures up visions of a half-empty school waiting at the beginning of each term for the stragglers to arrive, of classes itching to get their teeth into the term's programme of work but unable to do so effectively till their truant members have put in a belated appearance.

—
We were led to these musings by our realization of the fact that the attitude of both parents and boys in this matter has of late been most admirable. It is quite a long time now since a boy returned late to school without having an adequate reason for so doing. Last term we were in the happy position of being able to declare "full house" on the very first day of the term. Though this record was not equalled at the opening of the Winter Term, nevertheless we had good reason to be satisfied with our numbers on the first day, and we take this opportunity of thanking parents and (dare we add it without loss of dignity?) the boys also for giving the term the first condition of success—a good start.

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Our new boys numbered eight:—M. J. Carroll, P. M. Carroll, W. J. E. Craigen, P. G. McEwen, R. C. Manning, J. D. Manning, J. H. F. Manning, and F. C. Taylor. The Carrolls are sons of a distinguished Old Augustinian, C. M. Carroll, who now lives in far-away Peru, and nephews of another distinguished Old Augustinian, E. J. Carroll, well-known to all Old Boys as the Secretary of their Society, noted

alike for his ready eloquence and his financial resource. We trust and believe that the two members of the second generation who have now arrived will keep up the family reputation, evidence of which they will find writ large on our walls (and perhaps also carved deep on our desks—but we warn them that this latter method of achieving immortality is fraught with danger). To them, and to the other new boys who came with them, we offer a hearty welcome.

The year opened, as usual, with a new Sub-Prefect. Though new to Prefect's work, Fr. Oswald Hull is by no means new to the School. He served on the School Staff for several terms before his departure for Rome five years ago. In our last number we had the pleasure of congratulating him on his recent ordination. We now gladly welcome him back to the scene of his former labours, and trust that he will find some compensation for the difficulties of a Prefect's life in the success with which his work will, we are sure, be crowned. Our best wishes and thanks go to last year's Sub-Prefect, Fr. Placid, who left us at the end of the year to take up pastoral work elsewhere.

We were sorry that Fr. Abbot was still not well enough at the beginning of the term to say Mass for the boys and to preach to them on the first morning. He sent a deputy in the person of Fr. Sub-Prior, whom we thank for his apt and practical discourse. The many friends who have been enquiring so kindly after Fr. Abbot's health during the past months will be pleased to hear that he has made a most happy recovery in the course of the present term. Though not yet so robust as he was before his breakdown, he is nevertheless sufficiently restored to take up once more the government of the Abbey. We pray that the marked improvement in his condition may continue and that he will be able to resume that interest in our doings at the School which last year he was compelled for a time to relax.

On Michaelmas Day some of the senior boys were privileged to assist at the solemn profession of Dom Paulinus Ievers, which took place at High Mass in the Abbey Church. We offer Dom Paulinus

our hearty congratulations and hope to welcome him in a few years time, when he has gained his doctorate in Rome, as an important addition to the School staff.

This year we are trying the experiment of a short retreat at the beginning of each term. Hitherto the annual sum-total of the boys' spiritual recollection has consisted of a two-days retreat in Holy Week. Liturgically no better arrangement than this could be chosen, but from the scholastic point of view it has certain drawbacks, the chief of these being the fact that Holy Week always occurs at the end of a term. Consequently the spiritual harvest reaped by the boys during their retreat has always in the past been taken home with them and dissipated in the course of the Easter holidays. The parents have had the full benefit of the angelic dispositions which the annual retreat may be assumed to have aroused in their sons, while the poor School Authorities, who have taken all the trouble to arrange the retreat, have had to be content with such remnants of those dispositions as survive the relaxations of home life. Recently the School Authorities have been asking themselves why they also cannot have a share in the happy results accruing from the moral reform which they periodically initiate among the boys, and the outcome of that questioning has been the institution of a one-day retreat on the first Sunday of each term. As we have already said, this is by way of experiment, but we have great hopes that it will justify itself. The first of these short retreats was preached on October 2nd by Fr. Bede, and we have pleasure in informing him that the term thus launched spiritually by him has proved a very successful one.

The usual whole holiday was given on St. Placid's Day, October 5th. High Mass was sung in the School Chapel by Fr. Oswald. In the evening the new cinematograph made its first appearance and gave us a most entertaining version of the adventures of Mr. Pickwick in six reels. After the representation of the effects of the cricket dinner on Mr. Pickwick some one in the audience remarked that it was most appropriate that the length of Mr. Pickwick's career should be calculated in reels.

On Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23, we were honoured for the second time this year with a visit from the Bishop of Southwark. We were on this occasion more than usually privileged, since he said Mass for the boys in the School Chapel on the Sunday, and in the course of the Mass ordained Dom Dunstan Prangnell deacon and Dom Paulinus Ievers sub-deacon. Few, if any, of the boys had assisted at the rite of ordination before, and this circumstance, coupled with the fact that the function entailed the missing of Sunday morning prep., ensured a reverent and interested congregation. We felicitate the two ordinati on the completion of a further stage in their progress towards the priesthood.

All Saints Day brought its usual whole holiday. At the early Mass in the School Chapel M. J. Carroll and I. G. Imray made their First Communion. The whole School attended High Mass in the Abbey Church at 10.30, and, after a festal dinner and a Black and White football match, settled down after tea to another dose of the ever-popular cinema. The day closed with Benediction in the School Chapel.

The half-term holiday occurred at the first weekend in November. Being unable to secure a football fixture for the Saturday afternoon, we arranged a second Black and White match. We rather fancy that to many parents this came as a welcome change. At any rate the parents of twenty-two Augustinians, instead of the parents of eleven only, were able to judge at first-hand of their boys' football form. An alternative suggestion to the Black and White match had been a Parents' match. Judging by the number of parents who expressed their willingness to take part in such a fixture, we are inclined to think that this suggestion was *not* a particularly welcome one. We apologize for the alarm which the proposal caused to those fathers who, as several of them put it, "had not touched a ball for years," and at the same time we thank Mr. Munro, who very sportingly acted as referee, in spite of the fact that the remark quoted above applied equally to him. On the Monday evening we gave the parents a cinematograph entertainment, thus fulfilling the promise made last Whitsun on the occasion of the inauguration of the cinema

fund. The machine behaved admirably, and the boys were so vociferous in their appreciation that no parent could doubt that we had attained the chief object for which the machine was bought, namely, the amusement of the boys. The holiday was brought to a close with an unofficial firework display in the playground. Though unofficial, the display brought no mishap in its train.

On Armistice Day we kept the customary two minutes silence in the School Chapel.

The terminal examinations were held rather earlier than usual, and this for various reasons. The chief reason was the desire to give the masters a better opportunity than heretofore of going over the papers with the boys after the examination. Consequently a clear working week was left between the end of the examinations and the close of the term. Plenty of time was thus allowed for alloting praise or blame to anxious examinees, as well as for adding up the large accumulation of marks which determine the boys' places for the term following. So this final week may accurately be described as a time of reckoning both for pupils and for the Staff. We had noted a tendency in previous terms for the boys to regard the examinations as a *terminus ad quem* beyond which it was unprofitable to carry an interest in learning. A bad examination result might indeed be a matter of mild regret, but as work automatically ceased with the finishing of the last examination paper, it could hardly give rise in a boy's breast to a very hearty contrition—still less to that state of mind, so very fruitful in the young, known to theologians as attrition. By pushing forward the examination week we hope to remedy this end-of-term torpor. If a boy knows he is liable to pass a *mauvais quart d'heure* after an examination with each Master whom he has failed to satisfy in the examination, there is every hope, according to our reading of schoolboy nature, that he will exert himself to the utmost in order to produce satisfactory papers. This scheme may strike some of our readers as savouring of the methods of Machiavelli, but we would point out that, though the reasoning which brought it into being be tinged perhaps with a certain Machiavellian cunning, we have, in thus laying bare our motives, imitated

also the disarming candour which is a more amiable characteristic of that master mind.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated with a half-holiday, a football match, a cinema entertainment, and a Benediction. On the Sunday within the octave of the feast F. C. Taylor made his First Communion.

The Christmas entertainment took place on Monday, December 19th. The entertainment was a public one in aid of the Ramsgate Day Nursery. It opened with a Viking Song and two carols by the boys of the Senior School: these were rendered with the accuracy and verve which we have now come to expect from any musical numbers produced under the auspices of Miss McCleesh. Then followed three bouts of exhibition boxing, the light-weights being represented by Brisker and Fulcher, the middle-weights by Bisgood and Warren-Codrington, and the heavy-weights by Hamilton and Imray *ma*. We think that the unusual and somewhat cramped conditions of the stage are apt to prevent our boxers from showing their best form on occasions such as this. Nevertheless the audience, not a very critical one, was delighted with the exhibition, and none of the ladies present fainted at the sight of the blood which was drawn by one straight hitter.

The final item was a Merry Comedy entitled "Too Clever by Half," of which the cast and scenes were as follow:—

Sir Giles Chittlehampton (a County Magistrate) ...	F. DICKINSON
Miss Burgess-Hill (his housekeeper) ...	L. CONSTABLE
Nathan Tipstaff (the Village Constable) ...	B. NICHOLSON
Howard Foster (a Detective) ...	S. BUTLER
Monsieur Denarius (a Chef d' Orchestre) ...	J. FARRELL
B. Flat } Musicians ...	D. McEWEN
A. Sharp } ...	R. COGHLAN
Mrs. Wordy (Landlady of the Village Inn) ..	A. SEFI

Scene I.—Sir Giles' Study. Scene II.—The Garden-House.

Scene III.—Sir Giles' Study.

The chorus of congratulations which reached us after the performance seems to show that the actors rose to the occasion well. We our-

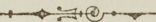
selves were certainly surprised to find our efforts at coaching crowned with such gratifying success. Nicholson as the policeman was of course the hit of the evening: as someone remarked, he is a born clown. But Dickinson, Farrell, and Butler also gave admirable interpretations of their parts, while the lesser rôles of Constable, Sefi, McEwen and Coghlan *ii*. were all excellently filled. The two female characters came in for special praise. Constable's genuinely feminine shrieks were greatly relished, while, as for Sefi as the landlady, one lady in the audience refused to believe that he was one of our boys: she suspected—and, as far as we know, she still suspects—that the part was played by a volunteer of her own sex drawn from the domestic staff.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Bodilly for so kindly placing his orchestra at our disposal for the evening, and to all others who contributed to the success of the entertainment. The sum handed over to the Day Nursery was £10.

On the last evening of the term we had our annual Christmas party. We think we can venture now to call it an annual fixture. It was born two years ago in an atmosphere of mystery. Before that period we used to have at the end of each term what was known as an Officials' Dinner. To this were invited the Staff, certain outside friends, and the dozen or so boys who carried out official duties in the School. The remaining five-sixths of the School were cast out of the refectory into exterior darkness, where they occupied themselves, we regret to say, with nothing so harmless as mere weeping and gnashing of teeth. However, it was not the indiscipline of the uninvited which caused the officials' dinners to be frowned upon by Authority. Rather was it, we blush to say, the festive behaviour of the elect. The officials' dinners, two out of every three of which took place in the holy seasons of Advent or Lent, became (unjustly, we are sure) a byword for dissipation, with the result that the Headmaster received a gentle intimation from a higher quarter that it would be better for monastic discipline if these functions ceased to function. They accordingly ceased, and it was as a mild and decorous substitute for these that the first Christmas party was arranged. The Christ-

mas party, we would explain, is purely private and domestic. Its object is to enable the boys and their teachers to meet on terms of greater freedom and familiarity than is possible or desirable in the class-room. Warned by the fate of the officials' dinner we invite no friends from outside nor any monks not actually resident in the School—a self-denying ordinance which has not, we trust, been misinterpreted. In this way we have managed so far to earn a *tolerari potest* from Authority—a toleration which we hope by continued circumspection to retain.

At this year's party we were nothing if not decorous. There were, it is true, crackers and paper hats, whistles, rattles, castanets, games, songs, and general hilarity. But when the hilarity showed signs of waxing too fast and furious we adjourned to the playroom and turned on the cinema—an admirable instrument for producing comparative calm on festive occasions. It is true that, owing to the intense cold, the cinema was not quite on its best behaviour that evening, but it exercised as we have said, the sedative influence which we desired, and brought the term to a happy conclusion.

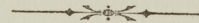


Mr. Evans.

With the close of the Winter Term 1927 we had to deplore the departure from our midst of Mr. Adrian Myddleton-Evans, a former pupil of the School and for the past six years a member of the teaching staff. But when we describe him as a member of the teaching staff we give a very inadequate idea of the part he played in the life of the School. Not only did he teach, in the course of his career here, most subjects from Chemistry to Church History, but his rare gift for practical achievement was felt in many other branches of School activity. It was he who reorganized the Laboratory and made the teaching of science a real working proposition. It was he likewise who overhauled the stage and wrought a great improvement in the scenic effects at our dramatic performances. When we decided to install wireless, it was he who supervised the installation.

Photography, motor-engineering, telephony, electric lighting, lecturing, acting, elocution, riding, boxing, playing the ukelele, nigger minstrelsy—nothing seemed to be beyond the range of his versatility. And added to all this, as Fr. Abbot said at the end of the term when making a presentation to him on behalf of the lay staff and the boys, we had to admire always his sterling Catholicism.

It goes without saying that Mr. Evans's presence in the School will be greatly missed. We have, however, one consolation—and we hope it will not be thought too selfish and unworthy—that he is not leaving us to give his services to any other educational institution. He is abandoning teaching in order to embark on a literary and dramatic career. All those who know Mr. Evans know also how susceptible he has always been to the lure of the footlights, and knowing also his mastery of stage technique we feel that we can confidently predict success for him in this new venture. While wishing him success we at the same time offer him our best thanks for the loyal and ungrudging way in which he has always served St. Augustine's.



The Historical Society.

The work of the Society this term has been most successful, in fact we did not miss a single Sunday on which we could hold a meeting, and four of the papers were read by boys—quite a record! To class these all together—Dormer led off with a paper on the Battle of Balaclava: he had made detailed plans. Imray *ma.* read one on the battles of Coronel and the Falkland Islands. He made use of a map to show us the strategic position of the combatants. Fitzgerald told us of the First Peloponnesian War, and he had also sketched his plans. Wild *i.* read a paper on Gothic Architecture. He had copious illustrations; also his arguments for his theory that a Gothic cathedral gets its inspiration from a forest of trees was well put. [We do not commit ourselves to this theory.—B.W.]

Of the speakers—Fr. Adrian gave us a very interesting account of his visit to Florence. Dom Dunstan read a paper on Sir John Moore in the Peninsula War, and Fr. Bede gave three lantern lectures on the Byzantine Empire in the IX Century.

The Outing this term was to the excavations of St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury. It was a most interesting though somewhat moist afternoon of exploration.

We wish to express our thanks to the authorities of St. Augustine's for the kind way in which they always receive us. B.W.

Father Columba.

As announced briefly in our last issue, Fr. John Columba Swanson, O.S.B., died at the Abbey on September 15th, 1927, the Feast of the Sorrows of Our Lady.

Born in London in 1857, he received the first part of his education at Woolhampton, of which the well-known Canon Crookall was then president. His stay there was not long. When the family moved to Limerick he accompanied them and completed his course at the Jesuit College there. It was soon after this that he received a call to the religious life. In 1872 he entered the Benedictine Order at Tenterden, which was then the Ramsgate fathers' novitiate, and he soon endeared himself to all by his singular piety, his unselfishness, and his bright Irish wit, which distinguished him throughout his career. In 1874 he proceeded to Rome to commence his course of philosophy at the Gregorian University. At its completion, ill-health compelled him to return, and in due course, namely, on March 8th, 1884, he was ordained priest. Soon after this he took up the post of Prefect of Discipline at the College, the arduous duties of which he zealously fulfilled off and on until the frequent air raids in 1917 obliged the authorities to close the establishment.

It was during this period of his career, which covered indeed the best years of his life, that Fr. Columba's dynamic personality stamped itself indelibly on the memories of a very wide circle of friends. Hundreds of boys who passed through his hands have carried away to the four quarters of the globe a mental picture of him which will never fade, while in the recollection of a host of local friends of all classes and denominations St. Augustine's College will long be associated with the dapper figure and the expansive manner of the late Fr. Prefect. It was his great delight at this time to play a leading part in the annual Catholic pilgrimage to Canterbury, and the photograph we reproduce at the beginning of this Magazine gives a good idea of the zeal with which he threw himself into that demonstrative—and therefore, to him, congenial—profession of faith. Our other photograph shows him in the closing years of his life, when infirmity had already begun to sap his energy, but had not, as will be seen, dimmed the twinkle in his eye.

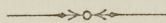


When the College closed during the war Fr. Columba was appointed military chaplain at Richborough, the famous mystery port, and it was during his tenure of office there that the King, on a visit to the camp, picked him out for special recognition, and left his encircling staff in order to address Fr. Columba personally. At the close of the war he was appointed chaplain to the Royal Air Force at Manstone, where he was instrumental in securing for the Catholics a large permanent hut which he decorated with his own hands. In November, 1924, he celebrated with Fr. Abbot Egan, the golden jubilee of his monastic profession. In 1925, through a breakdown in his health, he had to resign his appointment, much to the regret of officers and men, by whom he was greatly liked and esteemed. By this time his illness, started by a slight stroke, had prevented him from taking an active part in the work of the community, and for the past two years he was confined to his room, perfectly resigned to God's disposition, and though always suffering, retaining his brightness of manner and exuberant cheerfulness almost to the very last. Although the end came rather suddenly, he was able to receive the last rites, and died very peacefully as the Abbey bells were ringing for High Mass for the solemn honouring of our Blessed Lady who, under the title of the Seven Dolours, holds the place of contitular to the Abbey Church.

He was buried in the Abbey garth on Monday, September 19th, in the presence of a large crowd of friends and admirers. Amongst the mourners were his brother, Dr. Swanson of Liverpool, and several Old Boys, including his life-long friend Count Rivarola, Mr. Peter Henrion, J.P., and Mr. J. F. A. Quin. The Royal Air Force was represented by Squadron-Leader K. C. H. Warner and Sergt. McCartie.

A tribute to the memory of Fr. Columba was paid at the Old Boys' Annual Dinner last December by the present Headmaster of St. Augustine's. Fr. Columba had, he said, been Prefect of Discipline at the Old College for twenty-eight years. When he had said that, he had really paid him the highest tribute which it was in his power to pay. Only one who had held the position of Prefect of Discipline could realize the immense strain which such work entailed. To be responsible for the conduct, the punctuality, the cleanliness, the tidiness—in a word, for the discipline—of a school-full of boys was a laborious, an exacting and a singularly thankless task. Fr. Columba had carried out that task with conspicuous success for twenty-eight years. Such a record fell little short of heroic. There were few present (continued the Headmaster) who had not at some time or other been recipients of what he might term Fr. Columba's paternal ministrations. It was naturally not to be expected that boys would be grateful at the time for the correction administered by their Prefect. But what had struck him (the Headmaster) very

forcibly was the eagerness of Old Boys revisiting the School to seek out Fr. Columba as he sat confined to his cell by the infirmities which his lifetime of hard labour had brought upon him. He well remembered one distinguished Old Boy saying as he took his leave of Fr. Columba, "Well, good bye, Father, and thank you very much for whacking me when I was a boy. I am sure I deserved much more than I actually got." Such words had a message not only for Fr. Columba but also for those of the present generation whose lot it was to conduct the School at St. Augustine's. It was wisdom in parents and schoolmasters not to look for expressions of gratitude from the young, but if, thirty years on, he or his colleagues were greeted with similar words from those who were now boys at the School, he for one would feel that they had not lived in vain.



Football.

A draw, two good victories, then six defeats—this term's record sounds like climbing a hill to trip and tumble all the way down again. Such capers are not always dignified, but, so long as no bones are broken, often act as a friendly corrective to whatever germs of bumptiousness may lurk in one's system. At all events, the best remedy for the bruises that may be gathered on the journey is to sit at the bottom for a bit, rub the more painful parts (using at the same time words that should vary according to the age of the bystanders), and then lightheartedly climb up to the top again; for "their's ups an' their's downs i' life—but it's a merry game enough, tak' it all in all."

As a matter of fact, there is nothing whatever to weep about. It is only by contrast with the last three brilliant seasons that we seem to have fallen at all, though I must admit feeling that our pride had certainly bumped against something rather hard when St. Edward's beat us after losing 7-0 in the first game. We should have won that match easily; but the other five defeats were honourable enough.

Man for man, the team was every bit as good as last year's. The defence was, if anything, sounder than any we have had out for five or six years. Dickinson in goal made very few mistakes indeed and more often than not played brilliantly. So too the backs—Hamilton and McEwen *ma*. McEwen has yet to learn how to put all the drive that is in him behind a punt, but he was seldom at fault in tackling. The halves did their job well enough, though I do not think Chubb, in the centre, was once able to get a hundred per cent. out of himself. He has the tiresome knack of collecting whatever twists and sprains are going, and I hope he gets rid of it before rugger comes in. Our

weakness lay in the forward line, where plenty of goodwill was handicapped by size and inexperience. After the first few games, its works developed a flaw which no amount of doctoring could remedy. All went well until we got within shooting distance, then we stopped.

Our first match was with Tormore School at Deal on October 12th. Both sides were strong in defence and rather weak forward. There was no score in the first half but Tormore drew first blood soon after we changed ends when Dickinson was just a second or two late in clearing a shot that dropped in front of the goal. Bisgood, who had come in from the wing to centre at half-time, scored for us with a very fine kick soon afterwards, and we finished at that. A good game.

Dover Juniors were beaten by 3-1 here on October 15th, but won by 2-0 in the second match on November 23rd. In the first game, Munro scored early in the second half and again put us ahead after Dover had drawn level. Bisgood added No. 3. The away match was the best of the season. In spite of the heavy ground and very difficult ball, there was not a dull moment, and unless both goalkeepers had chanced to be on the top of their form the score must have been much heavier. We were one down at the interval and within a few minutes of time Chubb miskicked within a yard or two of the goal. Dickinson had no earthly chance of getting to the ball in time, so we lost a great game by 2-0.

The home match with St. Edward's on Oct. 26th was played in a boisterous south-wester that made accurate kicking impossible. Chubb won the toss and with the wind at our backs we had piled up five goals before the game was half spent. For, I think, the one and only time this season the forwards played together splendidly. Not one of their seven goals was a gift. Munro got the first and Bisgood the second, putting the finishing touch to a clever attack on the right wing between Greenwood and Warren-Codrington. Wild II, Bisgood and Warren-Codrington each added another goal before half-time. St. Edward's could make no headway when we crossed over in spite of the useful wind, and Dickinson had nothing to bother about except the cold. Towards the end of the game Wild II worked his way through to score our sixth, Bisgood putting on the seventh just before the whistle went. When we played the return match on Nov. 16th, the forwards were right off their game. They could do nothing at all. The ball seemed to get to our end no more than half-a-dozen times from first whistle till last. It had quite a happy time inside St. Edward's penalty-area, but took good care to avoid the posts. Dickinson touched the ball four times, twice when it was too late. The shots that beat him were not altogether easy ones, and in any case one could not have been surprised if they had found him fast asleep. We crossed over with the score at "one all," our own eleven feeling more in the mood for scalp-hunting; and St. Edward's

did very well to keep us out, still better to break through at the end of the game and rob us of both points.

We lost both matches with the Marist College by 2-1. Our opponents were able to field a much heavier side than our own, but no one seeing the two teams in action would have said that they were badly paired. In the first game (Oct. 29th), Bisgood gave us the lead during the first half with a shot high up in the net that made amends for his managing to get the ball over the bar at six yards range earlier on. A free kick just outside the penalty-area early in the second half was responsible for the first goal against us, Dickinson for the second. He fumbled perhaps the easiest thing he had had to deal with in the course of a game that kept him very busy, but apart from that one unfortunate slip his hands were wonderfully safe. We went over to Grove Ferry for the return match on Nov. 26th, running into a fog on the road that made everything very unpleasant for players and onlookers alike. It was horribly wet underfoot and a forest of trees near the touch-line tried to send drops of misery down one's neck. Luckily, the game was a good one. Dickinson had the time of his life in goal and made some splendid saves, but we were two down before Bisgood scored our one and only goal.

Laleham ran away with all the points this term, and although we had to call in two reserves in the first game and one in the second they were probably a goal or so better than our team at its best. We lost by 4-1 on Nov. 2nd at Margate. The match began rather curiously with a first-minute goal for Laleham followed in less than two minutes by one from Bisgood. Our forwards were badly off colour, and for once in a way the defence was unsteady. Chubb and Wild II. suffering from crooked legs or something equally funny on the touch line, had their places filled by two fellows from the second eleven who spent most of the time trying to find their sea-legs. There was no score in the second half. The home fixture on Dec. 8th was the season's last match. We scored three times: twice for Laleham and once for ourselves; and another three were marked up against us in less trying fashion.

The second team went into action only twice—against Laleham—and were defeated on both occasions. They were rather unlucky to lose by 4-3 at home, and were pressing so hard during the last few minutes that the whistle just robbed them of a share in the spoils. On Laleham's ground they lost by 5-0.

So we bring the rugger balls out more or less gingerly. If ugly epidemics, which get into their merriest mode in spring, keep away from the district, our fixture list will be a fairly heavy one; but we shall have to put our best foot forward to keep pace with the records set up by the last three XV's.

O.A. Notes.

Will all Members of the O.A. Society who have not already paid their subscriptions be kind enough to remit them at their early convenience to the Hon. Treasurer, E. J. Carroll, 16, Campden Hill Gardens, W.8. They became due on January 1st, and are for Junior Members 2/6, and for others 10/-.

The Annual Dinner of the Society was held at the Hotel Cecil on December 1st last. The absence of the Abbot, for so many years the Society's President, owing to his recent ill-health (from which we are delighted to hear he is now making a steady recovery) was a source of great regret to all, and a telegram to this effect was despatched to him. His place in the chair was very happily filled by Bishop Gregory Thompson—a pleasure for which most of those present came quite unprepared. His Lordship we are glad to say seemed in excellent health and spirits, as did Bishop Amigo who, for the first time for some years now honoured the Society with his presence and entertained the company with an excellent speech. The same remark applies to Fr. Chichester, the Rector of Beaumont, another honoured guest, who gave a quite enthusiastic report on the O.A.'s now under his charge. The attendance of members was once again somewhat regrettably below what it should be, in spite of the earnest efforts of Eric Wilson to get together a good gathering to meet our distinguished guests.

Those present included the Prior of St. Augustine's (the V. Rev. Norbert Lapworth, o.s.B.), the Headmaster (the Rev. Adrian Taylor, o.s.B.), the Rev. Paul Jaricot, o.s.B., A. M. Burrage, E. J. Carroll, T. Clarke, L. L. M. Constable, J. Doyle, P. E. B. Fooks, General Harrison, B. Lattey, G. A. Mackenzie, R. F. C. Metcalfe, G. Moorat, E. J. B. Pater, J. F. A. Quin, L. Thunder, P. Westbrook and W. E. Wilson.

The speeches were quite above the average, and the evening was no doubt greatly enjoyed by all there.

We congratulate A. M. Burrage on the success of his latest book—"Some Ghost Stories"—which, like most books dealing with the occult at the present time, bids fair to become a "best seller."

The engagement of G. A. Mackenzie to Miss Barbara Page has recently been announced. He has now returned to practice, being in charge of an extensive solicitor's practice at King's Lynn, Norfolk—the Principal of which is away temporarily owing to ill-health. He hopes that the position will mature into a permanent one, and that he may be able to marry and settle there in the coming summer.

Robert Metcalfe was married at the Oratory on January 21st to Miss Osborne-White, the daughter of an Old Augustinian. The writer was present at the wedding and the reception which was subsequently held at the Royal Air Force Club. The best wishes of the O.A.'s will go out to "Bob" and to his bride.

The following Junior O.A.'s now at Douai have passed the Lower Certificate Examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board:

N. J. Apthorpe-Webb passed in Latin, French, Arithmetic, Mathematics, English, and General Science, obtaining a First-class in the last-named subject.

R. L. Gironimo passed in French, Arithmetic, Additional Mathematics, English, History, Mechanics and Physics, Chemistry and Mechanics.

L. V. White passed in Latin, French, Additional Mathematics, History, General Science, Arithmetic and English, obtaining a First-class in the last two subjects.

Malcolm Blair-McGuffie (Junior O.A. now at Ampleforth) passed the Lower Certificate Examination in French, Spanish (with orals), English, Arithmetic, Latin, Physics and Chemistry, obtaining a First-class in Physics and Chemistry.

We congratulate all the above named, as also Anthony d'Oultremont and Rafael Valls, both of Stonyhurst, news of whose success at the same examination has also reached us, though further details are lacking.

In a letter, from Kima, Kenya Colony, dated Nov. 22nd, 1927, F. A. Mathew gives interesting particulars concerning himself and other O.A.'s:—

I came out here about two years ago, and after being a pupil on an estate up country I came down here to manage a wheat farm for a company at home. I have about 3,000 acres here and it is all virgin land and wheat has not been 'proved' here yet, but I have great hopes. I have two neighbours, one three miles away and the other seven miles away, so it is a fairly lonely life, but I am being married to-day week, so hope things will wake up a bit. However, I have had plenty of work to do here in opening up new land, so I have not minded being alone.

When I first arrived here I met Major P. O'Brien of the Queen's Bays. He was growing coffee near the Lake (Victoria Nyanza). But I regret to say he died about six months ago. R.I.P.

I met A. R. Spencer in Nairobi some months ago. He is now assistant manager in a country hotel here. His brother is a solicitor

in Uganda and is doing well, I believe. I have also seen K. Dormer several times, but have not had an opportunity of speaking to him.

Copy of a Christmas card received from Lausanne last Christmas:—
18/xii/27. Temp. zero Fahn.

Four frozen and exiled O.A.'s at Lausanne send warmest greetings for Christmas and the New Year to their old school-mates, masters, and prospective O.A.'s.

Louis de GEOFROY.	Antonio MELERO.
Ch. de GEOFROY.	Henry de GEOFROY.

Obituary.

EDMUND J. BELLORD.

We regret to have to record the decease of Mr. Edmund J. Bellord, who died suddenly on Saturday, December 17th, 1927. He came to the College in September, 1870, and there received the last three years of his education. He figures prominently in the Prize Lists of the time, especially for Latin and Mathematics.

The following extracts from the "Tablet" relate his career:

"By the death of Mr. Edmund J. Bellord, an event which we record with deep regret, religious and social work lose a zealous promoter, and very many Catholics in London and elsewhere mourn a friend of long standing. Two good works in particular, which between them drew much of his energy in the leisure allowed him from professional duties, will greatly miss Mr. Bellord: The Providence Night Refuge, of which he was Chairman of the Committee and a trustee; and the Catholic Truth Society, whose honorary treasurer he had been for upwards of eleven years.

"Mr. Bellord, a son of Mr. James Bellord of Highgate and brother of the late Bishop Bellord, was born in 1858. He was educated by the Benedictine Fathers at St. Augustine's College, Ramsgate, and entered the legal profession as a solicitor. He was married twice; firstly in 1886, to Helen Teresa, daughter of George B. Smith, of Oxford; and secondly in 1899 to Agnes Mary, daughter of Alfred Purcell of Hampstead, by whose death last year he was again left a widower. Mr. Bellord himself resided in Hampstead for many years before removing, a few years ago, to Ennismore Gardens, and he was for long a prominent member of the congregation of St. Dominic's, Haverstock Hill. In his Catholic work, whatever was undertaken was done with whole-hearted devotion. On the C.T.S. he was not merely a prudent and painstaking treasurer, but also

a valued counsellor on many matters affecting the Society's interests; whilst at Crispin Street the Founder's Day celebration each year looked, as a matter of course, for his cheery and welcome words."

Mr. Bellord was never really well since the long and painful illness and death of his second wife. His own death occurred after an illness of five weeks. He left his affairs in perfect order with detailed instructions for carrying them on. This forethought, typical of the man, shows how quietly and methodically he had been preparing himself for the end which he knew was near, and made a fitting close to a life spent generously in the service of God and his neighbour.

The Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Oratory on December 20th by Fr. Bede Jarrett, O.P., Provincial of the Dominicans. The relatives present included Mr. Cuthbert Bellord, Mr. George Bellord, Miss Elizabeth Bellord, Miss P. Bellord, Mr. Robert Bellord, Mrs. John Bellord, Mr. James Bellord, Miss Hilda Bellord, Lady O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Winstanley, Capt. W. W. and Mrs. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Purcell. There were also present Sisters of Mercy from Crispin Street, Viscount FitzAlan of Derwent, Bishop Bidwell, Lord Morris of Newfoundland, the Rev. H. Thurston, S.J., Sir Philip and Lady Gibbs, Sir John Gilbert, Mr. J. S. R. Towsey, Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Ware, Dr. J. Harold, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Boland, Mr. F. Corballis, Mr. Paul Kelly, Mr. Arthur Coveney, Mr. Antony Gibbs, Miss Foley, Mr. E. J. Carroll (O.A.), Mr. Thomas Coote, Mr. J. Gordon McArthur, Girls from the Crispin Street Home, and many others. Fr. Bede Jarrett officiated also at the interment at Kensal Green.—R.I.P.

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EYRE MASSEY ANDERSON.

There died in New York in October last, fortified by the rites of Holy Church, Mr. Eyre Massey Anderson, who was a pupil at St. Augustine's from February 1890 till March 1893. The cause of his death is unknown to us. If any reader is able to give us further details we shall be glad to print them. Mr. Anderson was 47 years old at the date of his death.—R.I.P.

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JAMES RANN.

Another O.A. whose death we deeply regret to announce is James Rann, who died at Bognor recently. He and his brother were at St. Augustine's in the early and middle 90's and are well remembered by all their school-mates. We know we shall not ask in vain for prayers for Jim, also for M. W. Susman, details of whose death have not yet reached us. R.I.P.

Acknowledgments.

TICHBORNE LIBRARY.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge the following exchanges:
Beaumont Review, Edmundian, Mountaineer, Ampleforth Journal, Ruym, Douay Magazine, Oratory School Magazine, Ratcliffian, The Log (Pangbourne), *Georgian*.
B. M. PEARSON, *Librarian*.

School List.

STAFF:

Dom ADRIAN TAYLOR, M.C., M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge,
Headmaster.

Dom EDWARD HULL, *Prefect*.

Dom OSWALD HULL, *Sub-Prefect*.

Dom LUKE WILLEMS, D.PH. & L., Louvain.

Dom MAURUS MOORAT, F.R.A.S.

Dom PAUL JARICOT, *Art Master*.

Dom CUTHBERT SMITH.

A. MYDDLETON-EVANS, ESQ.

Major A. J. H. McCLEESH, late Army Educational Corps.

B. HUBERT, Esq.

Miss H. M. ROE, B.A., London.

Miss V. G. McCLEESH.

F. J. BODILLY, ESQ., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., *Music Master*.

SERGEANT J. M. FURNESS, *Physical Culture*.

H. DAVIES, Esq., *Riding Master*.

Miss L. WALTON, *Dancing*.

Matron: Miss MURIEL WRIGHT, University College Hospital.

Assistant Matron: Miss M. MONEY.

Medical Officer: E. FISK, Esq., M.D.

Captain of Whites: BUTLER. *Captain of Blacks*: CHUBB.

Capt. of XI.: CHUBB. *Librarian*: PEARSON.

FORM IV.

Desborough.	Butler.	Pearson.
Sefi.	Wild, <i>i.</i>	Nicholson.
Chubb.	Wild, <i>ii.</i>	Dickinson.
Constable.	Imray.	Shebbeare.
FitzGerald.	Greenwood.	
Waters.	Dormer.	

FORM III. Upper.

McEwen, <i>ma.</i>	O'Connor.	Coghlan, <i>ii.</i>
Bisgood.	Coghlan, <i>i.</i>	Brisker.
Havenith.	Farrell	Hamilton.
Sturdee.	Adams.	

FORM III. Lower.

Jeffreys.	Richardson.	Devoud.
Munro.	Warren-Codrington.	Fox.
Wild, <i>iii.</i>	Fulcher.	Manning, <i>i.</i>
Taylor, R.	Farmar.	Manning, <i>ii.</i>

FORM II.

O'Donovan.	Devitt.	Longstaff, <i>ma.</i>
Falkner.	Northey.	Carroll, <i>ma.</i>
Fooks, <i>mi.</i>	Coghlan, <i>iii.</i>	Craigen.
Keogh.	Brady.	Taylor, F.

FORM I.

Imray, <i>mi.</i>	Longstaff, <i>mi.</i>	McEwen, <i>mi.</i>
Keane.	Carroll, <i>mi.</i>	Manning, <i>iii.</i>